

Exeter City Council

Community Consultation Survey to gather feedback on the Council's proposed Community Asset Transfer Policy and Process

Exeter City Council has drafted a Community Asset Transfer Policy which aims to provide a transparent, consistent and positive route-map for organisations who want to progress an application for a Community Asset Transfer for a building or land belonging to the Council. We would appreciate your views on our draft Community Asset Transfer Policy to help ensure that the policy is fit for purpose in terms of both being clear to use, and will help us to deliver benefits to the communities of Exeter.

Please complete this short survey which should only take about 20 minutes to complete. The survey is open to everyone but we are particularly keen to hear from representatives of the community, voluntary and social enterprise sector.

If you require this survey in another format please contact: ecwt@exeter.gov.uk

Before you complete this survey please make sure you have read our draft Community Asset Transfer Policy.

Part 1: About you and your organisation

Q1 Are you responding as

15 An individual

12 Organisation

Q2 Are you a resident of Exeter?

15 Yes

0 No

Q3 Are you involved in any local community group?

9 Yes

6 No

Please specify

9

Q4 Name of your organisation

12

Q5 If the organisation is based in, or delivering in Exeter please give a full post code?
12

Q6 How would you best describe the type of organisation you represent?

- 6 Charity
- 3 Community / Voluntary Group
- 3 Social Enterprise
- 0 Co-operative
- 0 Private enterprise
- 0 Public agency
- 0 Other

Please specify

0

Q7 How would you best describe the type of work and purpose your organisation?

- 7 Community Engagement
- 1 Health & Social Care
- 0 Fitness & Wellbeing
- 0 Young People
- 0 Older People
- 0 Social Equality
- 0 Environmental
- 0 Children & Families
- 1 Skills Development
- 0 Arts and Culture
- 3 Other

Please specify

0

Part 2: The Aims of the Council's Community Asset Transfer Policy

The Community Asset Transfer policy aims to deliver a range of benefits; to strengthen communities, to support the work of the Council, and to enable the sustainability and impact of the recipient organisation. (This refers to section 6 of the draft policy)

Q8 To what extent do you agree that Exeter City Council should have a Community Asset Transfer Policy in place?

20 Strongly agree

3 Agree

3 Neither agree nor disagree

0 Disagree

1 Strongly disagree

Q9 Please add any comments you wish to make

10

Q10 For each following nine statements of benefit, please indicate to what extent you think the policy, when implemented, has the potential to help to deliver each of them. (See section 6.2 of the draft policy)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral/ unsure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Improve wellbeing & reduce social isolation	14	6	6	0	1
Provide area-wide benefits for the residents of Exeter	12	8	6	0	1
Support a more sustainable voluntary and community sector	16	5	4	0	1
Nurture economic development & social enterprise	8	10	7	2	0
Create improvements to local services & create new services	11	9	6	0	1
Represent good value for money	8	10	8	0	1
Attract additional investment and new external sources of funding	7	15	4	1	0
Grow the resilience and self-reliance of communities	13	7	6	0	1
Help the Council to achieve its strategic priorities	8	8	11	0	0

Q11 Please add any comments here

9

Q12 If your organisation were able to procure a desired asset transfer, please indicate which would be your top three priorities from the list of potential impacts/benefits that you could achieve as a result of acquiring the asset: (Select only three of the nine options):

- 22 Improve wellbeing & reduce social isolation
- 11 Provide area-wide benefits for the residents of Exeter
- 13 Support a more sustainable voluntary and community sector
- 2 Nurture economic development & social enterprise
- 8 Create improvements to local services & create new services
- 3 Represent good value for money
- 5 Attract additional investment and new external sources of funding
- 12 Grow the resilience and self-reliance of communities
- 2 Help the Council to achieve its strategic priorities

Q13 Please add any comments here

5

Part 3: The Underpinning Principles of the Community Asset Transfer Policy

The City Council policy on Community Asset Transfer is underpinned by a number of practical principles to ensure good practice, equality of opportunity and transparency of the process involved. (Refers to section 7 of the draft policy)

Please indicate to what extent you support these principles set out in the questions below.

Q14 Any proposed asset transfer to the community will need to demonstrate that it will compliment and help to support the vision, aims and priorities of the Council as set out in its Corporate Plan.

- 5 Strongly agree
- 16 Agree
- 5 Neutral
- 0 Disagree
- 0 Strongly disagree

Q15 Please add any comments here

5

Part 4: The Criteria to be adopted for assessing individual applications for Community Asset Transfer (Section 8 of the draft policy)

The decision as to whether the Council will be able to support and progress a proposed Community Asset Transfer will involve the assessment of a number of criteria aimed at understanding the potential costs and benefits arising from:

- Benefits to respective parties e.g. Council, community organisation, generated by the transfer of the asset to the community
- Loss of any existing income for the Council
- Potential loss of future income arising from transfer
- Retention of assets for direct service delivery

There is further detailed guidance about the assessment criteria in the policy. However for the purposes of this survey, the four over-arching criteria are set out in questions below.

For each criteria we ask that you indicate your support or not, and submit any additional comments or queries to help us to better understand your position.

Q16 **Criteria 1:** The Council will need to determine that the asset is available for transfer, fit for purpose and would not impose an unreasonable liability to the voluntary sector organisation or the Council, and that a robust plan is in place to address any such issues or liabilities.

- 16 Strongly agree
- 8 Agree
- 2 Neutral
- 0 Disagree
- 1 Strongly disagree

Q17 Please add any comments here

7

Q18 **Criteria 2:** The applicant will need to demonstrate that the organisation is appropriately constituted For example; a registered charity, a Community Interest Company (CIC); a Community Benefit Society, a co-operative etc. In addition, the constitution should allow for the management/ownership of buildings and for the provision of services.

- 20 Strongly agree
- 4 Agree
- 3 Neutral
- 0 Disagree
- 0 Strongly disagree

Q19 Please add any comments here

6

Q20 **Criteria 3:** The applicant will need to demonstrate a defined community of benefit to the proposed transfer and that the transfer will help to deliver the strategic priorities of the Council.

16 Strongly agree

6 Agree

2 Neutral

1 Disagree

0 Strongly disagree

Q21 Please add any comments here

6

Q22 **Criteria 4:** The applicant will need to demonstrate that they have a clear rationale for the asset transfer backed by a robust business case which illustrates their ability to manage the asset effectively and sustainably.

17 Strongly agree

8 Agree

1 Neutral

1 Disagree

0 Strongly disagree

Q23 Please add any comments here

6

Part 5: In Conclusion...

Q24 The draft policy which you have been helping us to develop by participating in this survey, aims to set out a clear "route map" to enable, where appropriate, community led asset transfer from Exeter City Council to the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector. Please indicate if you think the draft policy achieves this aspiration?

2 Strongly agree

15 Agree

8 Neutral

1 Disagree

0 Strongly disagree

Q25 Please add any comments here

7

Many thanks for taking the time to complete this survey and sharing your opinions with us – they are highly valued.

Q26 If you would like to be kept informed about the further development and launch of this policy, please provide an email contact below:

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For more information or queries about this survey or policy, please contact: ecwt@exeter.gov.uk