

EXECUTIVE

Date: Tuesday 13 June 2017

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: Rennes Room, Civic Centre, Paris Street, Exeter

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business.

If you have an enquiry regarding any items on this agenda, please contact Sarah Selway, Democratic Services Manager (Committees) on 01392 265275.

Entry to the Civic Centre can be gained through the Customer Service Centre, Paris Street.

Membership -

Councillors Edwards (Chair), Bialyk, Brimble, Denham, Gottschalk, Leadbetter, Morse, Packham, Pearson and Sutton

Agenda

Part I: Items suggested for discussion with the press and public present

1 Apologies

To receive apologies for absence from Committee members.

2 Minutes

To sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14 March and 11 April 2017.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillors are reminded of the need to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests that relate to business on the agenda and which have not already been included in the register of interests, before any discussion takes place on the item. Unless the interest is sensitive, you must also disclose the nature of the interest. In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, you must then leave the room and must not participate in any further discussion of the item. Councillors requiring clarification should seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer prior to the day of the meeting.

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

RESOLVED that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 7 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I, Schedule 12A of the Act.

5 A Young People-Friendly City towards a Youth Strategy for Exeter

To consider the report of the Programme Manager Communities.

(Pages 5 - 18)

People Scrutiny Committee considered the report at its meeting on 1 June 2017 and its comments will be reported.

6 Bridge Replacement and Repair

To consider the report of the Service Manager Community Safety & Enforcement. (Pages 19 - 22)

Part II: Item suggested for discussion with the press and public excluded

No representations have been received in respect of the following items in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

7 Purchase and Conversion for a property for temporary accommodation

To consider the report of the Director.

(Pages 23 - 52)

People Scrutiny Committee considered the report at its meeting on 1 June 2017 and its comments will be reported.

Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Executive will be held on **Tuesday 11 July 2017** at 5.30 pm in the Civic Centre.

A statement of the executive decisions taken at this meeting will be produced and published on the Council website as soon as reasonably practicable.

Find out more about Exeter City Council services by looking at our web site http://www.exeter.gov.uk. This will give you the dates of all future Committee meetings and tell you how you can ask a question

at a Scrutiny Committee meeting. Alternatively, contact the Democratic Services Officer (Committees) on (01392) 265115 for further information.

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Agenda Item 5

REPORT TO: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - PEOPLE

Date of Meeting: Scrutiny Committee People – 1 June 2017

Report of: Programme Manager - Communities
Title: Exeter: A Young People-Friendly City

Towards a Youth Strategy for Exeter

Is this a Key Decision?

No.

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Council.

1. What is the report about?

1.1 An update on the Exeter Youth Strategy, which was initiated by Exeter Board, and information about the project planning phase.

2. Recommendations:

2.1 That Exeter City Council:

- commits to working together with young people and key agencies to make Exeter a young people-friendly city, where the views and aspirations of young people are heard and responded to, and where young people can access the best possible services wherever they live and whatever the wider economic, social and political context;
- supports the ongoing development of the youth strategy and action planning process to help plan for and address some of the key concerns identified by young people;
- considers recommendations that emerge from the action planning process to ensure that council services recognise and value young people's views and aspirations and, where feasible, embed these in future service planning and delivery.

3. Reasons for the recommendations:

- 3.1 Exeter aspires to be a young people-friendly city. Exeter City Council appointed a member champion for young people in 2016/17 to help focus on young people's aspirations for their lives in living in or visiting Exeter. The member champion role was instrumental in helping with the development of the youth strategy.
- 3.2 As background, Exeter has the highest population growth rate in Devon. Seven per cent of Exeter's population is aged between 10 and 17 years. At April 2016 11.9% of 16-18 year olds in Exeter were NEET (not in Education Employment or Training) compared to 7.3% for Devon as a whole. In some deprived areas of the city the figure is over 20%. Around 39% of crimes committed in Exeter (where information about the perpetrators exists) are committed by people under 24. Homelessness amongst young people in Exeter is underreported in statistics as they are frequently not eligible for support by statutory agencies. Nationally there is a significant increase in young people's mental ill health, with young

people often not in contact with mental health services. Exeter has the second highest number of school age children with a mental health disorder in Devon.

3.3 The youth strategy aims to consider the impact and contribution of all services, which influence young people's lives, rather than a narrow group of services. Young people deserve the best possible services wherever they live and whatever the wider economic, social and political context. In times of economic restraint, optimised allocation and use of resources, alongside commitment from partners, will underpin this.

4. What are the resource implications including non financial resources:

4.1 The Exeter Board contributed £5,000¹ and the Youth Service (which, at the time, was part of Devon County Council) made £2,500 available to support the development of the strategy. The funding has paid for a consultant to help co-ordinate a consultation exercise with young people and write the strategy, printing costs and a launch event for 80 participants held at the Guildhall in March 2017.

Two officers from the Council, the Programme Manager for Communities and the Community Officer, have helped to co-ordinate the work to date. Other officers contributed to the launch event in terms of leading or contributing to workshops. The same officers will continue to have an ongoing role in coordination and the action planning process. This fits with their existing responsibilities and will not require additional resources.

Exeter Board will be approached for any resource requirements that emerge from the action planning phase. Any impact on individual council services will be assessed when the emerging actions are considered in more detail.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

5.1 There are no additional financial implications for the Council in this report.

6. What are the legal aspects?

6.1 None identified

7. Monitoring Officer Comments

This report raises no issues for the Monitoring Officer.

8. Report Details:

8.1 In 2015/16 Devon County Council closed three out of four youth centres in Exeter, leaving the 100 Club in Countess Wear as the base for the head office of the new, staff mutual-run youth service now known as Space. Two of the youth centres in Exeter were transferred to community organisations. The Knight Club in Beacon Heath is now managed by ISCA Community Enterprises (and is now known as the Beacon Community Centre), the Phoenix Youth Centre in Wonford is now managed by Wonford Community Learning Centre as part of an extension to the community provision for the area. Devon County Council was unable to find an appropriate agency to manage the Westside Youth Centre in St Thomas and this centre closed in 2015 leaving very limited youth provision in the west of the city.

8.2 A steering group oversaw the development the strategy that included member involvement from Exeter City Council including the Lead Member for Communities and the Member Champion for Young People. The first stage included a consultation exercise with young

¹ Exeter City Council contributes 10% annually to the total Exeter Board budget.

people to identify priorities. 680 young people aged between 10 and 19 responded to the survey. 50 further young people from groups who were harder to reach, including those from Black, Asian and minority ethnic origin, LGBT young people and others with particular needs were interviewed by peer researchers. 51 organisations that work with young people provided their perceptions of issues for young people in Exeter through a separate survey. The 'Towards a Youth Strategy for Exeter' document was developed in partnership with Devon County Council, Exeter Community Forum and the City Council using the feedback from the consultation exercise with the young people.

See appendix - Exeter: A Young People- Friendly City. Towards a Youth Strategy for Exeter

The strategy was launched on 22 March 2017. Eighty young people and representatives from organisations in the city took part in workshops addressing the priorities raised by young people and took part in discussions about taking this work forward.

8.3 The main priorities identified by young people through the consultation process were:

Priority 1: A voice for young people in the city:

- Local youth forums involving young people in their communities
- Young people contributing to city-wide strategies for environment, transport, sport, recreation, arts, culture and community development
- Exeter young people make a strong contribution to Devon-wide youth voice forums
- Public bodies can show how young people's views have influenced policy and strategy decisions

Priority 2: Things to do, places to go:

- More youth centre's and safe spaces for young people to go to meet their friends, get involved in new activities and get support from experienced youth workers
- More affordable music, arts and sports events and venues for young people
- More young people-led initiatives to provide local places to go and things to do
- Increased availability of 'pop-up' premises for short term youth facilities
- Partnership arrangements in place that enable Exeter's young people to benefit from specialist sports and arts facilities in colleges, universities and other public bodies
- Information about things to do and places to go in Exeter is regularly updated and made accessible to young people

Priority 3: Protection from bullying and violence

- Multi-agency campaign that involves young people in order to eliminate bullying in schools, youth projects, sports and cultural organisations
- Education programme for young people delivered through schools, colleges and youth projects to highlight ways of reducing the risks of on-line bullying
- Zero tolerance of bullying behavior in public forums
- Young people report reduction in fear of bullying and violence

Priority 4: Support young people's mental health

- A multi-agency strategy for supporting young people's mental health in Exeter, informed by the views of young people
- Accessible early help for young people experiencing mental health concerns including counselling and peer group support
- Support for families of young people with mental health issues, to enable them to be able to help the young person themselves

Priority 5: An environment with young people in mind

- Young people are consulted and engaged in environment and transport planning
- Bus fares and timetables are determined taking into account accessibility for young people
- Exeter's parks and city centre are more welcoming to young people, with safe spaces, better lighting and places where young people can sit and talk to friends
- Free Wi-Fi access is built in to the creation of young people-friendly spaces
- Organisations in Exeter support youth-led projects to combat litter and improve the environment

Priority 6: A young people-friendly economy

- Consistent approach to careers advice and stronger links between higher and further education institutions and organisations working with young people
- Stronger relationships between organisations that support young people and local potential employers leading to new work opportunities for young people in the city
- More volunteering and project work opportunities that help young people develop the life skills they need
- Specific programmes and materials on financial management aimed at young people delivered through schools, colleges and youth projects
- 8.4 The next stage is for workshop coordinators (from a range of different agencies) to work with young people and partner agencies to develop action plans to address some of the issues and programmes identified by young people. It is possible that some of this work is already being delivered in Exeter, but it will be helpful for different agencies to identify where a more collaborative approach may be useful to better address young people's aspirations.

Officers from the city council (alongside the Lead Member for Communities and Young People) and colleagues from Space and VOYC Devon will continue to work together as part of an advisory group for this work, liaising with workshop leaders, a wide range of partner agencies and young people. There are plans to hold a follow up event in March 2018 to identify progress made and keep continuity for this important work for Exeter.

9. How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?

As part of our focus on "Support Exeter's Communities": "we will continue to provide support to the community and voluntary sector to achieve a range of positive outcome.

support to the community and voluntary sector to achieve a range of positive outcomes for our communities through co-design and co-delivery'.

10. What risks are there and how can they be reduced?

Services and support for young people are likely to be less effective without the contribution of the City Council.

- 11. What is the impact of the decision on equality and diversity; health and wellbeing; safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults, community safety and the environment?
- 11.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, public sector organisations have an equality duty. The Equality Duty ensures that public bodies consider the needs of all individuals in their day to day work in shaping policy, in delivering services, and in relation to their own employees. Age is one of the protected characteristics

Contributing to the ongoing development of a Youth Strategy and Action Plan for Exeter, enables the council to be committed to be working towards Exeter: A Young People Friendly City.

12. Are there any other options?

There are currently no other options to take forward this agenda in Exeter.

Dawn Rivers
Programme Manager- Communities

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended) Background papers used in compiling this report:-

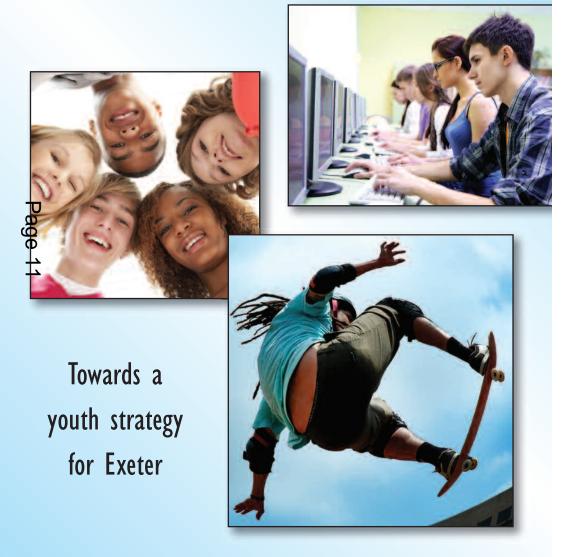
None

Contact for enquires: Democratic Services (Committees) Room 2.3 01392 265275



EXETER:

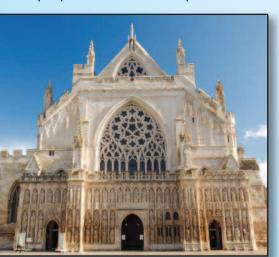
A Young People-Friendly City





Why have a Youth Strategy for Exeter?

This report has been developed with the support and commitment of Exeter Community Forum, Exeter City Council and Devon County Council, recognising that meeting young people's needs requires agencies to work together and stively engage with young people, their families and communities. These three bodies are committed to working together with young people to help make Exeter a Young People-Friendly City where the views and aspirations of young people are heard and responded to, and where young people can access the best



possible services wherever they live and whatever the wider economic, social and political context. It explains how organisations and communities in Exeter can help make growing up in the city as good an experience as it can be, and can help young people achieve their ambitions by providing support and challenge along the way. It should be seen as a first stage in developing an effective Youth Strategy for Exeter.

What is included in the report?

A Steering Group, made up of representatives from Exeter City Council, Devon County Council, Exeter Community Forum and other interested bodies, agreed the overall reach for the proposed youth strategy as:

- The views of young people should be at the centre of the proposed actions
- Focus on young people aged 10-25, to include key transition points from primary to secondary schooling and from education to work and further training
- Cover the geographical boundary of Exeter City Council, recognising that facilities in Exeter are frequently used by young people from surrounding parts of Devon and even further afield.
- Focus on what young people do outside of the time they spend in formal education (schools, college etc), taking in their leisure time and services they

may need for support with specific concerns such as housing, mental health and drug and alcohol misuse

 The Steering Group agreed not to focus on the needs of university students living in the city temporarily. However, it acknowledges the potential for increased partnership work with Exeter University and others to make the best use of facilities which could benefit young people.





Priority actions

The priorities identified in the report arise from analysis of the findings of research conducted about young people's lives in Exeter between May and October 2016. Young people's own views were central to our approach, and 680 young people aged between 10 and 19 responded to our survey. 50 further young people from groups who were harder to reach, including those of Black, Asian and minority ethnic origin, LGBT young people and others with particular needs were interviewed by peer researchers. 51 organisations that work with young people provided their perceptions of issues for young people in Exeter through a separate survey. We also considered a range of statistical indicators showing how young people in Exeter compare with those in other areas of Devon and further afield.

The priorities listed here help Exeter develop its identity as a 'Young People-Fliendly City'. We have included a list of 'indicators' that will help us to know whether we are achieving the key priorities.



PRIORITY 1: A voice for young people in the city and beyond

Young people in our survey and interviews told us that they want to have a more meaningful voice in decisions made in Exeter that affect them. These range from decisions about environment and transport to being involved in designing their own youth projects and contributing to wider discussions about how resources are utilised and new investments in the city. The indicators below will help to measure the success of the strategy.



How will we know we are achieving this?

- Local forums involve young people in their communities
- Young people contributing to city-wide strategies for environment, transport, sport, recreation, arts, culture and community development
- Exeter young people make a strong contribution to Devon-wide youth voice forums
- Public bodies can show how young people's views have influenced policy and strategy decisions

PRIORITY 2: Things to do, places to go

Reduced budgets and increasing costs means there are fewer opportunities for young people to get involved in activities – including sport, arts and music – meet their friends in safe places and get support from youth workers and other staff and volunteers who can encourage and inspire young people to reach their full potential. Young people told us that they wanted more opportunities and things to do outside of school or college, and wanted more information about what is available. These indicators show how this can be achieved.



How will we know we are achieving this?

More youth centres and safe spaces for young people to go to meet their friends,

Tget involved in new activities and get support from experienced youth workers

Of More affordable music, arts and sports events and venues for young people

More young people-led initiatives to provide local places to go and things to do

Increased availability of 'pop-up' premises for short term youth facilities

- Partnership arrangements in place that enable Exeter's young people to benefit from specialist sports and arts facilities owned by colleges, universities and other public bodies
- Information about things to do and places to go in Exeter is regularly updated and made accessible to young people

PRIORITY 3: Protection from bullying and violence

This was the top priority for young people who responded to our survey. Bullying takes many forms and happens in many places – schools, colleges, communities, on the streets and on line. Young people are often victims of violence,



sometimes by their peers and sometimes from adults, and while in general young people said they felt safe in their communities, many had anxieties about experiencing violence in the city centre. We hope these indicators will enable Exeter to take action to protect young people from the culture of bullying and violence.

How will we know we are achieving this?

- Multi-agency campaign that involves young people in order to eliminate bullying in schools, youth projects, sports and cultural organisations
- Education programme for young people delivered through schools, colleges and youth projects to highlight ways of reducing the risks of on-line bullying
- Zero tolerance of bullying behaviour in public forums
- Young people report reduction in fear of bullying and violence

PRIORITY 4: Support young people's mental health

The organisations that work with young people identified young people with concerns about mental health as the highest priority group for intervention. Nationally, there has been a dramatic rise in young people with mental health problems in recent years and the statistics show that Exeter is no exception to this – indeed rates of reported mental ill-health amongst adolescents is higher here than in most other areas of Devon. These indicators will support young people's mental health in Exeter.



How will we know we are achieving this?

- A multi-agency strategy for supporting young people's mental health in Exeter, informed by the views of young people
- Accessible early help for young people experiencing mental health concerns including counselling and peer group support
- Support for families of young people with mental health issues, to enable them to be able to help the young person themselves

PRIORITY 5: An environment with young people in mind

In general, young people appreciated the positive environment in Exeter – its buildings, green spaces and proximity to countryside and sea were highly valued. They were bothered about congested traffic and litter, and felt that parks and green spaces could be planned with young people in mind. They were particularly concerned to make public transport more accessible for young people. These indicators would reflect young people's views.



How will we know we are achieving this?

- Young people are consulted and engaged in environment and transport planning
- Bus fares and timetables are determined taking into account accessibility for young people
- Exeter's parks and city centre are more welcoming to young people, with safe spaces, better lighting and places where young people can sit and talk to friends
- Free wifi access is built in to the creation of young people-friendly spaces
- Organisations in Exeter support youth-led projects to combat litter and improve the environment



PRIORITY 6: A young people-friendly economy

Young people and the organisations we consulted recognised the importance of young people gaining the skills, knowledge and confidence they need to get into positive employment when they complete their formal education. Specific skills can include knowledge and understanding of managing their financial situation; advice about career options that matches their skills and interests, opportunities for experience in different work settings, and building their confidence in team working, communication, problem solving, creativity, entrepreneurship and leadership. These indicators provide measures for developing a young people-friendly economy.



How will we know we are achieving this?

- Consistent approach to careers advice and stronger links between higher and further education institutions and organisations working with young people
- Stronger relationships between organisations that support young people and local potential employers leading to new work opportunities for young people in the city



- More volunteering and project work opportunities that help young people develop the life skills they need
- Specific programmes and materials on financial management aimed at young people delivered through schools, colleges and youth projects

What happens next?

The draft report was endorsed by the Exeter Board in November 2016. After the official launch of the report in March 2017, and we expect that key organisations – public sector, private companies and voluntary and community groups – will adopt its priorities and come together with young people to achieve the outcomes that will lead to Exeter being recognised as a **'young people-friendly city'**.

It is important that young people themselves have a strong voice in how the proposed strategy works out in practice. Young people are already coming together in a forum for youth voice in the city, and they will be active partners in implementation. Space (formerly Devon Youth Service) will support young people to make a difference.

The indicators in the report, combined with actions added at the launch event will form the basis of an action plan for each priority – these will be further developed with the engagement of the relevant key agencies and organisations.

Young people and those working with them are invited to make an active response to the document which can be found on the VOYC Devon website http://www.vysdevon.org.uk/ You can also read the background information and research summary there, and leave your comments on the proposed strategy.

We would like organisations to talk about it individually and together, and to make their actions and commitments public, so that progress on engaging with the priority issues can be monitored. You can help make it happen in lots of ways, including displaying our posters.



Partners in 'Exeter: a Young People-Friendly City'

Exeter City Council

Devon County Council

space* (formerly Devon Youth Service)

VOYC Devon

Exeter Community Forum

Devon & Cornwall Constabulary

Diocese of Exeter



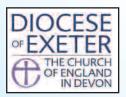












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Agenda Item 6

REPORT TO COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: Executive 13th June and Council 25th July 2017 Report of: Service Manager Community Safety & Enforcement

Title: Bridge Replacement and Repair

Is this a Key Decision?

No

* One that affects finances over £1m or significantly affects two or more wards. If this is a key decision then the item must be on the appropriate forward plan of key decisions.

Is this an Executive or Council Function? Council

1.	What is the report about?
1.1	Seek approval and funding for the replacement of the Exeter City Council owned Kings Arms Bridge.
2.	Recommendations:
2.1	That Executive support the recommendation for Council to approve a budget of £160K to fabricate and install a replacement of the Kings Arms Bridge.
3.	Reasons for the recommendation:
3.1	The bridge was inspected in early 2016 and was found to be showing signs of structural damage. Regular monitoring revealed a rapid decline in the condition of the structure. The County Council's Bridge engineers conducted a detailed survey later in the year and concluded that repairing of the current structure was not an option and removal or replacement was recommended.
3.2	The bridge forms part of what has becomes a popular and established cycle and route for walkers. It also serves as a quiet route between St Leonards and St Thomas
4.	What are the resource implications including non-financial resources.
4.1	The cost of replacement will be £160k as estimated by the County Council Bridge Engineers. In addition there will be a considerable investment of officer time required to project manage the installation.
5.	Section 151 Officer comments:
J	If approved, the budget will be added to the capital programme. The financial impact on the revenue account will be subtracted from the amount set aside to cover future capital programme financing.
6.	What are the legal aspects?
	None identified.
7.	Monitoring Officer's comments: This report raises no issues for the Monitoring Officer since the sole issue is whether Members agree to replace the bridge.

8.	Report details:
8.1	The present bridge was constructed in 1972 using the then popular lamination technique. Whilst laminated beams continue to be used as a substitute for 'hewn timber'; in this application the adhesive was not as resilient to the effects of water as was originally believed. Not only did water de-laminate the fabric of the bridge but caused significant rotting of the structure.
8.2	Records show that in 1996 plans were drawn up to replace large sections of the bridge. This suggests some early concerns about the longevity of the structure. Unfortunately none of those involved with that project remain with the council and we can only speculate why this plan was not executed. Our best guess is that the structure was strengthened and stabilised in order to slow the decay. It must have been considered that this, together with the re-decking, that took place at the time, was sufficient to extend the structure's life. Which indeed it was.
8.3	The recent report on the condition of the bridge shows extensive decay. As a temporary measure we have imposed a width restriction to limit the flow of traffic across the bridge and to channel the reduced load into the centre of the deck. Although this has caused some inconvenience to the public the only other option would be that of closure.
8.4	A temporary pedestrian bridge has been deployed to assist crossing at this point.
8.5	Fabrication of the new bridge is likely to take 10 – 12 months. Installation is likely to take 5 days, during which time the temporary pedestrian bridge will serve as the only crossing point in this location.
9.	How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?
9.1	The use of the bridge contributes to a valuable recreational asset and enhances health and wellbeing.
10.	What risks are there and how can they be reduced?
10.1	There is a reputational risk in us closing a popular recreational walking and cycling facility. There would also be an impact upon those local traders that utilise this asset.
11.	What is the impact of the decision on equality and diversity; health and wellbeing; safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults, community safety and the environment?
11.1	Health & Wellbeing: the bridge forms an important link to the walking and cycling route around the Canal and Quay.
12.	Are there any other options?
12.1	Closure. The nearest crossing downstream of the Basin would then be Salmonpool Bridge adding approx. 2.5km to the circuit

Steve Carnell Service Manager Community Safety & Enforcement

<u>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)</u> Background papers used in compiling this report:-

None

Contact for enquires: Democratic Services (Committees) Room 2.3 01392 265275







Agenda Item 7

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.



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