

STRATEGIC SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: Thursday 21 January 2021

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: Legislation has been passed that allows Council's to conduct Committee meetings remotely.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting.

If you have an enquiry regarding any items on this agenda, please contact Sharon Sissons, Democratic Services Officer (Committees) on 01392 265115.

During the Corona Virus outbreak, Strategic Scrutiny Committee meetings will be held by virtual means. The [live stream can be viewed here](#) at the meeting start time.

Membership -

Councillors Sills (Chair), Newby (Deputy Chair), Atkinson, Branston, Buswell, Hannaford, Henson, D, Lamb, Moore, D, Moore, J, Owen and Packham

Agenda

1 Apologies

2 Minutes

(Pages 3 -
12)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Strategic Scrutiny Committee held on 19 November 2020.

3 Declaration 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

It is considered that the Committee would be unlikely to exclude the press and public during the consideration of the items on this agenda, but if it should wish to do so, then the following resolution should be passed:

"**RESOLVED** that, under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the particular items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act."

5 Questions from Members of the Public Under Standing Order 19

Details of questions should be notified to the Corporate Manager Democratic and Civic Support by 10.00am at least three working days prior to the meeting. For this meeting any questions must be submitted by 10.00am on Monday 18 January 2021.

For details about how to speak at Committee, please click the following link - <https://exeter.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/councillors-and-meetings/public-speaking-at-meetings/overview/>

6 Questions from Members of the Council Under Standing Order 20

To receive questions from Members of the Council to the relevant Portfolio Holders for this Scrutiny Committee.

7 City Centre Recovery Update 2021 Budget Focus Discussion

(Pages 13
- 18)

To receive a briefing note on Recovery aspects from the Growth & Commercialisation Manager for discussion (*attached*)

8 2021/22 Budget Strategy and Medium Term Financial Plan

(Pages 19
- 40)

To note the report of the Director Finance presented to the Executive on 12 January 2021. (*report attached*)

Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Strategic Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Thursday 18 March 2021 at 5.30 pm.**

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STRATEGIC SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD AS A VIRTUAL MEETING

19 November 2020

Present:

Councillor Luke Sills (Chair)

Councillors Newby, Atkinson, Buswell, Hannaford, Henson, D, Moore, D, Moore, J, Owen and Packham

Also present:

Director City Development, Housing & Supporting People, Director Net Zero Exeter & City Management, Director Comms, Culture & Leisure Facilities, Director Finance, Corporate Manager Democratic and Civic Support, Service Lead - Environmental Health & Community Safety, Democratic Services Officer (SLS) and Democratic Services Officer (MD)

In attendance:

Councillor Philip Bialyk	- Leader
Councillor Rachel Sutton	- Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Net Zero Exeter 2030
Councillor Bob Foale	- Portfolio Holder for Transformation & Environment
Councillor Emma Morse	- Portfolio Holder for City Development

23 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Scrutiny Committee held on 24 September 2020 were taken as read, approved as correct, for signing by the Chair at the earliest possible convenience.

24 Declaration of Interest

No declaration of interest was made by a Member.

25 Questions from Members of the Public Under Standing Order 19

In accordance with Standing Order 19, a member of the public, Mr P Cleasby submitted the following question on the Local Industrial Strategy:-

What progress has the Council made in attracting funds in response to each of the funding requests set out in the Exeter Local Industrial Strategy?

The Council Leader, Councillor Bialyk offered the following response and explained that the clear steer from the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) officials, following publication of the Exeter Industrial Strategy (EIS), was that Whitehall would expect the formal Industrial Strategy to be on the same geography as the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and include Devon, Somerset, Plymouth and Torbay. The Exeter Industrial Strategy has been used to inform the production of the Heart of the South West Local Industrial Strategy with its focus on clean growth and Exeter's opportunity based on data and climate and environmental sciences. Having encouraged

the Heart of the South West Councils and LEP to produce an Industrial strategy for consideration by the previous Government, we have still not heard back from Government on whether the draft Industrial Strategy has been accepted.

Funding has been secured by Exeter College as part of a hub and spoke proposal for digital, to be known as the South West Institute of Technology, with the hub being based at Exeter. The skills escalator has been widely discussed and may well have supported the successful bid by the College. Funding has been secured from the Cabinet Office and the One Public Estate to produce a business case for a sustainable development fund. Funding continues to be secured by the Exeter Science Park to support the provision of new accommodation. There has been no success with the Institute of Environmental Risk, or in relation to Sparx (an Exeter based educational technology company) and Exeter City Futures. However, since the publication of the Exeter Industrial Strategy, Sparx has secured major private sector investment and it has been rolled out to many more schools in this country and abroad. In short, we have done a lot of work as a city and region to support the industrial strategy but we still await the publication by Government and funding has been secured from Government and this has been administered through programmes administered by the LEP and/or Devon County Council, and the case with the One Public Estate.

Mr Cleasby did not ask a supplementary question, but he agreed that this was all very encouraging and he thanked the Leader for the response. He looked forward to the Heart of the South West LEP publishing their plans soon.

The Leader referred to his membership of the Heart of the South West LEP Board, representing the Devon district authorities who had been pushing for the publication of the plans which he considered would be unifying. It was disappointing that in view of the delays to the devolution discussion, the plans had also been set aside for the duration of this Parliament. He confirmed that this authority was looking at other opportunities to draw down funding for important projects in our city and also the greater city region. He welcomed Mr Cleasby's question and suggested there was always the opportunity to ask such a question in the public section of the next meeting of the LEP Board.

26 **Presentation on Covid-19 by Portfolio Holders and Questions from Members and Answers on Covid Recovery**

The Chair introduced the four Portfolio Holders who reported to this Scrutiny Committee, to present their respective briefing updates with a focus on the Council's Covid-19 recovery stage.

Questions from Members submitted in advance of the meeting, with the answers given at the meeting, together with the supplementary questions and answers made at the meeting, are set out below for each Portfolio.

The Council Leader, Councillor Bialyk in presenting his briefing note highlighted the following:-

- Build Back Better Project, which was the subject of a report that went to Executive on 3 November and will be presented to Council in December; and
- the latter part of the update which demonstrated his involvement in the recovery of the city with a number of strategic and internal meetings.

Questions from Committee Members

1. **Councillor D Moore - Liveable Exeter Transformational Housing Programme:**

When will the approach for engagement and involvement of the community at an early stage, and the strategies for continued community engagement and involvement be published?

The Leader confirmed that high-level city engagement in relation to the Liveable Exeter programme was originally planned to have continued over the course of the past months, however Covid-19 has impacted significantly in terms of this engagement and several planned engagement opportunities have been postponed. Liveable Exeter has, nonetheless, sought to support several initiatives which have been developed during Covid-19 and a website for Liveable Exeter now exists to provide residents with more insight into the programme, its aims and ambitions. This website platform will continue to develop in the coming months and it is expected that this will become a key platform through which to engage residents and communities – especially whilst the effects of Covid-19 remain.

In terms of future events, it is worth stressing that Liveable Exeter is a complex, dynamic and long-term programme made up of several work streams and projects. A 'one size fits all' approach to engagement would therefore not be appropriate and project level engagement will be tailored to relate to specific projects and work streams. This means that engagement will be undertaken at a time, and in a means, which is most appropriate in terms of both engaging residents and in supporting the delivery of the programme. There is therefore no intention to publish a programme of engagement relating to the Liveable Exeter programme at this time.

Supplementary question and response.

Councillor Moore thanked the Leader and referred to the high level engagement and the prospectus of the Garden City Programme and referred to the proposals and whether the local community is being or will be engaged at an early stage. It was clear that in respect of community, both in terms of current and the future that residents must have a meaningful say in developing the proposals from design to delivery to constructively contribute to the future of the city. Whilst appreciating the impact of Covid-19, which has made it more difficult to engage communities, she asked the Leader to bring forward those plans and let Members know when those proposals would be coming forward.

Members should be reassured that there was every intention to engage the community and residents of Exeter. He was quite keen to commence with some form of engagement, although he could not be specific at this stage. Liveable Exeter would change many parts of the city, and in order to deliver 12,000 homes, we would in effect be going upwards as opposed to sideways. He referred to the commitment made to maintain the city's green and open spaces and he cited Northbrook and Bull Meadow and part of the Clifton Hill site as examples and of their work with the Devon Wildlife Trust. It was important to start the debate, establish the direction and be able to work together to understand what was needed on a site by site basis. He was keen to engage, come together as a city, to maintain job and graduate retention and ensure our children could have a ready supply of homes. He reiterated that he had every intention to engage the community in order that we could work together to do the right thing.

The Portfolio Holder for Transformation and Environment, Councillor Bob Foale in presenting his briefing note highlighted the following:-

- the main focus over the last few months of working with the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer on the Medium Term Financial Plan to address the savings needed of over £4m in the next year, and

- a number of meetings had been held with the Director Net Zero Exeter & City Management and the Service Lead - Environmental Health and Community Safety to discuss enforcement and car parking.

Questions from Committee Members

- 1. Councillor K Owen** - *Your portfolio holder's report refers to continuing partnership working with Exeter University and the Police. Have there been recent discussions with these two partners about CCTV provision on the edge of the University campus? The Registrar of the University has indicated his willingness to engage in such discussions following a representation made to him by local residents.*

Councillor Foale advised that this area was outside of the fibre optic network on which our CCTV system operates and therefore the costs of connecting any additional cameras would be extremely large. Once the CCTV system is upgraded, it may be possible to connect additional cameras but there would be ongoing data charges. Any cameras if placed now would have to be stand alone or managed by others.

Supplementary question and answer.

Given that highway land is also relevant to this issue, is it the intention to include the County Council in these discussions?

The County Council would be included in any discussions that may take place, particularly as they have some funding streams that could be made available. We continue to look at the Council's £4m deficit, and concern how that will be made up, CCTV is highly desirable, but expensive as well and it is hoped that, because of the expense of installing CCTV equipment, the County Council might be able to help fund any installations considered necessary.

- 2. Councillor J Moore** - *What are the options being considered to bring car parking income back up to previous levels and how do these align with our 2030 carbon neutral commitment?*

A range of options are being considered including tariff changes and dynamic charging aimed at discouraging entering the city during the main busy periods and encouraging people to make fewer but longer visits to the city centre. However until the pandemic stabilises it is impossible to say if these will have the desired effect.

Supplementary question and response

Can the Portfolio Holder explain how the tariff charges will work?

Comparisons have been made with similar charges from comparable compact cities with similar economies to Exeter such as Bath and Chester to see what they were doing. A range of options could be available including:-

- a straight increase which could be too simplistic an option;
- a staggered increase according to distance and historical usage; and
- scope for the introduction of weekly or monthly parking tickets being more widely available.

However, it will be difficult to recoup the level of income currently being lost during the pandemic.

3. Councillor D Moore - *In-sourcing of Leisure: What is the outcome of the VAT review and will this lead to an increase cost for users; and, for how long is the 'membership only' use expected to continue for?*

The VAT implications are still being finalised and are complex in nature. Once the work has been completed the Section 151 Officer will set out the implications for Leisure to Members.

Supplementary question and response

When do you expect the outcome and will it be before the end of this lockdown period, and will there be any spaces for single uses of the leisure services, particularly as there is a demand for swimming to be used as one off sessions as it was important that this issue was clarified as soon as possible?

It will be completed as soon as the Section 151 Officer sets out all the implications. It is hoped that there will not be an increase in costs for users. He was delighted the service had come back in-house and the facilities would be improved, but it was in the hands of the Section 151 Officer as to when he completes his report.

The Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Net Zero Exeter 2030 Councillor Rachel Sutton in presenting her briefing note highlighted the following:-

- a significant piece of the update related to Exeter City Futures (ECF) and the collaboration that was taking place between ECF, the City Council and the University of Exeter along with addressing low carbon construction and retrofitting and the development of the skills agenda. In the last couple of days there had been more Government attention on Kickstart and she welcomed a question and opportunity to respond on this subject, as well as talking about digital skills, which was a key ask of the Council's recovery plan;
- the focus of Building Greater Exeter had changed with a number of assets being used to support schools and promote careers in construction, with virtual events, YouTube and shared videos and an education hub, and
- meetings of the Devon Wide Climate Emergency Response Group and the Net Zero Task Force have continued, as those groups have sought to ensure that these plans have recovery embedded from the start. The consultation on the Devon carbon plans was due to start very shortly and that will run into January.

Questions from Committee Members

1. Councillor J Moore - *I joined one of the Exeter City Futures open conversations and it was great to hear about the work of different groups across the city to protect and promote our green spaces. It felt very much like an introduction without time in the meeting to discuss future actions or collaboration. I'm not sure if this was the same for the other conversations. Did any plans for future actions come out of the conversations? Is there the possibility for further meetings for each conversation area with a focus on collaboration and future actions?*

Councillor Sutton referred to a couple of open conversations and had found them very engaging. Details of the discussions from the day have been uploaded onto <https://www.exetercityfutures.com/greening-wrapup/> Contact details have been added to each speaker under The Ask – to encourage participants to engage direct with speakers in potential opportunities or innovative collaborations.

She also offered more detail of the Exeter City Futures Connect Events which provide an open platform, bringing together residents, communities, local businesses, charities and city stakeholders to listen and support community-initiated projects that help Exeter work towards its ambition to be carbon neutral by 2030. The events currently take place online, starting with five minute pitches and moving to tabling breakout rooms where presenters can take questions and hold discussion about their projects, it is hoped this format offers a creative and collaborative environment and fosters a vibrant community of Exeter change makers.

Usually, the Connect Events offer the opportunity for those sharing details of their community-led projects to follow up their presentations with discussions around their 'ask' (what they need from those in the room to help progress their projects) with the audience in breakout rooms. This provides some opportunity for the projects to connect with people and resource, stimulate collaboration, and inspire others to devise similar projects on the same evening. However, the Greening the City Connect event more time was given to the presentations, which meant we did not get into the breakout rooms.

These events are supported by the National Lottery Community Fund.

Exeter City Futures has recently launched an online community to aid discussion and collaboration for those in the city wanting to be a part of Exeter's progress towards net zero: [Exeter Net Zero Journey Slack](#)

As ever, Exeter City Futures were happy to explore how the team can further facilitate the chance to form collaborations, develop action plans, and connect people and ideas where they positively impact on Exeter's ambitions to become a carbon neutral city. We continue to meet with community groups, businesses, academics and others keen to find out how Exeter City Futures can support their net zero plans, and enable connections to people, resource and ideas wherever possible.

If Councillor Moore or any other Member or member of the public required any further details, or wished to discuss the response, Exeter City Futures would be happy to set up a meeting. Councillor Sutton encouraged Members to take advantage of that offer.

- 2. Councillor D Moore - Net Zero Exeter: Does the work with the university cover how the carbon emissions from both the city's development and the recovery plan will be offset over the next ten years, if not who and when will this be addressed?**

The work with the University is to prepare a carbon action plan for Exeter City Council. The scope of this Carbon Action plan is currently being developed in conjunction with the University, but Councillor Moore was right to talk about moving forward and projected growth would be considered as part of this work.

Supplementary question and response

Whether the projected growth would be for the whole city and would that be the action plan for the City Council and would that be a future piece of work for the University of Exeter or will you or somebody else be taking that forward and how that would be looked at.

Councillor Sutton thanked Councillor Moore for the question and said that in the short term the work was being carried out around the City Council and our plans and we will look to see the outcome of the work of the University and then move forward and continue. In an effort not to prejudge the report, it was important to get that work completed, and projected growth was part of looking forward to try and achieve this in

the next ten years, and without taking that into consideration it is not going to a fully and accurate report.

3. Councillor D Moore - Kickstart: how many employers have participated in the Kickstart bid, and of these how many were small businesses, social enterprises or charities?

We have submitted two applications to the Department Work and Pensions (DWP) as follows, both are still awaiting approval, and DWP are carrying out further due diligence checks on all businesses that have submitted the following placements:-

On the 27 October 2020 – there were 53 placements from 20 businesses, and on the 13 November 2020 – there were 42 placements from 12 businesses.

In total there were 95 placements with 31 businesses (there are placements from Exeter City Council departments on both applications.) as well as one charity, two Community Interest Companies, one Housing Association and the one Local Authority (Exeter City Council).

Supplementary question and response

Were these small or larger businesses?

Councillor Sutton confirmed that she would obtain a response and the information would be provided to Councillor Moore in writing.

Councillor Atkinson wished to congratulate the City Council for becoming a Kickstart gateway and introducing Kickstart placements, particularly as a large proportion of Devon businesses are small and Medium Size Enterprises and micro businesses. She was pleased about the support to businesses and also to young people at this difficult time. Devon County Council have not yet become a Kickstart gateway.

Councillor Sutton offered her thanks to the officers involved for their support of Kickstart.

Questions from other Committee Members

Councillor Hannaford - *Given that Exeter has a strong track record in introducing carbon neutral development and greener initiatives, will the Council take advantage of any further opportunities resulting from the Government's new commitment to carbon reduction and green technology, particularly as we have a strong green track record in these areas and are in good position to take advantage of any support that was available.*

Councillor Sutton confirmed that the City Council will work with its partners to ensure that Exeter benefits from the funding available as part of the Government's commitment to supporting green technology. This will only be clearer when the Government announces the detail of its proposals. To some extent the Government is catching up with the City Council as a similar initiative by the Government in the past was abandoned. She would welcome any such announcement and look forward to seeing the detail and will do the best to get all of the help we can and work with our partners to do that.

Councillor Hannaford - *Given the noticeable improvement in air quality along Cowick Street and Alphington Road during the lockdown, will the Council seek to introduce further measures to reduce congestion along the arterial routes into the city, which would make such a big difference?*

Councillor Sutton stated that reducing congestion along the city's roads relies to some extent on educating the public and to encourage less reliance on the car. The introduction of hybrid and electric vehicles will be beneficial and the Council will work with the County Council as the highway authority on this issue such as encouraging the introduction of more electric charging points across the city. The Council remains committed to reducing congestion in the city and a consequence of that will be better air quality.

The Portfolio Holder for City Development Councillor Emma Morse in presenting her briefing note highlighted the following:-

- following her new appointment as Portfolio Holder she wished to record her thanks to officers across the Council and particularly colleagues in Planning. Officers had been very helpful in bringing her up to speed with some very big issues that had come forward and she offered her thanks to the Director, Bindu Arjoon and officers from the Planning team, Roger Clotworthy, Jill Day, Katherine Smith, and Jean Marshall who have all made sure she was always well briefed and informed. The service has continued to carry on during the whole of lockdown, with only a pause of onsite visits, but we are continuing with them where it is safe and possible for them to do so;
- there had been an opportunity to relax the hours of deliveries to supermarkets and work on construction sites with two requests submitted, one having been allowed and one refused. The level of planning applications being made were back to pre Covid levels with the detail included in the report; and
- during this time, and although not directly related to Covid, the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan had ceased to exist, but the City Council had been working on a way forward with a report to the Executive very soon.

Questions from Committee Members

Councillor Hannaford - *Given the level of concerns expressed regarding the proposed changes to the planning system as set out in the Government White Paper, which is regarded by many to be a "developers' charter" with a presumption for development and have a detrimental impact on the city as a whole, how is the Council engaging in the consultation process ?*

Councillor Morse advised that the contents of the White Paper were considered in detail by the Planning Member Working Group and she thanked those Members who had contributed to enable a robust response to the consultation process which was submitted by the Council at the end of October. The City Council, as with other South West Councils, expressed many concerns including the number of houses proposed for the region compared with that for the northern powerhouse, bio-diversity issues and the limited reference to carbon neutral 2030 goals. Although there were some welcome elements, in general the proposals did not strengthen the planning process and the Council's response was suitably robust. Given that there is also considerable opposition from the Shire Counties, a number of changes can be anticipated before the Bill becomes law.

Councillor D Henson – *Given the receipt of complaints from residents adjacent to building sites following the relaxation of construction hours on these sites, are ward Councillors advised in advance of the changes?*

Councillor Owen - *Given that there were two applications for the extension of hours, one being refused and one being allowed, and having not been made aware of a relaxation in my ward, until a resident made contact with him, have there been any other complaints*

to City Councillors in respect of the application to extend the hours of operation of these two constructions sites?

The Director for City Development, Housing and Supporting People assisted with the responses and stated that only two applications for relaxation of hours had been received so far. Any complaints made would have been dealt with in the service, but if Councillors were not previously informed they will be notified of any changes made going forward.

Councillor Newby – *He was aware of a development site with residents in situ and asked whether it would be possible for the planning authority to suggest to developers of sites to make their occupants aware of any changes in ongoing construction hours. A number of his constituents had contacted him concerned over the changes to the hours of operation and potential for noise and disruption.*

Councillor Morse confirmed she would look into this, as the Planning Committee could include conditions as part of any application. She also suggested that Councillor Newby should discuss the matter with planning officers if he felt there was an enforcement issue.

Councillor Newby replied that the matter related to a lack of communication between developers and those who have brought on site or around but he appreciated the comments.

Councillor Diana Moore expressed her disappointment at not being successful in submitting three questions, based on the Portfolio Holders' updates for this meeting. Councillor Bialyk assured Councillor Moore that she would receive a written response in due course which would be circulated to all Councillors.

The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm and closed at 6.35 pm

Chair

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City Recovery update - January 2021

Below is an overview of information and data that has been collected since restrictions were put in place, since March 2020. The Growth & Commercialisation team meet virtually with the Exeter Chamber of Commerce, Exeter Federation of Small Businesses and InExeter (city centre Business Improvement District) on a weekly basis to discuss issues and challenges businesses are facing, as a result of Covid-19 restrictions. During the summer, the team lead on a number of Covid-19 city recovery groups, including City Centre, Business Recovery and Education. From these recovery groups, a number of activity areas were developed such as safely re-opening the city centre and the development of [Exeter Works](#).

1. High Street Trade

Retail Data:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/retailindustry/bulletins/retailsales/november2020>

Nationally, retail sales for November (latest available data) were down -3.7% compared to October and +2.4% compared to the same month last year. The ONS reports feedback from retailers showing consumers starting Christmas shopping earlier this year.

Online sales account for 31.4% of sales compared to 28.6% in October and 20.1% back in February, online sales are 75% higher than they were last year.

Household goods sales were up +15.2% year on year reflecting rising DIY sales (now up +46%) as households made use of click and collect and completed home improvements during the lockdown period.

Clothing & Footwear store sales fell -19% in the month (with sales moving online), fuel sales also fell by -16.6% during the month.

Retail Sales Volumes (Year on Year %)	Apr 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	Aug 2020	Sept 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2020
All Retailing	-22.9	-13.2	-2.0	1.2	2.7	4.5	5.8	2.4
All retailing excluding automotive fuel ¹	-18.3	-9.6	1.6	3.2	4.4	6.2	7.8	5.6
Predominantly food stores	5.4	6.4	6.0	2.8	3.0	3.7	3.2	7.1
Total – Non food	-52.9	-41.8	-16.9	-6.7	-3.1	0.8	1.7	-6.3
Non-specialised stores	-24.3	-14.0	-6.3	-6.2	-5.0	-0.9	0.5	0.4
Textile, clothing and footwear stores	-68.3	-61.0	-34.2	-24.9	-14.9	-12.8	-13.2	-29.3
Household goods stores	-49.7	-29.5	0.4	10.2	11.8	10.0	15.6	15.2
Other stores	-58.5	-49.5	-18.5	-1.0	-0.3	8.4	7.3	-3.1
Non-store retailing	26.2	53.0	54.0	37.0	34.4	33.2	43.9	42.4
Predominantly automotive fuel ¹	-62.3	-43.8	-32.5	-16.0	-11.8	-10.3	-11.6	-25.4

Prior to Christmas, Exeter Chamber of Commerce published the results of their latest business survey, with just over 300 Exeter business completing the survey:

- 99% of businesses reported that they continue to be impacted by COVID-19. Of those, 55% reported the effects as severe, down 12% from a similar survey carried out in April where 67% reported severe effects.

- Home working represents one of the major changes for business with 65% of respondents reporting a shift to home working
- 39% indicated that their business can continue to operate no more than 6 months, with 19% indicating between 6-12 months
- Coronavirus impact on business covers mainly:
 - Decrease in sales/bookings/demand for services
 - Cash flow issues
 - Events cancelled
 - Difficulties in sourcing supplies/components

2. Shop openings & closures

When restrictions started late March 2020, the Growth & Commercialisation team kept a record of shop openings and closures. The majority of shop closures (45) have been national chains closing, this is primarily due to them being no longer financially viable to trade.

Below is a list of new shop openings (15) in Exeter, which are predominantly independent shops, with a trend for city centre locations. Its very encouraging that individuals and some chains are choosing to open a new business during national restrictions in Exeter. When speaking with other Local Authorities, this isn't the case in their town and city centres.

Pop-up shops haven't been included in the list below, as these tend to be temporary and on a very short term lease agreement.

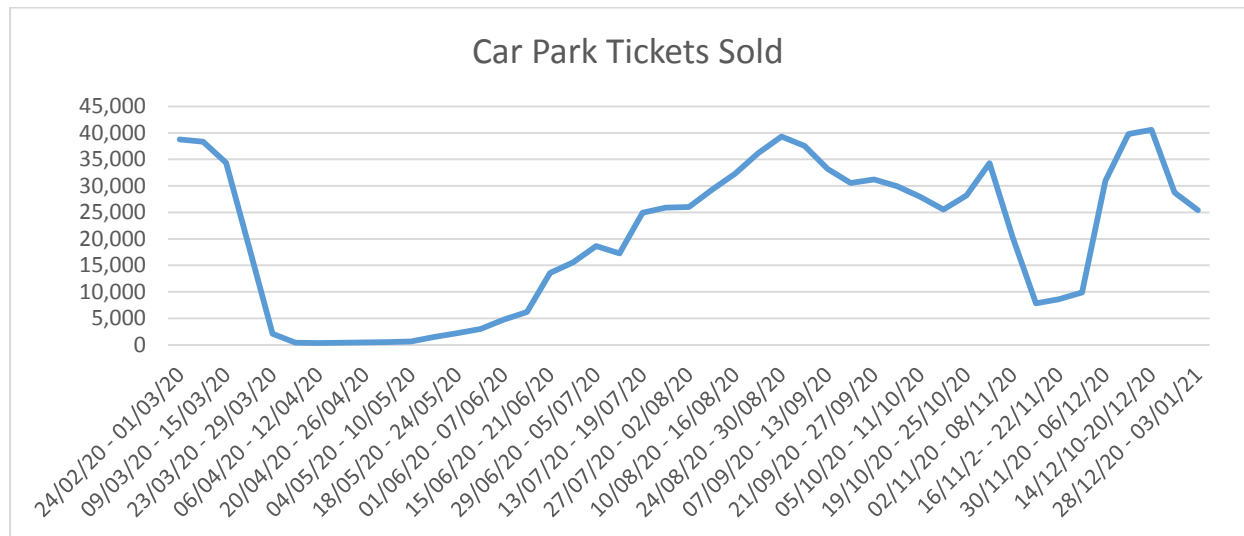
Date	Company Name	Type of Business	Location
Oct	Acutis	Opticians	High Street, Exeter
Oct	L'Occiatne		Princesshay
Nov	Floren Studio	Florist	Fore Street, Topsham
Nov	Coffee First	Coffee shop	Sidwell Street
Nov	B & M	General Store	Stone Lane Retail Park, Marsh Barton
Nov	Brewdog	pub	Guildhall shopping centre
Nov	Taco Boys	Café	Magdalen Road
Nov	No 5	Restaurant	Cathedral Green
Nov	Slim Chicken	Restaurant	Princesshay
Nov	House of Brine	Restaurant	The Quay
Dec	Bootlegger	Pub & Cocktail bar	Top of Fore Street
Dec	Two Seasons	Clothing	Princesshay
Dec	Press House	Print & coffee shop	Fore Street
Dec	Asian Street Food (name TBC)	Restaurant	The Quay
TBC	Sidwell Street Bakehouse	Bakery	Sidwell Street
TBC	The Ivy	Restaurant	Cathedral Green

3. Car Park

You will see from the chart below, when national restrictions are announced, there is a reduction in the number of people parking in Exeter City Council owned car parks, which is a knock on effect of those visiting the city centre for a shopping or leisure trip, or for work. The large number of people working from home is having a negative impact on car park income. The trend of working from home is likely to continue for the foreseeable future, in line with government guidance. From discussions with the Chamber of Commerce and direct with businesses, they are negotiating lease

agreements to reduce space rented in the city centre, which will have a longer term impact on the city centre.

Overall, ticket sales are still down approx. 27% comparing 2020 to 2019, which is having a dramatic effect on income levels.



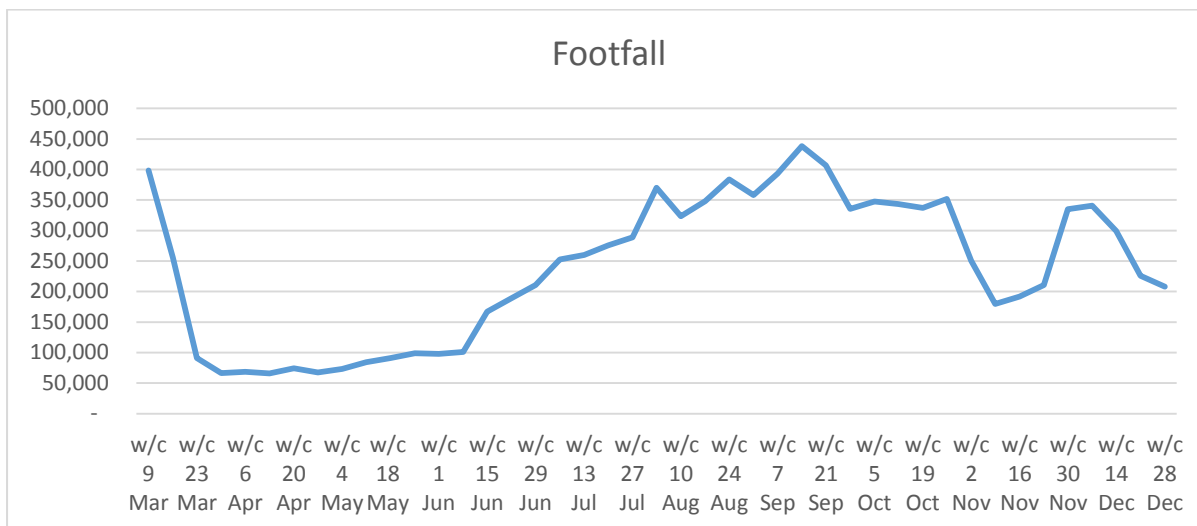
4. Footfall

In line with the number of car park tickets sold, footfall within the city centre reduces and increase in line with national restrictions being enforced and lifted.

When comparing both footfall and car park ticket sold, there are some changes in patterns. This will be attributed to University of Exeter students self-isolating and then leaving for their Christmas break, as well as Exeter College finishing early for Christmas. Students have a hugely positive impact on the city centre, in terms of footfall and spend in shops, pubs and restaurants.

The number of people working from home is also having an impact in the city centre – a reduction in spend in shops, cafes and restaurants. The lunchtime market is very important to the city centre, this market supports a wide range of businesses and jobs. If the trend of working from home (permanently or flexible) is permanent, city centres will need to adjust accordingly.

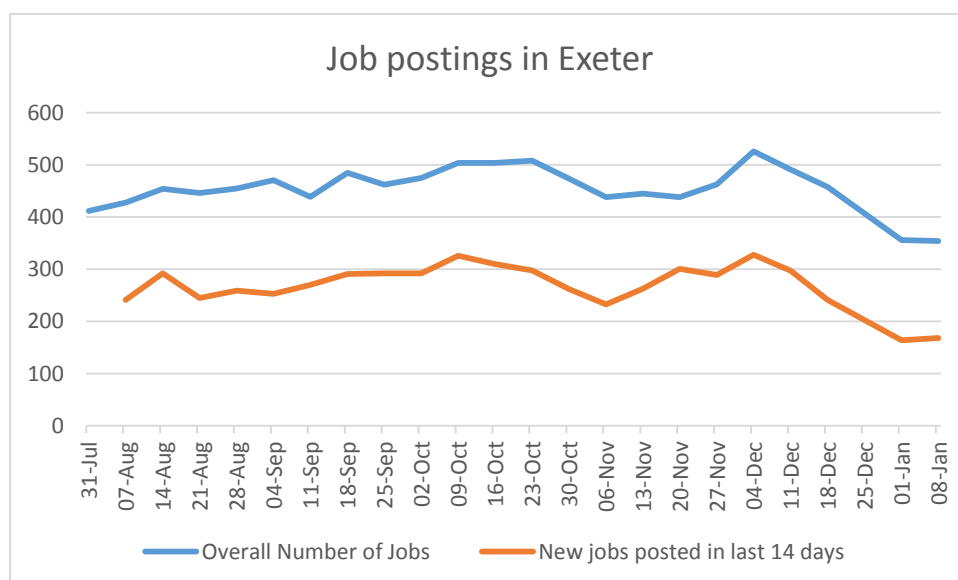
The latest Business Impact of Coronavirus survey undertaken by the ONS, reveals that around more than one-third (36%) of employees are working remotely instead of their normal place of work. This figure is much higher in Exeter, at 65%.



5. Job vacancies within Exeter

The number of job vacancies within Exeter has remained constant since restrictions came into effect. These have reduced since early December, this is expected, and is a normal seasonal change, they should recover early 2021, as it's unusual to post jobs in December. The chart below shows the number of new jobs (red line) that are posted within the last 14 days, and the overall number (blue line) of jobs on the national [Find a Job website](#). The type of roles being advertised are consistent every week, with the most popular roles being within the following sectors: Healthcare & Nursing, General, HR & Recruitment and Construction.

This website does not normally contain roles within the professional sector and those sourced through recruitment agencies. As a result, the total number of job vacancies within Exeter, will be much higher.



6. Universal Credit claimants

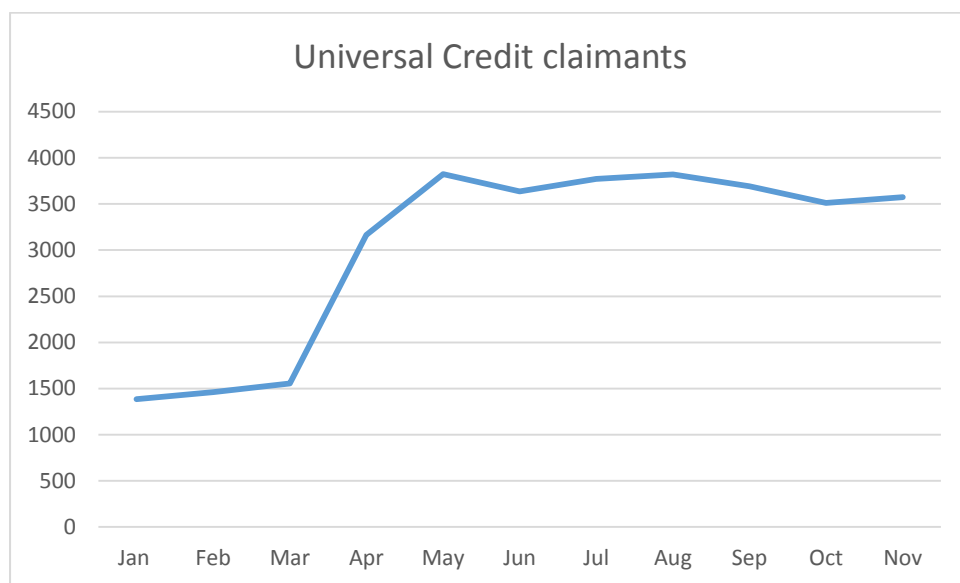
The number of Universal Credit claimants within Exeter rose dramatically when national restrictions took effect. Even though figures in Exeter are the highest they have been since August 1996, the percentage claiming Universal Credit is lower than the regional and national average: Exeter 4%, Devon 4.3%, South West 5%, and Great Britain 6.3%.

Of those claiming Universal Credit in Exeter, it's the over 50's that are above the South West average:

	Exeter	SW	GB
Aged 18-24	3.2%	7.2%	9%
Aged 25-49	4.6%	5.6%	6.9%
Aged 50+	3.9%	3.7%	4.9%

The number of people that are classified as self-employed in Exeter has consistently risen over the previous couple of years. From discussions with DWP, the self-employed have been affected by national restrictions, which resulted in them unfortunately having to claim Universal Credit.

The number of people claiming Universal Credit is expected to rise when furlough ends. The Exeter Works joint initiative with Exeter Chamber <https://exeterworks.org/> continues to grow and receive support from businesses and agencies across the city, to support those that have been made redundant and for businesses recruiting.



7. Business Support

£1m worth of funding has been allocated through the Additional Restrictions Grant to provide a wide range of business support initiatives, to primarily support businesses adversely affected by Covid-19. The Growth & Commercialisation team, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder (Cllr Pearson), Exeter Chamber of Commerce, Exeter Federation of Small Business and InExeter, are finalising policies for eligibility and the application process. Business support activities include:

- **Exeter Works** – physical hub for businesses, those made redundant and for young people on the Kickstart programme
- **Business Recovery Grant Programme** – to support business wishing to diversify and to introduce innovation into their business
- **Digital Business Support Package** – to adapt to digital ways of working to improve their business operations and processes
- **Business Support Package for SMEs** – dedicated 1-2-1 support and mentoring to address identified needs
- **Pop Up shops** – using vacant Exeter City Council owned property, to make the space available for new business start-ups
- **City Centre Click & Collect, and online shopping platform** – set up a city centre click & collect facility/consolidation unit, with Zero Carbon delivery, aimed at independent traders
- **Temporary Market** – space provided for new business start-ups and existing market traders

Growth & Commercialisation Manager - January 2021

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REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

Date of Meeting: 12 January 2021

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 23 February 2021

Report of: Director Finance

Title: 2021/22 Budget Strategy and Medium Term Financial Plan

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Council

1. What is the report about?

To provide a strategic overview of the budgetary position for the 2021/22 financial year and beyond including an indication of the likely level of available resources and the known demand for resources and the proposals to ensure that a balanced budget is achieved.

2. Recommendations:

It is recommended that the contents of the report are noted and that the proposals to establish a balanced revenue budget and capital programme are approved.

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

The Council is required to set a balanced budget and Council Tax prior to the start of the financial year.

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

4.1 The Council has a Medium Term Financial Plan that contains proposals to ensure it is balanced next year. However, there is significant uncertainty over the ability of the Council to deliver its income targets next year in such uncertain times. To this end proposals to protect the Council's financial position have been put forward.

4.2 The rest of the medium term financial plan is dominated by the impact of the proposed Business Rates reset and the ending of the New Homes Bonus, which will have a significant and damaging effect on the Council's finances. It remains the case that the Council will require £6.1 million of savings to balance the budget in the medium term, with £3.5 million required in 2022-23 if the reset finally materialises.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

5.1 The delivery of the emergency budget early in 2020-21 has enabled the Council, to protect itself from significant savings in 2021-22, by setting aside the compensation funds made available by Government to balance the budget. This however is only a temporary respite and the savings requirement remains high over the medium term at £6.1 million.

5.2 There is also great uncertainty over income targets being achieved next year, and whilst the Government have extended the sales, fees and Charges compensation scheme for a further three months, it is essential that the Council has resources set aside to protect itself from the risk of a further emergency budget being required in 2021-22.

5.3 In order to maintain financial discipline and prepare for the reductions required, Council can no longer merely approve additional expenditure without identifying what will be cut to fund it. This is essential as Officers and Members prepare to identify ways to address the gap in funding early in the year.

6. What are the legal aspects?

6.1 As part of the budget and the Council Tax fixing process, the Council is required by the Local Government Finance Act 1992 to make various specific calculations and decisions:-

- (a) it must calculate its budget requirement in accordance with Section 32 of the Act;
- (b) it must calculate the City Council element of the Council Tax - first for Band D and then for all bands - in accordance with Sections 33 to 36; and
- (c) it must set the overall Council Tax for each band in accordance with Section 30.

7. Monitoring Officer's comments:

7.1 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the S.151 officer to report on the adequacy of the Council's financial resource.

The Monitoring Officers comments are intended to assist all members of the Council in consideration of the complex legal background to their budgetary and Council Tax decisions and in particular to set out the legal factors and requirements which Members of the City Council need to consider in reaching decisions on the budget and Council Tax.

In coming to a decision in relation to the revenue budget and the council tax, the City Council and Councillors have the following legal duties:

- a. To act in accordance with their statutory duties and responsibilities;
- b. To act reasonably; and
- c. To have careful regard to their fiduciary duty to its rate payers and Council tax payers.

The City Council has a clear legal duty to set a balanced budget. A resolution not to set a Council tax would be unlawful so would be a resolution to set a Council tax which deliberately did not balance the budget.

When making a decision, councillors are reminded of the obligation to act reasonably and in accordance with the principals set down in the Wednesbury case. This means that councillors are required to take into account all relevant considerations and

ignore any irrelevant considerations. Put simply, it would be unlawful for the Council to come to a view which is unreasonable in the sense that it is so irrational that no reasonable authority could have reached it.

The meaning of fiduciary duty is more difficult to define but can be summarised as a duty to conduct administration in a business-like manner with reasonable care, skill and caution and with due regards to the council's rate payers. When discharging their fiduciary duties councillors will need to consider the following:

- a. Prudent use of the council's resources, including the raising of income and the control of expenditure;
- b. Financial prudence both long and short term;
- c. Striking a fair balance between the interest of the council tax payers on the one hand and the community interest and adequate and efficient services on the other hand; and
- d. Acting in good faith with a view to complying with statutory duties and exercising its statutory powers for the benefit of the community.

Restriction on voting

Members' attention is drawn to the provisions of S.106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 which applies to members where:

- a. they are present at a meeting of full Council, the Executive or Committee and at the time of the meeting an amount of Council tax and has remained unpaid for at least 2 months and
Any budget or Council tax calculation or recommendation or decision which might affect the making of any such calculation, is the subject of consideration at the meeting.

In these circumstances, any such members shall at the meeting and as soon as practical after its commencement disclose the fact that S.106 applies to them and shall not vote on any question concerning budget setting.

Failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence unless such member can prove that they did not know S.106 applied to them at the time of the meeting or that the matter in question was the subject of consideration at that meeting.

8. Report details:

8.1 Local Government Provisional Finance Settlement 2021-22

8.1.1 1 year Settlement

The Government confirmed in the Spending Review that the changes proposed to the Business Rates Retention scheme were being delayed for a further year and that a 1 year settlement would follow.

The provisional settlement for 2021/22 was announced in December and the figures in the Medium-Term Financial Plan have been updated. A new Lower Tier Services Grant has been included and Exeter has received £0.228 million.

8.1.2 New Homes Bonus

The Government have indicated that whilst New Homes Bonus will be payable again this year, the 2021-22 element of the allocation will be for one year only and there will be no payment in respect of the 2020-21 allocation. This gives an award of approximately £1.941 million for 2021/22, which will reduce to £0.678 million in 2022-23. A new proposal to replace New Homes Bonus will be announced in the new year.

8.2 Business Rates

8.2.1 The Government have further delayed the implementation of the Business Rates retention reform and the review of the formula that underpins it. This has meant that the reset, expected in 2021/22 has been put back another year at least. Although, this is positive news for Exeter as we benefit from being significantly above our baseline needs, the impact of Covid-19 means we will still see a drop in our business rates income next year as businesses fail. A drop of £0.7 million has been built into the MTFP. The review is currently expected to be implemented in 2022/23, and will have a further significant, negative impact on our resources, as set out in section 8.5

8.3 Council Tax

8.3.1 The medium term financial plan is based upon an assumption that under the council tax referendum threshold, Shire District councils will be allowed increases of less than 2% or up to and including £5, whichever is higher. Exeter's budget strategy for next year assumes that council tax will increase by £5, which, along with the estimated surplus on the collection fund of £92,205 and small increase in the taxbase will raise an extra £174,090. However, the Council is yet to finalise the impact of Covid on the Collection rate in 2020-21, which the Government will allow to be spread over three years. This will reduce the final amount from Council Tax.

8.4 Other Budgetary Assumptions

8.4.1 An overall allowance of £817,780 has been set aside for inflation. The inflationary increases allowed in the budget are:

Pay Award	2.0%
Pay – Increments	0.5%
2020/21 Pay Award in excess of 2% provision	0.8%
Electricity	5.8%
Gas	4.8%
Oil	2.5%
Water	0.0%
Insurance	5.0%
Rates	2.5%
Fuel	3.0%
General Inflation	0.0%
Income (excluding Car Parks)	2.5%

8.4.2 General inflation has again been held at zero; however, where there are contracts in place, inflation at around RPI has been added. The pay award for 2021/22 has not yet been agreed. An estimate of 2% has been included within budgets.

8.4.3 The medium term financial plan includes the impact on interest earned from the Council borrowing, long term, £49.5 million. This has had a positive impact on the Council and should provide sufficient cash to deliver projects currently in the capital programme. The reduction in interest to be paid is dependent on Exeter City Living taking the loan for the Clifton Hill redevelopment at the start of the financial year.

8.5 Likely Revenue Resources 2020/21 to 2024/25

8.5.1

	2020/ 21 £'000	2021/ 2 £'000	2022/ 3 £'000	2023/ 4 £'000	2024/ 25 £'000
RSG	371	379	386	394	402
Council Tax	6,087	6,261	6,404	6,658	6,916
Business Rates	6,157	5,495	4,296	4,378	4,469
Resources	12,615	12,135	11,086	11,430	11,787
Increase/(decrease)		(480)	(1,049)	344	7
Annual % change		(3.8%)	(8.6%)	3.1%	357
					3.1%

8.6 Additional Spending Pressures

8.6.1 Additional Spending Pressures over the period are set out in Appendix 1 and total:

	2020/ 21 £'000	2021/ 2 £'000	2022/ 3 £'000	2023/ 4 £'000	2024/ 25 £'000
Additional Pressures	2,343	2,133	(679)	75	50

8.7 Revenue Savings and Other Budgetary Reductions

8.7.1 The updated Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) is set out in Appendix 2. The MTFP has identified a gap in resources from 2022/23. The reduction required by 2024-25 totals £6.1 million or 46.5% of the net budget of the Council. This reduction is in addition to the savings already identified and set out below:-

	2020/ 21 £'000	2021/ 2 £'000	2022/ 3 £'000	2023/ 4 £'000	2024/ 25 £'000
Savings identified	(2,201)	(497)	(53)	0	0

8.8 General Fund Capital Programme

8.8.1 Attached at Appendix 3 is the proposed general fund capital programme for the next three years. This reflects the substantial condition survey results and uses up the Council's capital resources. Any further additions to this programme will require compensating reductions in revenue expenditure to cover the additional cost to the General Fund.

	2021/ 22 £'000	2022/2 3 £'000	2023/2 4 £'000	Future £'000
New Bids	0	0	0	0
Pre-approved	20,177	12,035	6,619	7,300
Total	20,177	12,035	6,619	7,300

8.9 Risk Assessment

8.9.1 It has already been mentioned above in this report that our financial forecasts are based on a number of assumptions including the level of inflation, interest rates, income levels, support from the government and general prevailing economic conditions. The main risks to the Council's financial position are as follows:

- The continued response to the Covid-19 pandemic means that there is great uncertainty around income levels for the Council. This will affect not only sales, fees and charges, but business rates and Council tax income as well;
- The Governments review of the future funding formula for Local Government, including a business rates rest, coupled with the potential loss of New Homes Bonus, leaves a significant gap in funding over the Medium Term Financial Plan. The overall impact of both streams of funding stopping in the next four years would require reductions of around £6.1 million.

Although the Council faces risks from the assumptions and uncertainties outlined above these have been mitigated by the following:

- Adopting a prudent approach to financial forecasting which involves obtaining information from external professional sources;
- Continuous monitoring and review of the key factors together with regular reports to Members on any key issues;
- Regular budget monitoring meetings with budget managers to ensure that budget pressures are identified at the earliest opportunity;
- The adoption of robust financial management arrangements including option appraisal, risk assessment and financial monitoring; and
- Retaining a prudent level of reserves and balances.

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

This is the strategic overview of the financial position of the Council

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

The risks relate to failing to set a balanced Council budget and are mitigated by regular reporting to the Strategic Management Board and Members.

11. Equality Act 2010 (The Act)

In recommending this proposal no potential impact has been identified on people with protected characteristics as determined by the Act because:

11.4.1 The report sets out the MTFP for the whole Council.

12. Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

There are no direct carbon/environmental impacts arising from the recommendations.

13. Are there any other options?

Not applicable

Director Finance, Dave Hodgson

Author: Director Finance, Dave Hodgson

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:-

None

Contact for enquires:
Democratic Services (Committees)
Room 4.36
01392 265275

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REVENUE PRESSURES - 2021/22 - 2024/25

	2021/22 £000's	2022/23 £000's	2023/24 £000's	2024/25 £000's
<u>Unavoidable or Already Committed from Previous Years</u>				
Living Wage	25	25	25	25
Housing Benefit Admin grant reduction	60	60	60	60
Pension Backfunding	(14)	51		
Software Licence modules	45			
	116	136	85	85
<u>New Revenue Bids - Recurring</u>				
Leisure Service	1,300	(600)		
GESP	39			
Local Plan	185	(40)	(60)	(85)
Governance arrangements	20			
Local Plan staffing	190			
Other	92	(17)		
Commercial Finance Manager	60			
	1,886	(657)	(60)	(85)
<u>New Revenue Bids - Non Recurring</u>				
Removal of Footbridge	129	(129)		
Climate budget	(50)			
Finance Systems Officer	(16)			
Leisure contract tender budget	(98)			
Other	50	(168)		
Bridge maintenance	75	(75)		
	90	(372)	0	0
<u>Revenue Costs Arising from New Capital Bids</u>				
Unsupported Borrowing Costs of Capital - Repayment of Loan		50	50	50
	0	50	50	50
TOTAL	2,092	(843)	75	50

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MEDIUM TERM REVENUE PLAN (2019/20 - 2024/25)

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	
Resources							
Revenue Support Grant	365	371	601	386	394	402	
Business Rates Income (assumed by Government)	4,064	4,130	3,239	4,296	4,378	4,469	
Business Rates growth	1,869	2,140	0	0	0	0	
Business Rates pooling / pilot benefit	701	0	0	0	0	0	
NNDR Deficit to Cover	(473)	0	(16,588)	0	0	0	
Section 31 Grant	0	16,445	2,286	0	0	0	
Excess S31 to earmarked Reserve	0	(16,588)	16,588	0	0	0	
Covid 19 Support	73	1,822	645	0	0	0	
SFC Compensation		2,500					
CIL income	700	1,363	1,090	1,090	1,090	1,090	
New Homes Bonus	2,518	2,490	1,941	678	0	0	
Council Tax	5,831	6,087	6,261	6,404	6,658	6,916	
Likely resources	15,648	20,760	16,063	12,854	12,520	12,877	
Expenditure							
Service expenditure							
Committee expenditure base budget	12,975	12,697	13,309	16,046	12,025	11,300	
Inflation	602	470	817	500	500	500	
Potential increase in service costs	1,083	2,343	2,092	(843)	75	50	
Budgeted reductions	(1,963)	(2,201)					
	12,697	13,309	16,218	15,703	12,600	11,850	
Supplementary Budgets	4,320	1,362					
Net Interest	(97)	673	150	122	98	99	
Forecast Committee movements	(2,159)	9,688					
RCCO	32	15	0	0	0	0	
Repayment of debt	693	1,154	1,961	2,226	2,128	2,389	
Additional repayment of debt	(582)	(604)	(1,269)	(1,451)	(1,080)	0	
	14,904	25,597	17,060	16,600	13,746	14,338	
Other funding							
Contribution to/ (from) earmarked reserves	(717)	(4,291)	570	(76)	0	0	
Contribution to/ (from) balances - Other	1,461	(546)	(1,395)	8	74	39	
	744	(4,837)	(825)	(68)	74	39	
Further reductions required				(3,300)	(1,300)	(1,500)	(6,100)
Potential reductions identified			(172)	(378)	0	0	
Total Net Budget	15,648	20,760	16,063	12,854	12,520	12,877	
							(6,100)
Opening General Fund Balance	4,395	5,856	5,310	3,915	3,923	3,997	
Closing General Fund Balance	5,856	5,310	3,915	3,923	3,997	4,036	
Balance as a percentage of budget	37.4%	25.6%	24.4%	30.5%	31.9%	31.3%	

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GENERAL FUND - CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 AND FUTURE YEARS						
SCHEMES	NEW BID	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	What the scheme is trying to achieve
		£	£	£	£	
Chief Executive & Growth Director						
Customer Contact Platform		100,000				Contribution to Strata led projects
Annual Contribution to Strata		53,910	53,910	53,910	53,910	
Datacentre Relocation		35,940				
SAN Replacement		179,700				
Door Access RAMM		100,000				
NCSC Zero Trust		53,910				
TOTAL		523,460	53,910	53,910	53,910	
Transformation						
Leisure Complex - Build Project		112,180				To develop a new leisure complex and swimming pool on part of the bus station site to replace Pyramids.
TOTAL		112,180	0	0	0	
Net Zero Exeter and City Management						
Parks Infrastructure		189,560				To ensure public safety in parks and open spaces. Works include resurfacing parking areas and repairs to steps, railings and gates.
Cemeteries & Churchyards Infrastructure Improvements		119,790				To provide adequate and safe access to graves. Works include improvements to path and road layout and surfacing improvements and provision of suitable parking.
Tree Removal & Replacement		173,140	150,480			
Outdoor Leisure Facilities		121,270				To provide facilities at Omaha Drive.
Repair Canal Bank at M5		26,890				To re-strengthen and raise canal banks at this known vulnerable location.
City Wide Property Level Protection		46,660				
Bowling Green Marshes Coastal Defence Scheme		340,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	To repair the coastal defences to retain the level of protection to the freshwater marshes. The scheme is entirely funded by the Environment Agency.

GENERAL FUND - CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 AND FUTURE YEARS

SCHEMES	NEW BID	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	What the scheme is trying to achieve
		£	£	£	£	
Exeter Flood Alleviation Scheme		29,250				Approximately 30 to 40 properties that are not protected from the Environment Agency's main flood scheme will be offered property level protection. The scheme is entirely funded by the Environment Agency.
Pinhoe Playing Field Upgrades		50,000				
Topsham Flood Prevention Scheme		800,000				
Repairs to Turf Lock Pier Head		73,500				Stabilisation work to Turf Lock Pier Head by providing rock protection on the seaward side and making good displaced masonry slabs in other areas.
Repair to Walls at Farm Hill		40,000				To ensure stability and integrity of structures.
Waste Infrastructure		144,000				To reduce on-street presentation of domestic and commercial rubbish. Infrastructure to consist of communal domestic waste collection points in selected streets, 'Recycle on the Go' bins in the city centre and communal trade waste facilities.
Improved recycling containers		2,150,000				To provide recycling containers to implement kerbside-sort recycling collection, incorporating glass and food waste collection.
Enhance the Materials Reclamations Facility		1,500,000				To provide necessary improvements to the Materials Reclamation Facility and ensure adapted for the planned improvements to rubbish collection.
Disabled Facility Grants		800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000	To meet the legal duty to pay grants to enable disabled people to remain in their homes.
Exhibition Way Bridge		41,200	169,760			Full Repair (specification dependent upon PI Report findings) & redecoration
Cricklepit Bridge		128,750				Full Repair (specification dependent upon PI Report findings) & redecoration. Last full paint coat was 15 years ago and is due for renewal
Yaroslavl Bridge		77,250				Full Repair (specification dependent upon PI Report findings) & redecoration, including redecking and replacement of handrail. Last full paint coat was 15 years ago and is due for renewal
Leypark Road Footbridge		41,200	169,760			Full Repair (specification dependent upon PI Report findings) & redecoration
Paul Street Car Park Bridge & Ramp			21,220	87,440		Full Repair (specification dependent upon PI Report findings) & redecoration

GENERAL FUND - CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 AND FUTURE YEARS

SCHEMES	NEW BID	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	What the scheme is trying to achieve
		£	£	£	£	
King William Footbridge			21,220	87,440		Full Repair (specification dependent upon PI Report findings) & redecoration
Farm Hill Retaining Walls (23 no.)			53,050	218,600	281,250	Stabilising works and other remedial actions (specification dependent upon PI Report findings)
Mallison Bridge		772,500	265,250			Replace bridge as per prepared Design, creating new public boardwalk and raised platform alongside quay walls
Trews Weir		103,000	901,850			Repair weir structure insitu
Riverside Walls at Quay		51,500	477,450			Underpinning or sheet piling existing Quay walls. Potential opportunity to deliver alongside Trews Weir
Exeter Arena Skatepark		20,600				Divert foul sewer around North & West edges of new Skatepark and reconnect into existing at manhole to SW of new Skatepark
Bonhay Rd/Andlaw House Footpath			42,440			Remedial works to replace existing gabion baskets or shore up existing gabion baskets - plus resurfacing of path with tarmac
Turf Pierhead				27,330	140,620	Construction of new sheet piled wall around the pierhead
Northernhay & Rougemont Gardens					168,750	Footpath improvements including resurfacing, replacement of handrails and fencing, repairs to retaining walls, refurbish bandstand. Improve electrical and water supplies for events, plus realignment of gates for easier events access
Longbrook Street wall behind 30-38					56,250	Localised repairs and strengthening of masonry wall
Underground Passages		30,900				Carry out all works identified in the inspection report
District Street Lighting		103,000	159,150	163,950	168,750	Complete stock replacement of aging lighting columns to drop-down type and to LED lamps over 5 year programme.
Okehampton Street & Parr Street Car Parks				54,650		Completely resurface both Car Parks and re-line Parking Spaces
Exwick Cemetery				21,860		Fill potholes and fit grates to open gullies. Carry out resurfacing to a number of localised areas to eliminate trip hazards
Higher Cemetery				21,860		Fill potholes, fill ruts in soft ground, eradicate trip hazards, raise sunken gullies/manhole covers and carry out resurfacing to a number of localised areas
St James' Weir & Ducks Marsh Meadow banks			212,200	1,093,000		Repair and rebuild St James Weir. Cost is likely maximum, as it is anticipated that EA would contribute as they own the right bank of the river

GENERAL FUND - CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 AND FUTURE YEARS

SCHEMES	NEW BID	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	What the scheme is trying to achieve
		£	£	£	£	
St David's Church Boundary Wall			31,830			Deconstruction of unstable sections of Heavitree stone wall followed by full reconstruction including replacement of stored copings
Canal Basin, Topsham Quay, Countess Wear		82,400	106,100			provision of purpose-built concrete craning pads
Double Locks Access Road & paths		10,300		43,720		Repair & resurface roadway
Heavitree Paddling Pools		309,000	159,150			Redesign and rebuild Paddling Pools, add new Splash Pad & replace dated Plant & Plant-Room. Expand and replace play area with a designed site
Cemetery Fields Play Area		77,250	79,580			Delivery of new major play area including ground improvements and accessibility improvements. May permit closure of 1 or 2 nearby local sites with lower play value which will offset revenue costs.
Budlake Road				109,300		Remedial works to highways including resurfacing and drainage improvements. Possibility of DCC adopting the highway if brought up to standard., and this would then take away a future maintenance burden.
Taddiford Brook @ New North Road / Taddiford Road		10,300		43,720		Delivery of flood scheme comprising flood storage areas in Taddiford Brook valley. ECC will contribute approximately £50k of the funding towards this with the rest being provided by the EA, DCC and University
Flowepot Skate-park		25,750				To supply & install 8 no. 380 watt Philips BVP651 Clearflood Large T25 DX60 LED floodlight luminaires complete with internal drivers, commission and Certificate. Commission a contractor to remove all graffiti on site, and install CCTV for enforcement and deterrent against graffiti
Piazza Terracina (Public Realm & Corporate Property)					157,500	Repaving and landscaping Terracina, with new service points to improve suitability for events. Could include spaces for street food and pop-up stalls similar to Guildhall. Potential income from stalls and events which would help to offset some of the costs
Numerous Play Areas		206,000	212,200	218,600	225,000	Supply & Installation of new play equipment at multiple play areas across the city to replace old, end of life equipment. Cost includes 2 potential full redesigns where all equipment is old and the site could provide better play value and more accessible play in areas of multiple indices of deprivation (Lakeside Avenue & Chestnut Avenue)

GENERAL FUND - CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 AND FUTURE YEARS

SCHEMES	NEW BID	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	What the scheme is trying to achieve
		£	£	£	£	
Landfill Gas Extraction Systems @ Clifton Hill & Mincinglake Valley Park (Public Realm & Environmental Health)			53,050	601,150		Significant upgrade or replacement of all three extraction systems.
Mincinglake Valley Park Reed Beds & Pipe Inlet		51,500	106,100			Re-lining of the lagoon to minimise leaks, coupled with design and construction of new debris screens to minimise blockage risks.
Exeter Ship Canal - M5 Viaduct		154,500				Raise and widen approximately 250m length of canal bank in the vicinity of the M5 crossing. Reinforce with geotextile (terram / enkamat or similar) to reduce future erosion.
Exeter Ship Canal - Bottleneck & Bird Hide		10,300	106,100			Top-up and reinforce approximately 200m length of canal bank and reinforce.
Exeter Ship Canal - Swans Nest Car Park					56,250	re-surface car park with asphalt, re-line car park spaces
Exeter Ship Canal - Green Tip to Salmonpool		51,500				re-surface path.
Exeter Quay Cellars & cliff face .		128,750	318,300			Undertake full geotechnical investigations to determine the continuity of materials along cliff & determine the seasonal variation of the water table, plus monitoring further movement. Likely that each archway may need to be provided with rock anchors and water proof lining.
Capitalised Staff Costs		50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	To provide for the cost of certain Council employees, which will be directly involved in the construction or acquisition of assets and qualify as capital expenditure, including engineers and surveyors.
TOTAL		9,141,510	4,826,240	3,802,620	2,264,370	

Finance						
Fire Risk Assessment Works		418,190				
Corn Exchange		555,880	152,700			
Guildhall		636,240	174,770			
Matford Centre		329,920	90,630			
MRF		200,050	54,950			
Underground Passages		16,940	4,650			
Clock Tower		32,770	9,000			
Higher Cemetery Chapels		154,770	42,520			
Old Exe Bridge and St Edmunds Church		40,030	11,000			

GENERAL FUND - CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 AND FUTURE YEARS

SCHEMES	NEW BID	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	What the scheme is trying to achieve
		£	£	£	£	
Alphington Community Centre		41,950	11,520			Condition Survey Backlog for all currently surveyed operational and commercial properties
Barnfield Theatre		38,620	10,610			
Bettys Mead Changing Rooms		46,990	12,910			
Bradninch Place		384,570	105,640			
Cowick Barton Changing Rooms		116,960	32,130			
Hamlin Lane Changing Rooms		36,600	10,050			
King George V Changing Rooms		255,610	70,210			
Pinces Garden Bowls Club		24,100	6,620			
Pinces Gardens Croquet Pavilion		21,980	6,040			
Pinhoe Station Road Changing Rooms (pending outcome of asset transfer)		52,130	14,320			
St Katherine's Priory		79,450	21,830			
St Thomas Bowls Club		105,570	29,000			
Topsham Museum		29,040	7,980			
Ark		12,500	3,430			
Exwick Chapel		17,750	4,870			
Oakwood House		12,400	3,410			
RAMM		210,530	57,830			
Topsham Cemetery Chapel (working)		22,280	6,120			
Belmont Bowls Club		56,360	15,480			
Catacombs		84,800	23,290			
Old Paper Mill		27,630	7,590			
Topsham Cemetery Chapel (non-working)		24,300	6,680			
Vicars Choral		11,490	3,160			
Guildhall roof replacement			614,190			Condition Survey Backlog for all currently surveyed operational and commercial properties
RAMM - roof replacement		388,400	600,130			
Mary Arches MSCP including allowance for structural repairs, expansion joint replacements and drainage improvements. No allowance for works to North Street foot bridge. This scheme is subject to ECL review		1,959,470	1,467,960			

GENERAL FUND - CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 AND FUTURE YEARS

SCHEMES	NEW BID	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Future Years	What the scheme is trying to achieve
		£	£	£	£	
Guildhall MSCP including allowance for structural repairs, expansion joint replacements and drainage improvements				1,014,340	1,160,040	Current Corporate Property Maintenance Requirements
Cathedral and Quay MSCP including allowance for structural repairs, expansion joint replacements, drainage improvements and secure access control. This scheme is subject to ECL review	3,496,800					
Harlequins MSCP					352,930	
John Lewis MSCP including allowance for structural repairs, expansion joint replacements and drainage improvements					2,709,760	
Princesshay 2 MSCP including allowance for structural repairs, expansion joint replacements and drainage improvements			2,384,310			
Princesshay 3 MSCP including allowance for structural repairs, expansion joint replacements and drainage improvements				567,580	649,110	
Leighton Terrace and King William Street MSCP including allowance for structural repairs, expansion joint replacements and drainage improvements			606,660	1,071,350		
Commercial Property Ancillary Accommodation flat roof recovering			124,640			
Bradninch Place - additional actions to enable potential asset transfer including heating system, roof access and removal of the BMS system. These works are in addition to the condition survey backlog of £598,000			242,350			
Wat Tyler House - resolving ongoing water ingress with new rainwater system		235,270				
Verney House - roof access and rainwater drainage improvements. Potential for mitigation if asset transferred for residential development opportunity		121,000				
Commercial Properties - capital improvements to enable ongoing income (compliance with EPC legislation)		100,830	103,870	107,000	110,130	
TOTAL		10,400,170	7,155,050	2,760,270	4,981,970	

TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME		20,177,320	12,035,200	6,616,800	7,300,250	
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New Bids	0	0	0	0
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Pre-Approved	20,177,320	12,035,200	6,616,800	7,300,250
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TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME	20,177,320	12,035,200	6,616,800	7,300,250
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GENERAL FUND AVAILABLE RESOURCES

GENERAL FUND	2020-21 £	2021-22 £	2022-23 £
CAPITAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE			
Capital Receipts Brought Forward	4,333,210		
GF Capital Receipts	3,949,000	0	0
Revenue Contributions to Capital Outlay	17,520	89,670	0
Disabled Facility Grant	899,470	800,000	800,000
New Homes Bonus	68,410	0	0
Community Infrastructure Levy	837,830	0	0
Other - Grants/External Funding/Reserves/S106	616,014	1,637,180	160,000
Total Resources Available	10,721,454	2,526,850	960,000
GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME			
Capital Programme	63,731,720	20,177,320	12,035,200
Overspends/(Savings)	(60,000)		
Slippage	(550,410)		
Total General Fund	63,121,310	20,177,320	12,035,200

UNCOMMITTED CAPITAL RESOURCES:			
Capital Receipts Brought Forward	4,333,210	5,036,770	2,142,420
Resources in Year	6,388,244	2,526,850	960,000
Less Capital Receipts to carry forward	(5,036,770)	(2,142,420)	(2,038,510)
Less Spend in Year	(63,121,310)	(20,177,320)	(12,035,200)
Borrowing Requirement	57,436,626	14,756,120	10,971,290

2,894,350 103,910

2,894,350 103,910

2023-24 £	Future Years £	TOTAL £
		4,333,210
0	0	3,949,000
0	0	107,190
800,000	800,000	4,099,470
0	0	68,410
0	0	837,830
160,000	160,000	2,733,194
960,000	960,000	16,128,305
6,616,800	7,300,250	109,861,290
		(60,000)
		(550,410)
6,616,800	7,300,250	109,250,880

Check

2,142,420	2,038,510	4,333,210
960,000	960,000	11,795,095
(2,038,510)	(1,988,510)	(2,038,510)
(6,616,800)	(7,300,250)	(109,250,880)
5,552,890	6,290,250	95,007,176

103,910	50,000	6,243,700
103,910	50,000	