South Hams Executive



Title:	Agenda				
Date:	Thursday, 7th July, 2022				
Time:	10.00 am				
Venue:	Council Chamber - Follaton House				
Full Members:	Chairman Cllr Pearce				
	Vice Chairman Cllr Bastone				
	Members:Cllr BaldryCllr HolwayCllr HawkinsCllr Hopwood				
Interests – Declaration and Restriction on Participation:	Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest not entered in the Authority's register or local non pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda (subject to the exception for sensitive information) and to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on an item in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest.				
Committee administrator:	Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk				

1.	Minutes	1 - 6
	to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 26 May 2022;	
2.	Urgent Business	
	brought forward at the discretion of the Chairman;	
3.	Division of Agenda	
	to consider whether the discussion of any item of business is likely to lead to the disclosure of exempt information;	
4.	Declarations of Interest	
	In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Members are invited to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Interests and Non- Registerable Interests including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting;	
5.	Public Question Time	7 - 8
	a period of up to 15 minutes is available to deal with questions submitted to the Council in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules;	
6.	Executive Forward Plan	9 - 16
7.	Annual Report of Achievements	17 - 42
8.	Update on Progress - Tackling Rural Poverty Pilot	43 - 56
9.	Housing Crisis - Development and Enabling	57 - 70
10.	Levelling Up Fund Round 2 and UK Shared Prosperity Fund	71 - 90
11.	Totnes Leisure Centre - Grant of Reversionary Lease	91 - 94
12.	Quarter 1 Intergrated Performance Management Report To follow	

13. Ivybridge Regeneration Project - Update95 - 98

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON THURSDAY, 26 MAY 2022

	Members in attendance: * Denotes attendance ø Denotes apologies for absence				
*	Cllr K J Baldry	*	Cllr T R Holway		
Ø	Cllr H D Bastone (Vice Chairman)	*	Cllr N A Hopwood		
*	Cllr J D Hawkins	*	Cllr J A Pearce (Chairman)		

Non-Executive Members also present either in person or remotely for all or part of the meeting:

Cllrs, Abbott, Brazil, O'Callaghan, Pringle, Reeve, Spencer and Taylor

	Officers in attendance and participating:				
All items		Chief Executive; Deputy Chief Executive; Director of Strategy and Governance; Director of Place and Enterprise; Monitoring Officer; and Democratic Services			
		Manager			
ltem 7	Minute E.6/22	Head of Housing			
Item 9	Minute E.8/22	Head of Operations and Support Services			

E.01/22 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Executive meeting held on 7 April 2022 were confirmed as a true and correct record.

E.02/22 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chairman advised that she had agreed for one item of urgent business to be raised at this Committee meeting that related to the making (adoption) of the Frogmore and Sherford Neighbourhood Plan.

This item was considered urgent in light of the time constraints associated with the making of Neighbourhood Plans and would be considered at agenda item 11 (Minute E.10/22 below refers).

E.03/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and officers were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of this meeting, but there were none made.

E.04/22 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Leader informed that no public questions had been received in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules.

E.05/22 EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN

Members were presented with the most recently published version of the Executive Forward Plan that set out items on the agenda for Executive meetings for the next four months and duly noted its contents.

E.06/22 HOUSING CRISIS UPDATE – STRENGTHENING HOUSING DELIVERY

The Executive was presented with a report that provided an update on the actions and activities undertaken to date help address the Housing Crisis declared by the Council in autumn 2021.

Following a recent Resources Review, the report also set out measures that the Council was taking to deliver against the priorities, including the recommended changes to be made to the staffing levels and structure of the Housing Team.

In discussion, Members felt that the proposals demonstrated the Council's commitment to its declared Housing Crisis and the Housing Team was thanked for its hard work and tireless effort in such a difficult housing time.

It was then:

RESOLVED

- 1. That the proposed approach to increase resources within the Housing Delivery Team be endorsed and the revised Housing Team Structure detailed in Appendix 1 of the presented report be noted; and
- 2. That Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve an annual revenue cost pressure of £44,700 (SHDC share) to be built into the budget process for 2023/24 onwards, and a one off expenditure of £150,780 be funded from the 2021/22 Government Homeless Prevention grant. This funding will double the resource in the housing delivery team and drive forward the ambitions of the Council in tackling the Housing Crisis.

E.07/22 COUNCIL TAX REBATE DISCRETIONARY SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report that sought to enable the Executive to make a decision on the discretionary element of the Government's Council Tax Rebate scheme

- In discussion, the following points were raised:-
- (a) Officers were congratulated for their performance in being able to release the funds to 92% of those households who were entitled to be in receipt;
- (b) With regard to accessing those hard to reach groups, officers set out the proposed measures that would be undertaken by the Council. These were welcomed by Members with the importance of ensuring that residents were helped, supported and protected being reiterated. In relation to a specific query, officers committed to finding out whether or not local Ward Members could be provided with resident information that they could then use to attempt to contact those hard to reach individuals within their local Wards;
- It was then:

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Discretionary Council Tax Rebate policy and scheme be approved;
- (ii) That the current approach to distributing the main Government's Council Tax rebate for households in Bands A to D be endorsed; and
- (iii) That the existing discretionary support schemes the Council operate be noted and increasing the public and voluntary sector awareness of the schemes and support that are available for residents be recommended.

E.08/22 CONTACT CENTRE SERVICE REVIEW UPDATE

The Executive considered a report that provided an update on the recently undertaken Customer Contact Centre service review.

In the ensuing discussion, the following points were raised:-

- (a) A Member was of the view that a target of five minutes for a telephone call to be answered was unreasonable and should be lowered. In reply, officers advised that any reduction in time target would result in the Council needing to dramatically increase officer capacity within the Contact Centre;
- (b) The importance of improving Channel Shift to reduce the volume of telephone calls into the Contact Centre was recognised;

(c) In noting the difficulties of remotely managing and operating the Contact Centre during the pandemic, Members wished to record their thanks to the Contact Centre staff for continuing to deliver an excellent service.

It was then:

RESOLVED

- 1. That the approach taken with the Contact Centre review, and the subsequent and ongoing Improvement Plan be endorsed;
- 2. That the performance of the Contact Centre and the recent improvement in total calls answered, and calls answered within 5 minutes be recognised; and
- 3. That the timescales of the Contact Centre Improvement Plan as set out in Appendix A of the presented report be noted, and that a further update on progress be brought to the Executive in six months.

E.09/22 PLANNING IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE

The Executive considered a report that provided an update on proposals to restructure the Council's Development Management and Enforcement Service as part of continuing implementation of the Planning Improvement Plan (the Plan) approved by the Executive on 16th September 2021 (minute E42/21 refers).

In discussion, reference was made to:-

- (a) the staff feedback during the consultation exercise. Since the deadline for consultation responses had now expired, the Director for Strategy and Governance provided the following summary on the staff feedback received:
 - the general tone of the feedback received was positive with the current lack of management capacity being recognised. In particular, support was expressed for the proposed area based teams approach and the additional management resilience;
 - there were some specific questions raised in respect of management responsibility that were made as a consequence of the two Heads of Service proposal.

The officer also advised that a comprehensive response would be produced following the consultation exercise that he would ensure was also circulated to all Members;

- (b) general support for the proposed restructure. Whilst general support was expressed and the pressure on the service was recognised amongst the membership, the ongoing recruitment challenges were also highlighted;
- (c) an additional recommendation was **PROPOSED** and **SECONDED** that read as follows:

'That a progress review of the Service be presented to the Executive six months from when the Assistant Director has been in post.'

In support of the addition, Members felt that it would be useful to receive a progress update that set out the success of the Improvement Plan.

When put to the vote, the addition was declared CARRIED.

It was then:

RESOLVED

- i) That the proposed restructure of the Development Management Service be endorsed;
- ii) That a progress review of the Service be presented to the Executive six months from when the Assistant Director has been in post; and
- iii) That it be noted that the cost of the restructure, £98,000 per annum, will be funded for the first three years from the additional planning income held in the Planning Earmarked Reserve.

E.10/22 URGENT ITEM: FROGMORE AND SHERFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

As highlighted above (Minute E.02/22 refers), the Executive considered an urgent item that sought approval of the making (adoption) of the Frogmore and Sherford Neighbourhood Plan.

In discussion, congratulations were extended to the Neighbourhood Planning Group in reaching this milestone. That being said, the importance of the parish making consultation responses on local planning applications based upon their Neighbourhood Plan was also emphasised.

It was then:

RESOLVED

That the Frogmore and Sherford Neighbourhood Development Plan be made (adopted).

(NOTE: THESE DECISIONS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MINUTE E.06/22 PART 2 (WHICH IS A RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 14 JULY 2022) WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE FROM 5.00PM ON WEDNESDAY, 8 JUNE 2022 UNLESS CALLED IN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULE 18).

(Meeting commenced at 10:00 am and concluded at 11.05 am)

Chairman

Agenda Item 5

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AT EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

There is a period of 15 minutes at meetings of the Executive during which members of the public can ask questions about items on the agenda.

Any member of the public who wants to ask a question should ensure that the question:

- a) is no more than 50 words in length;
- b) is not be broken down into multiple parts;
- c) relates to an item included on the agenda; and
- d) is suitable to be considered. A question will not be suitable if, for example, it is derogatory to the Council or any third party; relates to a confidential matter; it is about a specific planning matter; or it is substantially the same as a question asked in the past six months.

Questions should be sent to Democratic Services

(Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk) by **1.00pm** on the Monday before the meeting (the deadline will be brought forward by a working day if affected by a bank holiday). This will allow a detailed response to be given at the meeting. If advance notice of the question cannot be given the Chairman of the meeting has the discretion to allow questions on matters that are felt to be urgent;

For any further advice on questions to the Executive, or to request a copy of the full Public Questions Procedure Rules, please contact Democratic Services (<u>Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk</u>)

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Executive Leader's Forward Plan

About the Forward Plan

This is the Leader of Council's provisional forward plan for the four months starting July 2022. It provides an indicative date for matters to be considered by the Executive. Where possible, the Executive will keep to the dates shown in the plan. However, it may be necessary for some items to be rescheduled and other items added.

The forward plan is published to publicise consultation dates and enable dialogue between the Executive and all councillors, the public, and other stakeholders. It will also assist the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee in planning their contribution to policy development and holding the Executive to account.

Local authorities are required to publish updated forward plans on a regular basis. The Plan is published on the Council's website (www.southhams.gov.uk)

About the Executive

The Executive consists of six Councillors. Each has responsibility for a particular area of the Council's work.

- Leader of the Council with specific responsibility for Improving Homes / Protecting, Conserving and Enhancing our Built and Natural Environment– Cllr Judy Pearce
- Deputy Leader of the Council with specific responsibility for Stimulating a Thriving Economy Cllr Hilary Bastone
- Lead Executive Member for Environment Cllr Keith Baldry
- Lead Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing Cllr Jonathan Hawkins
- Lead Executive Member for Climate Change and Biodiversity Cllr Tom Holway
- Lead Executive Member for Council Services Cllr Nicky Hopwood

Further information on the workings of the Executive, including latest information on agenda items, can be obtained by contacting Democratic Services on 01803 861105 or by e-mail to democratic.services@swdevon.gov.uk

All items listed in this Forward Plan will be discussed in public at the relevant meeting, unless otherwise indicated with *



Forward Plan from July 2022

Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / Officer	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
Leader	Title: Housing Crisis – Standing Agenda Item	Cllr Pearce / Chris Brook	Report of the Director of Place and Enterprise	7 July 2022	
Leader	Title: Quarter 1 Integrated Performance Management Report 2022/23 Purpose: To consider a report that sets out the Integrated Performance Management report for Quarter 1 of 2022/23.	Cllr Pearce / Neil Hawke	Report of the Head of Strategy and Projects	7 July 2022	
Economy	Title: Ivybridge Regeneration Scheme Purpose: To consider a report that provides an update on the Ivybridge Regeneration Scheme.	Cllr Bastone – Chris Brook	Report of the Director of Place and Enterprise	7 July 2022	
Leader	Title: Annual Report Achievements Purpose: To consider a report that presents the Council's draft Annual Report of Achievements for 2021/22	Cllr Pearce / Neil Hawke	Report of the Head of Strategy and Projects	7 July 2022	
Health and Wellbeing	Title: Health and Wellbeing Pilot Purpose: To consider a report that provides an opportunity for Members to have an input into the Pilot.	Cllr Hawkins / Ian Luscombe	Report of the Head of Environmental Health	7 July 2022	
Health and Wellbeing	Title: Totnes Leisure Centre Purpose: To consider a report that seeks to reaffirm a previous decision to grant a reversionary lease to enable	Cllr Hawkins / Chris Brook	Report of Director of Place and Enterprise	7 July 2022	



Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / Officer	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
	Tadpool to carry out improvement works.				
Economy	Title: Bid Submission for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Update on Levelling Up Fund 2 Bid Purpose: To consider a recommendation for the submission of a funding bid to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and that also provides an update on the Levelling Up Fund 2 Bid.	Cllr Bastone / Chris Brook	Report of Director of Place and Enterprise	7 July 2022	
Leader	Title: Medium Term Financial Strategy for the Five Years 2023/24 to 2027/28 Purpose: To consider a report that sets the strategic intention for all of the different strands of funding available to the Council.	Cllr Pearce / Lisa Buckle	Report of the Section 151 Officer	15 September 2022	
Leader	Housing Crisis – Standing Agenda Item	Cllr Pearce / Issy Blake	Report of the Head of Housing	15 September 2022	
Deputy Leader	Title: 2021/22 Capital Outturn Purpose: To consider a report that presents the final Capital Outturn figures for 2021/22.	Cllr Bastone / Pauline Henstock	Report of the Deputy Section 151 Officer	15 September 2022	
Leader	Title: 2021/22 Revenue Outturn Purpose: To consider a report that presents the final Revenue Outturn figures for 2021/22	Cllr Pearce / Pauline Henstock	Report of the Deputy Section 151 Officer	15 September 2022	
Council Services	Title: Customer Access Strategy Purpose: To consider a report that presents the draft	Cllr Hopwood / Catherine Bowen	Report of Business Manager - Specialists	15 September 2022	



Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / Officer	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
	Customer Access Strategy for approval				
Council	Title: Capital Programme Monitoring Report to Month 4 Purpose: To consider a report that presents the Capital Programme Monitoring Report to Month 4.	Cllr Bastone / Pauline Henstock	Report of Head of Finance	15 September 2022	
Economy	Title: Ivybridge Regeneration Financial Recommendations Purpose: To consider a report that seeks to recommend to Council a series of financial recommendations on the Ivybridge Regeneration project.	Cllr Bastone / Laura Wotton	Report of Head of Assets	15 September 2022	
Council	Title: Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to Month 4 Purpose: To consider a report that presents the Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to Month 4.	Cllr Bastone / Lisa Buckle	Report of Section 151 Officer	15 September 2022	
Leader	Title: Climate Emergency Planning Statement Purpose: To consider a report that seeks to make a recommendation to Council to adopt a Climate Emergency Planning Statement.	Cllr Pearce / Jo Lee	Report of the Strategic Planning Manager (Joint Local Plan)	15 September 2022	
Climate Change	Title: Devon Carbon Plan Purpose: To consider a report that presents the draft Devon Carbon Plan for formal consideration.	Cllr Holway / Drew Powell	Report of Director of Strategy and Governance	15 September 2022	
Leader	Title: Housing Crisis – Standing Agenda Item	Cllr Pearce / Issy Blake	Report of Head of Housing	13 October 2022	



Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / Officer	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
Health and Wellbeing	Title: Partnership Funding Purpose: To consider a report that presents an update on the Council's Partnership Funding arrangements.	Cllr Hawkins / Neil Hawke	Report of the Head of Strategy and Projects	13 October 2022	
Council Services	 Title: Council Tax Rebate Discretionary Scheme Purpose: To receive a further report that seeks to: Provide an update on the number of households that have received additional financial support through Phase 1 of the Scheme; and Sets out recommendations for Phase 2. 	Cllr Hopwood / Steve Mullineaux	Report of Deputy Chief Executive	13 October 2022	
Council Services	Title: Contact Centre Improvement Plan: Six Month Review Purpose: To consider a report that presents a six-month progress review on the Contact Centre Improvement Plan	Cllr Hopwood / Steve Mullineaux	Report of Deputy Chief Executive	13 October 2022	
Leader	Title: Housing Crisis – Standing Agenda Item	Clir Pearce / Issy Blake	Report of Head of Housing	1 December 2022	
Leader	Title: Draft Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals 2023/24 Purpose: To consider a report that presents for consultation a set of draft Revenue and Capital Budget proposals for 2023/24.	Cllr Pearce / Lisa Buckle	Report of Strategic Lead of Finance	1 December 2022	
Deputy Leader	Title: Write-off Reports Q1 and Q2 2022/23Purpose: The Council is responsible for the collection	Cllr Bastone / Lisa Buckle	Report of Strategic Lead of Finance	1 December 2022	



Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / Officer	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
	of: Housing Rents, Sundry Debts including Housing Benefit Overpayments, Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates. The report informs Members of the debt written off for these revenue streams.				
Deputy Leader	Title: Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to Month 7 2022/23 Purpose: To consider a report that presents the Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to Month 7.	Cllr Bastone / Lisa Buckle	Report of Section 151 Officer	1 December 2022	
Deputy Leader	Title: Capital Programme Monitoring Report to Month 7 2022/23 Purpose: To consider a report that presents the Capital Programme Monitoring Report to Month 7.	Cllr Bastone / Pauline Henstock	Report of Head of Finance	1 December 2022	
Leader	Title: Quarter 2 Integrated Performance Management Report 2022/23 Purpose: To consider a report that sets out the Integrated Performance Management report for Quarter 2 of 2022/23.	Cllr Pearce / Neil Hawke	Report of the Head of Strategy and Projects	1 December 2022	
	Title: Housing Crisis – Standing Agenda Item			26 January 2023	
Leader	Title: Draft Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals Purpose: To consider a report that seeks to recommend to Council the draft Revenue and Capital Budget proposals.	Cllr Pearce / Lisa Buckle	Report of the Section 151 Officer	26 January 2023	



Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / Officer	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
Leader	Title: Quarter 3 Integrated Performance Management Report 2022/23 Purpose: To consider a report that sets out the Integrated Performance Management report for Quarter 3 of 2022/23.	Cllr Pearce / Neil Hawke	Report of the Head of Strategy and Projects	26 January 2023	
	Title: Housing Crisis – Standing Agenda Item			2 March 2023	
Deputy Leader	Title: Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to Month 10 2022/23 Purpose: To consider a report that presents the Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to Month 10.	Cllr Bastone / Lisa Buckle	Report of Section 151 Officer	2 March 2023	
Deputy Leader	Title: Capital Programme Monitoring Report to Month 10 2022/23 Purpose: To consider a report that presents the Capital Programme Monitoring Report to Month 10.	Cllr Bastone / Pauline Henstock	Report of Head of Finance	2 March 2023	
Leader	Title: Draft Annual Report of Achievements Purpose: To consider a report that presents the Council's draft Annual Report of Achievements for 2022/23	Cllr Pearce / Neil Hawke	Report of the Head of Strategy and Projects	2 March 2023	
				13 April 2023	
Leader	Title: Planning Improvement Plan – Six Month Progress Review Purpose: In accordance with the Executive resolution, to	Cllr Pearce / Drew Powell	Report of Director of Strategy and Governance	TBC (6 months following the start of the employ of the	



Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / Officer	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
	consider a six month progress review into the Planning Improvement Plan.			Assistant Director)	

Agenda Item 7

Report to:		Executive					
Date:		7 Jul	y 2022				
Title:		Annual Report of Achievements					
Portfolio Area:		Councillor Judy Pearce Leader					
Wards Affected:		All					
Urgent Decision:		N Approval and clearance obtained:			Y		
Date next steps can be taken: Upon the expiry of the Overview and Scrutiny Call-in period – 5.00pm on Monday, 18 July.							
Author:	Author: Neil Hawke		Role:	Head of Strategy			
Contact: <u>Neil.Hawke@swdevon.gov.uk</u>							

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Executive:

- 1. Note the achievements of the Council during 2021/22;
- 2. Agree to the publication of the Annual Report as a public record of those achievements

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 It is good practice for Councils to publish an Annual Report setting out the activities it has delivered throughout the year.
- 1.2 The 2021/22 Annual Report has been aligned to our Better Lives for All priorities and sets out a number of achievements during the year.
- 1.3 Executive are asked to consider the report and agree to its publication as a public record of achievements.

2. Proposed Way Forward

2.1 It is recommended that Executive note the Annual Report of Achievements as set out at Appendix A and agree to its publication as a public record of those achievements.

3. Implications	1	
Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance	Y	It is good practice to publish an annual report of achievements.
Financial implications to include reference to value for money	Y	The Annual report provides an easy to read summary of some of the activities the Council has delivered during the year.
Consultation & Engagement	Y	The Annual report is purposefully intended to be a clear and easy to understand document.
Risk	N	
Supporting Corporate Strategy	Y	AII
Climate Change - Carbon / Biodiversity Impact	Y	The report includes reference to a number of activities that are contributing to our climate response.
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity	N	
Safeguarding	N	
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder	N	
Health, Safety and Wellbeing	N	
Other implications	N	

3. Implications

Supporting Information

Appendices:

Appendix A – Annual Report of Achievements



South Hams District Council Annual Report 2021/2022















Councillor Judy Pearce Leader South Hams District Council

Welcome to our 2021/2022 Annual Report which demonstrates the past year's achievements and outlines our priorities for the coming year.

One of the significant achievements this year has been the development and adoption of our Better Lives for All Strategy which sets clear and measurable actions that the Council will take over the next few years. This report includes many examples of actions we have delivered through the strategy that will note a positive impact on lives across the District.

We have continued to be on the forefront of offering vital support to businesses impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic with a total of £85m in grants processed to date. This is an incredible achievement by the team.

In February, we once again set a balanced budget for the Council, ensuring that we can continue to deliver much needed services to our residents and businesses. We continue to hope that in the coming year we are offered greater longer-term certainty on our budgets from Government.

As we ended the year, the Council was once again called upon by Government to support the Homes for Ukraine Scheme – something that will undoubtedly be a focus for us in the coming year.

Looking ahead, our focus is on ensuring that we continue to deliver on our strategic priorities, making a positive impact for communities across the South Hams.

Cllr Judy Pearce

Andy Bates Chief Executive



I have been incredibly impressed by the efforts of staff across the Council to support our residents and communities.

I've been really pleased that as restrictions have lifted, I've been able to get out an about, visiting communities across South Hams and seeing first hand some of the excellent projects being delivered.

Of course the year has not been without its challenges. We know that the ongoing issues with our Waste and Recycling service continue to be a significant cause of frustration for residents across the District but continue to work with the contractor to try to restore an acceptable level of service.

We have also, like many organisations, experienced challenges in recruiting staff to our services. This is no doubt in part due to the changes to ways of working, with local people now able to work remotely for organisations from across the UK. We will be working on plans to address this in the coming months.

While our staff have continued to work from home throughout the pandemic, as we end the year we have started to see a return to a form of normality, bringing our office staff together and working face to face. I have to say, personally it has been fantastic to begin meeting colleagues in the office for the first time in over two years!

4ndi

Action Across South Hams



community and business schemes developing future employment opportunities

Where your money goes

5% Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority for: fire prevention, fire and rescue

11% Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall for: law and order and crime reduction

4% Cown and Parish Councils for: local amenities

Π

8% South Hams District Council for: refuse collection and kerbside recycling, housing, planning, street cleaning, leisure

> 64% Devon County Council for: education, roads, care for the elderly and disabled, child protection, public health, libraries, recycling centres and waste disposal

8% Devon County Council - additional precept to fund adult social care

Of every £1 in council tax paid, only 8 pence goes to South Hams District Council to pay for the services that it provides. Therefore £175.42 of your overall council tax bill in 2021/22 went to South Hams District Council (for a Band D household). The rest of your Council Tax bill funds other public services delivered by Devon County Council, Police, Fire and Town and Parish Councils.

The share of the Council Tax set by South Hams District Council (£175.42 for 2021/22) pays for services such as local planning, housing, environmental health, waste collection and recycling, street cleansing, providing recreational facilities, tourism and economic development. As well as being responsible for collecting the Council Tax, South Hams District Council also collects Business Rates and administers housing benefits.

Whilst we are still in the process of closing the 2021/22 accounts, at the point of preparing this report, due to prudent financial management of our budgets, our latest forecast is for a small surplus of £90,000 against the Council's total net Budget of £9.7 million.



Taking action on Climate

Back in 2019, we declared a Climate and Biodiversity Crisis in response to global warming and a decline in biodiversity. During the past year we have continued to make good progress in delivering against our climate and biodiversity action plan, District wide tree planting schemes are underway, we've had almost unanimous support from the public for our plans to increase biodiversity on Council land and had our progress recognised at a national level.

£27k

Awarded to community groups for climate action

Bre Arboretum is Abuzz

210 trees for bees were planted at Follaton Arboretum in Totnes by Parklife on behalf of the Council as the first stage of a total 1,450 young trees being planted in the coming years.



A **Diverse** South Hams

In September we asked our residents for their thoughts on plans to relax grass-cutting and to increase wildflowers on Council owned land.

Over 1,000 residents responded, almost all replying positively to our plans and so the Executive agreed to take steps to implement.

97%

Of 1,000 responses in support of our plans to increase biodiversity on council land



222tonnes

Co2 saved by reducing staff travel

5,380

Young trees planted across the District through the Emergency Tree Fund



Composting collaboration

Community Composting Groups have been springing up across the District in recent years and this year we've extended support to enable more to get off the ground while supporting existing schemes - £200,000 was approved to support up to 6 new schemes a year – building on the 4 schemes we already support

Action in the Community

We know that the Council cannot tackle the climate crisis alone. During this year we've made available £200,000 of funds to enable our communities and businesses to play their part too through schemes that contribute to our climate ambitions



10

Grants awarded under the Green Homes Grant Scheme – enabling energy saving measures for eligible households



Top 20 nationally

This year we were recognised as one of the top 20 District Councils nationally for our Climate Change Action Plan by Climate Emergency UK – independent validation that we're taking the crisis seriously



Creating havens for wildlife and locking up carbon

Better Homes, Better Lives

We know that having a decent, safe home is essential for the wellbeing of all residents. This year we've taken the step of declaring a Housing Crisis in South Hams to highlight the significant shortage of homes within the District



During 2022 we launched a new ethical lettings website Seamoor Lettings. It offers a professional management service for landlords with a very low monthly fee – meaning more affordable rents for tenants



139

Affordable Homes delivered and occupied including

11 ←

Supported properties in Dartington for people with Disabilities enabling the first step toward independent living

12

Number of days on average to process a new Housing Benefit Claim (well below the national target of 17 days)



Time to **Step On**

During the year we designed and approved a new scheme (called 'Step On') offering grants of up to £5,000 to help with a deposit for a shared ownership property. This means more of our residents are able to purchase a new home quicker than before.

150

Page

Landlords supported to bring their properties up to the required energy standard



Action on the crisis!

In September the Council declared a Housing Crisis within the District, and quickly took steps to develop a detailed action plan in response. We know it will take time but we have a clear way forward in tackling the issues.

£5.8m

In Council Tax support awarded – helping households under financial pressure

Preventing homelessness

During the year we developed a new 5 year homelessness strategy and In January we commenced a public consultation on it. The Strategy will be considered for adoption in April 2022



177

Households supported to prevent them becoming homeless

National empty homes Week 2022 Feb 28-March 6

Best Use of Properties

In March we promoted Empty Homes week and encouraged homeowners to look at Lendology – an ethical lender supporting homeowners make improvements to bring homes in to use.



Sherford (our newest and developing town) seen from above and the host of this years opening of the Tour of Britain second stage

Planning for our Future and Celebrating our past

During the year we have taken many steps to ensure that our built and natural environment is protected, conserved and enhanced. We've simplified our planning process and supported neighbourhoods to shape their own futures through neighbourhood plans.

Planning made **simpler**

Following a 6 week consultation, in March we adorted a Local Validation Checklist – taking the frustration out of the process for applicants as they'll know exactly what to subhit and when! It will also capture information about how applicants are taking steps to reduce their carbon footprint and increase biodiversity.



6

Neighbourhood Plans made

85

Broadband Community Champions recruited



Your future neighbourhood

During the year the Council made 6 neighbourhood plans including South Huish, Ringmore and Aveton Gifford. Neighbourhood plans form a statutory part in influencing local development.

30

Sites will see tree planting as a result of our successful bid to Urban Tree Fund



1,622

Planning Applications Received



Together for **Trees**

In November we were informed that together with Kingsbridge Town Council, our funding bid for 600 urban trees was successful. In total this will see the trees planted across 30 sites.

Planning **Pathfinder**

In June we, along with our partners West Devon and Plymouth City Council, were selected to be a pathfinder by the Department for Levelling Up. The pathfinder is about helping other Councils to standardise key information in local plans – in a digital way.



1,512

Votes cast in Neighbourhood Planning referendums



Protecting our Marine spaces

Significant progress has been made through the year with construction well underway of a new purpose built Harbour Depot at Batson Creek. In addition we're also developing 375m2 of commercial space for marine businesses in the area.

During the year we have continued work on Batson Creek Commercial Units and Harbour Depot – providing 375m2 of new commercial floor space to support local marine businesses

Stimulating a thriving economy

2021/22 continued to see sectors within our economy impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, but we've taken positive steps to support South Hams businesses into the future.

Welcome Back to our highstreets

During the year, we supported our High Streets to recover from the impacts of Covid-19 by accessing EU and Government Funding. This enabled us to deliver a series of marketing campaigns for the area, fund additional street cleansing services through the summer and deliver a number of schemes to Towns to enhance the street scene. In total the investment for the year was in excess of £140,000. We were also able to employ two business advice officers helping businesses adapt to the 'new normal'



£85m

In Covid Business Support Grants processed in the last two years providing a vital lifeline across sectors.



Freeport: a boost for the

future

Working with Plymouth City Council and Devon County Council we have progressed plans for the Freeport – a scheme which would result in the creation of 3,500 jobs and over £280m investment to the areas. The business case has been submitted to Government and we will hear more in 2022/23. 18

Programmes delivered to support our highstreets recover from Covid-19 using £143k of EU funds.



31

businesses supported to develop schemes that would support the wider community with a total £243k investment

Cycle South Hams

In September Sherford hosted the kick-off of the second stage of the Tour of Britain, the event also acted as a brilliant showcase to the nation of just how stunning our area is and of course promotes cycling and active travel – a key aspect of our Better Lives for All Strategy. Around 200,000 spectators watched the 115-mile route between Sherford to Exeter – bringing more than £4.2m to the local economy according to the Tour report.

Supporting a community wide recovery

During the year we offered community groups and businesses that were looking to grow their offering to bid for funds from the Government business grants scheme. In total, 31 schemes were supported with an investment of £243k. Schemes supported include the development of Heritage Board Games based on South Hams, investment to turn a shop into a café (rather than it becoming an empty shop on a highstreet) and a Farm to Table food scheme.

Growing our economy

Businesses offered 120 hours total business startup and growth advice during the year through our contract with BIP. Their specialist advisors have spent time working from within our local business communities, making it as easy as possible for businesses to access the support they need. Another example of a scheme supported is Ambios Ltd, a training company which specialises in conservation and nature courses, based at Sharpham Farm near Totnes. They applied to the Community Recovery Grant scheme for support to improve the power supply to their isolated premises. The awarded grant has been matched by their own financial contribution and will enable the business to expand their educational activities and install renewable technologies. This will help them to transition towards decarbonising their business activities.



with a range of measures from local and national advertising, empty-shop window dressing and making minor, but effective improvements to town centres.

2021/22 Annual Report

Working with our communities

From awarding funding to support community schemes to ensuring we've continued to deliver leisure facilities within the district.

Open spaces, welcome places

During the year, we've spent £557,077 on 36 space, sport and recreation projects and allocated a further £44,077 via grant offer letters for future projects. Projects include resurfacing of Blackawton tennis court, resurfacing a much-used footpath through Bridgetown Green Corridor (Totnes), Improvements to Stoke Gabriel scout hut, cricket club and play area among others.



5,100

Households supported through Council Tax reduction scheme

£43k

Awarded to 84 community schemes through our Councillor Locality Funds



Fit for the future

In April, our Leisure Centres in Kingsbridge, Totnes, Ivybridge and Dartmouth were able to reopen following lockdowns and we've worked closely with our provider, Fusion, to encourage people to take up activities. Throughout the year total levels of participation were 270,483 – which of course included a three-month period of being closed!

270,483

Total active participation in sport and leisure at our leisure centres Jan 21- Dec 21

2021/22 Annual Report

age

£557k

Of section 106 funding provided to deliver 36 schemes in communities

4,704

Residents supported with financial, housing and employment advice through our key partner, Citizens Advice South Hams

£975,000

grants allocated to support 100 adults with disabilities to adapt their homes

Supporting Local

Each year our Councillors have a budget to award to schemes within their locality. This year over £43,000 was awarded in support of 84 community schemes – from purchasing vital life saving equipment through to enhancing the appearance of community spaces with planting and signage and mental health workshops for children – all activities that will contribute to proud communities in South Hams.



Partnerships that make a difference



We cannot deliver on our ambitions for the area alone. Through the year we've supported key partner organisations with funding of almost £100,000 to enable them to support residents with their health and wellbeing, from offering financial, housing and employment advice, supporting frontline community groups with training and fundraising and providing transport for residents to medical and other essential appointments where they're not able to get there themselves. In the coming 12 months we'll be looking at how we can continue to support these vital services.

Health and Wellbeing

Empowering our communities to make a positive difference

We know that community groups have been at the forefront of supporting our residents wellbeing throughout the pandemic and that the impacts on both Physical and Mental Health and Wellbeing are continuing to be felt. To support the amazing work happening in our communities we supported 23 community led schemes with almost £60,000 to deliver wellbeing activities in the coming 12 months.

The opening of Modbury Play Park on 27th July 2021 – Just one of the schemes supported through Section 106 contributions this year

2021/22 Annual Report

Delivering Quality Council Services

2021/22 has been another incredibly busy year for our core services. As Councillors we were able to return to our Chamber for the first time in over two years, our achievements on customer focused processes were recognised nationally and we continued to process a range of support packages for businesses and residents impacted by Covid-19. We of course know that one service that we have not delivered to the required standard has been our waste contract. Resolving this has been a top priority for the past year and will continue to be in the coming months.

£450k

Saved in 12 months by implementing easier to use, customer friendly software



Back to the Chamber

For the first time in over two years, In February our Councillors were able to meet in the Follaton House Council Chamber having met at other venues while the Chamber was being modernised to enable better Covid-19 measures and also to replace aged furniture and sound systems. This means that we'll now be able to provide better, clearer streaming of meetings for the public and a space for our communities to rent for meetings.

624

Fly-Tips responded to across the district



Customer Achievements recognised

In March we won a gold award in respect of our customer facing IT transformation programme. User-friendly software has enabled three quarters (75%) of residents to benefit from self-service functionality to date. By freeing up teams from the burden of navigating broken processes and siloed data, jointly with West Devon Borough Council, we've saved an impressive £450,000 over 12 months.

7,500

Staff commute miles saved per day by working from home and utilising technology

2021/22 Annual Report

age

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1,117,546

Visits to our website during the year – with an average time on the site of just over 2 minutes



Balancing the **Budget**

As set out earlier in the report, we receive 8% of your total Council Tax bill which pays for a whole host of services – so its important we plan well and spend it on the right things. In December we were hoping for longer term certainty on funding from Government but that didn't come – but in February we still set a balanced budget – credit to prudent financial management of our teams.

1,942

Planning Application Notices put up to notify residents of potential developments near them

427

Play Park inspections undertaken – ensuring our young people are safe when enjoying facilities

Carbon Literate organisation

We've been accredited as a Carbon Literate Organisation – with our key officer decision makers all undertaking Carbon Literacy Training to ensure they put the impact on our carbon footprint at the heart of policy and service decisions.





Investing in our future

During the year we're ensured our colleagues are well placed to provide quality Council Services. We've successfully secured two places on a highly sought after District Councils Network future leaders programme and supported 5 apprenticeships in subjects such as Town Planning, Business Administration and Supervisory Skills. We also offered 5 young people work placements through the Government Kickstart programme – with one of them securing a permanent post with us at the end of the scheme.



Looking ahead to 2022/23

Better Lives for All

We know that the year ahead will be challenging for many across the District as the cost of living continues to provide day to day challenges. We will of course do all we can to support our residents to ensure Better Lives for All. Some of the key activities from our strategy for the coming year include:-

- Taking steps to implement a rural poverty scheme by working with communities and partners
- Delivering on our commitment to replace our diesel fleet with electric
- Continue with plans for delivering new affordable homes within the district
- Launch a new, easier to navigate website making it easier for you to access services online.



Fage States of the second seco

Climate Emergency

A significant focus for us during 2022/23 will be on delivering our action plan to address the Housing Crisis in South Hams.

This year we will be in the second year of delivery of our Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Action Plan. We will be continuing to deliver on those actions including ensuring the Council delivers on commitments including progressing plans for an electric fleet and continuing with our rewilding on Council land.

Homes for Ukraine

As the conflict in Ukraine continues, we will be ensuring that the District Council develops a package of support for our Ukrainian guests and those residents stepping up to offer them a safe space to live. We'll be working closely with the voluntary sector to ensure wrap-around support and to ensure that as many host/sponsor placements as possible are maintained as they come towards the end of the minimum term.

Waste & Recycling

We know that 2021/22 continued to be a real cause of frustration for our residents when it comes to ensuring that their waste and recycling was collected on time. As we ended 2021/22, Garden waste collections recommenced but nowhere near to the satisfaction of the Council and you our residents. You have our absolute commitment that sorting this out will remain at the top of our agenda in 2022/23 and we will continue to meet with our contractor on a daily basis.

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Agenda Item 8

Report to:	Executive		
Date:	7 July 2022		
Title:	Update on Progress – Tackling Rural Poverty Pilot		
Portfolio Area:	Health and Wellbeing – Cllr Hawkins		
Wards Affected:	South Brent		
Urgent Decision: N Approval and Y clearance obtained:			
Date next steps can be taken: Upon the expiry of the Overview and Scrutiny Call-in period: 5.00pm on Monday, 18 July			
Author: Ian	Luscombe Role: Head of Environmental Health and Licensing		
Contact: Ian.	Contact: <u>Ian.Luscombe@swdevon.gov.uk</u>		

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive:

- 1. endorse the approach adopted by the Pilot Project with the aim of reducing fuel poverty and promoting the health and wellbeing of residents; and
- 2. note and endorse the publicity campaign to raise awareness of and access to the support already available to residents impacted by the cost of living challenges.

Executive summary

- 1.1 The Project aims to deliver the request of Elected Members in their Corporate Strategy Objective (Delivery Plan Action CW1.1) to work with partners to pilot the new approaches to tackling rural poverty in an area of the South Hams.
- 1.2 The Project is part of the Strengthening Community Wellbeing theme of the Better Lives for All strategy that encourages strong and prosperous communities where residents live healthy lives and are empowered to make a positive impact. Specifically CW1.1; Work with partners to pilot new approaches to tackling rural poverty in an area identified as in the most deprived area of South Hams

- 1.3 The overall objectives are to reduce the impact of rural poverty, improve health and wellbeing and to measure long term improvements to health and wellbeing using health inequality indicators.
- 1.4 As the health indicators have been reviewed it has become clear that poverty is just one of the factors effecting health and wellbeing. When trying to address rural poverty it is sensible to address other health and wellbeing issues as they are likely to be linked.
- 1.5 The location of the Pilot has been chosen based upon advice and data from Devon County Council's Public Health Team. Appendix B (area Profile for South Brent) provides a comparison between South Brent and other South Hams LSOA (Lower Layer Super Output Areas). LSOA's have an average population of 1500 people or 650 households. This provides a comparison against similar sized areas. Indicators that were reviewed included Income, Employment, Education Skills and Training, Health and Disability, Crime, Barriers to Housing and Services, Living Environment and Income Deprivation affecting Children. South Brent consistently scored low against these indicators in comparison to similar sized areas.
- 1.6 The LSOA areas are shown in Appendix C on a map that identifies the geographical boundaries of South Brent LSOA and the Ward Councillor's Area. The pilot will extend to the greater area (ie the Ward Councillor Area), looking at what support is available to those areas, what the local issues are and enabling community led solutions.
- 1.7 Key to the success of the project is the enabling of communities to select their own outcomes that they consider to be desirable and have the most important effect upon their wellbeing. For this reason the objectives of the project in the initial stages will remain broad but with a clear focus on the challenges associated with rural poverty. We will give the Communities the ability to determine what success will look like for themselves.
- 1.8 It is essential that we work in partnership with other Statutory organisations and also with the Voluntary and Community (VCO) sector who are the key to the long term sustainability and lasting legacy of the pilot.
- 1.9 South Brent has a well establish network of support in place. It is evident however that not all the need of the population is met by these groups. It is important to the success of the Pilot that the Community is able to be supported to build upon its current success.
- 1.10 Current partners in the project include Devon County Council, Primary Care Networks, Police, CVS, Citizens Advice, Parish Councils, South West Water, Livewest Housing, Fusion, South Brent Caring, Devon Communities Together, Action for Children, Sustainable South Brent, Learn Devon, Young Devon and The Football Association.

- 1.11 Residents are currently experiencing a range of cost of living pressures that may impact on their health and wellbeing. Whilst the pilot project is both longer term and aspirational, there is much that the Council is doing now to respond to the current challenges.
- 1.12 The Council has launched a campaign to make residents throughout the South Hams aware of the support that is being provided. This is summarised in the leaflet in appendix A. To date we have paid out twenty thousand payments of the Government's £150 Energy Council Tax rebate, extended the grant funded Vulnerability Officer for a further three years to assist the most vulnerable in our community, agreed a discretionary Energy Council Tax rebate scheme for vulnerable households (those not eligible for £150 scheme) and allocated over (600k in SHDC) for Green Homes Grants to improve heating and insulation in existing properties.
- 1.13 We will continue to develop our support directory giving easy access to customers to access services that are of benefit to them.

2. Background

- 2.1 Rural poverty is the term used to describe the negative inequalities that exist when a person lives in a rural area, as oppose to somewhere more urban. The relevance of rural inequality is only significant where it has a detrimental effect on the person, family or community that is experiencing it. Many residents will have chosen to live in the South Hams for the lifestyle and environmental benefits, which is why the negative impact of rural poverty is most prevalent as an individual's circumstances change, i.e. they need to find work or housing, develop new care needs or become more or less independent.
- 2.2 The pockets of "rural poverty" within the South Hams are well hidden by the relative affluence of the district as a whole. The area has some really effective Voluntary and Community activity in the area and it is important to highlight areas where this work is successful and could be extended to provide additional support to the communities that need it most. The Council and its partners should empower communities to create sustainable solutions that have strong foundations and the flexibility to best meet the needs of the local people.
- 2.3 The District Council is an important enabler is ensuring that communities are well served by key services; health, transport, policing and for ensuring that required services are accessible to everyone, including hard to reach groups.
- 2.4 The Council has been able to use public health data to establish those most affected by health inequality in the pilot area. This will allow us to initially target our resource to help to raise awareness of the data that defines the community, and develop actions to ensure effective and inclusive engagement throughout.

- 2.5 The Covid pandemic demonstrated just how effective community groups can be in assisting the local population where there is a clearly identified need.
- 2.6 The Council has actively engaged with a number of partners including Parish Councils, Devon County Council, Primary Care Network, Police, Fusion Leisure, Livewest, The Football Association, South West Water, CVS and Citizens Advice.
- 2.7 In South Brent we have engaged with some of the key partners that are already supporting the community and shared the public health data that identifies the segment of the community that are most in need of support. We have identified key community spaces and assessed their suitability for future projects and engagement. We hosted an initial in-person partner meeting on the 14th June at which Devon County and Devon Communities Together presented and discussed community engagement and the public health data for the local area. We have also engaged with the new Community Fridge project who are seeking to install a stigma-free food resource in the village and we will seek to support this new initiative as is required.
- 2.8 The information in Appendix B provides a profile of health data in South Brent. The most striking aspect of the data was that South Brent experiences the highest number of children effected by poverty in South Hams. This was ranked as being the most prevalent against other similar sized population areas.
- 2.9 Whilst South Brent is affected by wider heath inequalities there is already a true sense of community in place with many effective and ambitious support schemes already in place. Partners are committed to acknowledging and continuing this work whilst working together to identify any gaps in the services provided. Concerns that are emerging include access to affordable transport and mental health support.

3 Outcomes/outputs

- 3.1 The overall ambition of the project is to reduce health inequalities by helping to build on an existing community infrastructure that provides a sustainable solution to tackling rural poverty and supporting the health and wellbeing needs of the community.
- 3.2 Interventions will also aim to reduce rural poverty by signposting to support services such as for example; energy and money advice, action for children and services that support training and enterprise such as Learn Devon and Devon County's Health and Social Care Skills Accelerator programme. The Council will also look to at opportunities to directly deliver Council services in these areas with support from partners.

- 3.3 In reality some interventions may be too small to have an overall impact on area statistics but may in the short term assist individual families in the communities to improve their wellbeing and reduce the impact of health inequalities. Success may not be immediate, some health inequalities will take years of support to change and effect the public health indicators.
- 3.4 We intend that the community members themselves will tell us what the successful outcome of the Council working in a focussed way with the community will be. This will empower communities and make them jointly responsible for the outcomes they wish to achieve.
- 3.5 One of the key outcomes that will be achieved by working closer with communities is a better understanding of local need and existing services. This will also help build trust and a stronger relationships to guide future service consultation and delivery.
- 3.6 In terms of the immediate work being carried out , the Council has produced a leaflet that summarises the support on offer to residents across the whole of South Hams and signposts them to where they can get that service (Appendix A)

4. Options available and consideration of risk

- 4.1 With regards to the Tackling Rural Poverty Pilot Project, the Council has taken care to identify existing services, support and infrastructure that is already in place to ensure that they are not duplicated or ignored. It is important to build on existing success.
- 4.2 The option of providing short term one off interventions was considered and whilst some may be effective in the short term, we want to provide a lasting, sustainable legacy from our closer involvement with the community. Communities need to be worked with and not "done to".
- 4.3 We have consulted with public health experts to ensure that we follow a tried and tested model of intervention.
- 4.4 We have received a direct steer from Members in the Council's strategy to help to deal with rural poverty and by association wider health and wellbeing.
- 4.5 Consultation has taken place with partner organisations, communities, Local Elected Members and Lead Elected Members for Wellbeing.
- 4.6 The Council has identified the pressures that residents are experiencing now in relation to the cost of living and reacted quickly by ensuring that schemes are in place to support residents and that these are well publicised.
- 4.7 We have chosen South Brent as a pilot area due to there already being a strong community infrastructure that we can work with and some

gaps in service provision that we can identify and support. The Health Data for the area suggests that improvement can be made, not least in the poverty effecting children criteria.

5. Proposed Way Forward

- 5.1 The Project will now progress to its next phase which is consultation with the community and local stakeholders to ensure that objectives are set that match the needs of the community.
- 5.2 We will then enter the delivery phase to ensure that, once all objectives are considered and the support identified to achieve them, we will work to enable them to be achieved.
- 5.3 We will then measure the impact of the interventions, and feedback to the Communities and stakeholders.

o. Implications	1				
Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address			
Legal/Governance	Y	Members are being asked to comment on the Report and no decision is required.			
Financial implications to include reference to value for money	Y	Funding has been identified as a budget for the delivery of the project objectives. Until those objectives are set in partnership with the Community we are unable to allocate the resource. Investment will be focussed on enabling sustainable solutions for the community.			
Risk	Y	The Council has a duty to cooperate with Devon County Council who have the overarching responsibility for Public Health, led by the Director of Public Health. The Councils Strategy identifies Wellbeing as a key area of priority. To not work on the health and wellbeing of our communities would miss out on an opportunity to support the most vulnerable people in our communities			
Supporting Corporate Strategy	Y	Strengthening Community Wellbeing is a key theme in the corporate strategy.			
Climate Change - Carbon / Biodiversity Impact	Y	Once the objectives of the project are known we will work to understand their potential impact, both positive and negative, upon climate change and biodiversity.			
Comprehensive Im	Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications				
Equality and Diversity	Y	This project is about supporting hard to reach communities and residents			

6. Implications

Safeguarding	Y	We will ensure that safeguarding is fully integrated into the referral process to other Voluntary and Community organisations.
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder	Y	The Police are committed to working in partnership with the Council on this project. We have good established links with the Police via the Community Safety Partnership.
Health, Safety and Wellbeing	Y	This work will enable our health, safety and wellbeing objectives to be achieved
Other implications	Ν	

<u>Supporting Information</u> Appendices:

A. Area profiles for South Brent

B. Cost of Living: A Public Information Leaflet

Background Papers:

None

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		South Bren	ıt
Primary Care Network	NHS	South Dartmoor 8	a Totnes
PCN Clinical Director		Dr Jamila Gro	ves
	South Hams –	Cllr Peter Sme	rdon
SH Ward Members		Cllr Guy Panr	nell
Devon County Cllr	Devon County Council	Cllr Dan Thor	nas
Parish Council	PARISH COUNCIL	clerk@southbren	t.gov.uk
LSOA (Neighbourhood) Area Code		002E (Central) /	002D
		002E	002D
	0-15	226	127
Demographics	16-64	783	599
Demographics	65-84	407	311
	85+	67	48
	Total	1483	1085
National Deprivation Rating (#1 most deprived)	32844 (Total LSOA areas England)	14792	22004
South Hams Comparison (#1 most deprived)	49 (Total LSOA areas SH)	8	32
Deprivation Indicators	Measure	002E (Central)	002D
Income - The proportion of the population in	National Rating	7714	17089
an area experiencing deprivation relating to low income.	SH Rating	4	16
Employment - The proportion of the	National Rating	7949	21030
working-age population in an area involuntarily		4	26
excluded from the labour market.	SH Rating		
excluded from the labour market.	National Rating	15405	30047
excluded from the labour market. Education Skills & Training - The lack	National Rating	15405	30047

Crime - The risk of personal and material	National Rating	24471	26277
victimisation at local level.	SH Rating	8	12
Barriers to Housing & Services -	National Rating	30524	31361
Geographic and affordability barriers of housing and services	SH Rating	40	44
Living Environment - The quality of the	National Rating	29512	3363
local environment	SH Rating	44	17
Income deprivation affecting	National Rating	5929	18711
children - The actual proportion of children aged 0-15 living in income deprived families	SH Rating	1	16
Income deprivation affecting older	National Rating	13957	17738
people - The proportion of all those aged 60 or over who experience income deprivation	SH Rating	10	14

Additional Indicators	Devon Average	002E (Central)	002D
Children living in poverty	12.20%	17.80%	24.30%
Houses classed as fuel poor	10.70%	10.90%	11.80%
Residents not in employment, education or training	5%	2.30%	3.60%
Benefit claimant count	4%	5.70%	4.00%
Physically inactive		19%	16.30%
Life expectancy at birth (years)	82.3	81.6	82.4
Preventable deaths per 100,000	119.7	134	66.2
Permanent admissions to residential and nursing care per 100,000	538	2393	1818
Self harm admissions - (10 - 24yr olds) per 100,000	3017	5603	8088
People living with dementia	6%	6.60%	7%
Good access to Green Spaces		81%	81%
Good social contact		63%	63%
Feel safe		87%	87%



Cost	RECEIPT FOF LIVING
**********	OF LIVING
Energy	7
Food	7
Petrol	7 7 7
Rent	7
Shonnin	2
SUPPORT	
-101	2

Cost of living Your guide to help & support

Over recent months, the ever increasing cost of living has impacted many of us, and we as a council want to do all we can to help.

If you, or someone you know, is struggling and in need of emotional, financial or practical help, then please contact us or any of the other organisations found in this leaflet.

As many of us find ourselves reaching out for help in a way that we have not experienced before, we may need to rely on organisations that are here to support us. So please do not hesitate to get in touch. It is really important to ask for help sooner rather than later.

> Page 53 Income

> > Page 2





Home

Page 3

Cllr Jonathan Hawkins

Energy

Page 2

Lead Member for strengthening community wellbeing

Energy Matters

As energy prices continue to rise rapidly, help is available. We know that Energy Suppliers will be crediting customers bills in the Autumn, but other support is available right now.

£150 Council Tax Energy Rebate

If you pay your Council Tax by Direct Debit you should have already received the £150 in your bank account. If you pay your Council Tax in other ways, please visit our website.

www.southhams.gov.uk/energy-rebate

Energy Debt

If you're in debt to your energy provider, you could access grants from a charitable trust to help pay it off.

www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Energy Efficiency Improvements

The scheme is available to Devon residents who have an annual combined household income of less than £30,000 and whose homes have an energy Performance Certificate rating of E, F or G.

www.lendology.org.uk

For more Energy Related Support, visit:

www.southhams. gov.uk/Fuel-Poverty

NAAAA

If you need financial support, don't wait until your situation gets worse – act now, help is available.

Financial Support

Low Income?

f.

If you are earning a low income, you may be able to get a reduction of up to 85% in the amount of Council Tax you need to pay with our Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

www.southhams.gov.uk/ council-tax-reduction

Household Support Fund

We are writing to households that are eligible for support to offer free school meals during the summer holidays and a £90 one off payment to householders of state pension age. If you think you're eligible but haven't received a letter, visit:

Page/v54uthhams.gov.uk/ household-support-fund



Support with Housing

The costs of running our homes is likely our biggest outlay each month. However, there is a range of support available for housing related concerns you may have.

Devon Home Choice

Apply online to access all social housing (including Housing Associations and local councils across Devon)

www.devonhomechoice.com

Help to meet monthly rental payments

If you're already in receipt of Housing Benefit payments, Discretionary Housing payments are available to provide additional help to people in meeting their monthly rental payments.

www.southhams.gov.uk/DHP

Time do downsize?

We can offer up to £5,000 to enable social housing tenants to downsize to a smaller property – which will cost less to run and free up larger properties for those that need them.

Housing Advice

Our team can help with landlord mediation, advice on finding alternative accommodation, financial assistance with moving costs or maintaining accommodation.

Email - housing.advice@swdevon.gov.uk

Grants for adapting and improving existing properties

Grants are available to help with a range of adaptions and improvements to your home including Independent Living Grants and addressing defects which pose Health and Safety issues to the resident. Loans are also available to make home improvements.

www.southhams.gov.uk/ housing-services

At risk of homelessness?

If you are at risk of becoming homeless, for whatever reason, its important to act fast.

Visit our website and get in touch. Once you've registered, one of our team will contact you within 3 working days to help.

Page 33 www.southhams.gov.uk/Housingadvice

www.southhams.gov.uk/downsizing

Independent Advice & Support

We work with Citizens Advice to ensure our residents can access free, impartial advice on debt, benefits, employment, and housing problems. They can help households make sure you're getting all the support they are entitled to.

www.southhamscab.org.uk/get-advice

or freephone 0808 278 7948

Something else?

Visit our online support directory

We know that it can be difficult to identify support that may be available to you and so we've created an online support directory.

www.southhams.gov.uk/support-directory

And let others know how to find it!



citizens

advice





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Agenda Item 9

Report to:	:	Exec	utive Com	mittee	
Date:		7th July 2022			
Title:		Housing Crisis – Development and Enabling			
Portfolio A	Area:	Cllr J	udy Pearc	e - Homes	
Wards Aff	ected:	All			
Urgent De	ecision: N	N	Approval a clearance obtained:	nd Y	
Date next	Date next steps can be taken:				
Author:	Alex Reh	aag	Role:	Senior Specialist – Affordable Housing	
Contact: 01822 813722 email: Alex.rehaag@swdevon.gov.uk					

RECOMMENDATION

That the Executive NOTE the progress regarding affordable housing delivery.

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 This report informs Members of the delivery work undertaken in tackling the Housing Crisis. These activities support both the Corporate Strategy – 'Better Lives For All' and the Housing Strategy – 'Better Homes, Better Lives', as follows:
 - i. Historic housing delivery broken down to financial years from 2019
 - ii. Projected delivery for 2022/23 & 23/24

- iii. Response and customer access to the 'Enhanced Tenants Incentive Scheme'
- iv. Response to the newly launched 'Step on Scheme'
- v. Disabled Adapted Panel
- vi. Financial contributions secured to enable affordable housing
- vii. Focussed individual property purchase

2. Background

- 2.1 The Joint Local Plan (JLP) sets a target for affordable housing delivery of 6,600 new homes from 2014 2034 across all 3 authorities (South Hams, West Devon & Plymouth). The Thriving Towns and Villages (TTV) area of the plan provides for 2050 new affordable homes over this period.
- 2.2 The Corporate Strategy sets a target of 100 affordable homes, as a rolling average per annum across South Hams and West Devon from 2021 2024. The Housing Strategy is aligned to this target and early indication is that the target is being met and projections are that this will be significantly exceeded.

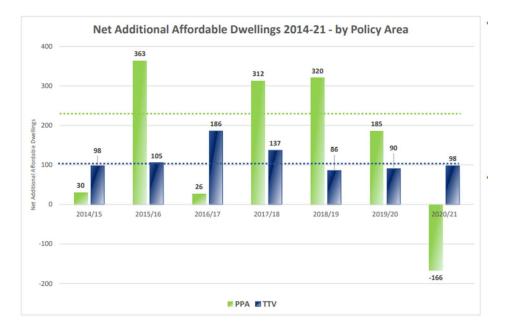
3. Historic Housing Delivery since 2019

3.1 The table below sets out the number of affordable houses of all tenure types delivered since 2018. Notable delivery includes completion of 12 specialist homes at Elmhurst Lodge, Dartington (Brimhay). Homes in this scheme will enable customers with learning and physical disabilities to live independently without the need for residential intervention in some circumstances. In addition, 39 general needs homes were completed in Ivybridge at Godwell Lane (16), Cornwood Chase (3) and Filham Chase (20)

Year	S106 units
2018/2019	69
2019/2020	136
2020/2021	125
2021/2022	89
Total	419

3.2 The table demonstrates that during the last 4 financial years 419 properties have been built in the South Hams LPA (Local Planning Area) as a requirement of S106 agreements.

- 3.3 In addition 54 properties were delivered during 2020 2022 which were over and above what the council was expecting (additionality). These have been funded through Homes England Strategic Partnership funding. This allows a Registered Provider to use this funding to purchase open market homes and convert them to affordable properties.
- 3.4 The latest monitoring position within the JLP shows that 800 affordable homes have been built within the TTV since 2014 see chart below. This represents a surplus position of 82 dwellings above the number we would expect at this stage of the plan. This represents a very healthy position.



3.5 The table below shows the breakdown of properties in each geographical and JLP Planning Area since 2014 when the monitoring commenced for the JLP.

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Total
TTVPA	98	105	186	137	86	90	98	800
PPA	30	363	26	312	320	185	-166	1070
SHLPA	42	75	157	117	98	116	77	682
WDLPA	56	30	29	23	0	26	40	204
SHTTV	42	75	157	114	86	64	58	596
SHPPA	0	0	0	3	12	52	19	86
PCC	30	363	26	309	308	133	-185	984

Net affordable housing delivery across JLP plan area 2014-2021

Code for table above: TTVPA – Towns and Thriving Villages Policy Area – South Hams & West Devon inclusive PPA – Plymouth Policy area SHLPA – South Hams Local Planning Area WDLPA – West Devon Local Planning Area SHTTV – South Hams Towns & Thriving Villages SHPPA – South Hams Plymouth Policy Area (Sherford/Allern Lane) PCC – Plymouth City Council

- 3.6 The figures coloured in blue are attributed to the South Hams area which shows the significant number of affordable homes that have been brought forward from 2014 2021. These figures are projected to continue this trend through planning consents granted in the South Hams.
- 3.7 The S106 agreement for Palstone Meadow in South Brent, a site that received planning consent to deliver 40 homes, only required 35% of this total (14) to be affordable. Pleasingly, through the use of Homes England money and partnership working between Vistry and LiveWest, this percentage will be increased to 100 percent affordable. All units have been converted to affordable tenures.
- 3.8 Further properties acquired by Registered Providers through the Strategic Partnership funding will be reported through the monitoring of the Housing Strategy.

4 Projected Housing Delivery 2022-2024

- 4.1 As set out above, Palstone Meadow will see the delivery of 'additionality' units in the delivery figures from March 2022/23 through LiveWest's partnership, working with Vistry. This will also apply at Sherford with Clarion, one of the Registered Providers working with the consortium. There may be other Registered Providers who have the ability to access this funding and bring forward additional units on other schemes.
- 4.2 These additional affordable homes will be advertised through Devon Home Choice and allocated using the adopted Allocations Policy.
- 4.3 The table below shows estimated projected affordable home delivery figures for the next 2 years. Allowances must be

made within this for project slippage as labour and material shortages continue to be major challenges for the sector and may cause delays:

Year	Affordable Homes (S106)
2022/2023	174
2023/2024	178
Total	352

There will be an additional 90 units delivered in 2022-2024 at Sherford. Clarion will use the Strategic Funding from Homes England to deliver more affordable homes than the S106 requires.

- 4.4 Better Lives For All includes targets to deliver a cumulative rolling total across the TTV area of 300 Affordable homes from 2021 2024. There have currently been 174 affordable homes delivered across the TTV area to date over this period, with a further 178 expected in 23/24. Over the 2021 2024 period this gives the average of 143 new affordable dwellings per annum.
- 4.5 From 2018 to 2024 it is estimated that 1525 new units of new build affordable accommodation will have been delivered in the TTV area of South Hams and West Devon. This significantly exceeds the JLP target to deliver 2050 units by 2034, given there are 11 years remaining.
- 4.6 Whilst new housing is just one of the challenges, these numbers support the Council's ambitions in tackling the crisis with a better than expected delivery programme. However delivery of new affordable homes is only part of the solution and there is still work to do to address this as detailed in the Housing Crisis motion and Housing Strategy Action Plan.
- 4.7 The Housing Strategy and the JLP state that the Council should be achieving 30% on-site delivery. It is likely this target will be exceeded through our Registered Provider's strategic funding allocation and additionality units.
- 4.8 Further Affordable Housing units have been approved through the planning process, but a timescale cannot be provided for delivery of these properties beyond 2024.

5 Enhanced Tenants Incentive Scheme (TIS)

- 5.1 This scheme has been in operation for a number of years where grants of up to £2500 were made where a tenant of a housing association downsized their affordable property eg 3-bed to a 1-bed = £2500)
- 5.2 Since 2019 the scheme has assisted 31 households to downsize to more appropriately sized accommodation ensuring better use of the current stock.
- 5.3 As a response to the Housing Crisis, this grant doubled and is now one of the most generous schemes nationally. The size of the incentive is designed to create more vacancies in our affordable rented housing stock.
- 5.4 Since the enhanced scheme was introduced 9 applicants have downsized and received the enhanced grant payment. However, early indications are that the change in policy to double the grant is having an impact as a further 16 new downsizing applicants have registered on Devon Home Choice since the payment was enhanced.
- 5.5 Applicants for downsizing are being contacted and offered intensive help to downsize their accommodation. Barriers to downsizing are being explored with the help of our RP partners.
- 5.6 This scheme is promoted by our RP partners through tenant's newsletters, social media channels and through the council's communications plan.

6 Step-on Scheme

- 6.1 The Step- on Scheme, launched on the 1st April 2022 is a direct response to addressing issues highlighted in the Housing Crisis. The scheme will target existing tenants of affordable housing stock. This is to ensure the Council makes use of the affordable housing stock in the area.
- 6.2 The scheme provides a financial incentive to assist households in an affordable rented property. It can contribute towards a deposit or legal fees for a tenant of an RP to purchase their own home. Whilst take up is expected to be small, for every incentive the Council provides, it gains a unit of affordable accommodation to allocate to another household on the housing register.

- 6.3 The scheme has been and will continue to be promoted regularly with our RP partners through newsletters, social media channels and as part of the communications plan. Information is available on the council website and through the newly launched SeaMoor Homes website (www.seamoorhomes.co.uk).
- 6.4 The scheme is in its infancy and therefore officers are not able to report on the number of customers accessing this scheme. A report on the numbers of grants will be reported to members through the Housing Strategy monitoring. Feedback from our RP partners has been positive when promoting the scheme

7 Disabled Adapted Panel (DAP)

- 7.1 The DAP was formed to respond to 'matching the right people to the right property', which means making best use of adaptions already in place within existing stock. This was also to ensure that there was support to assist with a move, or to adapt a home that an applicant on Devon Home Choice (DHC) currently resides in.
- 7.2 The panel, made up of Occupational Therapists, Social Workers, Environmental Health Officers and Housing Professionals, seek to find the best solutions to an applicant's current home. If that is not achievable then the final option would be a move to an alternative home which better meets their needs.
- 7.3 From April to September 2021 there was an average of 18 applicants on the DAP list for South Hams. This area of work was identified to require further staffing resource.
- 7.4 Resource was provided in October 2021 and there have been 33 South Hams applicants with successful outcomes. DAP has proved to be a very positive and collaborative solution to the tackling this area of housing pressure and continues to be well supported. Case Studies at Appendix 1

Quarter	No. of SH DAP applicants on register	No. of SH DAP applicants housed or able to remain in current home
Apr to June 2022	46	10
Jan to Mar 2022	35	15
Oct to Dec 2021	30	8
July to Sept 2021	15	6
Apr to June 2021	22	4

- 7.5 The table above shows an increase in column 2 each quarter. This is due to the early identification of applicants that require a move or adaptations to their current home. Adaptations can take time to arrange and moves can be slower in coming forward. Bespoke properties, such as ground floor accommodation or bungalows can take time to come forward.
- 7.6 The figure rising in column two may appear negative, however this should be viewed as a positive as applicants are being identified early. Early inclusion of these applicants through the DAP could ultimately avoid crisis and avoidance of social care intervention.

8 Financial contributions made in lieu of on site delivery

- 8.1 The Council has a process for dealing with Section 106 off site contributions for affordable housing. Financial payments made in lieu of affordable housing can only be for this purpose.
- 8.2 The Council currently holds £1,392 640.62, some of which is already allocated to projects for Affordable Housing including the projects Anns Chapel scheme which is currently on site.
- 8.3 There are currently no immediate pressures to spend this money, all collected funds have spend dates of over 3 years before a developer can claim this back. The team continue to seek options to spend the money collected within the timescales.

9. Focussed small scale initiative update.

9.1 Members approved us of capital receipts from the sale of 2 residential asset sales to match fund purchase of 4 one-

bedroom properties for use as Leap Pad accommodation for rough sleepers in 2021

- 9.2 Completion on the first property in Sherford is due to take place on 20 June 2022.
- 9.3 A second property has been sale agreed and solicitors have been instructed. The property is in South Brent and will require minor repairs prior to let.
- 9.4 Viewings continue to try to identify a further 2 properties before the end of March 2023.
- 9.5 A Property in Totnes owned by the Council and modified to meet House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) regulations had previously been leased to Young Devon for single homeless young people. The lease term ends on 23 June 2022 and the Council have requested the return of the property for use for single homeless people to be managed by the Council.

10. Outcomes/outputs

This report sets out the significant interventions and activity South Hams Council continues to make to ensure the best housing outcomes for its residents.

The Council is meeting the following targets from Better Lives For All:

IH1.1 Deliver local homes that meet the needs of local people.

11. Options available and consideration of risk

There are no risk implications, this report is an update only to the Housing Crisis declaration.

12. Proposed Way Forward

That the Executive Committee notes the update on housing delivery activities and continues to receive relevant updates.

13. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposal s Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governan ce	N	There are no Legal implications in this report. Report only to be noted by the Executive Committee.
Financial implications to include reference to value for money	N	There are no financial implications within this report. The Executive committee is asked to note its content.
Risk	N	There are no risks to this report, the Executive Committee is asked to note the content.
Supporting Better Lives For All	Y	Homes thematic area of the Corporate Strategy and update of the Housing Crisis
Consultation and Engagement Undertaken or Proposed	N	No consultation required. Communications plan in place where required for the Tenants Incentive Scheme
Climate Change - Carbon / Biodiversity Impact	N	Not applicable in noting the report.
Comprehensive In	mpact Asse	essment Implications
Equality and Diversity	N	None. Already assessed in the adopted strategies
Safeguarding	N	No Safeguarding implications
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder	N	There are not any potential positive or negative impact on crime and disorder reduction.
Health, Safety and Wellbeing	N	Not applicable

Other	N	
implications		

Supporting Information

Appendices: Development Information – Appendix 1

Background Papers:

Housing Crisis Motion Better Lives for All Housing Strategy – Better Homes, Better Lives Approval and clearance of report This page is intentionally left blank

Case Study Tenants Incentive Scheme and Disabled Adapted Panel.

The two case studies below will generally intertwine with the DAP and TIS and have been included below as an example:

(Initial used for anonymity)

- 1. Applicant K was under occupying and on the Disabled Adapted Need list due to mobility issues and unable to leave home due to access. K moved out of the property in a rural area in the South Hams. K moved to new build adapted flat at lvybridge and was awarded £4000 through the Tenants Incentive Scheme. The property was put forward for disposal by the landlord, however this disposal did not happen due to intervention from the council, due to the lack of other social housing in the area and the Incentive payment being made to free up family accommodation. The property made available was shortlisted and let to a band B Homeless Reduction Act (Homeless prevention) applicant in the South Hams area.
- 2. Applicant T in high health and wellbeing need at high risk of falls was living in a 1st floor flat with a progressive degenerative disease which will result in T requiring a wheelchair in the future. Access and corridors in T's current homes were not wheelchair accessible. The council worked closely with the Registered Provider to look at an exceptional transfer for the T to move her within the same community where T had support to a ground floor accessible accommodation.
- 3. By working collaboratively with the Registered Provider and the developer at Little Cotton Farm Dartmouth, we had the opportunity to match L, a full time wheelchair user with local connection to a ground floor flat with some small adaptations for his needs. This will allow L to live independently whilst remaining close to family support, care and employment. The adaptations were able to be made prior to L moving in to prevent disruption as this was able to be carried out as part of the 'snagging' process.

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Agenda Item 10

Report to:		Executive				
Date:		7 July	7 July 2022			
Title:		Levelling Up Fund Round 2 and UK Shared Prosperity Fund				
Portfolio Ar	ea:	Econo	my – Clir E	Bastone		
Wards Affe	cted:	All				
Urgent Decision: Y		Approval and Y clearance obtained:			Y	
	Date next steps can be taken: Immediately following this meeting					
Author:	Chris Broo	ok	Role:	Director – Enterprise	Place and	
Contact:	Contact: Email: <u>chris.brook@swdevon.gov.uk</u>					

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Executive be RECOMMENDED to grant delegated authority to the Director – Place and Enterprise, in consultation with the Leader of Council to:

- 1. ratify the decision to submit an application to the Levelling Up Fund Tranche 2 for capital funding for the A38 Corridor: Lee Mill Interchange Scheme as outlined in sections 2.1 to 2.6 (below) and Appendix A before 6 July 2022 deadline; and
- 2. submit the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Bid in accordance with section 2.7 (below) and Appendix A before 1 August 2022 deadline.

1. Executive summary

1.1 This report sets out an opportunity for the Council to submit Bids to the Central Government Levelling Up Fund (LUF) and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

2. Background

- 2.1 Central Government's LUF initiative was announced as part of the 2020 Spending Review to support communities in order to regenerate town centres, enable investment in cultural facilities or upgrade local transport infrastructure;
- 2.2 The LUF is intended to focus on capital investment in local infrastructure thereby building on and consolidating prior programmes. The LUF must have a visible, tangible impact on people and places and support economic recovery;
- 2.3 Officers have been notified that the next tranche of LUF was reopening for Bid submissions during the Spring of 2022 to offer a tranche of funding for high value local infrastructure;
- 2.4 As a result, officers intend to work in partnership with colleagues from Devon County Council and its service partner WSP (a multi disciplinary transport consultancy firm), to create a submission for the A38 Corridor: Lee Mill Interchange scheme;
- 2.5 Whilst the funding is subject to a competitive bidding process, it is hoped that the multi-modal emphasis that blends public bus and rail transport, cycling and car use and the focus on active and inclusive travel will see the application looked upon favourably;
- 2.6 The deadline for submission of the Bid during this tranche of funding is 6 July 2022 (i.e. one day before this Executive Meeting is held). It is therefore recommended that the Executive ratify the decision to submit an application to support the A38 Corridor for up to £20 million: Lee Mill Interchange scheme. In the event that the Executive does not ratify this application, then the Bid will be withdrawn.
- 2.7 There is also a small window of opportunity (from 30 June to 1 August 2022) for the Council to make a Bid to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund for £1,062,367. Whilst more information is set out in the presentation slides at Appendix 1, of particular note is the fact that funds are available, but can only be accessed via the production of robust investment plans. To ensure that the opportunity is not lost, the Committee is asked to grant delegated authority to the Director of Place and Enterprise, in consultation with the Leader of Council, to submit a Bid to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund before 1 August 2022 deadline.

3. Options available and consideration of risk

3.1 If one (or indeed both) Bid(s) proves to be successful, a number of partner organisations will be responsible for the multiple strands of project delivery, the Council will not be a direct delivery partner, but will be represented on the project board;

4. Proposed Way Forward

4.1 The Executive is asked to approve the following recommendations:

That delegated authority be granted to the Director – Place and Enterprise, in consultation with the Leader of Council to:

- ratify the decision to submit an application to the Levelling Up Fund Tranche 2 for capital funding for the A38 Corridor: Lee Mill Interchange Scheme as outlined in sections 2.1 to 2.6 (below) and Appendix A before 6 July 2022 deadline; and
- 2. submit the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Bid in accordance with section 2.7 (above) and Appendix A before 1 August 2022 deadline.

5. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance	Ŷ	It is intended that the Governance arrangements will be agreed at project level, with the project sponsor for the District Council being identified as the Director for Place and Enterprise.
Financial implications to include reference to value for money	N	 The bid to the Levelling Up Fund Round Two for the A38 corridor: Lee Mill Interchange will be for between £15m to £20m. The bids in creation are involving teams from DCC and WSP. There is no requirement for any match funding contributions from SHDC. The bid to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund is for £1,062,367. No match funding from SHDC is being requested as part of this funding stream.
Risk	N	These are addressed at Section 4 of the report.
Supporting Corporate Strategy		Successful Bids will ultimately lead to improved economic prosperity across the South Hams.
Climate Change - Carbon / Biodiversity Impact		A multi-modal emphasis that blends public bus and rail transport, cycling and car use and the focus on active and inclusive travel will be consistent with the Council's declared Climate Change and Biodiversity Emergency
Comprehensive Im	pact Assess	ment Implications

Equality and Diversity	Not applicable
Safeguarding	Not applicable
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder	Not applicable
Health, Safety and Wellbeing	Not applicable
Other implications	Not applicable

Supporting Information Appendices: A – PowerPoint slides delivered to a Member Briefing session on 9 June 2022.

Background Papers:

None

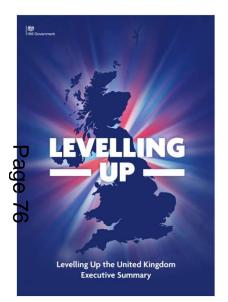


Levelling Up South Hams

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR PEOPLE AND PLACES

A place to grow & prosper

Meeting Common Goals



Develop pride in place

Facilitate clean economic growth

Decarbonise - Meet our net zero objectives

Enhance community health and wellbeing

Enable innovation, better skills, improved transport and greater access to culture

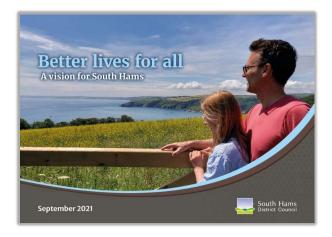
Improve resilience - Food, energy, biodiversity

Aligned local priorities and national objectives improves our *potential* to maximise investment and lever further funding

South Hams







Our Investment in Cross Sector Clean Growth and Decarbonisation

Enabling shared learning and technology transfer between sectors



South Hams District Council





Levelling Up Interventions List (England)

20 of the 41 identified Levelling Up interventions will be delivered through our projects enabled by Shared Prosperity Funding:

1. Communities and Place

- E2: Funding for new, or improvements to existing, community and neighbourhood infrastructure projects including those that increase communities' resilience to natural hazards, such as flooding.
- E3: Creation of and improvements to local green spaces, community gardens, watercourses and embankments, along with incorporating natural features into wider public spaces.
- E7: Support for Active Travel enhancements in the local area.
- E8: Funding for the development and promotion of wider campaigns which encourage people to visit and explore the local area.
- E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups.
- E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency, and combat fuel poverty and climate change.
- E14: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies.
- E15: Investment and support for digital infrastructure for local community facilities.

2. Supporting Local Business

- E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally.
- E19: Increasing investment in research and development at the local level. Investment to support the diffusion of innovation knowledge and activities. Support the commercialisation of ideas, encouraging collaboration and accelerating the path to market so that more ideas translate into industrial and commercial practices.
- E21:Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at the local level.
- 22: Investing in enterprise infrastructure and employment/innovation site development projects. This can help to unlock site development projects which will support growth in places.
 - E23: Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems, and supporting businesses at all stages of their development to start, sustain, grow and innovate, including through local networks.
 - E24: Funding for new and improvements to existing training hubs, business support offers, 'incubators' and 'accelerators' for local enterprise
 - E29: Supporting decarbonisation and improving the natural environment whilst growing the local economy. Taking a whole systems approach to invest in infrastructure to deliver effective decarbonisation across energy, buildings and transport and beyond, in line with our legally binding climate target. Maximising existing or emerging local strengths in low carbon technologies, goods and services to take advantage of the growing global opportunity.
 - E31: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies.
 - E32: Investment in resilience infrastructure and nature based solutions that protect local businesses and community areas from natural hazards including flooding and coastal erosion.

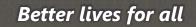
3. People and Skills

- E35: Activities such as enrichment and volunteering to improve opportunities and promote wellbeing.
- E38: Support for local areas to fund local skills needs. This includes technical and vocational qualifications and courses up to level 2 and training for vocational licences relevant to local area needs and high-value qualifications where there is a need for additional skills capacity that is not being met through other provision.
- E39: Green skills courses targeted around ensuring we have the skilled workforce to achieve the government's net zero and wider environmental ambitions.

South Hams







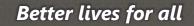
Levelling Up Fund Round Two

A38 corridor: Lee Mill Interchange £15m - £20m

- Competitive bidding process (not guaranteed the money, and competing with other places)
- Bids in creation involving teams from DCC and WSP
- Multi modal emphasis blending public bus and rail transport, cycling and car use
- Page 79 Active and Inclusive Travel focus - promoting cycling and walking, and ensuring accessibility to all
 - Bid deadline July 6th 2022







UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Total funding available - £1,062,367 Bid Deadline 1st August

- Funds allocated but can only be accessed with a robust investment plan
- Led by SHDC
- Se 3 year (2022-2025) Investment Plans to be created SHDC
 - Blend of Active and Inclusive Travel, Marine Economy and Decarbonisation, Agritech and Regenerative Farming, Business Consultancy and Support
 - Combination of majority revenue funded programmes (83.4%) supported by minority place based capital expenditure (16.6%)
 - Delivery timeline compliments the SHDC corporate strategy delivery period





Split of Capital and Revenue (England)

Year	Core UKSPF: Revenue	Core UKSPF: Capital	Can be used for skills delivery?
2022-2023	90%	10%	No
2023-2024	87%	13%	No
2024-2025	80%	20%	Yes

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South Hams UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan

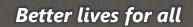
Programme Investment	2022/2023 (15%)	2023/2024 (27%)	2024/2025 (58%)	Total (%)	
Active and Inclusive Travel	£50k	£50k	£52.3k	£152.3k (14%)	
Marine Economy and Decarbonisation	£24.3k (incl'g £15.9k capital)	£103.9k (incl'g £37.3k capital)	£271.8 (incl'g £123.2k capital)	£400k (38%) (£176k capital – 16.6%)	
Agritech and Regenerative Farming	£42k	£90k	£168k	£300k (28%)	
Business Consultancy and Support	£30k	£30k	£110k	£170k (16%)	
Monitoring and Evaluation Administration (DCC)	£13k	£13k	£14k	£40k (4%)	
Total Budget	£159.3k	£286.9k	£616.1k	£1,062,367	

NB £176.4k capital apportioning requires further analysis









How Will SPF Actually Be Delivered?



Our Potential Partners Will Be...

- Devon County Council
- District Councils
 - Teignbridge
 - East Devon
 - Mid Devon
- Local Government Association
 - WSP (bid specialists)
 - Sustrans

Page

- Business and Community Representatives
- South Devon AONB Partnership

- **Business Information Point**
- Diverse Regeneration (DR) Company
- The Apricot Centre (CIC)
- Devon Wildlife Trust
- Consultants and contractors
- Maritime UK SW
- South Devon College
- University of Plymouth
- University of Exeter

South Hams District Council







Active and Inclusive Travel £152k (14% of total funding)

- Cycling, Walking and Horse Riding
- Explore More: Country lanes
- Warmer Welcome: Improved and coordinated communications
- Accessible Trails: Barrier removal and trail upgrades Page
 - Community and Business Engagement: Activation guide
 - It's in our Culture:

Ivybridge Southern Gateway to the Moor

100% contribution toward Digital and Active Travel post (2.5 years)

'Transport is a key driver of economic growth. It links people to their workplaces and connects businesses. It also affects health, the environment and societal wellbeing.' Houses of Parliament Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology

Better lives for all

South Hams District Council

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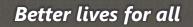


Marine Economy and Decarbonisation £400k (38% of total funding)

- Marine fleet electrification
- Business engagement / skills partnership with South Devon College
- Marine economy baseline study Unlocking the future
 - Baltic Wharf marine economy plan
 - Salcombe Harbour decarbonisation strategy to include:
 - Baseline carbon footprinting for the harbour
 - Remote power solution for visitors pontoon
 - E-water taxi
 - Low carbon replacement barge
 - Behaviour change small electric outboards
- Fibre glass waste reduction feasibility study and infrastructure plan
- 75% contribution toward Delivery Project Manager (2.5 years)
- District wide E-boat charging network delivery plan

'The maritime sector can and must decarbonise, which offers unique business and development opportunities...this means speeding up efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.' UN Environment Programme

South Hams District Council



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Agritech and Regenerative Farming £300k (28% of total funding)

Soil is a living resource, home to more than 25% of our planet's biodiversity and there are over
40,000 organisms in only 1g of soil' Global Soil Partnership

- Natural Capital Challenge Fund regenerative farming accredited training* job creation and carbon sequestration
- Agritech Alliance featuring University of Plymouth Sustainable Earth Institute knowledge exchange between tech developers and farmers
 - 4 x Agritech Alliance events targeting 100 farmers
- South Hams based Apricot Centre CIC and North Devon Biosphere to deliver regenerative farming and other specialist agricultural support
 - West Devon based BIP and DR Company to deliver specialist support to agricultural sector
 - 25% contribution toward Delivery Project Manager post (2.5 years)



age



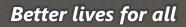




Business Consultancy and Support £170k (16% of total funding)

- Carbon reduction to Net Zero
- Start up support with a strong sector focus
- DR Company and the Coastal LAG (tbc'd) 121 support
- Page Business Information Point 121 support and workshop modules
- 100% contribution toward Economic Development Intern (2.5 years) 8
 - Specialist sector support from South Devon College

The current pace of change is far behind the pace we need...business leaders need to act now to meet the demands of science, government, investors and society at large.' PWC Global



South Hams District Council



We Will Measure and Evaluate Delivery...

- As required by Levelling Up Fund and Shared Prosperity Fund:
 - Local context including challenges and opportunities
 - Selection of outcomes, outputs and proposed interventions
 - Deliverability of the interventions, outputs and outcomes
 - Complete and accurate expenditure and deliverables profile
 - Engage the central service from DCC









Any questions?



Agenda Item 11

Report to:	Execu	tive					
Date:	7 th July 2022						
Title:		-	Leisure ary Lease		9 -	Grant	of
Portfolio Area:	Leisu	re – (Cllr Hawk	ins			
Wards Affected:	All						
Urgent Decision:	N		roval rance obta	and ined:	Y		
Date next steps can be	e taken	:					

Author: Laura Wotton Role: Head of Assets

Contact: Email: laura.wotton@swdevon.gov.uk

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive RECOMMEND to Council to grant a reversionary lease to Tadpool for a period from March 2029 to March 2043.

1. Executive Summary

- **1.1** This report will provide an update and make recommendations with respect to Totnes Leisure Centre, also known as Totnes Pavillion. This follows previous reports to the Executive in July 2016 [Min Ref: 33/16] & March 2018 [Min Ref 75/17].
- **1.2** Further to previous approvals, given the period of time since the original decisions, a report to Executive is required to confirm the previous resolutions for the grant of the reversionary lease.
- **1.3** This report will make recommendations in relation to proposed lease arrangements only.
- **1.4** A business case will be presented to a future meeting of the Executive in relation to the investment required to undertake refurbishment works to the Totnes Leisure Facility, alongside details of any associated required borrowing.

2. Background

- **2.1** Totnes Leisure Centre, also known as Totnes Pavilion, provides wet and dry facilities including a 25m swimming pool, sports hall, gym and studio.
- **2.2** The pool and the gym were provided in the early 1970's and operated by a local charity called TADPOOL Totnes and District Swimming Pool Association. The sports hall, reception, exercise studio and dry-side changing rooms were built in 1997 by SHDC with the assistance of lottery funding.
- **2.3** The Centre is situated on the edge of Borough Park with SHDC owning the freehold of the whole site. The pool and gym are leased to Tadpool on a protected ground lease, the sports hall and other dry side areas are leased to Tadpool on a fully repairing unprotected lease.
- **2.4** As part of the leisure procurement outcome in July 2016 and the awarding of a 25 year contract to Fusion Lifestyle, it was proposed at Council Minute 33/16 to approve an asset transfer of Totnes Pavilion (by way of a 25 year, full repairing lease) to Tadpool.
- **2.5** A key outcome of the procurement was to have a single management arrangement for the facility, instead of, as previously, two operators which presented challenges and inefficiencies in the running of the site.
- **2.6** In March 2018, Council (Minute 75/17) amended its previous decision to reflect Tadpool having entered into a direct operating leisure contract with Fusion for the management of the entire centre.
- **2.7** It also amended its decision in relation to the agreed loan facility being made to Tadpool of up to £1.5 million (to be funded by prudential borrowing), subject to a business case being approved by the Head of Assets and the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer, the Leader of the Council and the Lead Executive Member. Instead, the loan facility was agreed to be made available to Fusion Leisure as operator, to undertake investment and improve the facilities at Totnes Leisure Centre.
- **2.8** Fusion Leisure are currently seeking internal board approval for the business case for this further investment. If approved, these proposals will come to a future meeting of the Executive for consideration.
- **2.9** This investment must be underpinned by the security of Tadpool's lease extending beyond 2029 (see 3.1 below) in order for them to extend their contract with Fusion in line with that new lease.

3. Current Lease Arrangements

- **3.1** In order to facilitate investment in the Totnes Leisure Centre required to fund refurbishment and improvement works, a longer lease to Tadpool is required.
- **3.2** It is not possible to surrender the existing leases and grant a new longer one because the surrender would trigger the termination of the leisure services contract with Fusion and the payment of various penalties and compensation.

3.3 It is therefore agreed with Tadpool, to grant a new reversionary lease (a lease with a commencement date in the future) which would start on 13 March 2029 as the existing leases expire, and expire on 12 March 2043. The whole of the reversionary lease will not be protected and will contain a development break clause.

4. New Lease Arrangement

The reversionary lease and the documentation to exclude security of tenure beyond 2029 are agreed between the Council's legal team and Tadpool's solicitors and, subject to the agreement of Deed of Surrender, are ready to be completed.

5. Conclusion

The proposed new lease arrangements facilitate long term investment in the Totnes Leisure Facility.

6. Impact Assessment

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/ Governance	Y	The outcomes and recommendations of this report are made on the advice of the Council's legal team.
Financial implications to include reference to value for money	Y	There are no financial implications from the recommendations of this report. By way of background, a business case will be presented to a future meeting of the Executive in relation to the investment required to undertake refurbishment works to the Totnes Leisure Facility, alongside details of any associated required borrowing.
Risk	Y	These are as previously reported.
Supporting Corporate Strategy		The Council's Thematic Delivery Plan 'Strengthening Community Wellbeing' contains an Action CW1.4 for 'a £1.5m investment in Totnes Leisure Centre'.
Climate Change - Carbon / Biodiversity Impact		

Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications				
Equality and	There are no Equality and Diversity implications			
Diversity				
Safeguarding	There are no Safeguarding implications			
Community	There are implications crime and disorder reduction			
Safety, Crime				
and Disorder				
Health, Safety	There are no implications on Health, Safety and Wellbeing			
and Wellbeing				
Other	There are no other implications			
implications				

Supporting Information

Appendices: None

Background Papers: Totnes Leisure Centre – June & September 2020 Executive Report

Agenda Item 13

Report to: Executive 7th July 2022 Date: Title: **Ivybridge Regeneration Project - Update** Portfolio Area: **Enterprise – Cllr Bastone** Wards Affected: All Ν and Y Urgent Decision: Approval clearance obtained: Date next steps can be taken: Role: Author: Laura Wotton Head of Assets Contact: Email: laura.wotton@swdevon.gov.uk

RECOMMENDATION

That the Executive NOTE that:

- 1) a verbal update will be provided at the Executive meeting on the planning decision of the scheme, which is being considered by the Development Management Committee on the 6th July 2022.
- 2) a further report on the financial viability of the Ivybridge Regeneration scheme will be presented to the Executive meeting on 15th September 2022, further to the outcome of the planning decision.

1. Executive Summary

This report makes recommendations with respect to the Ivybridge Regeneration Project at Leonards Road.

In response to the challenges Ivybridge high street faces, the Council has progressed a scheme to reinvigorate the town and create a vibrant, thriving centre widely used and enjoyed by the populous.

Following the reports to the Executive (June & September 2020 and February 2021) regarding the Ivybridge Regeneration Project at Leonards Road Car Park, the project has progressed through the design development stage, through to the submission of a planning application on 18th March 2022.

A decision on the planning application is expected to be made at the Development Management Committee meeting of 6^{th} July 2022.

2. Background

- 2.1 At Council on 11th February 2021 (Minute 41/20), it was resolved
 - That approval be given to the Ivybridge Regeneration project through to planning, tender, construction and lease (subject, but not limited to, the regulatory statutory planning process and the total scheme costs being within the £9 million financial envelope);
 - 2. That the financial case (as set out within the presented agenda report) and the borrowing of £9 million from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) to finance the regeneration project be approved;
 - 3. That the spend of up to £450,000 be approved and funded from the Business Rates Retention Earmarked Reserve, recognising that these will be abortive costs if the project does not proceed at any given stage pre-construction;
 - 4. That the Procurement Strategy and any associated contract awards be approved;
 - 5. That the variation of parking tariffs be approved in principle, subject to final tariff design by the Head of Assets, in consultation with the lead Executive Member for Enterprise and the Leader of the Council; and
 - 6. That authority be delegated to the Head of Assets, in consultation with the Director of Place and Enterprise and Monitoring Officer; to enter the Agreement for Lease (and the subsequent lease of 25 years + 15 years) with the proposed Foodstore tenant.
- 2.2 The cost of construction has been through a market testing exercise and RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) stages 1 to 4. The four stages are preparation and brief, conceptual design stage, spatial coordination and technical design stage. Stage 4 is the last stage before the construction phase. The September Executive report will set out the current construction cost which has been through the market testing exercise (RIBA Stage 4).
- 2.3 There is volatility within the interest rates available from PWLB (Public Works Loan Board) borrowing. Interest rates are being affected by various factors which are all in the mix such as uncertainty around future growth and inflation, Bank of England Base Rates, Brexit deal changes, future energy costs/ supplies and the Russia/Ukraine conflict, the cost of living crisis and UK strike action. The September Executive report will set out latest rates and predictions on longer term interest borrowing rates.

3. Outcomes/Outputs

- 3.1 A verbal update will be provided at the Executive meeting on the planning decision of the scheme, which is being considered by the Development Management Committee on 6th July 2022.
- 3.2 A further report on the financial viability of the Ivybridge Regeneration scheme will be presented to the Executive meeting on 15th September 2022, further to the outcome of the planning decision. This report will set out the updated business case and financial viability of the scheme which will include the following:
 - a. the full project budget based on the most recent estimate of construction costs which have been through a market testing exercise and RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) Stages 1 to 4,
 - b. the current borrowing costs from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) to finance the regeneration project and
 - c. the project's risk register.

4. Impact Assessment

Implications	Relevant to	Details and proposed measures to address
	proposals Y/N	
Legal/ Governance	Y	There is an overriding duty toward prudent management of risk, members and officers, including the Council's section 151 officer, owe a fiduciary duty in relation to given transactions. The Council has the power under Section 123 of the Local
		Government Act 1972 to dispose of land in any manner they wish, including granting a lease for the best consideration. Negotiations for an agreement for lease are continuing. In the meantime, due diligence checks will be carried out as part of the development process.
		Any future development is subject to the normal Council planning process and any decision by Executive does not infer planning permission for the proposed developments would be granted.
Financial implications to include	Y	The financial implications were set out in detail as part of the Council report on 11 February 2021.
reference to value for money		This report recommends that a further report on the financial viability of the Ivybridge Regeneration scheme will be presented to the Executive meeting on 15 th September 2022, further to the outcome of the planning decision.

		 This report will set out the updated business case and financial viability of the scheme which will include the following: a. the full project budget based on the most recent estimate of construction costs which have been through a market testing exercise and RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) Stages 1 to 4, b. the current borrowing costs from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) to finance the regeneration project and c. the project's risk register.
Risk	Y	All development projects carry risk. These are as previously reported, as reported above and in the Risk Register appended in Appendix 7 to the Council report on 11 February 2021.
Supporting Corporate Strategy		Investment Strategy and Treasury Management Strategy
Climate Change - Carbon / Biodiversity Impact		Aldi's UK and Ireland operation is carbon neutral. The council will utilise its procurement policy allows the tender process to consider the carbon footprint of the supply chain when awarding contracts. Furthermore, the Council will challenge the design team to utilise best practice in the design of the project (including material choices) to minimise embodied energy in the construction phase.
Comprehensiv	e Impact /	Assessment Implications
Equality and Diversity	•	There are no Equality and Diversity implications
Safeguarding		There are no Safeguarding implications
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder		There are implications crime and disorder reduction
Health, Safety and Wellbeing		There are no implications on Health, Safety and Wellbeing
Other implications		There are no other implications

Background Papers:

Ivybridge Regeneration Project – June & September 2020 Executive report, Council 11 February 2021