

Portfolio Holder Priorities 2013/14 Sustainable Development & Transport

Run the Council well	
1	In partnership with the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Leisure, I will be reviewing the management arrangements for car parking assets that fall within my portfolio to explore whether a single management and enforcement regime can be introduced for all Council car parks to ensure that charging and other policies are consistently and fairly applied.
2	The management and policy framework for the River & Canal function will be reviewed to ensure that it remains democratically accountable, is fit for purpose and serves the best interests of the Council and the city. As part of this review, I will be asking officers to consider whether the longstanding Harbour Revision Order should be withdrawn.
3	The Council's in-house Engineering function will be reviewed against the backdrop of the likely future demands on this team, a declining capital programme and the scope for generating income from other internal or external sources.
4	Our City Development service has a pivotal role to play in delivering the Council's corporate vision. We will implement a systems review of City Development, including Building Control and Land Charges that will achieve our ambition of delivering good development and, in the process, generate high income levels such as through New Homes Bonus, while meeting the desire for greater community involvement.
Provide great things for me to see, do and visit	
1	Work towards a comprehensive redevelopment of the Bus and Coach Station, including retail space, new swimming pool and leisure facilities and new bus and coach station.
	<p>As Members will be aware, the area defined by Sidwell Street, Paris Street and Cheeke Street, which includes the Bus and Coach Station site, represents the most significant redevelopment opportunity in the City Centre.</p> <p>The adopted Exeter Core Strategy identifies the site as suitable for mixed use development including retail. The need for a new Bus Station is also recognised. A set of Development Principles which provide more detailed guidance for the preparation of any development scheme for this area was approved in June 2012.</p> <p>During the last two years the City Council has worked with Land Securities and the Crown Estate to thoroughly explore the feasibility and viability of a comprehensive redevelopment of the wider area. Whilst there continues to be good demand for additional retail and restaurant space in the city, some of which could be met in this location, comprehensive redevelopment of the wider area including the bus depot is proving to be challenging.</p> <p>We will continue to progress plans for the comprehensive redevelopment of the site and continue working with Land Securities and the Crown Estates to bring forward a retail and leisure development. This year the focus will be to conclude the viability work with Land Securities and to determine as land owner the way forward.</p> <p>We will continue to progress with plans to build a new leisure facility, including a swimming pool as a replacement for the existing Pyramids Centre, on the land adjacent to the Paris Street roundabout. Officers are putting in place a funding plan and pushing ahead with plans for appointing a project manager and assembling a project team for the leisure centre. One of the key tasks of the project manager will be the production of the work programme and project plan.</p>

Keep me/my environment safe and healthy

1	We will continue to work in partnership with the Environment Agency and the County Council to deliver an upgraded flood defence scheme for Exeter. We anticipate the proposed scheme being submitted for formal government project approval this Summer.
2	We will continue to drive carbon management through the Low Carbon Task Force and to explore initiatives such as the Energy Company Obligations to reduce the carbon footprint of the City Council, residents and businesses.

Deliver good development

1	<p>We will work to deliver the average of 600 homes per annum required by the Core Strategy and maintain a five year housing land supply.</p> <p>A key focus will be to bring forward outline and full planning permissions to enable the implementation of the proposed new sustainable communities at Monkerton, Newcourt and Alphington:-</p> <p><u>Monkerton:</u></p> <p>Completion of S106 agreements affecting outline applications for about 1,160 homes and agreement of first reserve matters enabling starts on site, pre-application discussions and submission of further applications by Barratt and Devon County Council, agreement of a mechanism and funding for delivery of Tithebarn Link road and a district heating scheme.</p> <p><u>Newcourt:</u></p> <p>Completion of S106 agreement on Dart land, determination of planning applications for IKEA and Newcourt rail halt, progress early delivery of primary school facilities and firm up location of proposed employment land through the proposed Development Delivery DPD.</p> <p><u>Alphington:</u></p> <p>Adoption of a development brief in partnership with the local community, for delivery of the strategic allocation of up to 500 homes and consideration of an outline planning application. Liaise with Teignbridge District Council to ensure a sustainable development of South West Exeter including an infrastructure delivery plan.</p>
2	We will adopt the St James Neighbourhood Plan following the recent referendum vote in favour.
3	When made available, we will consider the implications of the Inspector's report on the application for a town/village green at Eastern Fields.
4	We will respond to proposals from local communities for grants from the NHB Local Infrastructure Fund.
5	Environmental improvements to Cowick Street and Central Station Yard will be completed this year and we will examine ways of assisting Devon County Council on improvements to Central Library.
6	We will progress implementation of the Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy and expect to have appointed an officer to the Exeter and East Devon Growth Team to lead on green infrastructure. We will establish a governance structure for overseeing progress on green infrastructure.
7	We will implement a comprehensive approach to infrastructure planning including a decision on adoption of proposed Community Infrastructure Levy rates and maintain an

	up to date Infrastructure Delivery Plan. We will work with neighbouring authorities and Devon County Council to address the infrastructure needs of the City.
8	Viable proposals for district heating schemes are being developed focussing on the RD&E Hospital and City Centre; with a possible link to the energy from waste incinerator at Marsh Barton. We will respond to Government proposals for allowable solutions.
9	We will consider representations on the Issues & Options DMDPD and publish a Development Delivery DPD for public consultation.
Maintain the (property) assets of our city	
1	We will complete an update of records of locally important heritage assets.
Help me run a successful business	
1	We will introduce 'pay by phone' parking in all Council car parks to provide greater convenience and flexibility to customers wishing to visit and shop in the city.
2	In response to notice given by the County Council to terminate the existing Agency Agreement for civil parking enforcement, we will work with them to introduce more efficient and streamlined arrangements and, subject to financial considerations, will be looking to play a leading role in future provision to ensure that Exeter's residents and businesses continue to have effective and measured parking enforcement that balances the competing needs of the city.
3	Following recent consideration of a petition at Full Council, we will work in partnership with the County Council and representatives of the community in Topsham to explore the available options for alleviating the reported pressures on parking space.
4	We will continue to highlight the potential impact of aviation policies on Exeter Airport and draw attention to the consequences of air passenger duties on regional airlines and airports.

Councillor Rachel Sutton
Portfolio Holder Sustainable Development and Transport
May 2013