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# COUNCIL: DECISIONS LOG / ACTIONS ARISING

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| **Meeting Date** | **Report Title** | **Decision / Action** | **Officer / Member** | **Officer / Member comments** |
| 21 March 2024 | Proposed Devon and Torbay Combined Authority and Devolution Deal | **RESOLVED**  This Council raises the following concerns in respect of the proposed Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal and with it the additional tier of local government in Devon and Torbay, known as the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority.  1. While we support the principle of devolution and welcome additional funding for this region, the proposal risks making local government more complex by adding a layer of bureaucracy;  2. While the additional £16 million of capital funding is a positive step, that it is only for two years means that it will not provide the long-term solutions that the region needs;  3. The fact that spending plans must be signed-off by central government disqualifies the plan from being true devolution of powers;  4. The proposed combined authority’s remoteness and lack of democratic accountability, including the lack of voting rights for District Councils, further disqualifies it from being described as “devolution“;  5. The Council welcomes the proposed devolution of the Adult Education Budget because local control is more likely to deliver for local need. We hope that local control of this budget will enable Devon’s known problems in social mobility and productivity to be addressed;  6. The government’s document entitled “Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal" indicates that this is the first step in the reorganisation of local government in Devon and Torbay. Whilst we would welcome the genuine devolution of more powers to Devon, we are concerned that the intention as stated threatens the existence of district councils, the loss of effective local governance and may establish rule by a body that is remote and out of touch;  7. The concerns set out in the Council’s report dated 21 March 2024 in respect of economic development, housing, governance, voting rights, transport and community;  8. The cost and additional layer of local government will in itself hamper any improvement in the local services it is intended to improve and may result in their decline.  The Council calls for the process to be postponed pending the outcome of the forthcoming General Election and 2025 County Council elections.  The above resolution be submitted as the Council’s response in the consultation being undertaken.  If and when the devolution deal proceeds:  • The Council notes the fact that a portion of this money will be allocated for a Small Sites Green Investment programme. This council proposes that an element of the Small Sites Green Investment programme be allocated to support community-led housing developments to improve energy efficiency, reduce embedded carbon and improve biodiversity. | SLT / Neil Hawke | Action complete and response sent to Devon County Council colleagues accordingly. |
| 21 March 2024 | 2024/25 Capital Strategy; 2024/25 Treasury Management Strategy; and 2024/25 Investment Strategy | Officers agreed to circulate advice to all Members that had been obtained from Link Services (the Council’s Treasury Management advisors) with regard to fossil fuel investments.  **RESOLVED**   1. That the following strategies be approved for 2024/25: 2. The Capital Strategy (as attached at Appendix A of the presented agenda report); 3. The Treasury Management Strategy (as attached at Appendix B of the presented agenda report); and 4. The Investment Strategy (as attached at Appendix C of the presented agenda report); and 5. That delegated authority be granted to the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make any minor amendments to these Strategies, if required, throughout the 2024/25 Financial Year. | Lisa Buckle  Lisa Buckle  Lisa Buckle / Cllr Brazil | Action complete – advice has been circulated to all Members |
| 21 March 2024 | Annual Review of Health and Safety Policy Statement | A Health & Safety related all Member training/briefing session was requested to be convened in the upcoming months.  It was agreed that a copy of the latest version of the organisational structure chart should be circulated to all Members.  Given the reference in the Policy Statement to Health and Safety compliance being reported to the Audit & Governance Committee, it was agreed that an update should be added to that Committee Workplan.  **RESOLVED**  That the updated policy statement (as set out at Appendix A of the published agenda report) be adopted and signed by the Head of Paid Service and the Leader of Council. | Ian Luscombe / Darryl White  Katharine Pearce / Darryl White  Lisa Buckle / Ian Luscombe / Amelia Boulter  Ian Luscombe / Andy Bates / Cllr Brazil | (A copy has been circulated within this covering email) |
| 21 March 2024 | Pay Policy Statement | **RESOLVED**   1. That the Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24 (as set out at Appendix A of the published agenda report) be adopted; and 2. That it be noted that pay differentials in 2023 have remained broadly similar compared to the previous 12 months. | Andy Wilson  Andy Wilson |  |
| 21 March 2024 | Draft Calendar of Meetings 2024/25 | The view was expressed that Members should continue to lobby Central Government in order to see a return to Hybrid meetings in where there was the ability for Members to be able to meet (and vote) remotely.  Before the 2025/26 Calendar of Meetings was adopted, it was requested that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee give consideration to establishing a Task and Finish Group to conduct an in-depth review into Council and Committee meeting start times.  **RESOLVED**  That the draft Calendar of Meetings for 2024/25 (as set out at Appendix A of the presented agenda report) be approved. | All Members  Steve Mullineaux / Darryl White / Amelia Boulter  Democratic Services |  |
| 21 March 2024 | Reports of Bodies  Executive – 7 March 2024  Devon, Cornwall, Isles of Scilly Climate Adaptation Plan  Housing Benefit War Pensions Disregard Policy  Month 10 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2023/24 | **RESOLVED**  That the Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Climate Adaptation Plan (as set out at Appendix A of the agenda report presented to the Executive meeting) be endorsed.  **RESOLVED**  That the Housing Benefit War Pensions Disregard Policy (as set out at Appendix A of the agenda report presented to the Executive Meeting) be adopted.  **RESOLVED**  That up to £170,000 of planning appeal costs be funded from the Business Rates Retention Earmarked Reserve (as detailed in paragraphs 3.5 to 3.7 of the agenda report presented to the Executive Meeting). | Drew Powell / Adam Williams  Geni Hotchkiss  Lisa Buckle |  |
| 21 March 2023 | Notice of Motion | **RESOLVED** This Council resolves that notwithstanding the moral arguments about blood sport, having regard to the animal welfare and public nuisance considerations, it is for the benefit or improvement of the Council’s area that the Council:  1. does not support the killing of or cruelty to animals for sport or leisure in any circumstances;  2. will not facilitate or promote the killing of animals for sport or leisure by allowing its land to be used for such sports or associated activities;  3. requires written permission to be sought for the use and management of any animal traps on its land and reserves the right to refuse permission where the Council considers they could cause unnecessary and avoidable cruelty or suffering;  4. encourages other Local Authorities owning land in the Council’s area, including Devon County Council, to adopt a similar resolution; and  5. asks its Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider setting up a Task and Finish Group to develop a protocol/policy to underpin parts 1 to 4 of this motion. | SLT  Steve Mullineaux / Amelia Boulter |  |
| 21 March 2023 | Fusion Lifestyle – Leisure Contract Update | **RESOLVED**   1. That the contract variation and changes to the payments profile for the five years 2023-24 to 2027-28 be approved as set out in Section 4 of the published exempt agenda report; and 2. That it be noted that, subject to approval of part 1 above, the Executive has delegated authority to the Director of Place and Economy, in consultation with the Lead Executive Member for Community Services and the Section 151 Officer to finalise the terms of the profit share agreement for the five years 2023-24 to 2027-28. | Chris Brook / Lisa Buckle  Chris Brook / Cllr Abbott / Lisa Buckle |  |