

Executive

Statement of Decisions

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive held on Tuesday 16 September 2014. Decisions made by the Executive will be subject to call-in. Recommendations made to the Council are not subject to call-in. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Sarah Selway, Democratic Services (Committees) Manager on 01392 265275 or email sarah.selway@exeter.gov.uk

Major Grants and New Homes Bonus Minutes 28 July 2014

Agreed	That the minutes of the Major Grants and New Homes Bonus Panel held on 28 July 2014 be received and, where appropriate, adopted.
Reason for Decision:	As outlined in the minutes.

Allotment Service Review

Agreed	<p>that:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) all new tenancies be restricted to those living within the city and for as long as they continue to do so; (2) all new tenancies be restricted in size to a maximum of ten rods (approx 250 m²) per household; (3) payment arrangements for allotment rents are brought into line with the range of payment options available for other council services, subject to such arrangements complying with the statutory provisions relating to allotments; (4) discounts applied to current tenancies remain for the duration of the individual tenancy and are not transferrable, and that no discounts are applied to new tenancies; (5) changes are made to the service to reduce maintenance costs and bring the service into line with the projected budget for 2015/16 as set out in Section 9 of the circulated report; (6) a rent free period of up to a year may be authorised by the Service Manager where a new tenant is willing to accept an untidy plot or where a tenant is prepared to be the single representative overseeing the allotment site on behalf of the council; and
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	<p>(7) an Allotment Users' Forum be established in liaison with the Allotment Bodies;</p> <p>That it is recommended to Council to approve that:-</p> <p>(8) greater service user participation is encouraged and that the authority to enter into management agreements with duly elected Allotment Associations as laid out in Appendix B be delegated to the Assistant Director Public Realm in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Health and Wellbeing;</p> <p>(9) changes in the Allotment Gardens Rules and Conditions set out in Appendix C are approved and that the Service Manager with overall responsibility for Allotments be delegated responsibility to interpret the Rules in the case of a dispute; and</p> <p>(10) allotment Gardens Rules and Conditions are issued from 1 October 2014 and thereafter reviewed annually and that authority to approve or amend the Rules is delegated to the Assistant Director Public Realm in consultation with the Council's Monitoring Officer and the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Health and Wellbeing.</p>
Reason for Decision:	To provide a platform upon which to build the sustainable, affordable, long term future of the allotments and to enable the greater active participation of service users groups in the direct management of their sites.

Transport Initiatives and Issues - Update

Agreed	<p>That:-</p> <p>(1) the Council's involvement in the initiatives outlined in the report be supported; and</p> <p>(2) the Electric Vehicle Strategy, as a strategy for promoting the ownership and use of electric vehicles within Exeter, be endorsed</p>
Reason for Decision:	As set out in the report.

Release of Funds from the Holman Trust to Topsham Community Association

Agreed	<p>That it is recommended to Council:-</p> <p>(1) the Charity Commission be approached to release £15,000 from the Trust to refund the Topsham Community Association; and</p> <p>(2) a Recoupment Order remains in place for the remaining sum.</p>
Reason for Decision:	As set out in the report.

Corporate Plan Update 2014

Agreed	That it is recommended that Council notes and approves the 2014 Corporate Plan update.
Reason for Decision:	As outlined in the report.

Representation at Magistrates Courts and Court

Agreed	<p>That, in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1972, the following officer be authorised to represent the Council at the County and Magistrates Courts:-</p> <p>Jayne Hanson – Service Improvement Lead (Payments)</p> <p>That, in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1972, the following officers be authorised to represent the Council at the County and Magistrates Courts in Council Tax and Business Rates cases :-</p> <p>Jayne Hanson – Service Improvement Lead (Payments) Sue Rolfe – Senior Recovery Officer Kevin Hughes – Service Improvement Lead (Local Taxation) Guy Burnley – Senior Rating Officer</p>
Reason for Decision:	To ensure that the Council has legal representation at the County and Magistrates Courts.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 - Exclusion of Press and Public

Agreed	that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part I, Schedule 12A of the Act.
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Water Ingress to Council Housing Stock

Agreed	<p>That:-</p> <p>(1) funding from HRA balances as set out in the report be allocated to carry out the required building works to remedy the damp ingress, an element of this budget to be added to the External Painting and Rendering budgets to cover the work that could be carried out in conjunction with work already planned by the Council's current contractors in 2014/15;</p> <p>(2) the variation of the existing contractual arrangements with the contractors as a consequence of the above recommendation be agreed;</p>
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	<p>(3) the criteria previously agreed with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Customer Access, as set out in the report, be approved for 'fast tracking' works or other interventions where there were medical or other exceptional circumstances; and</p> <p>(4) the recharging of the value of the works as set out in the report to the leaseholders be supported as a service charge to cover elements of work that were planned (and would normally be charged to the leaseholder) but were being completed ahead of programme at the same time as the damp ingress works to ensure cost efficiencies. These would only be reasonable costs and only following the appropriate consultation process.</p>
Reason for Decision:	To enable remedial works to be undertaken on tenanted and leasehold properties that were damaged as a result of last winter's extreme weather conditions.

Leisure Legacy Proposal

Agreed	That delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director Economy in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Culture to confirm the Council's agreement to the transfer of the management of the City Council leisure facilities to Legacy Leisure. Such confirmation to be dependent on Parkwood Leisure providing requested verification regarding the status of Legacy Leisure.
Reason for Decision:	As outlined in the report.

Exeter & Heart of Devon Growth Board Minutes 28 July 2014

Agreed	That the minutes of the Exeter and Heart of Devon Growth Board meeting held on 28 July 2014 be noted.
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The decisions indicated will normally come into force 5 working days after publication of the Statement of Decisions unless called in by a Scrutiny Committee. Where the matter in question is urgent, the decision will come into force immediately. Decisions regarding the policy framework or corporate objectives or otherwise outside the remit of the Executive will be considered by Council on 15 October 2014.