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To: The Chair and Members  
of the Cabinet

County Hall  
Topsham Road  
Exeter  
Devon  
EX2 4QD

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Date: 30 December 2024

Contact: [karen.strahan@devon.gov.uk](mailto:karen.strahan@devon.gov.uk)

## **CABINET**

Wednesday, 8th January, 2025

A meeting of the Cabinet is to be held on the above date at 10.30 am in the Committee Suite (DAW) - County Hall to consider the following matters.

Donna Manson  
Chief Executive

## **A G E N D A**

### **PART I - OPEN COMMITTEE**

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest

Members of the Council will declare any interests they may have in any item to be considered at this meeting, prior to any discussion taking place on that item.

The other registrable interests of Councillors of Devon County Council, arising from membership of City, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes.

For details of District and or Town and Parish Twin Hatters – please see here - [County councillors who are also district, borough, city, parish or town councillors](#)

3 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2024 (previously circulated).

4 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

Items which in the opinion of the Chair should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.

5 Announcements

6 Petitions

7 Question(s) from Members of the Council

8 Question(s) from Members of the Public

**FRAMEWORK DECISION**

NIL

**KEY DECISIONS**

9 Target Budget and Service Targets for 2025/2026 (Pages 1 - 10)

Report of the Director of Finance and Public Value (DFP/25/02), presenting the budget targets for 2025/2026, attached.

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

10 Budget Monitoring - Month 8 (Pages 11 - 22)

Report of the Director of Finance and Public Value (DFP/25/1), presenting the Budget Monitoring Position at Month 8, attached.

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

11 A361 Barnstaple to Ilfracombe Safer Roads Fund Phase 1 Scheme Approval  
(Pages 23 - 50)

Report of Director of Climate Change, Environment and Transport (CET/25/1), seeking approval for the A361 Barnstaple to Ilfracombe Safer Roads Fund Phase 1 scheme, attached.

An Impact Assessment has been prepared for the attention of Members at the meeting, is attached, and can be found at - [The Safer Roads Fund – A361 Barnstaple to Ilfracombe Service](#).

*Electoral Divisions(s): Barnstaple North;  
Barnstaple South; Braunton Rural;  
Chulmleigh & Landkey; Combe Martin  
Rural; Ilfracombe*

12 Civic Agreement Between DCC and DALC (Pages 51 - 70)

Report of the Director of Public Health and Communities (COM/25/1), seeking approval of the Civic Agreement between the Devon Association of Local Councils (DALC) and Devon County Council (DCC), attached.

An Impact Assessment has been prepared for the attention of Members at the meeting, attached and available at [Proposed Civic Agreement between Devon Association of Local Councils and Devon County Council](#).

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

13 Partnerships Protocol with NHS Devon- Placements for Children and Young People (Pages 71 - 74)

Report of the Director of Public Health and Communities (PH/25/1) on developing Joint Protocols with NHS Devon for individual commissioning arrangements for Children and Young People, attached.

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

14 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment - Annual Return (Pages 75 - 122)

Report of Deputy Director & Head of Inclusion and Learning (Interim) (CS/25/01) presenting the annual return on the sufficiency of early years and childcare places, attached.

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

## **MATTERS REFERRED**

- 15 Children's Scrutiny Committee - Fostering Task Group (Cabinet Response)  
(Pages 123 - 130)

In considering the Report of the Task Group (Minute \*185), the Children's Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on November 2024 had RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Committee (a) endorses the report and recommendations and commends the report and recommendations to Cabinet; and (b) requests that Cabinet acts against the recommendations and that an update on the progress is brought back to the Committee in March.

The Task Group Report can be viewed here [Fostering Task Group - Children's Scrutiny Committee](#) – and the response of the Cabinet is attached.

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

- 16 Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee - Cost of Living Spotlight Review (Minute 195 of 28 November 2024)

In considering the 'Cost of Living Spotlight Review - Further progress Report on the cost of living recommendations and subsequent developments' (Minute \*195 of 28 November 2024), the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED that in further considering the original recommendations (as indicated in the Report) from the Cost of Living Spotlight Report (March 2023), which were progressed and reported on in November 2023 (b) that Cabinet be asked to write to Government regarding the anomalies between the new state pension scheme and the preceding state pension scheme.

### **Recommendation**

That Cabinet accepts the suggestion of the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee and will write to Government regarding the anomalies between the new state pension scheme and the preceding state pension scheme.

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

- 17 Notices of Motion (Pages 131 - 142)

The following Notices of Motion submitted to the County Council by the following Councillors have been referred to the Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order 8(2) for consideration, to refer it to another Committee or make a recommendation back to the Council:

- (a) Control of Local Bus Services (Cllr Atkinson)
- (b) Children's Social Care Policy Statement (Cllr Aves)

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

## **STANDING ITEMS**

### 18 Minutes

Minutes of the bodies shown below are circulated herewith for information or endorsement as indicated therein (i.e. any unstarred minutes):

*[NB: Minutes of [County Council Committees](#) are published on the Council's Website:*

- a Interviewing - Farms Estate Committee 16 December 2024 (Pages 143 - 144)

### 19 Delegated Action/Urgent Matters

The Register of Decisions taken by Members under the urgency provisions or delegated powers is available on the website in line with the Council's Constitution and Regulation 13 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. The decisions taken and associated information can be found [here](#).

### 20 Forward Plan (Pages 145 - 160)

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Cabinet is requested to review the list of forthcoming business (previously circulated) and to determine which items are to be defined as key and/or framework decisions and included in the Plan from the date of this meeting.

The [Forward Plan is available on the Council's website](#).

## **PART II - ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

### 21 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Recommendation: that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act namely, the financial or business affairs of the preferred bidder or tenderers for the provision or supply of council goods or services and also relating to contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with labour relations matters, and in accordance with Section 36 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, by virtue of the fact that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

22 Community Equipment Service - Part 2 (Pages 161 - 174)

*An item to be considered by the Cabinet in accordance with the Cabinet Procedure Rules and Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, no representations having been received to such consideration taking place under Regulation 5(5) thereof)*

Report of the Director of Integrated Adult Social Care (IASC/25/01) on contract award for Joint Community Equipment Services, attached.

An Impact Assessment has previously been published - [Impact Assessment Community Equipment Service Contract Recommissioning.pdf](#)

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

23 Children's Home Feasibility Study - Part 2 (Pages 175 - 186)

*(An item to be considered by the Cabinet in accordance with the Cabinet Procedure Rules and Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012)*

Joint Report of the Director of Children and Young People's Futures and Director of Performance and Partnerships (CS/25/02), seeking approval for a feasibility study, attached.

*Electoral Divisions(s): All Divisions*

*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.*

## **MEETINGS INFORMATION AND NOTES FOR VISITORS**

### **Getting to County Hall and Notes for Visitors**

For SatNav purposes, the postcode for County Hall is EX2 4QD

[Further information about how to get to County Hall](#) gives information on visitor parking at County Hall and bus routes.

Exeter has an excellent network of dedicated cycle routes. For further information see the [Travel Devon webpages](#).

The nearest mainline railway stations are Exeter Central (5 minutes from the High Street), St David's and St Thomas. All have regular bus services to the High Street.

Visitors to County Hall are asked to report to Main Reception on arrival. If visitors have any specific requirements, please contact reception on 01392 382504 beforehand.

### **Membership of a Committee**

For full details of the Membership of a Committee, please visit the [Committee pages](#) on the website and click on the name of the Committee you wish to see.

### **Committee Terms of Reference**

For the terms of reference for any Committee, please [visit the Committee page](#) on the website and click on the name of the Committee. Under purpose of Committee, the terms of reference will be listed. Terms of reference for all Committees are also detailed within Section 3b of [the Council's Constitution](#).

### **Access to Information**

Any person wishing to inspect any minutes, reports or background papers relating to an item on the agenda should contact the Clerk of the Meeting. To find this, [visit the Committee page](#) on the website and find the Committee. Under contact information (at the bottom of the page) the Clerk's contact details will be present. All [agenda, reports and minutes of any Committee are published on the Website](#).

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In relation to Highways and Traffic Orders Committees, any member of the District Council or a Town or Parish Councillor for the area covered by the HATOC who is not a member of the Committee, may attend and speak to any item on the Agenda with the consent of the Committee, having given 24 hours' notice.

### **Webcasting, Recording or Reporting of Meetings and Proceedings**

The proceedings of any meeting may be recorded and / or broadcasted live, apart from any confidential items which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public. For more information [go to our webcasting pages](#).

Anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings may do so unless the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting or there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chair. Filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible without additional lighting; focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard to the wishes of others present who may not wish to be filmed. Anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chair or the Democratic Services Officer in attendance.

Members of the public may also use social media to report on proceedings.

### **Declarations of Interest for Members of the Council**

It is to be noted that Members of the Council must declare any interest they may have in any item to be considered at this meeting, prior to any discussion taking place on that item. A reminder will be on every Committee agenda.

### **WiFi**

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### **Alternative Formats**

If anyone needs a copy of an Agenda and/or a Report in another format (e.g. large print, audio tape, Braille or other languages), please contact the Customer Service Centre on 0345 155 1015 or email: [committee@devon.gov.uk](mailto:committee@devon.gov.uk) or write to the Democratic and Scrutiny Secretariat in G31, County Hall, Exeter, EX2 4QD.

**Induction Loop available**

