

**EXETER CITY COUNCIL
RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY OFFICER IN CONSULTATION WITH PORTFOLIO
HOLDER**

TITLE: The City Council's Continued Participation in the Resettlement of Vulnerable Children & Families from Global Areas of Conflict

DECISION MADE BY: Director - Bindu Arjoon

IN CONSULTATION WITH Leader and Portfolio Holder for City Development

DECISION:

This report seeks Members' endorsement for the City Council's continued participation in national efforts to support vulnerable children and families escaping from areas of conflict. This builds on the Council's commitment in December 2016 of up to eight properties to accommodate Syrian families as part of a Devon-wide programme under the national Syrian Vulnerable Person's Resettlement Scheme (SVPRS). The Scheme delivers on the Government's pledge to resettle 20,000 Syrian families.

REASON FOR DECISION

The Council agreed in 2016 to participate in the SVPRS with a commitment to sourcing eight properties. The Government subsequently introduced the VCRS and it was agreed that the eight properties would be offered for both Schemes and additional properties sourced once the agreed eight had been allocated. To date, seven have been allocated to the SVPRS.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

There is an option of not sourcing additional properties beyond the agreed eight but members are keen to support vulnerable children and families fleeing from areas of conflict.

There is also the option of providing the properties from our Council Housing stock but Members are clear the council's participation in this Scheme should not disadvantage local residents.

PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED: Cllr Edwards, Leader of the Council
Karime Hassan, Chief Executive & Growth Director
Ban Al-Khafaji, Head of Legal and HR

DOCUMENT CONSIDERED: Executive Report – 13 March 2018

DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: NA

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED: NA

| Decision Number | Date of Decision Made |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 21 | 05 March 2018 |