#### **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY**

16 June 2015

#### Present:

Councillors Morse (Chair), Brimble, Buswell, George, Hannan, Holland, Morse, Newby, Packham, Raybould, Robson, Shiel and Vizard

#### Apologies:

Councillor Bull

#### Also present:

Chief Executive & Growth Director, Deputy Chief Executive, Assistant Director Environment, Scrutiny Programme Officer, Community Involvement and Inclusion Officer, Principal Project Manager (Infrastructure Management & Delivery), Environmental Health and Licensing Manager, Environmental Health Manager, Service Lead Housing (Assets), Technical Accounting Manager, Principal Accountant Corporate and Democratic Services Officer (Committees) (HB)

#### In attendance:

Councillor Keith Owen - Exeter City Council (as Portfolio Holder for Health

and Place)

Councillor Rob Hannaford - Exeter City Council (as Portfolio Holder for Health

and Place)

Councillor Heather Morris - Exeter City Council (as Portfolio Holder for Customer

Access)

Councillor John Harvey - Exeter City Council (Under Standing Order No. 44)

#### 23 Councillor Shiel

The Chair thanked Councillor Shiel for his work during his Chairmanship of this Committee.

#### 24 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2015 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as correct.

#### 25 **Declaration of Interests**

No declarations of interest were declared.

#### 26 Questions from the Public under Standing Order 19

In accordance with Standing Order No. 19, a question in respect of transport from Trevor Preist and a question in respect of damp in Council flats from John Murphy were put to the Committee. Copies of the questions had been previously circulated to Members. Both questions, with the replies (in italics) to the latter, are appended to the minutes. With regard to Mr Preist's question, the response is covered within Min.

No. 27 below - Transport Strategy for Exeter. The Chair remarked that future reports on transport would be considered by the Scrutiny Committee - Economy which, unlike this Committee, was the relevant forum.

The Chair thanked Trevor Preist and John Murphy for attending the meeting and putting their questions.

#### **Transport Strategy for Exeter**

The Principal Project Manager (Infrastructure Management and Delivery) presented the report which was a follow up to the question and answer session relating to transport strategy held at the meeting of this Committee on 3 March 2015. The report included reference to a suite of policy documents on transport prepared by the local authorities and set out progress in implementing transport strategies in and around Exeter. Both authorities were limited to a degree by financial constraints, competing interests and national Government policies, but he confirmed that City and County Council officers were in regular close contact. As there was a significant interest in this issue from a number of parties, he felt that a Working Group reporting regularly to both the Scrutiny Committee - Economy and Exeter HATOC (Highways and Traffic Orders Committee), together with an annual forum, was the best way forward and there would be no hard and fast rules regarding composition of the Group.

Councillor Harvey attended the meeting and spoke on this item having given notice under Standing Order No. 44.

He shared the concerns expressed regarding the future of the City's transport network and for the need for joined up thinking between the City and County Councils on this issue. He welcomed the establishment of the Working Group and update reports being submitted to the City Council's Scrutiny Committee - Economy and Exeter HATOC and asked for early meetings of the Group and the involvement of interested local groups such as CWest (the Campaign for South West Exeter Smarter Travel).

He stated that he was totally opposed to a new Park and Ride scheme on Oaklands Riding School as he did not think that it would be any better than one located elsewhere and also felt that a Park and Ride service using at least some of the Alphington Road corridor would not work, especially during peak congestion along that corridor. He also raised the following issues:-

- cycling need to improve cycle routes from Alphington to the City Centre and increase pressure on the Local Economic Partnership to help fund the routes;
- timetable for the Bridge Road works; and
- timetabling for the delivery of the Marsh Barton station.

The County Council Transportation Planning and Road Safety Officer responded to the issues raised:-

- with the need for a new Park and Ride in the vicinity of the A30 junction confirmed, further consideration was being given to sites alternative to Oaklands to serve both the A30 and A38/380 - 60% of traffic on Alphington Road originated from the Teignbridge area;
- the £11 million Bridge Road widening scheme was out to tender, tenders to be returned by July with work on site to start in early 2016 to last for about 12 months;

- work on the Marsh Barton station would commence next winter and open in 2017; and
- a footway/cycle way crossing the A379 would facilitate access from Alphington to a new secondary school in the Teignbridge area. An Exeter Cycle Package Bid had been submitted to the LEP (Local Economic Partnership) as part of a Growth Deal Funding Programme for 2018 to include cycle links from Monkerton to the City Centre, Newcourt to the City Centre and the SW Exeter Bridge over the A379.

Scrutiny Committee - Community supported the report and agreed to:-

- (1) the creation of a Transport Strategy Working Group, as set out in the report, comprising an officer representing Exeter City Council (Principal Project Manager (Infrastructure Management and Delivery), Devon County Council (Transformation Planning and Road Safety Manager), representatives from Stagecoach South West and First Great Western and others, with particular specialisms to be invited to the Group on an ad hoc basis; and
- the Working Group, following its first meeting, and annually thereafter, holding a forum to engage with Members and local groups interested in transport, with the minutes circulated to the City Council's Scrutiny Committee Economy and Exeter HATOC.

#### 28 Questions from Members of the Council Under Standing Order 20

In accordance with Standing Order 20, a question from Councillor Harvey was put to the Portfolio Holder for Health and Place. Councillor Harvey asked for an update on any work being undertaken with regards to safeguarding issues and young and vulnerable people, specifically in relation to safeguarding policies as they affect the private hire trade and Hackney Carriages. A copy of the question had previously been circulated to Members. The question, and the reply from the Portfolio Holder (in italics), are appended to the minutes.

#### PRESENTATION TO COMMITTEE

#### 29 Portfolio Holders' Statements

The Portfolio Holders for Health and Place (Councillor Owen), Customer Access (Councillor Morris) and Housing (Councillor Hannaford), presented progress updates against their priorities for 2014/15. The reports set out targets and milestones showing the aims of the Council during the year and what had been achieved by December 2014 and May 2015.

Portfolio Holders would work closely with officers to develop their priorities for 2015/16 which, when finalised, would be published in the Council's Corporate Plan 2015/16.

The Portfolio Holder for Customer Access highlighted the following areas which she felt would be appropriate for consideration by Task and Finish Groups:-

- local welfare support funding; and
- homelessness, to include the involvement of outside agencies and Teignbridge District Council.

The Chair advised that these would be raised at the meeting of the Scrutiny Review Working Group on 17 June 2015.

The following responses were given to Members' questions in respect of the Housing Portfolio:-

- further updates would be provided to Ward Councillors in respect of ongoing maintenance to properties in Prince Charles Road and Lancelot Road;
- damp problems in flats, as reported in Min. No. 26 above, had been largely the consequence of a succession of very wet winters, with Mincinglake properties, because of their geographic position, the worst hit;
- there would be an increased emphasis for inspecting rendered properties to identify any need for re-rendering and inspection of properties with face brickwork to identify any need for re-pointing; and
- the consultation process on garage use was ongoing following a review of garage sites and recommendations for estate rationalisation. A number of options were being considered including re-development, disposal, investment to ensure existing garages are fit for purpose, demolition and use for storage. Following further consultation with new Members, a further report would be presented later in the year.

#### 30 Investing in Communities

The Community Involvement and Inclusion Officer spoke on supporting communities in Exeter. She explained her role as Community Involvement Officer and main areas of work including community engagement, neighbourhood planning, voluntary sector support and contact for Major Grants/New Homes Bonus and City and Ward Grants. In respect of the latter, she detailed the funding opportunities and gave examples of projects assisted. Her presentation also covered the work undertaken by community organisers and that of the Exeter Green Partnership as well as the creation of the Exeter Community Forum which comprised representatives from existing Community Associations, the St James Forum, Isca Church etc. and which would be developing a community strategy for the City. Recent months had witnessed the following local communities forming community hubs and taking on the work of youth centres.

- Phoenix Centre transfer to Wonford Community Learning Centre;
- Westside Centre transfer to Exeter YMCA; and
- Knight Club transfer to Isca Community Enterprises.

The following responses were given to queries raised by Members:-

- although the Community Forum was largely comprised of existing groups, the key issue was to ensure that a geographical area was represented and that any further groups looking to join should do so on the basis of enthusiasm for developing a specific and easily identifiable area;
- the continuation of the service provided by the Knight Club was on the basis
  of the whole community being served and this was included within the terms
  and conditions of the transfer to ISCA, who were operating the centre on an
  inclusive and community orientated basis; and
- although work to railings in Beacon Heath had ultimately been undertaken by the Council following an offer by the local community to assist, all offers from volunteer groups were welcome and considered on their merits. Care would be taken to ensure that volunteer work did not conflict with work opportunities.

The Portfolio Holders for the Housing Revenue Account and Health and Place referred to opportunities for community participation in Wonford and parks and opens spaces generally.

The Chair advised that the Community Involvement Officer would report every six months to this Committee and that this would focus on new schemes rather than review the whole service. The Chair encouraged Members to liaise with the Officer on potential schemes.

#### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

#### 31 Council's Role in the Community and Tackling Isolation Task and Finish Group

The Scrutiny Programme Officer presented the report setting out the findings and recommendations of the Council's Role in the Community and Tackling Isolation Task and Finish Group.

Scrutiny Committee - Community supported the report and agreed that:-

- (1) the Community Involvement and Inclusion Officer provide an update to the Scrutiny Committee Community twice a year detailing work in progress, results and any areas of concern;
- (2) the proposal that the Task and Finish Group hear from the two new Community Organisers in six months' time to find out what progress they are making and what issues they may identify as needing attention be supported, the Group to then report back to the Scrutiny Committee Community; and
- (3) the proposal that the Community Involvement and Inclusion Officer, at any point in time, can ask for this Task and Finish Group to reconvene and consider any areas which she would suggest merit further investigation be supported, with a direct reporting line between the Group and the Scrutiny Committee -Community.

#### 32 Annual Scrutiny Report - 2014/15

The Scrutiny Programme Officer presented the report providing an annual update as to the Scrutiny work achieved during the Municipal Year 2014/15. She advised that, with regard to the issue of improving transport links between the Quay and City Centre, the possible use of a ring and ride service had been suggested by the Future of Exeter Quay Task and Finish Group whose report was due to be considered by the Scrutiny Committee - Economy on 18 June 2015.

Scrutiny Committee - Community noted and approved the Annual Scrutiny report.

#### 33 Housing Revenue Account - Final Accounts - 2014/15

The Technical Accounting Manager advised Members of any major differences, by management unit, between the approved budget and the outturn for the financial year up to 31 March 2015 in respect of the Housing Revenue Account and the Council's new build schemes. An outturn update in respect of the HRA Capital Programme was also incorporated in the report in order to help provide a comprehensive financial update in respect of the Housing Revenue Account.

The 2014/15 financial year had resulted in a surplus of £1,809,184. This represented an increase of £3,183,734 compared to the revised budgeted deficit of £1,374,550, of which a projected underspend of £2,629,576 had previously been reported to this Committee as part of the quarterly budget monitoring updates.

The total amount of HRA capital expenditure for 2014/15 was £9,173,770, which equated to 94% of the revised approved capital programme.

In response to a question from a Councillor, the Technical Accounting Manager advised that the total expenditure in 2014/15 on scaffolding to enable works to Council houses was £313,000. A detailed explanation of the costs of scaffolding in respect of reactive repairs and planned works would be circulated after the meeting.

The key reasons for the reported surplus were:-

- significant savings had been achieved in respect of routine service and maintenance budgets including savings in general maintenance costs which reflected a reduction in the number of reported faults;
- lower repairs to voids due to the formation of a dedicated voids team, referral
  of kitchen and bathroom replacements to the capital programme and pre-void
  inspections, coupled with lower numbers of void properties;
- service contracts significant savings had been achieved following the commencement of a new gas service and maintenance contract in July 2014;
- postponement of external painting of properties affected by damp ingress and delay on other planned works.

Scrutiny Committee - Community noted the report.

#### 34 Community Services Final Accounts - 2014/15

The Principal Accountant advised Members of any major differences, by management unit, between the approved budget and the outturn for the financial year up to 31 March 2015 in respect of Community Services. An outturn update in respect of the Community Capital Programme was also incorporated in the report in order to help provide a comprehensive financial update in respect of the Scrutiny Committee - Community budgets.

The total variance for the year showed a surplus of £300,262 after transfers from reserves and revenue contributions to capital, as set out in the report. This represented a variation of 3.08% from the revised budget.

The Community Capital Programme showed a total spend of £1,093,345 in 2014/15 with £388,054 of the programme deferred until 2015-16.

The Assistant Director Environment explained that the overspend relating to Domestic Refuse Collection was largely attributable to the engagement of agency staff for refuse collection.

The Scrutiny Committee - Community noted the report.

#### **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE**

#### 35 Environmental Health and Licensing Statutory Service Plan

The Environmental Health and Licensing Manager presented the report seeking approval for the adoption of the Environmental Health and Licensing Statutory Service Plan 2015/16. The Plan set out the Council's regulatory function in respect of food safety, health and safety, licensing, Environmental Permitting and other statutory functions over the forthcoming year.

The Chair reported that a Spotlight review had been undertaken in respect of antisocial behaviour.

Scrutiny Committee - Community supported the work being conducted by the service in co-ordinating Anti Social Behaviour and also the Statutory Service Plan and asked Executive to support the Statutory Service Plan 2015/16 and to request Council to:-

- (1) approve the Statutory Service Plan 2015/16;
- support the work being conducted by the service in co-ordinating Anti Social Behaviour;
- (3) authorise the Assistant Director Environment to change the Statutory Service Plan in the light of centrally issued guidance and/or to meet operational needs; and
- (4) note that a Spotlight Review had been undertaken on anti social behaviour during the year and that this report also acts as the update on the position as requested and approved by this Committee previously.

### Amendments to the Mandatory Licensing Scheme for certain types of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO's) throughout Exeter

The Private Sector Housing Manager presented the report seeking authority to introduce a £125 discount on the licence fee charged for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) covered by mandatory HMO licensing where the landlord of the HMO is accredited under a nationally recognised accreditation scheme, and the property has been subject to an inspection by an inspector employed by the accrediting organisation. Such a discount was already offered to the landlords of HMOs licensed under the recently introduced additional HMO licensing scheme, and the proposal in this report would remove the inconsistency between the two schemes.

Scrutiny Committee - Community supported the report and requested Executive to introduce a £125 discount on mandatory HMO licensing fee where landlords are accredited under a nationally recognised accreditation scheme and the property has been subject to an inspection by an inspector employed by the accrediting organisation.

#### **ITEM FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

#### 37 Private Sector Home Energy Conservation Strategy

The Private Sector Housing Manager presented the report informing Members of the Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) 1985 further report submitted to the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) at the end of March 2015.

Scrutiny Committee - Community noted the content of the HECA further report.

The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm and closed at 7.22 pm



#### **QUESTION FROM A MEMBER OF PUBLIC**

#### **UNDER STANDING ORDER NO.19**

#### **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY - 16 JUNE 2015**

#### **QUESTION FROM TREVOR PREIST**

The population of the Exeter conurbation, (the City and its neighbouring parishes), was 30% smaller 50 years ago than it is today; in 15 years it will be 35% bigger. This current rate of growth for the city is unprecedented.

The current transport plans focus on the period to 2030 encouraging the use of modes of transport other than the car and this was the topic of discussion at the recent Scrutiny Committee Meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. However beyond 2030 the Exeter region will continue to grow in both population and employment resulting in a continuing serious challenge for its transport needs.

Noting that car use currently represents over 50% of all modes of transport and that the public transport component is only 12%, can the City start to explore how its region might more effectively cope with its future transport needs on a time-scale of 20-40 years creating a transport system that has the capacity to provide a service for a much greater percentage of the population?

In this context the 20/20 Vision group which initiated the substantial growth in employment seen over the last 15 years is a valuable paradigm.



#### **QUESTION FROM A MEMBER OF PUBLIC**

#### **UNDER STANDING ORDER NO.19**

#### **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY - 16 JUNE 2015**

#### **QUESTIONS FROM JOHN MURPHY**

#### Exeter City Council's repair project for damp council flats

1. Did the council meet its target of awarding a contract to repair the damp homes by 6 April? If not why not?

The letters of intent were sent on 25 March 2015, with a contract start date of 1 April 2015.

2. How has the council prioritised the work? Did you consult the tenants? How long will the work take to complete? Will it be done by 6 October? Can you guarantee tenants affected by damp for the past three winters will be spared the problem this coming winter?

All works are planned to be completed within a 6 months period and before the coming winter. The council is prioritising the works based on;

- Health & Safety Issues regarding the Tenants or property (Doctors supporting letter)
- Follow on works from any emergency repairs
- Degree of water Ingress damage to the property
- Tennant Profile/ Age / Children/ Vulnerability
- Exeter City Council Surveyors Report
- 3. How many council homes are being repaired under this contract? 304 properties What proportion of all damp council homes in Exeter will be covered? All properties that have been reported to us as having damp are included in this contact.

Are all council homes in Exeter being repaired this summer? Yes

Will any damp council homes need to be repaired in summer 2016? No

4. How many families with young children are living in damp homes? We do not have this information to hand.

Are all these being repaired in summer 2015? Yes

Have you consulted medical advice about allowing young families to remain in damp accommodation? We have received a few medical letters from tenants that are concerned about their health, these properties have been prioritised and/or had emergency works carried out.

5. How many vulnerable people live in damp council homes in Exeter? We do not have this information to hand.

Are all of these being repaired in summer 2015? Yes

6. What is the longest wait for repairs to be carried out by families or individuals in damp council housing? *The first properties were reported to us in late Jan 2014.* 

How many complaints have you received from families waiting for repairs? As far as we are aware we have had no formal complaints.

Will you publish these complaints on the council website? n/a

- 7. How many families are being reimbursed for extra costs incurred because they live in damp homes, including running electrical equipment such as dehumidifiers and electric fires? To date we have not had any requests for reimbursement. However, an enquiry for reimbursement would be investigated and based on the individuals circumstances.
- 8. How much has the council spent under emergency arrangements to remedy unreasonable conditions and how many families were affected? £167k to 49 properties
- 9. What steps have you taken to communicate with council tenants who live in damp flats to tell them of your plans and advise them when they will be helped? The latest letter was sent Page 11

to all properties on the list on 30 March 2015, providing the following information; the name and contact details of the consultancy firm supervising the works and their nominated contractor with the overall timescale for all works to be completed.

10. Will the city council convene a review into the slow progress dealing with the damp problem in the city, compared with other areas around the country? Will it call evidence from residents and public? Will it publish the results immediately the review is completed? 'No. The Council does not accept there has been slow progress. This is a major piece of work, with significant budgetary implications, that has had to be properly planned and procured in accordance with the law.'

### SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY 16 JUNE 2015

### QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR HARVEY TO THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR HEALTH AND PLACE UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 20

#### Safety of young and vulnerable people in taxis

Can the Portfolio Holder please give an update on any work being undertaken with regards to safeguarding issues and young & vulnerable people, specifically in relation to Safeguarding policies as they affect the private hire trade and Hackney Carriages.

#### <u>Answer</u>

The Assistant Director Environment and Environmental Health and Licensing Manager have been looking at this area in detail especially in light of the second Rotherham Report authored by Louise Casey which was presented to the House of Commons in February 2015.

To this end a number of pieces of work are currently ongoing in conjunction with Devon and Cornwall Police's Public Protection Unit.

- Development of awareness sessions for drivers, hackney carriage proprietors and private hire operators based upon the national campaign 'Say Something if you see something.'
- Inclusion of safeguarding questions in the council's knowledge test to ensure a complete understanding of vulnerability, acceptable conduct and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).
- Further staff awareness training to ensure that early signs and areas of concerns are highlighted at the first opportunity for multi agency investigation.

Members may be aware that my portfolio also includes responsibility for the Community Safety Partnership. I can also advise members that this is a high priority not only for the Exeter Community Safety Partnership but also for the county wide Safer Devon Partnership. To this end a number of other measures are also being put in place:

- the establishment of a multi-agency CSE sub group meeting every six weeks to address CSE in Devon;
- more investment in and exploration of data collection, mapping and the assessment of CSE risk, including the set up of a data working group;
- support for victims in conjunction with partner agencies;
- focusing on early intervention to prevent children and young people at risk of CSE becoming victims, including the employment of a specialist in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub to analyse social networking activity;
- encouraging local business to sign up to a commitment agreement to train and raise awareness of CSE among their staff, and the potential for developing this further;
- encouraging businesses and the wider public to report lower level concerns to Crimestoppers, which over time would form intelligence which can be used by the Police to detect CSE;
- working with the NSPCC helpline to ensure that they are equipped to make referrals where necessary to the Police and to Social Care.

I can also add that in Exeter awareness sessions are also being arranged by the City Council in conjunction with the Police for the hotel, pub and club sectors.





# Investing in Communities in Exeter

Dawn Rivers

Community Involvement & Inclusion

England 2015





### Content

- Community Involvement Officer role
- Building Stronger Communities what we mean by this
- Funding opportunities for communities
- New Homes Bonus Local Infrastructure fund
- Exeter Community Forum information
- Exeter Green Partnership
- Communities taking the lead
- Future plans
- Community Leadership





## Community Involvement Officer role

**Role** – working in partnership with community organisations and groups, providing information and guidance and helping build capacity to develop opportunities for co-design and co-delivery.

Main areas of work: Community engagement, Devon Local/Exeter Local, Neighbourhood planning, Member support and advice, Voluntary sector support, Community resilience/emergency plans, Health & Wellbeing Board, Major Grants/New Homes Bonus, City & Ward Grants, Exeter Board, Community Health planning.





# **Building Stronger Communities**

- Promote a more joined up approach with Exeter's communities to encourage collaboration, enterprise and innovation in line with local needs
- Respond positively to approaches from communities wishing to work in a different way & consider how decision making and/or funding could be delegated to a local level where there is appetite and capacity to use it





- Consider where funding may be aligned or pooled to promote better value for money, better outcomes for communities and avoid duplication
- Encourage co-design and co-delivery of services and prioritise these initiatives for funding or 'in kind' support.





# Funding opportunities

- Ward grants £2,000 each ward £36k total (NHB funds)
   To encourage volunteering and support communities to address issues in their neighbourhood
- City grants £20,000
   Applications up to £2,000 to support cross city initiatives or across several wards





# New Homes Bonus Local Infra Structure Funding

For the last three financial years a Local Infrastructure Fund was made available from the New Homes Bonus, most recently set at £250,000 a year, to which local organisations could submit bids, for consideration by the Major Grants and New Homes Bonus Panel. Over this time 12 projects have been completed, 4 are underway and 3 are looking for additional funds.





Organisation	Project	Amount	Status
Alphington Church	Improvements to building	16,000	Complete
Bury Meadow Residents Assn	Improvements to park	7,000	Complete
Exeter CAB	Improvements to premises	10,000	Complete
Exeter Community Centre	Community garden	66,990	Complete
Exwick	Improvements to building	50,000	Complete
Ride On	Bike refurb charity	5,000	Complete
Topsham Rugby Club	Clubhouse extension	50,000	Complete
St Thomas Social Club	Replacement roof	25,000	Complete; underspent by £8,005
Exe Water Sports Assn	Feasibility study for new centre	50,000	Feasibility work complete
Exeter St James Forum	Acquisition and improvement of open space	10,000	Feasibility work complete
Park Life Heavitree & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Scouts	Prep work towards urban village hall	15,000	Feasibility work complete
Football in the Community Trust	Feasibility study to redevelop community building	19,800	Preparatory work complete; underspent by £13,800



Organisation	Project	Amount	Status
Newcourt Community	Set up costs of	90,860	Under way
Association	running new building		
Devonshire Place	Improvements to park	25,000	Under way
Residents Assn			
Exeter Gymnastics	Extension and	40,000	Under way
Club	improvement of		
	building		
St Sidwells	Improvements to	50,000	Under way
	premises		
Wear United	New community	120,000	Applications pending to
	building		vary nature of project
Alphington Community	Part rebuild of village	50,000	Fundraising in progress
Association	hall		
Newtown Community	New community	120,000	Fundraising in progress
Association	building		



# **Exeter Community Forum**

The Forum exists to:

- Give a strong voice to community groups across the city
- Inform the allocation of the neighbourhood portion of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) –projected to be £3.75 m to 2026 (15%)
- Support the creation of a community development strategy for the next 5 years





# **Exeter Community Forum May 2015**





### **Exeter Community Forum Representation** Pennsylvania St David's 6 8 7 1 ISCA CHURCH 10 2 ST JAMES FORUM ALPHINGTON VILLIAGE FORUM 3 ST DAVIDS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP WONFORD COMMUNITY ORGANISERS AND GROUPS (COGs) 8 DIGBY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION TOPSHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWTOWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 5 ST LEONARDS NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWCOURT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION EXETER COMMUNITY ENERGY ecce © Crown copyright Exeter City Council 100049053

Exeter City Council, Civic Centre, Paris Street, Exeter, EX1 1NN







- Exeter Green Partnership is helping communities to improve their green spaces from the ground up!
- By supporting participation in the RHS Britain in Bloom programme, the partnership is enabling volunteers to improve green spaces, residential streets and business districts.
- Co-ordinator supported by Exeter Board grant









#Exeter communities go for gold in this year's Britain in Bloom @\_ExeterGreen theexeterdaily.co.uk/news/homes-gar...





9:16 am - 14 May 2015







# Communities taking the lead: Youth Centres > Community Hubs

- Phoenix Centre transfer to Wonford Community Learning Centre
- Westside Centre transfer to Exeter YMCA
- Knight Club transfer to Isca Community Enterprises

All looking at a community hub model to meet the wider needs of their communities.





# **Community Organisers**

Part funded by ECC Housing Revenue Account:
Sue Bulled – Community Organiser - Wonford
(Employed by Exeter Community Initiatives)

Paul Holborn -St James/Newtown –focus on elderly needs (Employed by St Sidwells Centre)

Laura Robinson – employed by Active Devon focusing on Cowick Barton Active Trail project in partnership with ECC.









- @TheExeterDaily @ExeterCE
  @\_ExeterGreen Today's challenge
  #growingtogetherinwonford



FAVOURITE 1



3:01 am - 16 May 2015











Some days a new phrase hits home in my #community, thanks to @Clive\_Chilvers I found #photovoice #welcometowonford







# The future

- Supporting councillors to work closely with communities to establish local priorities, strengthening engagement and help manage demand by promoting self-help.
- Work on a community strategy for the city in collaboration with Exeter Community Forum to identify priorities.





# Community Engagement Champion & Leadership

Cllr Paul Bull

Cllr Pete Edwards





and all City Councillors

