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To: The Chair and Members of the Corporate  
Infrastructure and Regulatory Services  
Scrutiny Committee

County Hall  
Topsham Road  
Exeter  
Devon  
EX2 4QD

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Date: 17 January 2024

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**CORPORATE INFRASTRUCTURE AND REGULATORY SERVICES SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

Thursday, 25th January, 2024

A meeting of the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee is to be held on the above date at 2.15 pm at Committee Suite - County Hall to consider the following matters.

Donna Manson  
Chief Executive

**A G E N D A**

**PART I - OPEN COMMITTEE**

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes  
Minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2023 (previously circulated).
- 3 Items Requiring Urgent Attention  
Items which in the opinion of the Chair should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.
- 4 Public Participation  
Members of the public may make representations/presentations on any substantive matter listed in the published agenda for this meeting, as set out hereunder, relating to a specific matter or an examination of services or facilities

provided or to be provided.

## 5 Scrutiny Work Programme

In accordance with previous practice, Scrutiny Committees are requested to review the list of forthcoming business and determine which items are to be included in the [Work Programme](#).

The Committee may also wish to review the content of the [Cabinet Forward Plan](#) and the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services [Risk Register](#) to see if there are any specific items therein it might wish to explore further.

## **MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION OR REVIEW**

### 6 Call In of Cabinet Member Decision - Community Safety Funding agreement between DCC and HM Prison and Probation Service (Pages 1 - 14)

In accordance with the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Chair of the Corporate, Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Committee (Councillor Dewhirst) has invoked the call-in procedure in relation to the decision of the Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care in relation to the decision not to renew or extend the Community Safety Funding agreement between Devon County Council and HM Prison and Probation Service when it expires on 31st March 2024.

The grounds for this call-in are below and this has been discussed with the Monitoring Officer, as required by the Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

“The reason is that this facility is used by the charity Circles South West providing outstanding support for discharged prisoners and there is a risk that a decision by Devon County Council, to not extend or renew the Funding Agreement, could contribute to a decision by the Ministry of Justice to close the provision. This could have negative impacts for the people affected as they face substantial barriers to obtaining settled accommodation. The people affected may be recalled to prison, moved to approved premises outside of the Devon County Council geographical boundary.”

If the Scrutiny Committee decide to not make any recommendations to Cabinet, then the Cabinet Members decision can be implemented immediately. If the Committee ask Cabinet to reconsider the decision or recommend another course of action, then this will be considered at the Cabinet meeting on 9 February 2024.

The Cabinet Member decision is held in abeyance until the call-in procedure has been concluded.

The three accompanying documents (i.e. Record of Decision, Proposal letter and Impact Assessment) are attached for Members and available at [Decision - Approval not to extend or renew the Community Safety Funding Agreement - Democracy in Devon](#)

- 7 Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2024/25 (Pages 15 - 38)  
Report of the Director of Finance and Public Value (DFP/24/06), attached.
- 8 Future Finance Project - Update on Progress and Recommendations - SOG Report (Pages 39 - 44)  
Report of the Standing Overview Group, 29 November 2023, attached.
- 9 Plymouth and South Devon Freeport Update (Pages 45 - 52)  
Report of the Head of Economy, Enterprise and Skills (EES/24/1), attached.
- 10 Election of a Scrutiny Domestic Sexual Violence and Abuse (DSVA) Champion  
The Cabinet Member for Public Health, Communities and Equality has requested nominations for a Member Champion on each of the three Scrutiny Committees in order to support him to better understand the Council's responses from across its services.

### **STANDING ITEMS**

### **MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

11 Items Previously Circulated

Below is a list of information previously circulated (date in brackets) to Members since the last meeting, relating to topical developments which have been or are currently being considered by this Scrutiny Committee:

-Committee Risk Register (12 January 2024);

-Cabinet minute extracts to note, following Scrutiny references to Cabinet:-

Cabinet minute 436(a):

RESOLVED (a) that the Corporate, Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee be thanked for their consideration of the proposals for Community Self-Delivery of Highway Improvements;

Cabinet minute 442:

RESOLVED that the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee be thanked for their review of the Mid-Year Stewardship Report for the 2023/24 financial year and it be further endorsed and welcomed;

Cabinet min 456:

RESOLVED (a) that the adoption of the Devon Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy, provided in Appendix I of the Report, be approved; and (b) that the Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highway Management and the Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport to make minor amendments to the Strategy.

**PART II - ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF PRESS AND PUBLIC ON THE GROUNDS THAT EXEMPT INFORMATION MAY BE DISCLOSED**

Nil

*Members are reminded that Part II Reports contain exempt information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s). They need to be disposed of carefully and should be returned to the Democratic Services Officer at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal.*

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