

E-mail: comsec@teignbridge.gov.uk

2 January 2020

FULL COUNCIL

To all Members of Teignbridge District Council

A meeting of the **Full Council** will be held on **Tuesday, 14th January, 2020** in the **Council Chamber, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4XX** on the rising of Overview & Scrutiny Committee which commences at 10am.



Phil Shears
Managing Director

Please Note: Filming is permitted during Committee meeting with the exception where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public. By entering the Council Chamber you are consenting to being filmed.

AGENDA

Part I

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 10)
To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the previous Council meeting.
3. **Chairman's announcements**
4. **Declarations of interest**

5. **Public Questions (if any)**

Members of the public may ask questions. A maximum period of 15 minutes will be allowed with a maximum period of three minutes per questioner.

The deadline for questions is no later than 12 noon two working days before the date of the meeting.

6. **Councillor Questions (if any)**

Members of the Council may ask questions of the Council subject to procedural rules.

The deadline for questions is no later than three clear working days before the meeting.

7. **Notices of motion under Council Procedure Rule 4.5(l) (if any)**

Notice of Motion's shall be referred to the appropriate Committee meeting. The mover of the motion can outline the proposal and then it will stand adjourned. The motion may be debated to assist debate later if agreed by two-thirds of Council Members.

8. **Presentation - Background to Updated Ten Year Strategy**

The Business Manager Strategic Place will give a ten minute presentation to update Members on the Strategic Plan.

9. **Council Strategy - 2020-2030**

(Pages 11 - 30)

10. **Council Tax Base - 2020/21**

(Pages 31 - 34)

11. **Heart of the South West Joint Committee - Governance Review Report**

(Pages 35 - 42)

12. **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 - Exclusion of Press and Public**

RECOMMENDED that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1072, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Part II: Items suggested for discussion with the press and public excluded

13. **Warm Homes Fund bid to reduce fuel poverty in Teignbridge**

(Pages 43 - 46)

14. **Appointment of Head of Place and Commercial Services** (Pages 47 - 50)

To consider the recommendation of the Appointments and Remuneration Committee on 6 January 2020.

Report to the Appointments and Remuneration Committee attached and minutes to follow.

If you would like this information in another format, please telephone 01626 361101 or e-mail info@teignbridge.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

FULL COUNCIL

19 NOVEMBER 2019

Present:

Councillors Austen, Bradford, Bullivant, Clarence, Colclough, Connett, Cook, D Cox, H Cox, Daws, Dewhirst, Foden, Goodman-Bradbury, Gribble, Haines, Hayes, Hocking, G Hook, J Hook, Keeling (Chairman), Kerswell, MacGregor, Morgan, Mullone, Nutley, Nuttall, Parker-Khan, Patch, Peart, J Petherick (Vice-Chairman), L Petherick, Phipps, Purser, Rollason, Russell, Swain, Taylor, Thorne, Tume and Wrigley

Apologies:

Councillors Eden, Evans, Jeffery, Jeffries, Jenks, Orme and Parker

Officers in Attendance:

Neil Blaney, Economy Manager
Graham Davey, Housing Enabling and Development Manager
Sarah Selway, Democratic Services Team Leader & Deputy Monitoring Officer
Phil Shears, Managing Director
Karen Trickey, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer

62. MINUTES

The Portfolio Holder for Sport, Recreation & Culture, seconded by the Leader proposed that the minutes of the Full Council on the 24 September 2019 were approved as correct and signed by the Chairman.

63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hocking declared an interest in respect of minute no.64 (Stover Park Presentation) as he received a pension from one of the land owners.

64. STOVER PARK PRESENTATION

Jon Avon from Devon County Council gave a presentation on the Stover Park Project [attached to minutes].

Members were advised of the historic nature of the park and its buildings, the submitted lottery bid and the plans for the future enhancement of the park including the restoration of the Stover Lake and the Historic Buildings and the creation of new access routes and a café.

Members thanked Jon for his informative presentation.

65. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 4.5(K)

The Members' questions and responses are attached to the minutes.

In response to Councillor Clarence supplementary question, the Leader clarified that the Portfolio Holder for Business, Economy & Tourism, Portfolio Holder for Sport, Recreation & Culture and Portfolio Holder for Communities & IT all had experience at the highest levels of Government.

In response to Councillor Purser supplementary question, the Leader commented that the Executive would welcome the feedback from Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the Connecting Devon & Somerset Broadband project as it progressed.

66. NOTICES OF MOTION UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 4.5(L)

A notice of motion to Teignbridge District Council that we declare our support for The Royal British Legion's campaign to 'Stop the Service Charge'.

Councillor Foden in presenting this Notice of Motion stated that she had the upmost respect of all of the UK Armed Forces personal and the service that they gave to the country. It was important that all service personal were treated equally and fairly.

Councillor Foden proposed this Notice of Motion, it was seconded by Portfolio Holder for Communities and IT and was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that Teignbridge District Council declare its support for the Royal British Legion's campaign to 'Stop the Service Charge' and to write to the Government calling on them to abolish the Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) fees for Commonwealth servicemen and women.

Motion to support the RSPCA campaign regarding fireworks and Firework Displays

Councillor Nutley in presenting this Notice of Motion stated that the letting of fireworks caused anxiety and stress to both vulnerable people and animals and that there should be legislation in place on the noise limitation of fireworks for sale to the public for private displays. There was also a need to address the contamination and environmental impact of the fireworks.

Members raised the following points:-

- This Notice of Motion had the full backing of the Royal Society for the Protection of Animals (RCPA) and was a national campaign
- There was already legislation in place to deal with the use and sale of fireworks and there were limited options as to what the Council could do
- there were other festivals that fireworks were used to celebrate

RESOLVED that the Notice of Motion be referred to Executive for further detail on what the Council could put in place to support the Notice of Motion.

67. CONNECTING DEVON AND SOMERSET BROADBAND CONTRIBUTION

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services presented the report regarding the commitment of the council to continue with the £250,000 to the Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) rural broadband rollout programme, following the cancellation of the original contract and proposal to go back out to tender. He stated that a letter had been received from Connecting Devon and Somerset clarifying the position regarding the £250,000 and the match funding.

Members welcomed the continuing support for this project which would enable the role out of broadband to rural parts of the district. They noted that Councillor Nuttall was the council's representative on the Board.

The Economy Manager commented that the Council would receive regular updates on the role out of the project and its performance as part of the quarterly reporting on the Council Strategy. In response to a Member's question regarding giving funding to local communities as an alternative approach, he advised that there was still opportunity to work with the CDS team and rural communities on local solutions, alongside the main programme. Investment in this scheme did not prevent other bids and projects coming forward to increase connectivity in rural areas of the district and confirmed that the Council's contribution and match funding would be allocated to schemes in the district.

The recommendation was proposed by Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services, seconded by Councillor Purser and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that subject to satisfactory assurances being received from Connecting Devon & Somerset about this Council's investment in rural broadband achieving enhanced provision and support in this district that:-

- (a) Teignbridge continues to invest the currently identified £250,000; and
- (b) the matter be delegated to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to conclude an agreement.

68. CHUDLEIGH SHARED EQUITY SCHEME

The Portfolio Holder for Climate Change Emergency & Housing presented the report to seek Member approval for Section 106 offsite affordable housing contributions of £667,265.69 generated within the Parish of Chudleigh to be used for a Shared Equity Scheme within the Parish.

Members welcomed the scheme which would assist first time buyers in Chudleigh with the deposits they require to access a mortgage.

In response to a Member's question, the Housing Enabling and Development Manager clarified that all these off site Section 106 contributions were ring fenced for affordable housing in perpetuity and any funds received as part of the scheme would be reinvested in affordable housing in Chudleigh.

The recommendation was proposed by Portfolio Holder for Climate Change Emergency & Housing, seconded by the Chairman of the Council and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that a Shared Equity Scheme is set up in Chudleigh using £667,265.69 of capital receipts received by way of offsite affordable housing contributions to assist up to 13 local purchasers.

69. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

The Leader presented the report to ensure that all electors had reasonable voting facilities and that polling places were accessible to electors, including those with disabilities. This was a legal requirement and the report was solely to approve the wards polling stations across the district.

The recommendation was proposed by the Leader, seconded by Councillor Bullivant and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED that:-

- (1) The draft Polling District Places Order be approved; and
- (2) A full review of polling districts is conducted ahead of the next full district council elections with a view to addressing the anomalies created within certain parishes by the 2016/17 review of Teignbridge Council's ward boundaries by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE).

70. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 - EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Portfolio Holder for Sport, Recreation & Culture proposed, seconded by Councillor Bullivant that because of the financial sensitivity the Council go into Part II session and exclude the press and public. This was carried.

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**71. HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT EAST STREET AND DRAKE ROAD
NEWTON ABBOT**

The Portfolio Holder for Climate Emergency and Housing presented the report to seek Council approval to develop, own and manage social rented housing on two parcels of land in the Council ownership in Newton Abbot.

The recommendation was proposed by the Portfolio Holder for Climate Change Emergency & Housing, seconded by the Portfolio Holder for Planning and carried.

RESOLVED that:-

- (1) Two parcels of land in Teignbridge ownership be developed by the Council as “social” rented affordable housing; and
- (2) the use of funds within the Affordable Housing Capital programme to deliver these schemes be approved supported by a bid to Homes England for additional grant funding to make the schemes viable.

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 11.35 am.

Chairman

This page is intentionally left blank

TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL**FULL COUNCIL****14TH JANUARY 2020****PART I**

Report Title	Council Strategy 2020 - 2030
Purpose of Report	To adopt the new revised Council Strategy. The overarching plan which sets out the Council's vision, objectives and priorities it will be focusing on achieving over the forthcoming 10 years.
Recommendation(s)	Full Council RESOLVES: To adopt the Council Strategy 2020 – 2030 in Appendix A
Financial Implications	The delivery of the Council Strategy is dependent on the council's budget and the funds attributed to each of the ten programmes. Chief Finance Officer Email: martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk
Legal Implications	Please see para 3.2 of the report.
Risk Assessment	Failure to deliver the council strategy or parts of it will be identifiable in both the performance and risks reports, enabling both senior management and members to take action where necessary. Business Improvement Team Leader Email: kay.oflaherty@teignbridge.gov.uk
Environmental/ Climate Change Implications	Having signed up to the Climate Change Emergency, the revised council strategy includes a dedicated programme called Action On Climate. Environmental Protection Manager Email: david.eaton@teignbridge.gov.uk
Report Author	Phil Shears - Managing Director Phil.Shears@teignbridge.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Leader Of The Council Cllr G Hook
Appendices / Background Papers	Appendix A – Council Strategy 2020 – 2030

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

On 4th April 2016, Full Council adopted the current Council Strategy 2016-25. The preparation for that document began in spring 2015 with analysis of the current and anticipated factors at that moment in time that would influence the strategic delivery of council services and key objectives for the forthcoming 10 years.

As part of that document, it was proposed that the strategy be reviewed every four years. With a new set of members in post from May 2019, it has been a timely opportunity to carry out the review, refreshing the document, so we have a revised, updated strategy in place for the start of the new financial year 1st April 2020.

This new version, Council Strategy 2020 – 2030, now proposes the updated priorities for Teignbridge for the forthcoming 10 years. It has been updated based on:

- Latest national changes and commitments the council has made e.g. signing up to the climate change emergency
- A review of the statistics available on the district – highlighting the priorities for needed change
- Member and officer feedback on the current document – collated from the workshop and meetings
- Feedback collated from the customer satisfaction survey – which ran over the summer period

The significant changes that have been made include:

- Updated statistical and budget information
- A greater emphasis on the climate emergency, replacing the former Zero Heroes programme with a new, broader set of actions to achieve carbon neutrality entitled Action on Climate.
- A new objective to improve health, and the redistribution of the existing Health at the Heart actions into other programmes (primarily A Roof Over Our Heads and Out and About and Active). In this way health becomes a cross-cutting theme rather than a separate programme.
- The “What Else we will do” section has been revamped and is now “Vital, Viable Council”, taking its place as a T10 programme.

2. GROUP PARTIES ENDORSEMENT

Cllr Phil Bullivant, Conservative Group Leader has confirmed his group’s support in the following terms, “It is important that the District Council has a long term plan that meets the needs of its residents. This plan delivers those things that will make a difference and we are very happy to give our endorsement”.

The other groups are asked to confirm if they would also like to provide a similar endorsement. If other groups are minded to endorse the strategy, Full Council may wish to resolve that any shared endorsement is added to the introductory page.

3. IMPLICATIONS, RISK MANAGEMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

3.1 Financial

The financial section in the strategy has been updated to reflect the most recent information. In comparison with the previous strategy version, the significant ongoing reductions in income from central government grant and the reductions in New Homes Bonus payments are apparent, both of which were forecast in 2016/17. Future increases in the capital programme, funded by prudential borrowing, Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 are incorporated, reflecting the infrastructure and investment needs of the district. More detailed financial decisions will be taken as part of each annual budget, taking account of the Council's overall strategy.

The financial section will be updated prior to the final strategy being published to reflect the 2020/21 budget.

3.2 Legal

The council strategy details our objectives and priorities for the council. Under the government framework we are required to have them. In the constitution O&S scrutinise their delivery through the performance monitoring reports.

3.3 Risks

Failure to deliver the council strategy or parts of it will be identifiable in both the performance and risks reports, enabling both senior management and members to take action where necessary.

3.4 Environmental/Climate Change Impact

Having signed up to the Climate Change Emergency, the revised council strategy includes a dedicated programme called Action On Climate. This replaces the previous "Zero Heroes" programme, extending its scope to the district as a whole, rather than primarily the council's own operations.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

None applicable.

5. CONCLUSION

The update of the Council Strategy to roll it forward means that there is a coherent set of objectives and programmes to achieve the council's vision. Its approval by the council will give officers and members a clear direction in policy and budget decisions.

This page is intentionally left blank

Draft



Teignbridge District Council

ten year
2020 - 2030

strategy

10

15



Message from the Leader

Teignbridge Council and Teignbridge councillors exist to serve the local residents, and it is our intention that working together we deliver the best possible outcomes for those living, working and visiting this outstanding part of the country.

We have recently looked closely at what we are doing and how we do it. We are keen to improve performance and have updated this council strategy. It sets out a refreshed set of aspirations as we strive to change Teignbridge for the better. We aim to improve the quality of life for all, but will prioritise those in greatest need. More than a 1000 households are on our housing register in desperate need of a home of their own. Their need is a very real priority.

We recognise the climate crisis which is impacting on the very future of our existence, and Teignbridge working with others locally and nationally, will do its utmost to contribute to the fight against climate change and the enhancement of the local environment. We have ambitious targets for carbon reduction, appropriate numbers for housing with an emphasis on social rented and for much more. We are a council that puts the welfare of its people first and working together we can and we will ensure that Teignbridge is and remains for future generations, a truly great place to live.

Cllr Gordon Hook
Leader



Message from the Managing Director

Over recent years, we have seen rapid changes which affect the way in which we plan and deliver our services. Meeting customers' increasing expectations and finding improved, efficient ways of doing things has made investment crucial.

Now central government is changing the way local councils are funded, it opens exciting opportunities for us to explore different ways of delivering this strategy, ultimately giving the best possible outcomes for our customers.

I'm confident that together councillors and officers will work hard to deliver the actions in each of the programmes and consciously put the objectives at the heart of all our decision making.

By doing this, we will continue to shape the district and meet our ongoing vision:

“Making Teignbridge a healthy and desirable place where people want to live, work and visit”.

Phil Shears
Managing Director



contents

A message from the Leader and Managing Director	2
Why a 10 year strategy	4-5
Where we are today	6-9
Where we want to be	10-12
How we will get there - The Teignbridge Ten	13-15
Action on climate	16
A Roof over our heads	17
Clean scene	18
Going to town	19
Great places to live and work	20
Investing in prosperity	21
Moving up a gear	22
Out and about and active	23
Strong communities	24
Vital, viable council	25
How it all fits together	26

Why a 10 year strategy?

Teignbridge is a forward-looking, ambitious council with a clear vision. Our strategies are evidence-based enabling us to focus our attention on what's truly needed in the long term. When necessary we are also quick to react to changing needs and opportunities.

With public services facing continual change and ever increasing challenges, there is a greater need for us to have a clear picture of where we are now, and to keep looking ahead to how we will provide services in the future.

These challenges included:

- Less money from the government
- Major changes in how councils raise money
- More people living here, including more older people
- Residents demanding more
- Fast pace of change in technology and communications
- Local, national, and global economic, environmental and social issues
- A complex public sector structure

As a district council we must have a clear set of priorities that focus our resources where they are most needed, and will bring the greatest benefit to the communities we serve. We will make sure that everything we do is sustainable and flexible so that we can withstand future change and challenges. To do this we will work together with our partners and communities so together we can deliver needed improvements to the area.

A ten year strategy will provide a clear direction for Teignbridge and will shape our council and working environment. It will help us to improve our use of resources and achieve our Vision and outcomes. It is about making Teignbridge a healthy and desirable place where people want to live, work and visit.

Everything we do should contribute to the council's priorities via a 'golden thread' so that all our effort and resources are linked into the delivery of the strategy.

We will monitor how we are doing at least once a year and may refresh parts of the strategy if necessary. After four years we will revisit and review the strategy. This will help us make sure we are still on track and can consider new ideas and developments.

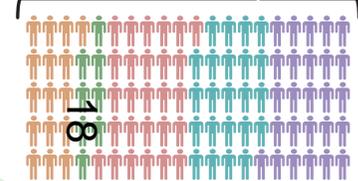
“Making Teignbridge a healthy and desirable place where people want to live, work and visit.”

Where we are today

Our role as a district council is to provide a clearly defined range of services that meet the needs of our customers, to be a community leader working with others and using our powers to act on residents' concerns and in the best interests of Teignbridge.

Teignbridge has a population of

132,800



- 16% are aged 0 - 15
- 8% are aged 16 - 24
- 27% are aged 25 - 49
- 23% are aged 50 - 64
- 26% are aged 65+

National population averages

- 19%
- 11%
- 33%
- 19%
- 18%

with a population density of

197

people per square kilometre



1 in **5**



20% of people have a long-term limiting illness or disability

National average is 17%

there are about

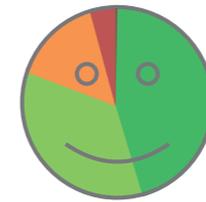
60,500

households in Teignbridge



- 41% owned outright
- 33% owned with a mortgage
- 9% socially rented
- 16% privately rented
- 1% other

people report their health as



- 45% very good
- 35% good
- 15% fair
- 4% bad
- 1% very bad

Teignbridge life expectancy

F **84** M **80**

national life expectancy

F **83** M **79**

Teignbridge is home to

3053

sites of special architectural and historical interest



there are

5,735

active enterprises in Teignbridge



workers in Teignbridge earn an average of

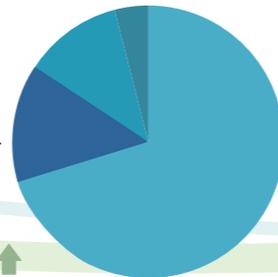
£521 per week

compared to

£587 nationally

Out of our working age population, aged 16 - 64

- 69% employed
- 13% self-employed
- 3% out of employment
- 15% economically inactive (students, carers, retired, etc.)



National averages

- 64%
- 11%
- 4%
- 21%



56%

of household waste is sent for recycling and composting in Teignbridge

National average is 44%

Transport accounts for



54% of CO₂ emissions

National average is 36%

out of a total of

773

kilotonnes of CO₂ emitted per year in Teignbridge

Per person

CO₂ emissions

Teignbridge **5.9 tonnes**

5.3 tonnes

UK national average

Finance – where we are now and likely future changes



2019/20 Budget

Our three-year medium-term financial plan has been updated for 2019/20 to 2021/22.

19

As a council

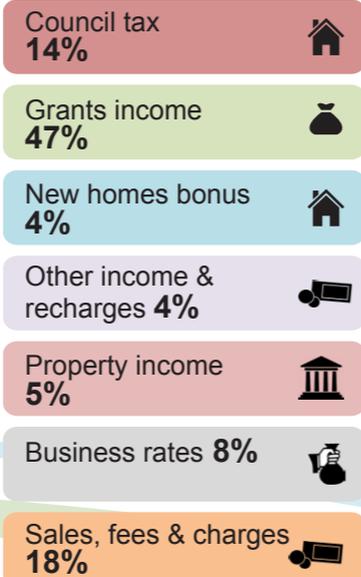
We are debt-free with no long-term borrowing, but plan to borrow for future investment plans within the capital programme.

We have adequate levels of reserves.

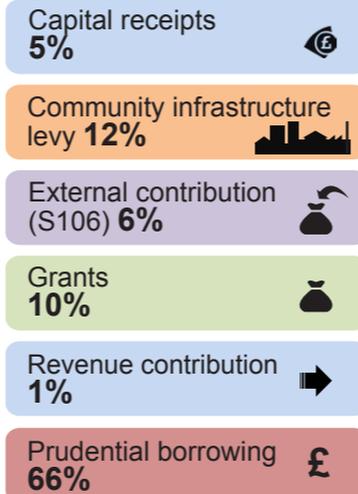
We carry out annual service reviews to consider best practice, alternative working methods, and identify further savings where possible.

income

Revenue Budget (day-to-day)
£61,532,080

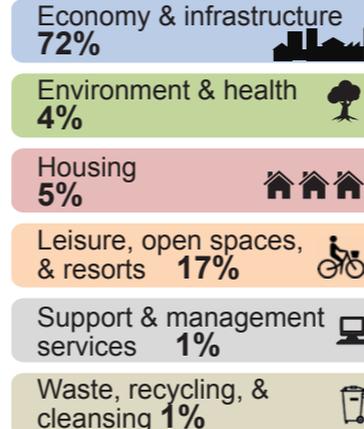


Capital Budget (long-term)
£27,849,000

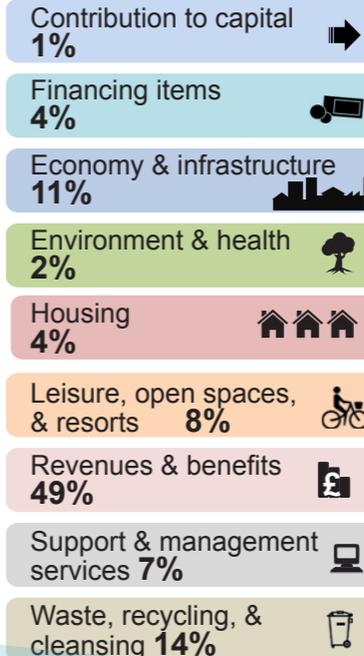


expenditure

Capital Budget (long-term)
£27,849,000



Revenue Budget (day-to-day)
£61,532,080



We will

- Consider 'invest to save' proposals e.g. income generating assets
- Maintain reserves at a level that takes into account current and future risks
- Set an annual balanced budget
- Review economic and financial trends that may impact on the council

Different changes and challenges to our budget are expected in the future:

- Predicted reductions in our share of business rates income from 2021/22
- Increase in service costs due to more homes, but likely reduction in new homes bonus

When planning our budget, these and other factors are taken into consideration.

Where we want to be

Our vision

Making Teignbridge a healthy and desirable place where people want to live, work and visit.

Our first Ten Year Council Strategy was published in 2006 and looked forward ten years from that date. To create it we took a forward look at what the area needed, assessed a range of facts and evidence, consulted widely and conferred with our councillors to get the right framework in place. We agreed we would review it on a regular, four yearly basis.

We have now considered our progress over the first years of the strategy, looked at the latest information and emerging challenges; we have surveyed public opinion and had further discussions with our councillors. Using this information and direction we have rolled the strategy forward so that we can continue to take a long term, 10 year forward look. Our first update therefore covers 2020 – 2030 and takes account of our most recent findings.

Outcomes

Our view is that the key challenges which faced us four years ago are still relevant to our work. Technological, economic and social change continues apace, and there is no doubting that the next ten years will see this continue or even accelerate, although nobody can predict such changes with certainty.

To meet these challenges we will work to continually improve how we do business as a council. We will need to evolve and adapt, and work closely with our partners, businesses, the Local Enterprise Partnership, voluntary and community groups, and town and parish councils.

We want Teignbridge to be a leader in the fight against climate change, with growth in active, sustainable transport choices. We need to achieve more green energy, increase recycling, and reduce air and water pollution. Our communities will be cleaner and greener, with new, high quality neighbourhoods, our families living in better quality, affordable and energy efficient homes. This will create a district where people wish to live and work, while ensuring our most important heritage, landscapes and wildlife are protected.

We want our people, particularly our young people and families, to have access to quality housing they can afford in a range of tenures, enabling older residents to stay in their own homes if they wish. Poverty, deprivation and homelessness will be reduced, together with the crime and disorder that occasionally mars our communities.

We will act so that our economy grows and is increasingly well connected, it becomes a place where new businesses are set up, and others can expand or move into the area. This will help to create more and higher paid jobs, encouraging our increasingly well trained and skilled young people to stay and work in the district.

We will encourage healthier living, providing activities, facilities and open spaces for leisure alongside the other infrastructure needed for balanced and liveable places. We want our communities to play an active and meaningful role in developing and influencing their local life experiences, services and opportunities.

Objectives

From our research and consultation we consider that the strategy's key objectives are

- A carbon neutral district
- Better quality and affordable housing
- Good wages and jobs for all
- Active and sustainable travel choices
- Encouraging our young people to stay
- A healthier population living in resilient communities
- A clean, green and safe environment
- An open council

These have been selected for many reasons.

We need to continue to keep our district clean, green and safe to make sure it is a desirable place to live, work in and visit. Moving towards a district which is carbon neutral in net terms will help reduce the impacts of climate change. The council will lead the way, together with partners, to tackle emissions in the building and transport sectors in particular, as well as becoming a carbon neutral council in its own operations.

The council's Local Plan guides development in the district while community-led planning enables communities to shape their own futures. We need our district to attract new business whilst nurturing those already here. Ensuring there are jobs for all ages and abilities enabling our economy to thrive.

We want our population to be healthy, having access to friendly, welcoming spaces to exercise in both inside and outdoors. The district's workforce is ageing along with its population, and there is an exodus of young people to places with better-paid jobs. We want to stem this flow to ensure the future economic viability of our district by providing more job opportunities and affordable housing. The need for more affordable housing to buy and rent is essential in reducing the threat of homelessness and allowing everyone to have a quality home.

And finally, the council's finances are going to be increasingly 'home grown' and tied in with our local economic fortunes and ability to raise our own incomes. Unless we promote economic success, we will not be able to fund all the services local people need. We also need to ensure that we have a sustainable, resilient economy where we retain wealth generated locally.

How we will get there

At the heart of our strategy are the Teignbridge Ten programmes.

These are ten areas of work, which each have a widespread impact on our economy, community wellbeing and environment. The Teignbridge Ten are the focus of our work over the future years of this strategy. They are designed to have high impact and bring major benefits to the eight key objectives. Individually, each will make a significant difference, but working together, they have the potential to bring multiple and combined benefits greater than if they were delivered in isolation.

The Teignbridge Ten programmes are:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| ● Action on climate | to be a carbon neutral district |
| ● A roof over our heads | to provide more, better and affordable homes |
| ● Clean scene | to keep the district clean |
| ● Going to town | to invest in town centres |
| ● Great places to live and work | to provide well designed quality neighbourhoods |
| ● Investing in prosperity | to create jobs and wealth |
| ● Moving up a gear | to improve travel options |
| ● Out and about and active | to provide opportunities for healthy active lifestyles |
| ● Strong communities | to liaise with, help and support our communities |
| ● Vital, viable council | to deliver quality, value for money and flexible services |

the Teignbridge programmes

10

great places to live and work
to provide well designed quality neighbourhoods



action on climate
to be a carbon neutral district



strong communities
to liaise with, help and support our communities



investing in prosperity
to create jobs and wealth



out and about and active
to provide opportunities for healthy active lifestyles



vital, viable council
to deliver quality, value for money and flexible services

22



clean scene
to keep the district clean



going to town
to invest in town centres



moving up a gear
to improve travel options



a roof over our heads
to provide more, better and affordable homes

Action on climate

We have formally declared that there is a climate emergency. This commits us to do what is within our powers to be a carbon neutral district, and to lead by example in our own activities, travel and energy use. By signing the Devon Declaration we are committed to working with other councils across the wider area of Devon to meet our carbon neutrality goal. The intention is to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions whilst working with our communities and using our various legal powers to encourage others to do the same.

Actions

- Lead by example to inspire others by becoming a carbon neutral council, using less energy and moving over to renewables, decarbonising our vehicle fleet and maximising recycling
- Create an agile workforce that reduces the miles travelled in the course of our business
- Provide public electric vehicle charging points in council carparks to augment and link in with the wider strategic charging network

- Increase resilience to the changing climate so that Teignbridge remains a safe and healthy place to live and do business
- Ensure all council decisions consider climate change implications, updating council policies like those in our Local Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Support businesses and communities to encourage carbon emission reductions, particularly in the transport and buildings sectors
- With partners, plant at least a thousand trees a year to bring climate change, wildlife and recreational benefits

Outcomes

The carbon emissions from our area will fall rapidly as our homes and businesses become more energy efficient and switch to renewable energy sources, our transport system becomes more sustainable and the area of tree planting increases. The council will lead the way with how it delivers services, its investment in local infrastructure and with planning and other policies.



A roof over our heads

Having a place to call home is a basic human right. It offers shelter and warmth and is the place where we spend most of our time. Living in a suitable, safe, well designed home is one of life's main achievements from where we can base and build our lives.

As a council we have a proud history of providing affordable and market housing, improving housing conditions and tackling homelessness through assistance and advice. We will continue to expand our innovative approach to deliver solutions and infrastructure to meet the wide variety of housing need in our communities.

Actions

- Make sure our plans take full account of all housing needs, across all ages, including , vulnerable people, self-builders, travellers and people in rural areas
- Deliver affordable and social housing for rent through negotiations with developers and housing associations including in our more rural areas
- Invest in direct delivery of affordable and social rented housing

- Improve housing conditions and reduce empty homes through a range of measures, including support and enforcement
- Prevent homelessness wherever possible
- Deliver affordable home improvement measures, including adaptations, to keep those most in need safe, warm, healthy and independent in their own home

Outcomes

To provide homes, including affordable and social homes, to bring significant health and wellbeing benefits to our communities and help to retain young people in the area. A balanced housing market can also deliver economic growth, reduce crime, support social and financial inclusion, address homelessness and reduce poverty and deprivation.



Clean scene

This project will ensure our neighbourhoods, town centres, parks, open spaces and beaches are kept clean and meet the needs of residents. We will highlight relevant national environmental educational campaigns and develop local ones to tackle local issues. We will work with local community groups to organise clean-up and litter picking events. We will continue to monitor our own recycling and cleansing activities and we will use our Community Environment officers to patrol hotspot problem areas and issue on-the-spot fines.

24

Actions

- Deliver and monitor cleansing services to meet the needs of residents
- Maintain the Community Environment Warden service to deal with litter, graffiti, fly tipping and dog fouling
- Involve community groups in 'clean up' and litter picking events
- Improve the recycling system to reduce waste and raise the district's recycling rate

- Work with the Environment Agency, South West Water and local councils to improve bathing water quality
- Work with partners to meet air quality standards
- Continually check the effectiveness of the council's controls to tackle irresponsible dog owners in the district

Outcomes

A clean district that is attractive to our residents and visitors alike, creating great places to live. Improved air and bathing water quality that will help improve the health of our residents and visitors. Communities that are engaged in the environmental quality of their neighbourhoods, reducing waste and increasing recycling rates.



Going to town

Town centres are the focal points in our main urban areas, providing key economic benefits, commercial and other services, and locations for people to meet and enjoy life. Even in an increasingly 'online' world, we think they will continue to be vital to our communities and we will use all of our powers to make them better, more modern and more attractive.

Actions

- Working with local councils and other key organisations to support plans, projects and initiatives which improve and enhance the town centres
- Regularly checking how our town centres are doing, listening to customers, businesses and investing in monitoring and research
- Invest in key town centres to improve their viability, quality and sustainability
- Using our planning, food safety, licensing and other powers to bring about improvements and support business growth

- Improving accessibility and encouraging more town centre living
- Supporting proposals for quality evening cultural and leisure opportunities
- Running and improving Newton Abbot's street and indoor markets

Outcomes

By making these changes we will help to create new and expanded businesses leading to more jobs, improved local environment and increased access to essential shopping and other services. These new opportunities should also help bring more visitors to our towns.



Great places to live and work



Our neighbourhoods provide the backdrop to our community life. By good design, provision of facilities and infrastructure, along with community involvement in our decisions, we can make sure that those places are high quality, providing great places to live, work and visit.

Actions

- Make sure that our new neighbourhoods and other developments are built to the highest standards of design, with great public spaces and landscaping
- Ensure that new neighbourhoods are real communities; safe, inclusive and accessible to all, close to, or including, local jobs, facilities, sports and leisure opportunities, with high quality public open spaces which support social interaction
- Ensuring growth and development is high quality and sustainable by our continued involvement in the Garden Communities programme
- Protect our most important landscapes and heritage, and support proposals which enhance them
- Work towards an overall improvement in the area's biodiversity by protecting the most important habitats

and investing in new wildlife areas

- Support improvements to walking, cycling and public transport opportunities and other ways to reduce carbon emissions and encourage a healthy, active lifestyle
- Make the difficult, long term decisions to create a resilient, prosperous and green future by preparing the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan and updating our own local plan

Outcomes

By creating great places like this we can improve the wellbeing of the residents of new neighbourhoods and help reduce opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour. Walkable places with access to jobs and other everyday needs are healthier to live in and also help us move to being a carbon neutral district. Small scale employment opportunities will enable local entrepreneurs to set up new businesses, which in turn will support the local economy.

Investing in prosperity

We will do all we can to encourage new businesses to set up or move in, and help existing businesses to grow, creating better paid jobs that our area needs. This will be about good planning, encouragement, promoting the benefits of our area, working closely with partners and businesses and direct investment of council money.

Actions

- Designing and delivering regeneration and improvement schemes
- Promptly grant planning applications, licences and other regulatory decisions which help create and protect jobs wherever possible
- Invest our own money into new developments which enhance our economy
- Fund commercial advice and support to entrepreneurs already in business or planning on starting up
- Work with Greater Exeter councils to bring businesses into the area
- Ensure that we have a good understanding from local businesses of skills and educational needs

- Ensure that our Local Plan and other service reviews continue to prioritise economic development
- Grasp all reasonable opportunities to improve the area's economic base, including making bids for funding service expansions and new projects
- Actively promote the roll-out of high speed broadband across the district

Outcomes

The outcomes will be a broad range of economic benefits, particularly continued growth in local jobs, business expansion and wealth creation and a more resilient local economy. This should help to support health and wellbeing improvements in our population, ensuring that as many people as possible are equipped for their future occupations and do not need to leave the area for a job. This will also help reduce poverty and deprivation by providing training and employment opportunities. Less out-commuting should also help to reduce our carbon emissions.



Moving up a gear

Working closely with our partners we will contribute to the design of key transport infrastructure to improve our strategic development plans and our funding bids. We will use the council's capital programme to invest in transport provision which boosts economic performance, healthy transport choices and sustainable access.

Actions

- Improve the A382 into Newton Abbot and a new Avenue linking the A383 to Forches Cross
- Provide bus improvements and park and ride services to key employment and shopping centres
- Encourage growth in rail travel by supporting new and improved stations, and other enhancements to services and infrastructure
- Encourage a cycling revolution with more dedicated cycle paths, safer on-road cycling and improved cycle parking, linking city, towns, countryside and existing routes together

- Explore innovative schemes like e-bikes and other electric vehicles, car clubs, community transport and new technology-based travel planning
- Ensure new homes and jobs continue to provide cycling and walking options and support transport investment in future plans and developments
- Create strategies for car parking which are efficient, encouraging sustainable travel and town centre viability

Outcomes

Businesses will benefit from transport infrastructure enhancements. There will also be improved sustainable access for Teignbridge residents to jobs and facilities across the district, as well as nearby cities. Improved cycling and walking provision will help to reduce air pollution and carbon emissions and encourage greater physical activity with associated health benefits.



Out and about and active

This will ensure that communities have access to leisure facilities and a range of open spaces that are safe, inclusive, multifunctional, and encourage healthy lifestyles. We will make best use of external funding to improve our facilities and open spaces and we will help town and parish councils, community groups and sports clubs to improve their own facilities and open spaces. We will encourage and enable communities to take on responsibility of facilities, services and assets in their locality.

Actions

- Working with our partners we will deliver health interventions, educational and physical activity programmes to local communities most in need to encourage healthy lifestyles and healthy eating
- Provide safe, clean, inviting and accessible facilities and open spaces that meet the needs of residents
- Work with community groups to develop improvement plans for outdoor spaces, play and sports facilities
- Investigate the options to improve the council's leisure centres

- Provide events and school activities that encourage use and understanding of our open space assets
- Provide a programme of conservation activity days to allow practical involvement in habitat and green space management
- Improve inclusivity and remove barriers to use of our indoor facilities and outdoor spaces and to participation in our events and activities.
- Create initiatives and campaigns to encourage more people to cycle and walk

Outcomes

Neighbourhoods that have clean, inviting, accessible and good quality facilities and local environments will encourage healthy active lifestyles. Communities that are engaged in the use and management of their own local green spaces and leisure facilities will be encouraged to work with the council to make improvements. All sectors of the community will have the opportunity to use leisure facilities and participate in events.



Strong communities

This is about fostering a sense of belonging and wellbeing within communities, promoting good relationships between groups, and helping communities to become more self-supporting and self-sufficient.

The intention is to help places and groups of people to plan, develop and deliver their solutions. Examples could be the local maintenance of public spaces, taking on community shops, and holding community events, leading to increased community harmony.

Other opportunities could be the development of local energy projects, providing new community buildings, and initiating social enterprises, community groups of interest and youth opportunities. Planning for local emergency responses in times of bad weather and encouraging Neighbourhood Watch groups would help make neighbourhoods safer.

Actions

- Help councillors to develop and deliver local initiatives
- Help communities to create plans to shape their future

- Support the voluntary sector and community groups to improve their ability to secure grant funding and become self-sustaining
- Encourage networking between the voluntary, business and community sectors
- Working with the Police, other partners and local people to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, build confidence and make Teignbridge an even safer place to live, work and visit.
- Encourage greater participation in local democracy and voting in local and national elections

Outcomes

Communities that are desirable places to belong to, that plan their own futures and make good use of funding to improve their facilities and activities.

They will be safer places with less crime and anti-social behaviour, and greener with greater use of renewable energy, and more recycling along with the introduction of sustainable transport choices.



Vital, viable council

The financial situation facing the council makes achieving our vision and priorities a challenge. We will need to be collaborative, streamlined and efficient in what we do. As government funding reduces our delivery will be increasingly commercially minded so that we can invest in our statutory and priority services as well as achieve our Teignbridge Ten programmes. The customer's needs and protecting the most vulnerable will be our focus.

We are proud of the skills, knowledge and customer service ethos of our workforce. We will continue to invest in and support our staff as we move to agile working using new forms of technology, becoming a more flexible organisation. Our ongoing approach is to provide the majority of our services ourselves, having ensured it is financially beneficial to do so, as well as embracing the economic benefits of delivering some jointly with others.

Actions

- Be a next generation council by designing streamlined, cost-effective, digital processes that are simple to use
- Embed strong and consistent business planning that supports managers to challenge and be innovative in delivering further savings, extra income and better outcomes
- Actively engage with customers so feedback can be used to support decision making and future change.
- Manage, maintain and review use of our own assets to support our objectives, maximise income and improve the customer experience
- Empower our staff and councillors with the right equipment and skills to become a flexible, agile, accountable, high performing team with a culture of continuous improvement. Reward staff with flexible employment practices and fair pay
- Ensure that robust and transparent performance, risk and decision-making processes are in place, as well as maintaining secure data.



Outcomes

The council will be commercial and financially self-sufficient, delivering value for money in meeting our overall vision and strategic priorities. Our investments will enhance the area and the customer experience and our ways of working will continuously improve. Our councillors will have the information and skills they need to make good, open and effective decisions which reflect the long term interests of the area and its existing and future residents. Our workforce will be enabled to use their flexible skills and knowledge to meet changing local needs and demands. Our decisions and actions will have outcomes that truly matter to our citizens.

How it all fits together

²⁸ The Council Strategy delivers our vision “making Teignbridge a healthy and desirable place where people want to live, work, and visit.” From this vision flow our eight objectives which we will achieve through the Teignbridge Ten programmes.

This overarching ten year council strategy, updated in 2020 and rolled forward to cover the period 2020 – 2030, requires strategies and action plans for each of the Teignbridge Ten programmes. These feed into our business plans. These business plans, together with partnership working, the local plan, our medium-term financial strategy and other cross-cutting strategic documents, will help us achieve our outcomes.

Managers and members constantly track progress through our performance and management frameworks. The annual business planning process and regular staff appraisals ensure that the strategy outcomes are kept at the focus and remain deliverable.



for further information please visit
teignbridge.gov.uk/councilstrategy

If you would like this information in another format
please visit teignbridge.gov.uk/contactus



This page is intentionally left blank

TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL

14 JANUARY 2020

Report Title	COUNCIL TAX BASE 2020/21
Purpose of Report	To consider the proposed council tax base 2020/21 as recommended by the Executive at its meeting on the 7 January 2020 as shown at appendix A.
Recommendation(s)	That the Council resolve to approve the council tax base of 49,714 for 2020/21 at appendix A of the agenda report.
Financial Implications	The financial implications are principally to formulate the predicted council tax numbers to allow all preceptors to identify their income from the precept they set for 2020/21. Martin Flitcroft – Chief Finance Officer Tel: 01626 215246 Email: martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk
Legal Implications	The estimate has to be approved by Council and notified to the major preceptors between 1 December 2019 and 31 January 2020. See section 2.2 of the report. Karen Trickey – Solicitor to the Council Tel: 01626 215119 Email: Karen.trickey@teignbridge.gov.uk
Risk Assessment	The major risk is that the estimate is not accurate and results in a deficit in income from council tax for all preceptors – see section 3. Martin Flitcroft – Chief Finance Officer Tel: 01626 215246 Email: martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk
Environmental/ Climate Change Implications	There are no direct climate change implications within this report. David Eaton – Environmental Protection Manager Tel: 01626 215064 Email: david.eaton@teignbridge.gov.uk
Report Author	Martin Flitcroft – Chief Finance Officer Tel: 01626 215246 Email: martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Alan Connett – Portfolio holder for Resources
Appendices	App A – Council tax base 2020/21
Part I or II	Part I
Background Papers	None

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consider the proposed council tax base 2020/21 as recommended by the Executive at its meeting on the 7 January 2020 as shown at appendix A.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The council tax base is the estimated number of band D equivalent properties in the district for next year less a small allowance for likely collection losses. The details are shown at section 1 of appendix A. The council tax for each of district, county, fire, police and towns/parishes multiplied by the council tax base gives the income or precept which the district pays to each authority. The district is responsible for collecting council tax.
- 2.2 The estimate for next year must be based on information available on the 30 November. It has to be approved by Council and notified to the major preceptors - county, fire and police between 1 December 2019 and 31 January 2020. Similarly towns and parishes also need the council tax base for their area to calculate their council tax from their precept.
- 2.3 The initial data is extracted from the council tax records. This includes the deduction for council tax support which reduces the base. Finally an estimate is made of the growth in the number of dwellings to 2019/20 based on recent history and this has been calculated at 1%. Thus a total of 50,216.2 is the estimated number of band D properties for next year.
- 2.4 As for the current year a collection rate of 99% has been assumed giving 49,714 for 2020/21. For Teignbridge this base means that at the current council tax level of £170.17 just under £8.5 million of income would be generated next year. This is 1.0% or £84,000 more than in the current year. Estimated 2020/21 income for all preceptors is shown at appendix A section 2 based on the current council tax.

3. RISKS

- 3.1 The risk is the variation in calculating the likely equivalent band D council tax numbers which is influenced by projected housebuilding, numbers in receipt of council tax support and the level of collection from council tax payers. These risks are mitigated by careful analysis of existing data and trends to determine future projections.

Section 1

Council Tax Base adjustment for Council Tax Support (CTS) and estimated growth						
	Estimated 20/21 Band D Number	19/20 Council Tax £	Estimated Income £	Estimated Collection Rate %	Estimated Net Income £	Estimated 20/21 Base
Full band D at November 2019	54,501.2	1,922.94	104,802,540			
less CTS at November 2019	-4,781.7	1,922.94	-9,194,920			
Starting point based on November 2019	49,719.5		95,607,620			
Anticipated growth at 1%	496.7	1,922.94	955,120			
Total (rounded)	50,216.2	1,922.94	96,562,740	99.0%	95,597,040	49,714

Section 2

2020/21 Expected Council Tax (CT) Income at Current Council Tax Levels compared with 2019/20				
Preceptor	Estimated CT Base Number	19/20 Council Tax £	Expected income £	
2020/21 expected income (rounded)				
Towns and parishes	49,714	69.68	3,464,070	
District	49,714	170.17	8,459,830	
County	49,714	1,384.29	68,818,590	
Fire	49,714	86.52	4,301,260	
Police	49,714	212.28	10,553,290	
Total (rounded) shows a 1.0% increase in expected income		1,922.94	95,597,040	
2019/20 expected income (rounded)				
Towns and parishes	49,219	69.68	3,429,507	
District	49,219	170.17	8,375,597	
County	49,219	1,384.29	68,133,370	
Fire	49,219	86.52	4,258,428	
Police	49,219	212.28	10,448,209	
Total (rounded)		1,922.94	94,645,110	

TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL

14 JANUARY 2020

PART I

Report Title	Heart of the South West Joint Committee – Governance Review Report
Purpose of Report	To update Members on the Joint Committee’s governance arrangements and budgetary position for 2019/20.
Recommendation(s)	RECOMMENDED that Council : (1) Approve the proposed amendments to the Joint Committee’s list of functions attached at appendix A in emboldened text: and (2) Note the updated budget position for 2019/20.
Financial Implications	Implications are referred to in Section 5.1 martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk
Legal Implications	Implications are referred to in Section 5.2
Risk Assessment	Implications are referred to in Section 5.3 phil.shears@teignbridge.gov.uk
Environmental/ Climate Change Implications	There are no direct carbon/environmental implications arising from the recommendation to this report. phil.shears@teignbridge.gov.uk
Report Author	Managing Director phil.shears@teignbridge.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	The Leader – Councillor Gordon Hook
Appendices / Background Papers	Appendix A

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report provides an update for the Constituent Authorities on the Heart of the South West (HOtSW) Joint Committee's governance arrangements and budgetary position for 2019/20. The report contains recommendations for amendments to the Committee's Arrangements document following a governance review.
- 1.2 The Committee became a formal body in March 2018. The Committee has twenty-one members:
- Devon County Council
 - Somerset County Council
 - Plymouth City Council
 - Torbay Council
 - All Devon and Somerset District Councils
 - Dartmoor and Exmoor National Park
 - Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership
 - Devon and Somerset Clinical Commissioning Groups
- 1.3 The Committee acts as a single voice to Government on socio-economic and environmental issues and makes the case for additional powers and funding to be transferred to its individual members for the benefit of the people of Devon and Somerset

2. REVIEW OF THE ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

- 2.1 The Constituent Authorities have previously agreed one addition to the list of delegated functions by giving the Joint Committee the function of agreeing the local authorities' input into the development of the HoSW Local Industrial Strategy (LIS).
- 2.2 In addition to the above policy development, the need to review the governance arrangements arose from:
- Changes in Government policy away from large devolution 'deals' to a more targeted dialogue on key themes of relevance to the local authorities and partners, eg, housing. The Joint Committee's influencing role has become increasingly important as recognised by Ministers, local MPs and Government officials. The ambition remains to draw down additional functions, powers and funding from Government.
 - The evolution of the Joint Committee's role from agreeing policy (the HotSW Productivity Strategy) to overseeing delivery of the Strategy alongside the LEP.
 - The developing relationships with other key local partnerships to ensure that there are appropriate reporting lines, ie, HotSW LEP Joint Scrutiny Committee, Peninsula Transport Board, Great South West, HotSW Local Transport Board.

2.3 Accordingly, the Committee has refined its focus into the following areas:

- Strategic policy development
- Influencing Government / key agencies to achieve direct intervention, support, funding and powers
- Designing and delivering strategic HotSW responses to 'Government' offers
- Designing and delivering public sector reform where this will deliver improved productivity, eg in health and education
- Delivering at scale –(beyond what individual councils can achieve)
- Oversight of the Delivery Plan – working with the HotSW LEP to ensure delivery of the HotSW Productivity Strategy.

These refinements to the focus of the Committee have been reflected in amendments to the list of functions contained in the Joint Committee's 'Arrangements' document – see **emboldened text** at Appendix A attached. It is not proposed at this stage to request the delegation of further functions from the Constituent Authorities to the Joint Committee.

The subject matter focus for the Joint Committee will fall into the following areas of the Delivery Plan:

- Housing – including bid(s) for strategic housing deal(s) designed, submitted and agreed resulting in additional investment into HotSW
- Major Route Corridor Study agreed and completed
- Agreed HotSW LIS which meets our transformational objectives
- Successful engagement plan with MPs / Ministers
- Successful operational phase of the Brexit work in collaboration with Government
- Preparation for / response to offers of public sector reform to improve productivity
- Agreement and submission of Coastal Communities proposal to Government seeking additional Government support for our coastal communities
- Development of the JC's investment framework required to deliver the Productivity Strategy within a new national funding environment.
- Enable the partners to prepare for and respond to opportunities arising from the Comprehensive Spending Review and the Shared Prosperity Fund.

3. APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY

3.1 At the time of the establishment of the Joint Committee, the Constituent Authorities agreed to appoint Somerset County Council as the Administering Authority for the Joint Committee for a two-year period from 22 January 2018. With this appointment coming to an end early in the new year the HotSW Chief Executives' Executive Group has considered an appointment for the next two-year period.

- 3.2 The view of the HotSW Chief Executives' Executive Group is that Somerset County Council has done an excellent job of supporting the Committee and their recommendation is to reappoint the County Council to the Administering Authority role for a further two-year period from 23 January 2020 to 22 January 2022. The Joint Committee approved this recommendation at its meeting on the 27th September 2019.

4. JOINT COMMITTEE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.1 Comprehensive management support arrangements have been in place to support the partnership (and latterly the Joint Committee) since 2015. These have been recently reviewed and refined. To minimise direct support costs impacting on the Committee's budget, most of the officer resource is provided by the Constituent Authorities on an 'in-kind' voluntary basis. Other direct budget contributions towards the Committee support costs have been allocated to refund those Constituent Authorities who have provided officer resources for project management capacity and administrative support to the Brexit Resilience and Opportunities Group.

5. IMPLICATIONS, RISK MANAGEMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

5.1 Financial

The Joint Committee remains completely reliant on the Constituent Authorities for its budget and there are no obvious sources of additional funding to support running costs or delivery of its work programme.

The Committee agreed earlier this year that a larger annual budget was likely to be required to fund work programme priorities in future years and approved 'in principle' to seek the agreement of the Constituent Authorities to double the 2018/19 core contributions as a one-year arrangement so giving maximum contributions in 2019/20 of:

County Council - £21,000

Unitary Council - £8,000

District Council / National Park Authorities – £2,800

For 2019/20 all Members contribution have been reduced by 50%, this was because of the need to take stock of the direction of the Committee's work programme following the recent elections and delays in progressing discussions with Government as a result of unknown aspect of the work programme in the preparations for Brexit and the budget impacts of any work which the Committee may wish to commission. This will be kept under review in the coming months as the position becomes clearer.

Further discussions are planned as to how to establish a financially stable Joint Committee budget for future years as a pre-requisite to preparing a budget proposal for 2020/21 for submission to the Constituent Authorities.

5.2 Legal

The review of the role and functions of the Joint Committee have taken account of the legal framework within which the Joint Committee operates.

5.3 Risks

The key risk to the Constituent Authorities is a Committee without a clear role and functions and with unsustainable support arrangements which threaten the security and operation of the model. If the Committee cannot be sustained into the future then the momentum already achieved with Government will be at risk and the opportunity to realise additional funds, powers and responsibilities from Government for the benefit of the HotSW will be severely compromised. This in turn would compromise the ability to deliver the Productivity Strategy.

5.4 Environmental/Climate Change Impact

This proposal does not have an impact on carbon emissions. The Committee could undertake joint work to respond to the Climate Change Emergency. The impact of this will be evaluated in any future proposal.

6. CONCLUSION

In recent months the Joint Committee has reviewed and updated its governance arrangements in the light of experience since its establishment in early 2018 and in response to changing Government policy and local circumstances. Some changes are required to the Committee's Arrangements document as a result and these need to be formally agreed by the Constituent Authorities. It is essential that the Joint Committee remains: fit for purpose, represents a sustainable way of working into the future; and delivers value for the resources committed to it by the Constituent Authorities.

This page is intentionally left blank

APPENDIX A – EXTRACT FROM THE JOINT COMMITTEE’S ARRANGEMENTS DOCUMENT

2. Joint Committee Functions:

2.1 The only delegated functions of the Joint Committee relate to:

(a) the approval of the HotSW Productivity Strategy; and

(b) the development and endorsement of the HotSW Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) (noting that final approval of the HotSW LIS rests with the HotSW Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the Government.

All other matters referred to in 2.3 below are ‘referred’ matters where the Joint Committee will make recommendations to the Constituent Authority or Authorities for decision. Additional delegated or referred functions may be proposed for the Joint Committee in the future by the Joint Committee or any of the Constituent Authorities but shall only be agreed if approved by all of the Constituent Authorities.

2.2 The principle of subsidiarity will apply to the relationship between the Joint Committee, the Constituent Authorities and local Sub-Regional Partnerships with decisions being made at the most local and appropriate level on all matters to do with the delivery of the Productivity Strategy and in relation to the other functions of the Joint Committee.

2.3 The Joint Committee shall:

(a) Develop and agree the HotSW Productivity Plan in collaboration with the LEP.

(b) Maintain oversight of the HotSW Delivery Plan = working alongside and in collaboration with the LEP using each other’s strengths and roles to ensure delivery of the HotSW Productivity Strategy.

(c) Continue discussions /negotiations with the Government and Government agencies to achieve direct intervention, support, funding and powers to the benefit of the HotSW and assist with the delivery of the Productivity Plan and the LIS, working with the LEP.

(d) Continue discussions / negotiations with the Government / relevant agencies to secure delivery of the Government’s strategic infrastructure commitments, eg, strategic road and rail transport improvements.

(e) Design and deliver the strategic HotSW response to ‘Government’ offers and respond to Government calls for evidence if appropriate.

(f) Design and deliver public sector reform where this will deliver improved productivity to the HotSW, eg health, education.

(g) Deliver at scale (beyond what individual councils can achieve).

(h) Work with the LEP to identify and deliver adjustments to the LEP's democratic accountability and to assist the organisation to comply with the revised (November 2016) LEP Assurance Framework. This includes endorsing the LEP's assurance framework on behalf of the Constituent Authorities as and when required. However, this is subject to the Framework being formally approved by the LEP's Administering Authority.

(i) Ensure that adequate resources (including staff and funding) are allocated by the Constituent Authorities to enable the objectives in (a) to (e) above to be delivered.

Appendix A