

EXECUTIVE

Date: Tuesday 15 September 2015
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), Denham, Hannaford, Leadbetter, Morris, Owen, 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 meetings held on 26 June, 14 July and 11 August 2015.

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 9 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part I, Schedule 12A of the Act.

5 **Review into the Council's Policy for Allocating Social Housing**

To consider the report of the Assistant Director Customer Access.

(Pages 5 -
12)

Scrutiny Committee – Community considered the report at its meeting on 8 September 2015 and its comments will be reported.

6 **Proposals for the Implementation of a Public Spaces Protection Order**

To consider the report the Assistant Director Environment.

(Pages 13
- 26)

Scrutiny Committee – Community considered the report at its meeting on 8 September 2015 and its comments will be reported.

7 **Exeter City Futures Transforming Exeter Through Data**

To consider the report of the Chief Executive & Growth Director.

(Pages 27
- 34)

Scrutiny Committee – Economy considered the report at its meeting on 10 September 2015 and its comments will be reported.

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

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

9 **Corporate Property Assets Restructure**

To consider the report of the Corporate Manager Property.

(Pages 35
- 124)

Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Executive will be held on **Tuesday 6 October 2015** 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.

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REPORT TO Scrutiny Community

Date of Meeting: 8 September 2015

Report of: Assistant Director Customer Access

Title: Review into the Council's Policy for Allocating Social Housing

Is this a Key Decision? Yes

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?

This is a policy change recommendation and therefore a Council function.

1. What is the report about?

This report presents the findings and recommendations of the Task and Finish Group convened to review the Council's allocation of social housing in 2014 and the subsequent public consultation. The group was chaired by Cllr Shiel and other Members included Cllrs Hannaford, Crow and Morris

2. Recommendations:

To amend the allocation policy for Exeter City Council in the following way:

- i. To restrict eligibility for housing to those with an evidenced housing need within the policy and thereby removing B and E;
- ii. To remove applications where people do not bid for 12 months or refuse three properties deemed suitable for their needs
- iii. To give additional priority for working households to bid for properties in areas where there are high levels of unemployment.

To not implement the following recommendations of the task and finish group:

- iv. To give additional priority to those who contribute to the local community.
- v. To implement a specific local connection criteria to Devon / Exeter.

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

The Task and Finish Group and the consultation have highlighted a desire for the allocation system to be clearer for those in housing need and to cut out waste within the system. The consultation ran for 7 weeks and received 240 responses.

The implementation of these recommendations will allow the officers involved in managing the applications more time to provide advice and assistance to those in housing need and clarity in housing options for those deemed not to be in housing need.

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

i) If Members agree recommendation above, changes would need to be made to the IT system to ensure that applicants in B and E are no longer able to apply or bid for Exeter properties. An estimated price from the IT provider is £675.

ii) Concern has been raised by partner housing associations to what they see as unilateral changes being made by local authorities to the Devon Home Choice policy, previously common across Devon. The Devon Home Choice Partnership Agreement includes a clause stipulating that if a local authority takes a unilateral decision to exclude any group in their area (such as households in Band E) partner housing associations may consider vacancies as nominations and require the local authority to cover the advertisement cost (£25 per property advertised). Such an approach would only be taken following negotiations between the local authority and individual housing associations. Initial conversations with the main housing association in the City suggest that this will not be implemented unless there is a significant impact upon their business processes. Based on the costs and lettings from 2014/15 this would equate to a maximum of £6,000 per annum. The advert fee has since been reduced.

iii) There is a significant amount of administration that underpins the DHC Scheme. Given that those applicants in B and E have very little chance of securing social housing, there is significant waste work. Therefore, removing B and E would have a positive impact on staff resources, allowing officers more time to do value work such as giving greater assistance to those in housing need.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

Although there is potentially a small requirement for additional resources, it is expected that these can be contained within the existing budget of the service.

6. What are the legal aspects?

The Localism Act 2011 has removed the requirement to hold an open register of clients wanting to apply for social housing and allowing local priorities to be added to the assessment criteria. The Housing Act 1996 part VI highlighted reasonable preference criteria which needed to be considered in the allocation of housing. These have not been repealed and will continue to be the main basis of the allocation policy.

Concern has been raised by partner housing associations to what they see as unilateral changes being made by local authorities to the Devon Home Choice policy, previously common across Devon. The Devon Home Choice Partnership Agreement includes a clause stipulating that if a local authority takes a unilateral decision to exclude any group in their area (such as households in B and E) partner housing associations may consider vacancies as nominations and require the local authority to cover the advertisement cost (£25 per property advertised). Such an approach would only be taken following negotiations between

the local authority and individual housing associations. Initial conversations with the main housing association in the City suggest that this will not be implemented unless there is a significant impact upon their business processes. Based on the costs and lettings from 2014/15 this would equate to a maximum of £6,000 per annum. The advert fee has since been reduced.

7. Monitoring Officer's comments:

Legal Services have not been asked to advise on the content of the Devon Home Choice Partnership Agreement nor this issue generally and so the Monitoring Officer is not in a position to comment on the content of this report. Having said that, on the face of it, the recommendations appear to be sensible.

8. Report details:

Detailed below is the rationale behind the recommendations including the results of the public consultation.

i. Restricting eligibility for housing to those with an evidenced housing need within the policy, thereby removing B and E applicants

Currently applicants with no evidenced housing need (e.g. they are assessed to live in a property that is adequate to meet their housing need in terms of property type, size and facilities) are placed in B and E. Band E also includes those with a housing need but who have an income or savings above a certain level, or who have a reduced banding due to rent arrears or previous anti-social behaviour.

As of the 1 April 2015, there were 2,437 households in B and E. This represented just over half (51%) of all households registered with Exeter City Council.

Given the demand for a council and housing association home it is unsurprising that only a very small proportion of homes in Exeter have been let to applicants in Band E. Only 15 (2.5%) of the 616 homes let in Exeter between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2015 were allocated to households in Band E

50% of the respondents of the consultation were in support of removing B and E. Comments received and comments from the public highlighted that they would prefer to hear from the beginning if social housing wasn't an option.

It is argued that as B and E applications account for just over half of all active Exeter applications, staff time will be released to manage higher priority cases more proactively. This will also allow advice officers more time in explaining the wider housing options which may be suitable, such as low cost home ownership, money advice to resolve affordability concerns or mutual exchanges for current social housing tenants wishing to move area.

Teignbridge District Council and Torbay Council have removed B and E following consultations in their areas. The impact has been positive with few complaints from those impacted, who also receive a more individualised approach to their advice options.

Concern has been raised by partner housing associations of the changes being made by local authorities to the Devon Home Choice policy that was previously common across

Devon. In relation to the removal of Band E the concern has been connected to being unable to find tenants for less desirable properties. The Housing Needs Team is confident that, should a property not be let from band A-D under the usual process, there are sufficient homeless households in temporary accommodation to enable direct matches to those properties.

ii) Removing applications where people do not bid or refuse properties

Analysis of the housing register reveals that over half of all applicants registered with Exeter City Council have not bid since registering with Devon Home Choice (see the table below).

	Has not bid
Band	%
Band A	0%
Band B	44%
Band C	35%
Band D	54%
Band E	72%
Total	60%

Concern has been raised that a large amount of staff time and resource has gone into registering applications for households who do not bid or engage in the Devon Home Choice Scheme.

It is therefore proposed to remove households from the register who have not bid within the previous 12 months, where it is felt that there have been appropriate properties for them to bid for. Households would be contacted to inform them of their removal and to advise them that that they can reapply if they wish to after a reasonable period. This approach was supported by 67% of the consultation respondents.

An assisted bidding scheme is in place already to assist vulnerable applicants to access Devon Home Choice. The implementation of the recommendations will allow for the scheme to be expanded and review why applicants in high need (B and B) have not bid for accommodation available.

The current Devon Home Choice policy states that:

‘Applicants who refuse a number of homes that they have bid for and been offered will have their case reviewed by the local authority managing their case. They will be offered advice and assistance to take part in Devon Home Choice effectively. If it is found that they continue to refuse what are considered to be suitable homes they will have their priority reduced to the No housing need band (Band E)’

It is proposed that Exeter City Council informs applicants that if they refuse three homes that are considered to be suitable for them, they will be removed from the housing register. This will be done through reviewing paperwork and the offer process. It is proposed that the suitability guidance for homelessness is considered as the test of a ‘reasonable’ refusal. Applicants will have a right of review against any decision to remove them from the register. 60% of respondents are in favour of this approach with a further 10% advising that they neither agree or disagree. Currently there are 56 applicants who have refused 3 or more

properties. This equates to 202 wasted offer processes in the last 12 months which would be avoided if the application had been closed after 3 offers.

iii) Introduce additional priority for working households those who work.

In the National Housing Strategy published Autumn 2011, the government recommended that local authorities consider giving additional priority for social housing to working households.

Awarding additional banding to working applicants has not proven popular and has highlighted concern in relation to those with disabilities or with young children being disadvantaged by this policy approach.

An alternative approach was consulted on whereby limited priority can be awarded to working clients for a proportion of properties located in areas where there is a high level of worklessness. This approach was popular amongst respondents with only 28% opposed.

This approach can be implemented through local agreement and does not require an amendment to the Devon Home Choice policy. To implement the plan the economic status of current tenants would be used to map areas of low employment and 30% of properties in these areas would be advertised as preference given to working households.

iv) To not introduce additional priority for those who contribute to the local community.

The Task and Finish Group recommended that the Council recognise residents who contribute to the local community through social housing allocation.

During the consultation 54% of respondents supported the approach, however there was disagreement about how community contribution could be defined. This issue has been debated around the country as local authorities have considered implementation. The government has declined to offer definition resulting in variation nationally.

Examples from elsewhere in the country, notably Manchester, Dartford and Teignbridge have found its introduction complicated and labour intensive.

It is recommended that this not be pursued further. There are other elements of the Devon Home Choice allocation policy which recognise many of the suggested 'community contribution' categories. For example, additional priority for veterans, bedroom allowances for foster carers and health and well being banding for carers.

v) To not implement a specific local connection criteria to Devon / Exeter.

The Localism Act 2011 removed the duty on the local authority to hold an open housing register and therefore gave the ability to prioritise local homes for local people.

74% of respondents are supportive of prioritising access to social housing to applicants with a local connection to Devon. Respondents were positive to the Devon wide approach to allocating property, citing the opportunity to move for work or to bordering towns as an advantage.

Rather than adopting an individual local connection test, it is recommended that Exeter City Council remain within the Devon Home Choice policy that already includes a 2 year local connection test to Devon. This approach is recommended given that more applicants move out of Exeter to other local authority areas where they have no local connection than applicants without local connection moving into Exeter.

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

This review relates directly to the Council's priority of revising the Council's policy for the allocation of social housing

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

As stated above, concern has been raised by partner housing associations regarding the removal of Band E and a move away from a consistent Devon Home Choice policy across the county. There are two current examples of changes: Teignbridge and Torbay. The severity of the change has influenced how the registered partners have responded. These recommendations are not significantly different from the changes implemented in Teignbridge where there has been no cost implication.

Once clarity is in place regarding the recommendations, negotiations with partner housing associations will continue. It is envisaged that the improvements in the management of applicants that refuse properties will provide benefit to the partners rather than additional work to let less desirable properties.

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?

The potential changes to the allocation of social housing highlighted in this report do not have any negative impact in terms of gender, ethnicity, sexuality and religion. There is a potential negative impact in terms of disability and age due to the reliance on technology for continued engagement in bidding in choice based lettings. This can be mitigated through the provision of the assisted bidding scheme.

The removal of Band E applicants would give capacity for closer working with the households in Band A-D, which are in the greatest housing need. This client group includes vulnerable adults, households with safeguarding issues and those with health and wellbeing needs.

12. Are there any other options?

The alternative is to leave the allocation policy as it is now and continue to manage dormant applications. This would have capacity issues for staff struggling to manage current caseloads.

Assistant Director Customer Access

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

Background papers used in compiling this report:-

None

Contact for enquires:
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01392 265275

REPORT TO SCRUTINY COMMUNITY

Date of Meeting: 8 September 2015

REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

Date of Meeting: 15 September 2015

Report of: Assistant Director Environment

Title: Proposals for the Implementation of a Public Spaces Protection Order

Is this a Key Decision?

Yes

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Council

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 To advise Scrutiny Community Members on the process and consideration given to date, to the implementation of a Public Spaces Protection Order in the City Centre area of Exeter.
- 1.2 To seek agreement of Executive to enter into consultation with the public and relevant stakeholders on the draft proposals for a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO); and
- 1.3 To bring a report back to Scrutiny Community, Executive and Council at the end of this year, with recommendations as to the implementation or otherwise of a Public Spaces Protection Order.

2. Recommendations:

- 2.1 That Scrutiny Community notes and Executive approves:
 - a) the content of the draft Public Space Protection Orders, in the area defined by the attached map (Appendix I), with the prohibitions and actions (contained in Appendix II); and
 - b) that officers seek the views of the public and other stakeholders through public consultation, with a view to reporting back to Scrutiny Community, Executive and Council at the end of 2015; and
 - c) that officers make recommendations in that report on the adoption or otherwise of a Public Spaces Protection Order for approval by Council.

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

- 3.1 The justification for this area is based on intelligence from Devon & Cornwall Police and the Council's Control Room, together with public views canvassed from complaints to the Council and from a recent survey. From this intelligence it is clear that the prevalence of anti-social behaviour from the issues that the proposed PSPO seeks to control, is relatively high in comparison with other parts of the city, and at a level where the control mechanisms offered by the proposed PSPO will enable either

a control method where one does not exist at present, or a more effective control measure that is more easily used by agencies, and one that does not necessarily criminalise a perpetrator in breach of the PSPO.

- 3.2 From complaints to the Police and Council, together with views collated through a recent survey, there is evidence that these anti-social behaviours are having a detrimental impact on the quality of life of those residents, workers and visitors situated within the proposed PSPO area.
- 3.3 The anti-social behaviours that the proposed PSPO would seek to control within the defined area of public space include:
- the taking of intoxicants (alcohol, legal highs and other stimulants);
 - groups causing anti-social behaviour;
 - begging;
 - urinating in the street; and
 - bivouacs, bedding and encampments in the street.

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

- 4.1 It is anticipated that the Police will be the principal agency making use of the PSPO powers, and in most instances will allow a more efficient intervention than their existing powers, and avoid the need for arrest and prosecution (e.g. in controlling begging). Any enforcement costs in pursuit of breaches of this Order will be met by existing Police and/or Council resources. Currently both the Assistant Directors Environment and Public Realm can authorise officers to act under this Order.
- 4.2 There were some internal costs for consultation and a small cost associated with the publication of the Order and stationary for fixed penalty notices (FPNs), along with the installation of appropriate signage. These will be met from within existing budgets.
- 4.3 Income derived from FPNs is expected to be small but may be used to help cover the associated costs of implementing the Order.
- 4.4 At present it is unknown what legal resource may be needed to deal with matters requiring pursuance through the courts.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

- 5.1 There are no significant financial implications contained within this report.

6. What are the legal aspects?

- 6.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act came into force on 20 October 2014. This Act contains the provisions for the Public Space Protection Order, which was enacted by order of the Secretary of State on the 20 October 2014.
- 6.2 Local authorities have the power to make Public Spaces Protection Orders if satisfied on reasonable grounds that two conditions are met. The first condition is that:
- a) activities carried on in a public place within the Authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or

b) it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.

6.3 The second condition is that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities:

- a) is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature,
- b) is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and
- c) justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

Activities can include things that a person or a group does, has done or should do (in order to reduce the detrimental effect).

6.4 A Public Space Protection Order is an order that identifies the space to which it applies (“the restricted area” within which the impact has or is likely to occur[ed]) and can make requirements, or prohibitions, or both within the area. This means that the local authority can, by virtue of the order, require people to do specific things in a particular area or not to do specific things in a particular area. The local authority can grant the prohibitions/requirements where it believes that they are reasonable in order to prevent or reduce the detrimental impact. The order can be made so as to apply to specific people within an area, or to everybody within that area. It can also apply at all times, or within specified times and equally to all circumstances, or specific circumstances. The order can apply for a maximum of three years upon which the process of reviews and consultation must be repeated to ensure the issues is still occurring and the order is having the required effect. Thereafter it can be extended for a further three years and, upon the reviews and consultation taking place, can be extended more than once for further periods of three years.

6.5 Failure to comply with either a prohibition, or requirement, within the order is an offence. Upon summary conviction (offences heard within the Magistrates Courts) defendants can face a fine not exceeding level three on the standard scale (currently £1000). The defendant cannot be found guilty of an offence under a prohibition/requirement where the local authority did not have the power to include it in the order. Breaches of the order can also be discharged by use of a fixed penalty notice (FPN).

6.6 Consumption of alcohol, contrary to the terms of any order made, is a separate issue and is not in itself an offence, the offence is committed by failure to comply with a request to surrender the alcohol, from an authorised person.

6.7 The Act is not overly descriptive about the necessary process required for application of these powers. It has therefore been necessary to design a process that is considered to be appropriate and suitably robust.

6.8 Implementation of this order, legally, would require a public notice to be published. This would be done through a formal notice in the local newspaper, notification on our website and press releases through media outlets.

6.9 Although not necessarily a statutory requirement, signage would normally be required in the area explaining the order in plain English and what it means in practical terms. This is to provide support for the enforcement and prevent risks of mitigation pleas from those found to be in breach. Such signage would be small and concise, and would ordinarily be on all major access points to the prescribed area

covered by the Order, replacing the existing 'Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) signage.

6.10 As with any new legislation of its type, this is untested ground and the legislation will be further defined in years to come by a process of appeals and High Court rulings. Any legal challenge presents a risk to the Authority. The legislation supporting implementation of the new Orders states that "interested persons" may challenge the validity of any order in the High Court. This means that the Council could face a challenge against its ability to implement the Order. An application of this nature must be made within six weeks, beginning on the day the Order is made or varied. There are grounds upon which a challenge could be made, these are:

- that the local authority did not have the power to make the order or variation, or to include particular prohibitions or requirements imposed by the order (or by the order as varied);
- that a requirement under this part of the legislation was not complied with in relation to the order or variation.

The High Court has the power to suspend, quash, amend or uphold the order.

6.11 The penalty for breaches of this Order relate to fines alone, which may lead to significant levels of non-payment. The suite of new powers available however would allow officers to utilise a range of measures for those identified as persistently breaching the Order, for example:

- Community Protection Notices could be issued against the individuals;
- a Civil Injunction could be sought against individuals, which carries tougher sanctions;
- a Criminal Behaviour Order could be sought; (breach of the PSPO is an offence and upon conviction, individuals could be made subject to a Criminal Behaviour Order. This carries both tougher sanctions, along with the ability to implement positive conditions such as requiring support for substance misuse issues).

7. Monitoring Officer's comments:

7.1 The MO has no issues concerning the need to make an order. However, she is concerned about the lack of capacity in her team to support any enforcement action. No provision has been made for this additional work load. The legal team is currently working at full capacity and has no resource to be able to support this worthwhile initiative.

8. Report details:

8.1 In October 2014 the Secretary of State enacted new powers from the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act, relevant to tackling Anti-Social Behaviour. These new powers also make changes to some of the relevant existing legislation and the Council is required, within the period of three years, to reconsider its Designated Public Place Orders (DPPOs) and either withdraw or replace them with new Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs).

8.2 The new orders are more flexible and can be applied to a much broader range of issues, with local authorities having the ability to design and implement their own prohibitions or requirements where certain conditions are met. These conditions centre on the impact to the quality of life in the locality, persistence, and whether

the impact makes the behaviour unreasonable.

- 8.3 Exeter, much like other towns and cities nationally, has a recurring issue with street drinking, in particular in the summer months. Whilst a number of initiatives have helped to reduce the impact and prevalence of this behaviour, along with having a positive impact on reporting, there is concern about loss of the ability to enforce provision relating to alcohol should the DPPO be withdrawn without replacement.
- 8.4 New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), often referred to as 'legal highs', have become a major concern to local agencies over the last three years. Two shops within the City attracted significant attention, leading to numerous Police and multi-agency actions. These issues in particular had an impact in the City Centre. The lower section of the High Street, South Street, Cathedral Green and Fore Street suffered increases in Anti-Social Behaviour directly related to the prevalence of these two shops selling these substances. Although one shop has since been closed following Police action and another has ceased selling NPS's over the counter, sales of NPS's are still taking place from other outlets, leading to consumption in public spaces.
- 8.6 Officers from a range of local agencies, but in particular Devon and Cornwall Police and Exeter City Council, have considered the potential use of the new powers to address the current issues within the City Centre. Based upon the model adopted by the City of Lincoln, they have developed a proposal designed to provide opportunities to significantly impact, through enforcement (ultimately backed by support and interventions), the issues caused by use of intoxicating substances, in public, in the City Centre area.
- 8.7 In order to make the Public Space Protection Order, members would need to be satisfied that the legal conditions, laid out above, have been met. Officers' view is that these requirements have been met based on:
- Evidence gathered by the Council itself, and from other associated agencies including the Police, recording crime and ASB statistics for the area attached as Appendix III
 - Figures from the police relating to legal highs.
 - Complaints received from the public.
- 8.8 In relation to enforcement of these orders there are two fundamental differences compared with enforcement conducted under the Designated Public Place Orders. These differences are that both Police Community Support Officers and Council Officers can enforce the Order and not just Police Officers.
- 9. How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?**
- 9.1 The main contribution of the designation of a Public Spaces Protection Order is to support the purpose of Keep me / my environment safe and healthy and building a stronger City. In achieving this, it is necessary to work with partners who make up the Community Safety Partnership to ensure that this is effectively implemented.
- 10. What risks are there and how can they be reduced?**
- 10.1 If the correct process to introduce a PSPO is not followed this could lead to a challenge which will mean the Authority could face legal costs and reputational damage.

- 10.2 There is also a risk that public expectations will be raised by this Order that agencies cannot fully meet; the Order is unlikely to remove the issues in total.
- 10.3 Implementation of this Order could lead to displacement. Officers have considered this and think that the area of the proposed Order is sufficiently large to reduce any problems arising from displacement.
- 10.4 The order will be reviewed by the Community Safety Partnership 6 months after implementation, and annually thereafter in order to mitigate the prevalence of any of the associated risks.
- 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 This report identifies a proposal that has the potential to deliver a significant positive community impact if 'policed' and enforced to its full potential.
- 12. Are there any other options?**
- 12.1 **Maintain the status quo** – the current Designated Public Place Order could be left unchanged for a further period of three years. This option was disregarded due to both the ambiguity of the Act and the associated issues, along with the clear need to tackle issues relating to use of new psychoactive substances and other anti-social behaviours.
- 12.2 **Replace the DPPO** with a simple alcohol related PSPO. This was again disregarded due to the ambition and need to tackle new psychoactive substances, and the linked anti-social behaviour around street drinking and intoxication in a public place.

Assistant Director Environment

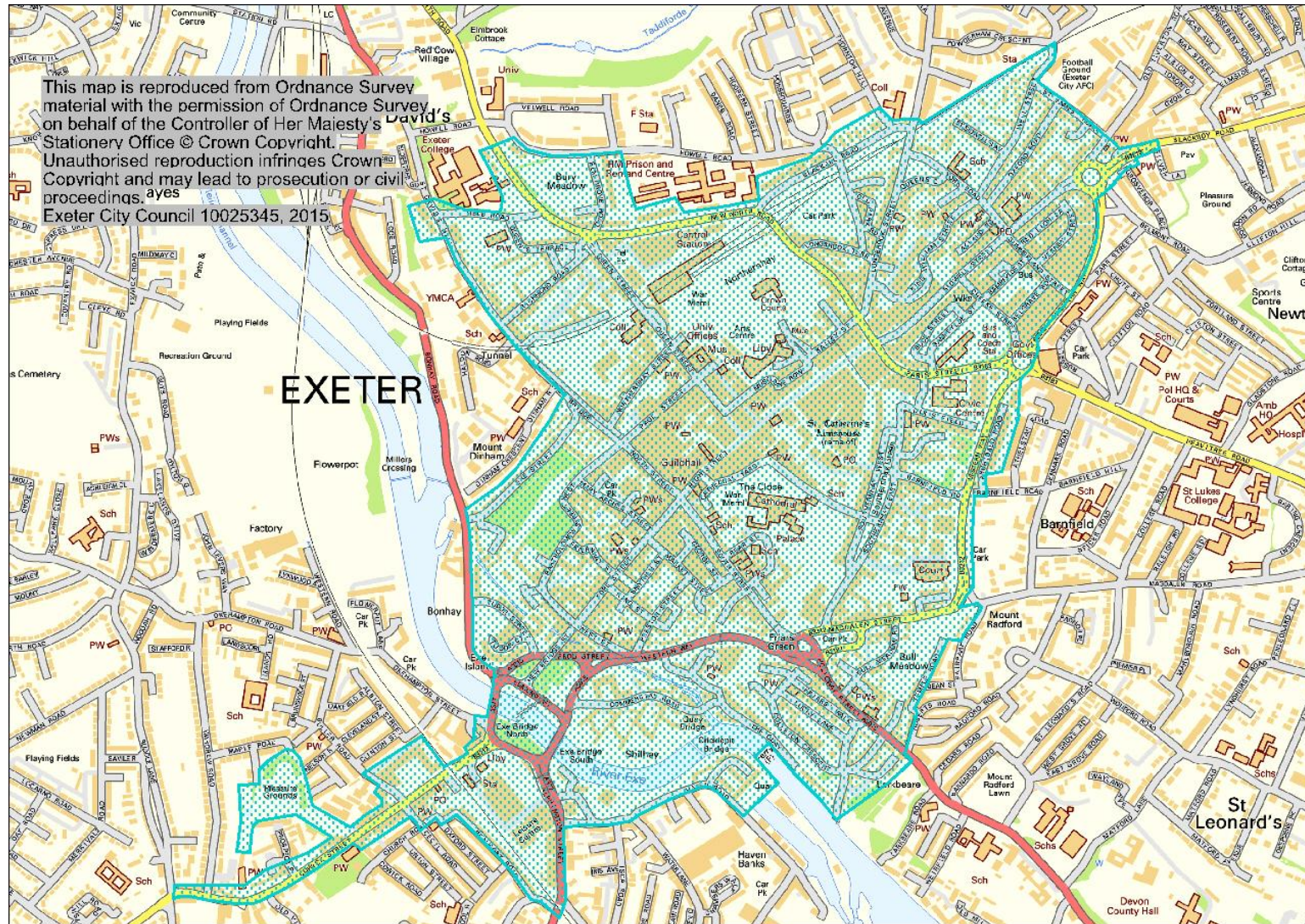
Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:-

- Home Office (October 2014) New Psychoactive Substances Review: Report of the Expert Panel
- Lincoln City Council (January 2015) Executive Report Proposals for the Implementation of a Public Space Protection Order
- Highways Act 1980

Contact for enquires:
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Appendix I – Map of area being considered for a Public Spaces Protection Order



Appendix II

Prohibitions and requirements contained in Public Spaces Protection Order

Person(s) within this area, whilst situated in the street or other public space where the public have access without payment shall:

- 1) Surrender any intoxicating substance in their possession to an authorised person on request, if they are found to be ingesting, inhaling, injecting, smoking or otherwise using intoxicating substances, or are in possession of such intoxicating substances with the intent of using such intoxicating substances within this area, where the authorised person has reasonable grounds to believe that such person is using or intends to use the intoxicating substance within the said area.**

Intoxicating Substances is given the following definition (which includes Alcohol and what are commonly referred to as 'legal highs'): Substances with the capacity to stimulate or depress the central nervous system.

Exemptions shall apply in cases where the substances are used for a valid and demonstrable medicinal use, given to an animal as a medicinal remedy, are cigarettes or vaporisers (tobacco products), or are food stuffs regulated by food safety legislation, or where the use of the intoxicating substances fall within the curtilage of a premises licenced for the sale and consumption of alcohol, and within the operating hours of such.

An authorised person shall be a Police Constable, Police Community Support Officer or Exeter City Council Officer, who must be able to present their authority upon request.

- 2) Not urinate in a street or public open space**

The term 'street' includes any road, footway, beach or other area to which the public have access without payment. It also includes a service area as defined in Section 329 of the Highways Act 1980. Other areas will include parks and retail car parks to which the public have access to without payment.

Exemptions shall apply where authorised temporary public urinals/toilets have been provided in accordance with any specification issued by Exeter City Council, and with its agreement.

- 3) To the satisfaction of an authorised person, clear away and remove from this area without delay, any unauthorised bivouac, bedding or encampment formed in a street together with any associated paraphernalia, when requested to do so by an authorised person. An authorised person may confiscate and dispose of any unauthorised bivouac, bedding or encampment found within this area, with or without the permission of its owner.**

For these purposes, bivouac, bedding and encampment mean any portable shelter used for camping or outdoor sleeping, and include materials used for shelter against the elements, weather or ground.

For this purpose 'unauthorised' means by without the express written consent of any owner or person having control or interest in the land in question.

- 4) Not make unsolicited and or unauthorised request(s) (whether expressly requested or impliedly requested by conduct), in a public place, for money from persons not known to the perpetrator.**

For this purpose 'unauthorised' means by without the express written consent of any owner or person having control or interest in the land in question.

- 5) Not form in groups of two or more persons and behave in a manner that has or is likely to result in any member of the public being intimidated, harassed, alarmed or distressed by that behaviour.**
- 6) Persons within this area who breach this prohibition (Prohibition 5) shall, where a Police Officer or Police Community Support Officer, or Exeter City Council Officer, has reasonable grounds for believing that the presence or behaviour of a group of two or more persons in any public place in this area has resulted or is likely to result in any member of the public being intimidated, harassed alarmed or distressed, the officer may require the persons in the group to disperse either immediately; or by such time as may be specified; and in such way as may be specified.**

Appendix III - Evidence gathered by the Council itself, and from other associated agencies including the Police, recording crime and ASB statistics for the area

Date	Incident Type	Road
05-Jul-14	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	Sidwell Street
05-Jul-14	Violence - Fighting	Fore Street
07-Jul-14	Drug related	Guinea Street
10-Jul-14	Drink related	Sidwell Street
12-Jul-14	Drug dealing suspected	Not listed – City Centre
12-Jul-14	Violence - Fighting	Fore Street
13-Jul-14	Criminal Damage	Longbrook Street
13-Jul-14	Violence - Fighting	High Street
15-Jul-14	Suspicious Behaviour	Sidwell Street
16-Jul-14	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	Sidwell Street
16-Jul-14	Drug related	Fore Street
19-Jul-14	Drug related	North Street
22-Jul-14	Drink related	Sidwell Street
07-Aug-14	Drink related	Cathedral Yard
11-Aug-14	Anti Social Behaviour	Fore Street
12-Aug-14	Drug related	Rougemont Gardens
12-Aug-14	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	High Street
16-Aug-14	Drug related	Fore Street
21-Aug-14	Drug related	Cathedral Yard
26-Aug-14	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	Guildhall Shopping Centre
03-Sep-14	Begging	Queen Street
05-Sep-14	Misc / Other	Sidwell Street
07-Sep-14	Drug related	Bear Street
07-Sep-14	Violence - Assault	Fore Street
11-Sep-14	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
12-Sep-14	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
12-Sep-14	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
19-Sep-14	Drug related	Fore Street
23-Sep-14	Drug related	Rougemont Gardens
23-Sep-14	Violence - Fighting	Fore Street
25-Sep-14	Violence - Threatening Behaviour	Longbrook Street
25-Sep-14	Anti Social Behaviour	High Street
06-Oct-14	Drug related	Cathedral Yard
10-Oct-14	Misc / Other	Sidwell Street
13-Oct-14	Anti Social Behaviour	King William Street
13-Oct-14	Anti Social Behaviour	King William Street
19-Oct-14	Begging	High Street

20-Oct-14	Anti Social Behaviour	St Thomas PG
21-Oct-14	Anti Social Behaviour	King William Street
24-Oct-14	Drug related	Paris Street
25-Oct-14	Violence - Fighting	Summerland Street
25-Oct-14	Violence - Fighting	Fore Street
25-Oct-14	Violence - Fighting	Fore Street
25-Oct-14	Violence - Fighting	George Street
25-Oct-14	Violence - Fighting	Fore Street
27-Oct-14	Anti Social Behaviour	Paris Street
28-Oct-14	Dog nuisance	St Thomas PG
30-Oct-14	Anti Social Behaviour	High Street
31-Oct-14	Anti Social Behaviour	King William Street
31-Oct-14	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	High Street
01-Nov-14	Violence - Assault	Fore Street
01-Nov-14	Violence - Fighting	York Road
03-Nov-14	Anti Social Behaviour	High Street
05-Nov-14	Missing Person Hi-Risk	High Street
06-Nov-14	Violence - Threatening Behaviour	George Street
08-Nov-14	Anti Social Behaviour	Gandy Street
09-Nov-14	Violence - Fighting	Fore Street
18-Nov-14	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	Guildhall Car Park
19-Nov-14	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	Paul Street
20-Nov-14	Drink related	High Street
23-Nov-14	Violence - Assault	High Street
27-Nov-14	Drug related	Paul Street
27-Nov-14	Drug related	King William Street Car Park
27-Nov-14	Drug related	Paul Street
28-Nov-14	Anti Social Behaviour	Western Way
28-Nov-14	Anti Social Behaviour	Western Way
28-Nov-14	Anti Social Behaviour	Paul Street
28-Nov-14	Anti Social Behaviour	High Street
29-Nov-14	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
06-Dec-14	Criminal Damage	Paris Street
06-Dec-14	Violence - Fighting	High Street
13-Dec-14	Indecent Exposure	Market Street
19-Dec-14	Anti Social Behaviour	George Street
20-Dec-14	Drug dealing suspected	Cathedral Yard
20-Dec-14	Violence - Abusive Behaviour	Fore Street
25-Dec-14	Drug related	Martins Lane
03-Jan-15	Drug dealing suspected	Smythen Street
08-Jan-15	Drug related	Fore Street
08-Jan-15	Drug related	Fore Street

17-Jan-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Sidwell Street
18-Jan-15	Collapsed Person	Cathedral Yard
19-Jan-15	Drug dealing suspected	Cathedral Yard
20-Jan-15	Drug dealing suspected	Longbrook Street
02-Feb-15	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	Smythen Street
02-Feb-15	Drug related	Paul Street
03-Feb-15	Drink related	Sidwell Street
03-Feb-15	Drug dealing suspected	Queen Street
03-Feb-15	Drink related	Sidwell Street
04-Feb-15	Drug related	Fore Street
11-Feb-15	Drug related	Bedford Street
17-Feb-15	Drug related	George Street
17-Feb-15	Drug dealing suspected	Gandy Street
03-Mar-15	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	Cathedral Yard
18-Mar-15	Misc / Other	Sidwell Street
24-Mar-15	Drug related	Bampfylde Street
31-Mar-15	Drug related	King William Street Car Park
11-Apr-15	Drug related	Smythen Street
13-Apr-15	Drink related	Cathedral Yard
15-Apr-15	Drug dealing suspected	Sidwell Street
22-Apr-15	Drug dealing suspected	Musgrave Row
23-Apr-15	Drug dealing suspected	Coombe Street
26-Apr-15	Drink related	Cathedral Yard
12-May-15	Drink related	Quay Hill
13-May-15	Anti Social Behaviour	High Street
14-May-15	Drink related	High Street
14-May-15	Drug dealing suspected	Gandy Street
15-May-15	Anti Social Behaviour	South Street
22-May-15	Drug dealing suspected	Smythen Street
04-Jun-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Fore Street
05-Jun-15	Drug dealing suspected	Market Street
08-Jun-15	Drug dealing suspected	Cathedral Yard
08-Jun-15	Drug dealing suspected	Cathedral Yard
11-Jun-15	Drug dealing suspected	Cathedral Yard
19-Jun-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Sidwell Street
20-Jun-15	Drug related	High Street
21-Jun-15	Drink related	Cathedral Yard
24-Jun-15	Drink related	Cathedral Yard
24-Jun-15	Drink related	Princesshay
24-Jun-15	Drink related	Cathedral Yard
24-Jun-15	Drink related	Cathedral Yard
24-Jun-15	Collapsed Person	High Street

24-Jun-15	Drug related	Cathedral Yard
24-Jun-15	Anti Social Behaviour	North Street
26-Jun-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
27-Jun-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
27-Jun-15	Drug related	Smythen Street
27-Jun-15	Drug related	Cathedral Yard
02-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Market Street
02-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
02-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
02-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Smythen Street
02-Jul-15	Drug dealing suspected	High Street
02-Jul-15	Drug dealing suspected	Fore Street
02-Jul-15	Drug related	Sidwell Street
02-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
03-Jul-15	Collapsed Person	Bampfylde Street
03-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
03-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	High Street
06-Jul-15	Drug related	Cathedral Yard
06-Jul-15	Drug related	Mary Arches Street
06-Jul-15	Drug related	North Street
06-Jul-15	Drug related	St Thomas PG
06-Jul-15	Drug related	Cathedral Yard
06-Jul-15	Drug related	St Thomas PG
08-Jul-15	Drug related	High Street
10-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
11-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Cathedral Yard
12-Jul-15	Drug dealing suspected	Guinea Street
12-Jul-15	Violence - Threatening Behaviour	Fore Street
13-Jul-15	Drug related	Guinea Street
18-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	Sidwell Street
18-Jul-15	Traffic - Possible DIC	George Street
18-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	High Street
18-Jul-15	Anti Social Behaviour	High Street
18-Jul-15	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	Gandy Street
19-Jul-15	Causing Disturbance / Nuisance	Queen Street
20-Jul-15	Obs for individual	Sidwell Street
21-Jul-15	Drug related	High Street

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Agenda Item 7

REPORT TO: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ECONOMY and EXECUTIVE
Date of Meeting: 10 September and 15 September 2015
Report of: Chief Executive and Growth Director
Title: Exeter City Futures – Transforming Exeter Through Data

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Executive

1 What is the report about?

- 1.1 To provide an overview of initial plans and direction of travel for Exeter City Futures. This is an ambitious, long-term vision of how to transform Exeter into a sustainable city of the future through the use of pioneering technology and data analytics. In the process, Exeter may become recognised as a model for others and enhance its reputation as a leader in this field. Whilst looking to address the transportation, energy, and health related challenges facing the city, it is intended that this programme will contribute to the broad-based Innovation Exeter economic development programme promoting business growth, increased investment and creating higher paid employment.
- 1.2 To provide an outline of the Exeter bid for the Innovate UK 'Internet of Things' demonstrator city competition with details on how this links up with the overall Exeter City Futures vision.
- 1.3 To provide an outline of the communication plan for Exeter City Futures including details of initial engagement with the local population.

2 Recommendations:

- 2.1 Scrutiny Committee – Economy support and request Executive to endorse:-
 - 1) Exeter City Futures as a vehicle for better understanding and addressing the transportation, energy and health challenges and opportunities facing the city;
 - 2) the Exeter bid for the 'Internet of Things' demonstrator city competition; and
 - 3) the communications framework outlined in this report to begin engagement with the Exeter population about the overarching ambition of Exeter City Futures. This framework includes an initial public engagement programme.

3 Reasons for the recommendation:

- 3.1 Exeter has been successful as a driver of economic activity in the South West but it can not become complacent about needing to continue to pursue a programme of economic and housing growth in order to maintain and improve the quality of life and opportunities for those who depend on it. There are inevitable challenges and exciting opportunities facing the city and now, more than ever, we have at our disposal innovative technologies that enable us to understand these issues, in micro and macro detail, how they interrelate and the technologies that will enable us to

address them to the advantage of the city. Exeter City Futures aims to provide an ambitious vision and a clear focus for the future, which makes use of pioneering technologies to diagnose and solve the issues facing the city.

3.2 The focus of Exeter City Futures` can be defined briefly in the three following statements:

- Make Exeter smarter
Focusing on a combination of pioneering technology and intelligent analytics, Exeter will have a better view of where it currently stands and what problems it is facing.
- Make Exeter more sustainable
Using the insights generated from a smarter Exeter, a number of solutions and initiatives can be introduced that will ensure both the economic and environmental sustainability of the city.
- Make Exeter more successful
Ultimately, these solutions would make a significant contribution to Exeter being even more successful with a thriving knowledge economy, a protected natural environment and a better quality of life for its residents.

4 What are resource implications including non-financial resources:

- 4.1 This project is a joint endeavour by Andromeda Capital, Exeter City Council, and Devon County Council. Andromeda Capita is an Exeter-based company that invests in businesses and projects that foster social, environmental and economic prosperity. This includes investing in renewable energy, improving educational standards and encouraging a carbon-neutral society.
- 4.2 Andromeda Capital is co-ordinating a bid for Innovate UK's Internet of Things (IoT) demonstrator city fund. The winning city is given an award of up to £10 million to fund core activities pertaining to the Internet of Things. As part of this bid, private sector partners have been invited to participate. Further details on the IoT demonstrator bid can be found in section 11 of this report. This bid does not require any financial input from the council. Potential resources for Exeter City Futures will be identified and referred to members when the detail of the programme is known.
- 4.3 In addition to this core group, specialist agencies have been engaged, as potential partners, whose skills and resources are most suited to the nature of this project. It is anticipated that, as the project develops, it will attract multiple additional public and private sector partners. It is our expectation that a project of this scale and ambition will be an attractive proposition to businesses and enterprises outside of Exeter, and that initial investment in the region will reap great economic rewards for the city.

5 Section 151 Officer comments:

- 5.1 There are no financial implications contained in this report. Any future funding requirements will be considered at the relevant time.

6 What are the legal aspects?

- 6.1 It is clear that this report is intended to appraise Members of the work being undertaken with Andromeda. Clearly the detail of the bid, the relationship between the parties, the detail of the public consultation etc are yet to be finalised and no doubt will be the subject of a further report to the Executive. Given that, any legal

issues which may arise are yet to be identified.

7 Monitoring Officer's comments:

7.1 Please see comments on the legal implications set out above.

8 Background:

8.1 Exeter City Futures is an ambitious, large scale and long-term programme for change. This report is designed to give an overview of the planning and initial stages of this process and will give a sense of the planned direction of travel. This background section will provide more information on decisions that have been made and actions that have already been taken.

9 Key areas of focus:

9.1 The first key decision that has been made is the identification of key areas of focus that will sit under the Exeter City Futures vision. The specific projects that will sit under these areas of focus are yet to be finalised and there will be a collaborative process between all stakeholders in the way these projects are created and implemented. Critically, any major project that will have an impact on the residents of Exeter will go through the normal public consultation process before any action is taken.

Key areas of focus and initial example project ideas can be found below:

9.1.1 Network technology & data analytics

To enable Exeter City Futures to become a reality, Exeter will need to become a national leader recognised internationally in network technology and data analytics. This will require data capture tools and meters, innovative partners, new data centres and novel ways of manipulating the datasets that already exist. When used effectively, the data that will become available will allow us to understand and foresee the problems that Exeter faces and the best way to approach solutions. This will build on the wealth of data analytics expertise that already exists in the city.

Example project(s):

- *Relevant partners to introduce more data capture tools in the city of Exeter to provide the valuable data points that Exeter City Futures will need to succeed.*

9.1.2 Preserving natural resources

Preserving natural resources would be one of the main areas of focus for Exeter City Futures with a view to being environmentally sustainable. Energy would be a key part of this, as the use of technology and data analytics can have a transformative impact on the efficient production, storage, transportation and consumption of energy. This area of focus would also cover the efficient use of water and the minimisation of waste, both of which are also well suited to technological innovations. Exeter has the means to do a better job of preserving its natural resources and Exeter City Futures will ensure this becomes a reality.

Example project(s):

- *A combination of smart meters and a new analytics data centre allow for the optimal use of current energy sources with a particular focus on maximising renewable energy utilisation.*

- *Other examples: Water meters, innovative ways of using waste/recycling data, modern ways of building (e.g. Passivhaus), retrofitting existing buildings, increased solar energy resource, new energy storage solutions.*

9.1.3 Transport and mobility

Transport is another key focus area for Exeter City Futures. The use of modern technology and data analytics can dramatically improve the efficiency of the way people and vehicles move around a city. This approach to transport has the potential to reduce congestion, reduce journey times, improve air quality, make people healthier and lower environmental impact.

Example project(s):

- *Using detailed analysis of Exeter traffic data to understand reasons for congestion and the best ways to reduce traffic flow in these key times (e.g. coordinating school and major employer finishing times by a matter of minutes might have a dramatic impact on traffic)*
- *A continued city wide focus on Exeter as a cycling city through an extension of the segregate cycle network, more cycle parking and the provision of “Boris-bike” style electric bikes.*
- *More integrate public transport information with real time departures, smart ticketing and internet based taxi system*
- *Other examples: Increased city charge points for Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs)*

9.1.4 Healthcare

Healthcare will be another focus for Exeter City Futures. Technology and data analysis cannot save lives. It can, however, help those who treat our illnesses make faster and more effective assessments, it can create novel ways to solve medical issues and it can help healthy individuals and those at risk of chronic conditions to make smarter choices about their health and care with consequent impact on costs, future quality of life and potential for business creation.

Example project(s): (These may change as there are more pertinent ones under discussion)

- *Provide free activity trackers to the population of Exeter on the understanding that the data will be used by Exeter City Futures to come up with solutions to make Exeter lifestyles more active.*
- *Introduce one of the available video conferencing doctor services to reduce the load for Exeter GP surgeries and to allow those who struggle to get to these surgeries to get have they assessments they need.*

9.1.5 Enterprise and economy

Exeter City Futures will inherently have a beneficial impact on the city's economy. By becoming a leader in this data-driven, technological approach to city transformation, Exeter will attract investment from public and private organisations who want to be a part of the transformation and try out new products and services. In turn, this will bring new organisations to the area creating significant employment opportunities

Example project(s):

- *Incentivise both innovative start-ups and successful businesses working in this space to move to Exeter through reduced business rates and subsidised office space through proposed Innovation Zone under the Innovation Exeter initiative (this would require the support from the Local*

- *Enterprise Partnership)*
- *Work with the business development and support hub based at Exeter Science Park supported by the Innovation Exeter initiative to create a collaborative environment for these companies.*

9.2 When considered together with a clear focus on the Exeter City Futures vision, these interlocking areas of focus will enable Exeter to transform into a sustainable, efficient and effective city and enable the realisation of tangible benefits for residents, workers, businesses and the Exeter region as a whole.

9.3 An initial set of desired outcomes from the project are set out below.

ENVIRONMENT

- Reduction of carbon emissions
- Increase in air quality around Exeter city centre
- Increase in non-fossil fuel energy source use (solar, wind, hydro etc)
- Decrease in total energy use across Exeter businesses and domestic sites
- Decrease in total levels of waste sent to landfill
- Increase in recycling rates in Exeter

ECONOMY

- Increase in economic output of Exeter
- Increased private and public investment in Exeter
- New employment opportunities created/reduction of unemployment rate/quality of employment opportunities generated
- New businesses setting up in Exeter

TRANSPORT

- Less congestion in the city centre
- Improved public transport infrastructure, leading to increased public transport use
- Increased use of public bikes/cycle lanes/cycle bridges
- Decreased combustion-engine private car use
- Increase in electric car uptake

MEDIA

- National and international media coverage

ATTITUDES

- Shift in public perceptions in Exeter of the initiative among our key audiences
- Shift in public perceptions in Exeter of the city among our key audiences
- Shift in public perceptions outside of Exeter among key stakeholder audiences of the initiative and of Exeter

10 Research groups with the Exeter population

10.1 To better understand the appetite of the Exeter population for this project and to shape the direction of the strategy, a number of focus groups have already been conducted to speak to members of the local population about the Exeter City Futures concept. This work has been led by Andromeda.

10.2 The key learnings from this research are as follows:

- Residents feel broadly positive about the project, and most like the idea of being a showcase city, but they need the project to have a demonstrable positive impact on how they live their lives not only in the future, but also in the here and now.
- They see how it will positively impact the future of Exeter, but also recognise the potential disruption to their everyday lives that a project of this nature could cause
- They feel passionately that a project of this nature should respond to their needs and help produce the change they want to see in Exeter.
- They emphasise how much they want to be included to collaborate and consult, and stress the importance of education and promotion if the project is going to succeed.
- They outlined a number of Exeter City Futures suitable problems such as the transport system and problems with traffic.

As this project is likely to have a significant impact on the lives of those living and working in Exeter, it is vital that they feel both supportive and keen to actively participate in making it a success. The learning from the research has been built into the recommended approach to communications, further detailed in item 9 of this report.

11 Internet of Things demonstrator city bid

11.1 The first Exeter City Futures project is a bid for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's 'Internet of Things' demonstrator city competition.

11.2 The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has announced it is to invest up to £10 million in a single collaborative Research and Development project to demonstrate the capability of the Internet of Things (IoT) in a city region. This competition (delivered by Innovate UK on behalf of DCMS) is part of a wider £40 million government investment in IoT announced in March 2015.

11.3 The aim of this demonstrator is to show how the large-scale deployment of IoT – where everyday objects are connected to a network in order to share their data – can benefit citizens by offering environmental improvements, economic opportunities, and more efficient and effective delivery of services such as transport, healthcare and energy.

11.4 Projects must be collaborative and led by a local authority or local enterprise partnership (or an equivalent body outside England). Projects should involve at least one local authority, one local enterprise partnership and several businesses. DCMS expect to fund one project of mainly industrial research. Local authorities, public bodies, third sector organisations and academic institutions could receive up to 100% of their eligible project costs (up to a maximum of 30% of total project costs), small businesses 70%, medium- sized businesses 60% and large businesses 50%. The maximum grant available is £10 million, and we expect the project to run for up to two years.

11.5 This is a two-stage competition that opens for applicants on 13 July 2015. The

deadline for registration is at noon on 23 September 2015 and the deadline for applications is at noon on 30 September 2015.

- 11.6 The competition is an ideal match for Exeter City Futures because the ‘Internet of Things’ goes hand in hand with pioneering technology and advanced data analytics. In today’s connected world, the pioneering technology discussed for Exeter City Futures will need to be connected and the vast amount of data created by such an ‘Internet of Things’ will need advanced analytics to be useful.
- 11.7 Exeter as a city is also well suited to the IoT competition for a number of reasons:
- Exeter is ideally sized
As a city it is big enough to be relevant yet small enough to see city-wide deployment within a £10m initial budget
 - Regional growth is a key priority for the current government
The current government is keen to ensure economic development outside of London. The South West is one such area and Exeter is the logical place to invest in the South West as it is already the definitive economic hub for the region.
 - Exeter and the SW is looking for an area of focus to drive innovation
Exeter and the South West are looking to shift towards a knowledge economy, increase innovation and drive investment in the region. Focusing on IoT alongside data analytics will give these ambitions a focus that will increase the pace of change.
- 11.8 Work on the bid has already commenced and a website (www.exeter-iot.co.uk) has been built to act as a focal point for all activity. As the bid requires a consortium of partners, Andromeda Capital are leading the way in contacting potentially interested parties to develop a competitive and compatible mixture of organisations to focus on the key areas of focus mentioned above.

12 Exeter City Futures communications and engagement framework

- 12.1 The next step for Exeter City Futures is to begin communicating about the project with key stakeholders. This is a complex process and clarity on what is being communicated is necessary. At this stage, a framework for communications is being finalised to cover the period from pre- launch (September 2015) through to launch (April 2016). This framework will:
- Identify key audiences
 - Understand their needs from the project
 - Involve talks with stakeholders from Exeter business and the public/third sector
 - Set out the initial messages and channel strategy (e.g. web site)
 - Cover local and national media engagement
 - Devise a public-facing brand
 - Set out arrangements for public engagement to run from beginning of the Rugby World Cup

13 How does the decision contribute to the Council’s Corporate Plan?

- 13.1 The programme along with the intentions of the Innovation Exeter initiative will directly contribute to a number of the key ambitions and programmes in the Corporate Plan.

14 What risks are there and how can they be reduced?

- 14.1 Some of the marketing and promotional activity is to be implemented in collaboration with the business community, working together with key stakeholders, regulatory authorities and agencies to ensure a consistent message is delivered for Exeter. Risks remain in the ability and capacity of important contributory organisations to give sufficient time and resource.
- 14.2 Additionally, it is anticipated that, because data and analytics forms such a cornerstone of this project, data protection and privacy are key areas that should be investigated in more detail. The priority of Exeter City Futures would be that data collection is undertaken in a sensitive and secure fashion, and that said data is then protected in accordance with ICO and EU data protection regulation.

15 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?

- 15.1 At its core, this project is intended to improve the quality of life and wellbeing of residents of Exeter, bringing economic prosperity and innovation to the region and safeguarding Exeter's future as a sustainable, pioneering city. As such, responding to the needs of Exeter city residents and key stakeholders is vital to ensuring the success of the project, and particular care is being taken to make sure that the project is as inclusive and accessible as possible for vulnerable, marginalised groups, or groups with special needs. Any initiative that does work directly with these groups will take special care to ensure that their needs and circumstances are sufficiently taken into account.

Karime Hassan
Chief Executive & Growth Director

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

Background papers used in compiling this report:-

None

Contact for enquires: Sharon Sissons, Democratic Services (Committees), Room 2.3

01392 265275

Agenda Item 9

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2, 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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