

## EXECUTIVE

Tuesday 20 March 2012

### Present:

Councillor Edwards (Chair)  
Councillors Denham, Fullam, R M Hannaford, Mrs Henson, Martin, Mrs Morrish, Sheldon and Sutton

### Also present:

Chief Executive, Strategic Director (KH), Assistant Director Finance and Member Services Manager

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### MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on 24 January and 7 February 2012 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

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### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members declared the following personal interests:-

<b>COUNCILLOR</b>	<b>MINUTE</b>
Denham	31 - Grants Committee minutes 4, 5 and 6 (Director of Exeter Phoenix)
Fullam	33 (employee of a housing association)
Hannaford	31 - Grants Committee minute 5 (member of Exwick Community Association)
Martin	31 - Grants Committee minute 6 (trustee of Exeter Community Transport Association)

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### GRANTS COMMITTEE

The minutes of Grants Committee of 23 February 2012 were submitted.

Members declared the following personal interests:-

<b>COUNCILLOR</b>	<b>MINUTE</b>
Denham	4, 5 and 6 (Director of Exeter Phoenix)
Hannaford	5 (member of Exwick Community Association)
Martin	6 (trustee of Exeter Community Transport Association)

Executive **RESOLVED** to receive Minutes 1 to 6 of Grants Committee held on 23 February 2012 and, in relation to Minute 7 (Future of Grants Committee), **RECOMMENDED** Council to approve that:-

- (1) references to Grants Committee in Part 3 of the Constitution “Responsibility for Functions”, be replaced by references to the new Major Grants and New Homes Bonus Panel;
- (2) appropriate powers be included in the Scheme of Delegation, including a power to reject applications to the Local Infrastructure Fund that fall outside the applicable criteria; and
- (3) appropriate consequential amendments be made to the Constitution.

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### **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - RESULTS OF CONSULTATION ON CHARGING SCHEDULE**

The Strategic Director (KH) presented the report which considered the results of a consultation on a Community Infrastructure Levy Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule and sought approval to the Draft Charging Schedule at Appendix 1 of the report for a second round of public consultation before submission for public examination. Twenty-nine responses to the Preliminary Schedule had been received and the Strategic Director outlined the main issues raised.

The figures initially proposed by this Council had resulted from a comprehensive evidence base including extensive research by consultant valuers. Taking account of the responses received, the results of consultation with stakeholders and the evidence base, it was now proposed to reduce the proposed charges by 20%. It was also proposed to distinguish between city centre and outside city centre retail development and to relate charges to types of retail development as opposed to the blanket size threshold above which it was originally proposed that CIL would apply.

Members noted the responses received and endorsed the importance of setting the CIL at the appropriate level in order not to dissuade landowners or developers. They were satisfied that the proposed levy reflected the best evidence currently available following extensive consultation and research.

#### **RESOLVED that:-**

- (1) the Draft Charging Schedule attached at Appendix 1 of the report be approved for consultation, with particular regard to the rates proposed and the section on implementation policy;
- (2) the consultation responses at Appendix 2 of the report be agreed; and
- (3) the decision on whether to submit the Draft Charging Schedule for examination be delegated to the Strategic Director (KH) in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Development and Transport.

(Report circulated)

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### **DRAFT RESIDENT INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY 2012-2015**

Councillor Fullam declared an interest in this item as an employee of a housing association.

The report of the Acting Assistant Director Housing and Contracts, seeking approval for the Resident Involvement Strategy 2012-2015, was submitted.

Scrutiny Committee – Community considered the report at their meeting of 6 March 2012 and their comments and support were noted.

Executive members were pleased to note the good practice which already existed in relation to resident involvement, including scrutiny of performance. They welcomed the proposals outlined in the Strategy for further involving tenants and leaseholders in all aspects of housing service and provision. They emphasised the importance of involving a cross-section of residents, particularly hard-to-reach groups. Whilst noting a cost to the Housing Revenue Account of regular newsletters, members emphasised the value of communication in order to keep residents informed of a wide range of issues and proposals at a local level. Nevertheless members acknowledged the need for such costs to be proportionate and transparent to residents.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- (1) the Housing Resident and Involvement Strategy 2012-2015 be approved;  
and
- (2) a further report on progress against the action plan be submitted annually.

(Report circulated)

34                    **ANTI-FRAUD, ANTI-BRIBERY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICY AND THE WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY**

The report of the Head of Audit was submitted, seeking approval of the revisions made to the Anti-Fraud, Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy and the Whistleblowing Policy. The Assistant Director Finance reported that the policies had been updated to reflect the new management structure and recent legislation.

Executive confirmed its continuing support for the two policies.

**RECOMMENDED** to Council to approve the updates made to the two policies and the consequent amendments to the Constitution.

(Report circulated)

35                    **DELEGATED AUTHORITY FOR ACQUISITION OF SOCIAL HOUSING PROPERTY**

The Strategic Director (KH) presented the report, seeking approval for the delegation of authority to the Assistant Director Housing and Contracts to acquire suitable housing properties using receipts generated by the disposal of assets that are no longer suitable for social housing.

Executive supported the proposal and requested that members be informed of delegated decisions made in respect of such acquisitions.

**RECOMMENDED** to Council that:-

- (1) the Assistant Director Housing and Contracts, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder Housing and Community Involvement and Finance and Estates officers, be given delegated authority to acquire suitable premises under the Housing Asset Management Plan framework; and that the Constitution be amended to that effect; and
- (2) that Executive members be informed of delegated decisions made in respect of such acquisitions.

(Report circulated)

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### **LORD MAYORALTY**

Councillor Newby was nominated as Lord Mayor Elect and Councillor Prowse as Deputy Lord Mayor Elect for the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

**RECOMMENDED** to Council that Councillor Newby be nominated as Lord Mayor Elect and Councillor Prowse as Deputy Lord Mayor Elect for the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

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### **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

The schedule of appointments to outside bodies was circulated.

**RESOLVED** that the following appointments be renewed for a further term:

Haven Banks Outdoor Education Centre – Cllrs Martin and Newby  
Maynards School – Cllr Mrs Henson

**RECOMMENDED** that the appointments/re-appointments to the following organisations be made at Council, pending receipt of information, where appropriate, in relation to attendance by the current representatives:-

Exeter Municipal Charities (General List)  
Central Exeter Relief in Need Charity  
St Edmunds and St Mary Major Charities  
St Thomas Church Charities

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### **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 the following item on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**EXETER AND HEART OF DEVON GROWTH BOARD MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Exeter and Heart of Devon Growth Board meeting held on 30 January 2012 be noted.

(Minutes circulated to Members)

(The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm and closed at 6.10 pm)

Chair

**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 24 April 2012.**