

EXECUTIVE

STATEMENT OF DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive held on Tuesday 7 February 2023. Decisions made by the Executive will be subject to call-in. Recommendations made to the Council are not subject to call-in. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Mark Devin, Democratic Services Team Leader on 01392 265477 or email mark.devin@exeter.gov.uk

Urgent Matter - Response to the Draft East Devon Local Plan Update Consultation

Agreed:

RESOLVED that the urgent matter be noted.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

General Fund / HRA Estimates and Capital Programme 2023/24

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council:-

- (1) approve the overall spending proposals in respect of its revenue and capital budgets;
- (2) approve the Council Tax for each Band be submitted to the Council as set out in section 8.19.3 of the report, subject to Devon County Council, the Office of the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner and the Devon and Somerset Fire Authority confirming their Band D levels respectively;
- (3) approve the revised Council Tax levels submitted to Council on 21 February 2023, when the actual Council Tax amounts for Devon County Council, Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner and the Devon and Somerset Fire Authority are set; and
- (4) that Council approve £100,000 using CIL funding, for the refurbishment of St Thomas Splashpad, to enhance its life and ensuring that it be available for use as soon as possible.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report and amended as the meeting.

Capital Strategy 2023-24

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council approve the Capital Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 of the report presented at the meeting.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (Incorporating the Annual Statement of Minimum Revenue Provision)

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council approve the adoption of:-

- (1) the Prudential Indicators set out in Appendices A-C of the report presented at the meeting; and
- (2) the Annual Statement of Minimum Revenue Provision for the Council.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

Treasury Management Strategy Report 2023/24

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council adopt the new Treasury Management Strategy and delegations contained therein.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

Exeter Council Tax Premiums 2024/25

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council:-

- (1) approve the application of the current premium of 100% for all dwellings which are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished (empty dwellings) from a period of one year with effect from 1st April 2024;
- (2) approve the application of a premium of 100% for all dwellings which are unoccupied but substantially furnished with effect from 1st April 2024; and
- (3) grant delegated authority to the Section 151 Officer to implement the policy in line with the Council's requirements and any guidance given by the Secretary of State.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

One Exeter - Annual Review

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council note the progress with the programme.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

Annual Pay Policy Statement 2023/24

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council:-

- (1) approve the Pay Policy and Appendices for publication in accordance with the legislation; and
- (2) grant delegated authority to the Director - Corporate Services to make necessary amendments to the pay policy statement following any changes in legislation or subsequent increases in pay.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

Gender Pay Gap Report

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council:-

- (1) note the Findings and Observations as follows:
 - the average rate of pay for females is higher than males across the Council;
 - the difference had decreased slightly since last year from 5.00% to 3.91%; and
 - there were nearly three times more males in the lower quartile of earnings than females.
- (2) approves the publication of the Gender Pay Gap Report on the Exeter City Council website, as well as on the centrally held database on gov.uk; and
- (3) approves the annual review of the report to track the relationship between both female and males earnings.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

Exeter Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Prevention Strategy 2023 - 2027

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council approve the strategic priorities for the new Homelessness Strategy and the proposed governance arrangements.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

National Portfolio Organisation funding 2023 to 2026

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council approve:-

- (1) approve the funding in accordance with the table below:

Organisation	Annual Funding
Exeter Phoenix	£75,000 plus £51,000 rent grant
Exeter Northcott Theatre	£57,000
Exeter UNESCO City of Literature	£5,000

Libraries Unlimited	£10,000
TOTAL	£147,000 plus £51,000 rent grant

- (2) approve the new service level agreements for 2023-26 based on the agreed National Portfolio Organisations business case for delivery; and
- (3) note the three year commitment and annual reviews to take into account the Council's financial position.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

Parking Tariffs 2023

Agreed:

RESOLVED that the Car Park Places Order 2014 be amended as follows:-

- (1) to change the zoning of a number of City Centre car parks;
- (2) to change the 'Premium' zone to 'Central';
- (3) to extend the charge period from 8am - 6pm to 8am - 10pm for all Central and Zone 1 Car Parks, and for Car parks located in Topsham from 9am - 5pm to 8am - 6pm;
- (4) to increase the fee to purchase a seasonal parking permits and increase the number of city centre car parks that accept a seasonal parking permits;
- (5) to increase the fee to purchase a discounted business and residential parking permit;
- (6) to charge for events held in City Council car parks;
- (7) to introduce a fee for electricity use through Electric Vehicle charge points in City Council car parks;
- (8) to charge owners of electric vehicles that qualify for a residential parking permits; and
- (9) to set aside £72,000 from the additional income for maintenance and improvements to city centre car parks and carbon reduction measures.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

One Exeter – Cost Reduction Proposals

Agreed:

See decision below.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

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

Agreed:

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph's 2, 3 and 4 of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Act.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

One Exeter – Cost Reduction Proposals

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council approve:-

- (1) the initial Organisational Change Business Case proposals set out in Appendix A of the report, which was a Part 2 item, containing personal information identifying members of staff; and
- (2) the cost reduction proposals set out in paragraphs 8.4 to 8.8 and detailed in Appendix B of the report presented at the meeting.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

City Centre Parking

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council approve:-

- (1) for the City Surveyor to take the necessary steps to terminate the existing lease of the Exeter Market Street car park, on the grounds that it is required for the Council's own use, as a public car park;
- (2) that the Market Street car park be included in the Council's Parking Places Order and placed within the Central zone; and
- (3) for the Service Lead for Net Zero & Business to write a business case to re-develop the car park into a city centre secure car park.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

Vaughan Road Development Site

Agreed:

RECOMMENDED that Council:-

- (1) note the content of the report and the funding arrangements to deliver phase A of the scheme;
- (2) agree for up to £5 Million of capital spend to be retained from Right to Buy receipts to deliver the first phase of the scheme, to deliver 35 new homes (and a community room) into the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). This is in addition to the £9.2 Million already borrowed and approved for the scheme;
- (3) note that there would be an expected additional budget (borrowing) of £13 Million required to deliver the remaining 56 homes on the site, across two phases, and further reports would be submitted to Members on each of these phases; and
- (4) approve that a Development Agreement be entered into with Exeter City Living Limited, to carry out and complete the first phase of Development together with the second and third Phases being conditional upon further Council approval.

Reason for Decision: As set out in the report.

The decisions indicated will normally come into force 5 working days after publication of the Statement of Decisions unless called in by a Scrutiny Committee. Where the matter in question is urgent, the decision will come into force immediately. Decisions regarding the policy framework or corporate objectives or otherwise outside the remit of the Executive will be considered by Council on 21 February 2023.