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25 September 2023

## EXECUTIVE

A meeting of the **Executive** will be held on **Tuesday, 3rd October, 2023** in the **Council Chamber, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4XX** at **10.00 am**

PHIL SHEARS  
Managing Director

### Membership:

Councillors H Cox, Goodman-Bradbury, Jeffries, Keeling (Deputy Leader), Nutley, Nuttall, G Taylor, Wrigley (Leader) and Hook

**Please Note:** The public can view the live streaming of the meeting at [Teignbridge District Council Webcasting \(public-i.tv\)](#) with the exception where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public.

## AGENDA

### Part I

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 8)  
To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2023.
3. **Announcements (if any)**
4. **Declarations of Interest (if any)**
5. **Executive Forward Plan**

To note forthcoming decisions anticipated [on the Executive Forward Plan](#)

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

Members of the Public may ask questions of the Leader or an Executive Member. A maximum period of 15 minutes will be allowed with a maximum of period of three minutes per questioner.

7. **New Homes Bonus and Dartmoor National Park** (Pages 9 - 12)

8. **Support for Care Leavers** (Pages 13 - 26)

9. **Update on Future High Street Fund** (Pages 27 - 32)

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

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

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

11. **Proposed Long lettings of Public Conveniences to  
Teignmouth Town Council and a Disposal of a Public  
Convenience in Teignmouth** (Pages 33 - 58)

12. **For Information - Individual Executive Member Decisions**  
[Executive Member Decisions](#)

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

## **EXECUTIVE**

### **12 SEPTEMBER 2023**

#### Present:

Councillors H Cox, Goodman-Bradbury, Jeffries, Keeling (Deputy Leader), Nuttall, G Taylor and Wrigley (Leader)

#### Members in Attendance:

Councillors Clarence, Daws and MacGregor

#### Apologies:

Councillors Nutley and Hook

#### Officers in Attendance:

Christopher Morgan, Trainee Democratic Services Officer  
Sarah Selway, Democratic Services Team Leader & Deputy Monitoring Officer  
Graham Davey, Housing Enabling and Development Manager  
Martin Flitcroft, Chief Finance Officer & Head of Corporate Services  
Michelle Luscombe, Planning Policy Manager  
Tom Phillips, Assets Manager  
Amanda Pujol, Head of Community Services and Improvement  
Phil Shears, Managing Director  
Paul Woodhead, Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer to the Council  
James Joubert, Planning Officer

These decisions will take effect from 10.00 a.m. on 19 September 2023 unless called-in or identified as urgent in the minute

### **52. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 August 2023 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **53. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

### **54. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN**

The Leader advised that a report '100% Council Tax Discount for Care Leavers' would be added to the Forward Plan.

**RESOLVED** that the Forward Plan be noted.

## 55. MID YEAR REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES

The Executive Member for Corporate Resources presented the report. He proposed the recommendation with the following three additional recommendations, this was seconded by the Leader:-

- (1) *That the Sunday Parking permit for the full day remain at £1, with free parking in all our car parks after 6pm;*
- (2) *That a blue badge yearly permit be introduced so that a holder of the disabled blue badge can park in an off road car parking space for the allotted time of the blue badge for a yearly cost of £30.00 for 1 year, £50.00 for 2 years or £70.00 for 3 years to be used in any Teignbridge owned car park; and*
- (3) *The New Road Car Park, Starcross and the Kingskerswell Car Park will be allowed a residents permit which would allow people to pay monthly, 3 months, 6 months or a year - we are aware off the limited parking spaces so it doesn't guarantee a parking space but it takes away the hassle of feeding the meter each day. For simplicity permits charges which apply at the Strand Car Park in Starcross will be the same for the New Road car park and Kingskerswell which could be done on a trial basis for the next six months and see how it goes before the 2024-25 budget is set.*

He advised that the Council would be reviewing all those car parks that currently did not offer permits such as Osborn Street, Newton Abbot to see if the Council could help local residents.

The Chief Finance Officer & Head of Corporate Services commented that he was disappointed that officers were only advised of the additional recommendations 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. He advised that due to this short notice he was unable to advise of any resulting cost and IT implications and added that an Equality Impact Assessment would also need to be undertaken.

**RECOMMENDED** that Full Council approves the revised fees and charges listing to be implemented with effect from 1 October 2023 (car parking with effect from 1 November 2023) with the following additions:-

- (1) That the Sunday Parking permit for the full day remain at £1, with free parking in all our car parks after 6pm;
- (2) That a blue badge yearly permit be introduced so that a holder of the disabled blue badge can park in an off road car parking space for the allotted time of the blue badge for a yearly cost of £30.00 for 1 year, £50.00 for 2 years or £70.00 for 3 years to be used in any Teignbridge owned car park; and

- (3) The New Road Car Park, Starcross and the Kingskerswell Car Park will be allowed a residents permit which would allow people to pay monthly, 3 months, 6 months or a year - we are aware of the limited parking spaces so it doesn't guarantee a parking space but it takes away the hassle of feeding the meter each day. For simplicity permits charges which apply at the Strand Car Park in Starcross will be the same for the New Road car park and Kingskerswell which could be done on a trial basis for the next six months and see how it goes before the 2024-25 budget is set.

**56. 2022/23 DRAFT FINAL ACCOUNTS & TREASURY MANAGEMENT - 2023/24 BUDGET MONITORING - REVENUE & CAPITAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT LENDING LIST**

The Executive Member for Corporate Resources presented the report.

**RESOLVED to:-**

- (1) Note the draft revenue results for 2022/23;
- (2) Approve the draft year end capital and updated programme as shown at appendix 1;
- (3) Approve the revenue budget variations for 2023/24 as shown at appendix 2; and
- (4) Note the updated lending list as shown at appendix 3; and

**RECOMMEND** to Council that the draft treasury management results for 2022/23 at appendix 4 are noted.

The vote was unanimous.

**57. COUNCIL STRATEGY REVIEW**

The Leader presented the report.

Non-Executive Members spoke on this item.

**RECOMMENDED** to Full Council:-

- (1) to approve the scope and process for reviewing the Council Strategy as set out in the report and Appendix 1; and

**RESOLVED to:-**

- (2) Approve a budget of £80,000 to fund additional officer, digital and/or consultancy support as required to prepare the Council Strategy, as well as consultation and engagement activities associated with its preparation; and

- (3) Establish a Working Group of District Councillors to oversee the review of the Council Strategy.

The vote was unanimous.

**58. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME UPDATE**

The Executive Member for Planning presented the report.

Non Executive Members spoke on this item.

**RESOLVED** to:-

- (1) Agree the timetable set out in Section 4.1.6 in the circulated report; and
- (2) Approve the Local Development Scheme as attached at Appendix 1 to come into effect on 20 September 2023.

The vote was unanimous.

**59. UPDATE ON FUTURE HIGH STREET FUND**

The Leader advised that the Market Hall had been temporary closed until next week to enable works to be undertaken to secure rotten beams and that the Wilko Store would be closing at the end of the week.

Non Executive Members spoke on this item.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

The vote was unanimous.

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

**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.

**61. TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT**

Cllr Jeffries left before the vote was taken on this item.

The Executive Member for Teignbridge 100 presented the report.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (1) To note the progress made in respect of the Teignbridge 100 programme pipeline;
- (2) That subject to the proposed housing development at Sherborne House, Newton Abbot being granted planning consent the Asset Manager be given authority to negotiate a Deed of Variation with the Heath Authority in respect of part of the Sherbourne House Car Parking effected by the development, to be replaced with an equivalent number of parking permits for the Multi Story Car Park at Sherborne Road, Newton Abbot.
- (3) That subject to the proposed housing development at Sherborne House, Newton Abbot being granted planning consent Members approved that the homes would be rented at social rents (subject to a valid Business Case) and that a Local Lettings Plan would be developed to include a percentage of allocations to downsizers, whilst balancing the high demand for 1 bedroom accommodation on Devon Homechoice.

The vote was unanimous.

## **62. FOR INFORMATION - INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS**

Noted.

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 11.07 am.

Chair

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**Teignbridge District Council  
Executive  
3 October 2023  
Part i**

**NEW HOMES BONUS AND DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK**

**Purpose of Report**

To provide Members with oversight on receipt of New Homes Bonus and engagement with Dartmoor National Park (DNP) and any potential redistribution.

**Recommendation(s)**

**The Executive Committee RESOLVES to:**

- (1) Retain all New Homes Bonus received with no onward distribution to Dartmoor National Park**

**Financial Implications**

The financial implications are contained within the report – specifically in section 3. The main implication is that any agreed payment to DNP is not budgeted for and would create a further budget pressure for which funding would need to be found or cuts in services. No payment is recommended by the Chief Finance Officer.

Martin Flitcroft – Chief Finance Officer  
Head of Corporate Services  
Tel: 01626 215246 Email: [martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk](mailto:martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk)

**Legal Implications**

There are no specific legal implications arising from this report. Government guidance is merely for the local authority to consult with the DNP about any redistribution.

Paul Woodhead – Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer  
Tel: 01626 215139 Email: [paul.woodhead@teignbridge.gov.uk](mailto:paul.woodhead@teignbridge.gov.uk)

**Risk Assessment**

Risks are identified in section 5. There are no specific risks apart from the potential financial pressure identified above and detailed in section 3.

Martin Flitcroft – Chief Finance Officer  
Tel: 01626 215246 Email: [martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk](mailto:martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk)

## **Environmental/ Climate Change Implications**

There are no environmental or climate change impacts arising from this report.

David Eaton – Environmental Protection Manager  
Tel: 01626 215064 Email: david.eaton@teignbridge.gov.uk

## **Report Author**

Martin Flitcroft – Chief Finance Officer  
Head of Corporate Resources  
Tel: 01626 215246 Email: martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk

## **Executive Member**

Councillor Richard Keeling – Executive Member for Resources

## **Appendices/Background Papers**

None

### **1. PURPOSE**

- To review the process for receiving New Homes Bonus (NHB) and any further redistribution to DNP.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1** Teignbridge District Council receive NHB as the principal housing authority. This covers the whole of the District area including the National Park. Government guidance only states that the District has to consult with the National Park over any possible redistribution. Historically we have only provided small payments in the past and nothing since Covid.
- 2.2** North Devon District Council have never provided Exmoor National Park with any funding from NHB. South Hams have not made a contribution recently but West Devon have paid a sum of £78,500 in 2023 in return for keeping a visitor centre open which is linked to their NHB receipts over a 3 year period.
- 2.3** DNP have contacted the Managing Director asking for us to consider making a payment to them but not for any particular reason or project.

### **3. FINANCIAL**

- 3.1** Traditionally officers have provided guidance in relation to whether a payment is thought to be appropriate however it is considered that Members should

revisit this process and provide advice on its use going forward. We do carry out significant work which benefits DNP totally funded by the Council. This includes a housing officer who works approximately two thirds of their time on housing issues within the National Park.

Since 1 April 2020 the housing enabling that has been spent and fully funded by Teignbridge District Council includes various assessments, surveys, consultation costs and capital grants and match funding (excluding officer costs above) with further commitments in 2023/24 and 2024/25 which amount to £158,000. This work has covered schemes in Widecombe in the Moor, Moretonhampstead, Ashburton, Dunsford, Christow and Manaton.

We have an economic development team that operates across the whole district, including our part of the DNP supporting business expansions and relocations.

We have heavily supported the Greater Dartmoor Leaf project which brought in more than £1.5 million grant funding for Teignbridge projects, many of which were within the National Park.

Of the first £160,000 of UK Shared Prosperity Fund that went towards the Green Business Grant in excess of £45,000 was spent on Dartmoor Projects.

Green infrastructure – maintenance and capital upgrades of play areas in the DNP fall to Teignbridge. This has required us to set up a separate capital fund to enable play area upgrades within the DNP area which amounts to £114,000.

Teignbridge provides and maintains an array of green space infrastructure within DNP without the support of DNP. This ranges from closed cemeteries (e.g. Widecombe in the Moor) to formal park space.

Tennis courts – we are currently in the process of refurbishing our tennis courts including the facilities in Buckfastleigh which will require use of Teignbridge capital funds.

We have adopted and maintained play areas within DNP including Minors Close and Barnsey Gardens at Ashburton and Market Close at Buckfastleigh.

Officer views are that the benefits attributed to the work carried out for the benefit of DNP which are met at no cost to DNP more than outweigh any share of additional distribution of NHB receipts.

- 3.2** The number of affordable homes that have been built in the National Park amount to 45 in total for the last 3 years. We used to receive NHB for a period of 6 years once a property had been built. This was reduced to 4 years and is now for only one year. It is calculated that for all homes built within the National Park within the District the income received via NHB would be approximately £56,000 which equates to just under £19,000 a year on average for these properties. All NHB is budgeted to support the activities that

we do – provide contributions to capital and support the officer costs of work done throughout the District including the DNP as described above and the ongoing costs of running services within the area.

- 3.3** There is no budgetary provision to make a payment to DNP and recognizing the work we do throughout the District and the significant budget gap we have it is not recommended that a payment is made to DNP. Any such payment would have to be found from cutting an alternative budget and would set a precedent for future years. We are aware of other budgetary pressures which need addressing including replacement of the refuse fleet and a significant increase in leasing costs which are not currently budgeted for in the medium term financial plan.

**4. LEGAL**

There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

**5. RISKS**

The only risk is of a financial nature being that there is no budget set for such a payment nor a requirement to make any payment at all. It is the view of the Chief Finance Officer that no payment should be made taking account of the other work we do and our mounting budgetary issues.

**6. ENVIRONMENTAL/CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT**

There are no environmental/climate change implications.

**7. DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION (CONFIRMATION OF DECISION SUBJECT TO CALL-IN)**

10.00 a.m. on 10 October 2023

**Teignbridge District Council  
Executive  
3 October 2023  
Part i**

**Support for Care Leavers**

**Purpose of Report**

To notify members of the discussions that have been had with Devon County Council and the other district authorities in Devon around producing a package of support for Care Leavers in recognition of our shared corporate parenting responsibilities. The proposed package will include a Council Tax Care Leaver Policy to be drafted and adopted and the introduction of free leisure membership for our leisure centres, and work experience opportunities.

To request that members recommend adoption, in principle, of a package of support for Care Leavers within the Teignbridge district.

**Recommendation(s)**

The Executive RECOMMENDS to Council the adoption, in principle, of a Council Tax support offer for Care Leavers which will incorporate a council tax discount, free membership to our leisure centres and work experience opportunities.

**Financial Implications**

The costs of the scheme are highlighted in 2.10, 2.11 and section 5.

Martin Flitcroft  
Head of Corporate Services  
Email: martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk

**Legal Implications**

See section 6 below.

Paul Woodhead  
Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer  
Email: paul.woodhead@teignbridge.gov.uk

**Risk Assessment**

Risks are set out in 7.1  
Tracey Hooper – Service Lead for Revenue, Benefits and Customer Support  
Email: tracey.hooper@teignbridge.gov.uk

## Environmental/ Climate Change Implications

See 8.1 below – there are no environmental/climate implications

William Elliott – Climate Change Officer  
Email: [william.elliott@teignbridge.gov.uk](mailto:william.elliott@teignbridge.gov.uk)

## Report Author

Tracey Hooper – Service Lead for Revenue, Benefits and Customer Support  
Email: [tracey.hooper@teignbridge.gov.uk](mailto:tracey.hooper@teignbridge.gov.uk)

## Executive Member

Cllr Richard Keeling – Executive Member for Corporate Resources  
Cllr John Nutley – Executive Member for Open Spaces, Leisure, Sport, Resorts and Tourism  
Cllr Martin Wrigley – Leader and Executive Member for Strategic Direction

## Appendices/Background Papers

Appendix A – Equality Impact Assessment

### 1. Introduction

1.1 The Children and Social Work Act 2017 introduced a set of corporate parenting principles, which comprise of seven needs that local authorities in England must have regard to whenever they exercise a function in relation to looked-after children or care leavers. These include:

- to act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and well-being, of those children and young people
- to encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings
- to take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people
- to help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners
- to promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people
- for those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work; and
- to prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living

1.2 These corporate parenting principles for ‘looked after’ children and care leavers stress the importance of joint working in supporting care leavers. At the Devon Strategic Corporate Parenting Board, work is underway to look at an enhanced approach to

corporate parenting. This includes improving access for those in the care system to work experience and employment and for when they leave care, to housing, as well as promoting physical and mental health and well-being. The Council has a statutory duty to co-operate with the County Council in making arrangements for improving the wellbeing of these individuals in Devon.

1.3 In July 2016, the government published “Keep on Caring” a strategy for supporting young people from care to independence which highlighted that awarding Council Tax discounts to this group was best practice.

1.4 Research has been undertaken by South Hams Council that shows Devon is currently an outlier nationally in not awarding a Council Tax discount to all care leavers as of right. According to this research, the vast majority of two-tier areas now apply a discount up to the care leaver’s 25<sup>th</sup> birthday.

1.5 In February 2018 the Government published “Applying corporate parenting principles to looked-after children and care leavers”. The guidance identifies specific service areas including local tax collection and delivery of leisure and recreation where local authorities may consider providing a differentiated service to looked-after children or care leavers.

1.6 Following discussions with County and endorsement from the DfE National Adviser for Care Leavers this report proposes a support offer for Care Leavers which includes a Council Tax discount, free leisure centre membership and work experience opportunities. If ‘in principle’ approval is given to the proposal the final policy will be submitted to Full Council for approval prior to implementation.

## **2. Support Offer – Council Tax**

2.1 Care leavers are considered a particularly vulnerable group for Council Tax debt. Moving to independent accommodation and managing their finances for the first time is challenging, as care leavers do so without the family support and the wider network that most young people can rely on, and indeed take for granted.

2.2 By awarding a discretionary council tax discount, we can help care leavers manage the transition to adulthood offering financial assistance as many parents do as their children move toward independence.

2.3 In order to ensure uniformity of approach, the Devon billing authorities (district councils) have been working with Devon County Council to devise a common Council Tax discount scheme which is proposed to be effective at the earliest opportunity.

2.4 There are a number of ways in which support may be awarded. One is via the Council’s Council Tax Reduction Scheme under Section 13A(2)(b) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended), another is via the Exceptional Hardship Scheme, or alternatively via the Council’s discretionary discount powers under Section 13A(1)(c) of the same Act. We are in the process of determining which approach is preferred based on system capabilities and administrative requirements but the amount of discount awarded to the care leavers will be the same regardless of approach.

2.5 It should be noted that if the scheme is delivered via the Council Tax Reduction Scheme this will require public consultation prior to adoption.

2.6 It is proposed that the Council will award a council tax discretionary discount of 100% up to the care leaver's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. The discount will be awarded after the entitlement to all other discounts and exemptions has been assessed. The discount will only apply to care leavers living in Devon, with Devon County Council supporting the approximately 269 care leavers who live outside of the county.

2.7 By taking a uniform approach, we will be supporting all Devon care leavers by implementing a scheme which does not stigmatise them and provides a simple process which means all care leavers can access support.

2.8 It should be noted that the success of the scheme is contingent on the Council (and indeed all districts) receiving accurate data from Devon County Council on a timely basis, Devon County Council has committed to provide the appropriate data and updates on any changes on a monthly basis

2.9 The latest information provided by County confirms that there are 89 care leavers living in Teignbridge. Of these, 31 have a council tax liability to pay amounting to £19,000.

2.10 Discussions are still being had with County as to how the cost of the scheme is borne but based on number of current care leavers within the Teignbridge district the maximum cost to Teignbridge would be in the region of £19,000 per annum (if Teignbridge bear full cost of the scheme) possibly reducing to around £2,390 (if County and other preceptors agree to fund according to precept share).

2.11 It should be noted that if we use Council Tax Reduction or Exceptional Hardship to deliver the scheme the cost stays within the Collection Fund account and is split in the usual way between all preceptors. This reduces the anticipated income for 2023/24 and future years. If we deliver using our Discretionary Discount powers the full cost is taken out of the Collection Fund and is met by the Billing Authority in the Revenue Account creating a budget pressure. Subject to County and other preceptors agreeing to fund according to precept share this would require a manual financial adjustment.

2.12 Devon County Council has agreed to fully fund the discount for any care leavers who are living outside of Devon.

2.13 It is critical that County provides age profiled data to enable all districts to plan well in advance, providing an understanding of future costs to be factored into annual budget planning processes. Devon Heads of Revenues and Benefits will work together with Devon County Council children's services department to implement an effective and consistent process.

### **3. Support Offer – Leisure memberships**



3.1 Leisure activities are identified in the statutory guidance as one of the areas local authorities should have regard to their corporate parenting responsibilities and may wish to offer a differentiated service to Care Leavers.

3.2 In recognition of this, it is proposed to offer a leisure subscription free of charge to Care Leavers up to the age of 25, which would provide access equivalent to the 'Jam Packed' membership, providing access to pools, classes, gym, courts, sauna and steam.

#### **4. Support Offer – Work Experience placements**

4.1 To help set high ambitions and aspirations the guidance suggests local authorities may wish to consider supporting work opportunities within their local authority.

4.2 Teignbridge already offers work experience opportunities for young people, with this considered on a case by case basis depending on Departments' capacity to host, and this can be extended to include care leavers up to the age of 25.

#### **5. Financial implications**

5.1 The financial impacts are based on County data and if the figures prove to be understated the costs for providing the council tax discount may increase. That being said, any understatement is unlikely to be significant so cost implications would be minimal. There is also an opportunity to review the support offer periodically (annual budget cycle) to ensure costs remain acceptable.

5.2 With regard to leisure memberships this would be viewed as a potential loss of income rather than a direct cost to the service, so could be reasonably accommodated. It is not currently known if any Care Leavers currently subscribe to our leisure centres so there may be a loss of income on converting these to free memberships. Given there are only 89 Care Leavers in the district in total, any loss of income is likely to be small.

#### **6. Legal implications**

6.1 It is considered that the approval, in principle, for this policy accords with the Council's statutory obligations.

6.2 Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) gives the Council discretion to reduce the amount of Council Tax payable by individual cases or by class.

6.3 However, care must be taken to avoid any unintentional direct or indirect discrimination against other sections of the community.

#### **7. Risks**

7.1 There may be a small potential risk of challenge from other groups who consider themselves to be in need and who do not receive similar support but as we have no corporate parenting responsibility to any other groups and our offer reflects government guidance and best practice any challenge would be unfounded.

## **8. Environmental/Climate Change Impact**

8.1 No direct carbon/biodiversity impact arising from the recommendations

## **9. Equality implications**

9.1 This proposal is designed to have a positive impact on a cohort of young adults (care leavers). We have considered the impact in terms of age and whilst the proposal is based on the 18 to 24 age range, age has been used as a criteria to accessibility and in a positive way.

9.2 Care leavers with protected characteristics will be entitled to this discount alongside all other care leavers.

9.3 Further information relating to equalities can be found in the EIA attached as appendix A

## **10. Conclusion**

10.1 While the Children Act 2004 places the onus upon county councils to make arrangements for improving the well-being of children in its area, district councils have a duty to co-operate in those arrangements. Supporting with the cost of living through a council tax discretionary discount will help care leavers manage the transition to adulthood and help make their own home a safe and affordable space. The access to free leisure offer supports physical and mental health and well-being, with the Work Experience placement offer providing the opportunity to gain the skills, insight and experience necessary to help move into future employment and independent adulthood.



# Equality Impact Assessment

Assessment Of: Care Leaver Support Package	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please state]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review <input type="checkbox"/> Changing
Directorate: Community Services and Improvement	Assessment carried out by: Nikki Rawley
Service Area: Revenue and Benefits	Job Role: Council Tax Lead Officer
Version / Date of Sign Off by Director:	

## Step 1: What do we want to do?

*This assessment should be started at the beginning of the process by someone with a good knowledge of the proposal and service area, and sufficient influence over the proposal. It is good practice to take a team approach to completing the equality impact assessment. Please contact the Policy Officer early for advice.*

### 1.1 What are the aims and objectives/purpose of this proposal?

*Briefly explain the purpose of the proposal and why it is needed. Describe who it is aimed at and the intended aims / outcomes. Where known also summarise the key actions you plan to undertake. Please use plain English, avoiding jargon and acronyms. Equality Impact Assessments are viewed by a wide range of people including decision-makers and the wider public.*

To provide a support package to Care Leavers which will include:

- A Council Tax discount for care leavers up to the age of 25. The policy is yet to be drafted and will be subject to final understanding of the financial implications and agreement with our precepting authorities. The proposals will reduce to £0, the Council Tax liabilities of all qualifying care leavers who live alone after all other discounts, reductions and exemptions have been exhausted. A lesser amount of discount will be applied where there are others in the property who are jointly and severally liable for council tax.
- Free leisure centre membership which would provide access equivalent to the 'Jam Packed' membership, providing access to pools, classes, gym, courts, sauna and steam.
- Access to work experience opportunities, where available, up to the age of 25

The key rationale for the recommendations is to provide support, in line with corporate parenting guidance and best practice, to a vulnerable group of young residents who have been supported by our local care system.

### 1.2 Who will the proposal have the potential to affect?

Service users       The wider community       Teignbridge workforce

### 1.3 Will the proposal have an equality impact?

*Could the proposal affect access levels of representation or participation in a service, or does it have the potential to change e.g. quality of life: health, education, or standard of living etc.?*

*If 'No' explain why you are sure there will be no equality impact, then skip steps 2-4 and request review by your manager.*

If 'Yes' complete the rest of this assessment.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>	[please select]
--	------------------------------------	-----------------

## Step 2: What information do we have?

### 2.1 What data or evidence is there which tells us who is, or could be affected?

Please use this section to demonstrate an understanding of who could be affected by the proposal. Include general population data where appropriate, and information about people who will be affected with particular reference to protected and other relevant characteristics (listed in 2.2).

Use one row for each evidence source and say which characteristic(s) it relates to. You can include a mix of qualitative and quantitative data - from national research, local data or previous consultations and engagement activities.

Outline whether there are any over or under representation of equality groups within your service - don't forget to benchmark to local population where appropriate.

For workforce / management of change proposals you will need to look at the diversity of the affected team(s) using available evidence such as the employee profile data. Identify any under/over-representation compared with Teignbridge's economically active citizens for age, disability, ethnicity, gender, religion/belief and sexual orientation.

<b>Data / Evidence Source</b> [Include a reference where known]	<b>Summary of what this tells us</b>
LGA Research report - Basic Facts About Teignbridge <a href="http://esd.org.uk">Basic facts about your chosen area (esd.org.uk)</a>	Details the demography of the Teignbridge District in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Age</li> <li>• Ethnicity</li> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Employment</li> <li>• Education</li> </ul>
LGA Research Report- Demographic Report <a href="http://local.gov.uk">LGA Research Report - Demographic Report   LG Inform (local.gov.uk)</a>	Provides further detail on population changes in Teignbridge, and demographic information relating to gender and ethnicity in Teignbridge with comparisons to the percentage figures for the South West and all English Local authority areas in totality
The Homelessness Monitor: England 2022 <a href="http://crisis.org.uk">Homelessness Monitor 2022   England   Crisis UK</a>	The Homelessness Monitor: England 2022, published by Crisis, is the latest report in a longitudinal study providing independent analysis of the homelessness impacts of recent economic and policy developments in England. This tenth annual report by Heriot-Watt University, providing an account of how homelessness stands in England in 2021, or as close to 2021 as data availability allows. It also highlights emerging trends and forecasts some of the likely future changes, identifying the developments likely to have the most significant impacts on homelessness.
<b>Additional comments:</b> Datasets of care leavers within Teignbridge District Council as provided by Devon County Council	Name and address details of Care Leavers within our district who are supported by Devon county Council

## 2.2 Do you currently monitor relevant activity by the following protected characteristics?

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Age                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Disability          | <input type="checkbox"/> Gender Reassignment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marriage and Civil Partnership | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy/Maternity | <input type="checkbox"/> Race                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion or Belief             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sex                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation  |

## 2.3 Are there any gaps in the evidence base?

Where there are gaps in the evidence, or you don't have enough information about some equality groups, include an equality action to find out in section 4.2 below. This doesn't mean that you can't complete the assessment without the information, but you need to follow up the action and if necessary, review the assessment later. If you are unable to fill in the gaps please state this clearly with a justification.

For workforce related proposals all relevant information on characteristics may need to be sought from HR (e.g. pregnancy/maternity). For smaller teams diversity data may be redacted. A high proportion of not known/not disclosed may require action to address and identify the information needed.

We do not hold data on protected characteristics for council tax purposes.

## 2.4 How have you involved communities and groups that could be affected?

You will nearly always need to involve and consult with internal and external stakeholders during your assessment. The extent of the engagement will depend on the nature of the proposal or change. This should usually include individuals and groups representing different relevant protected characteristics. Please include details of any completed engagement and consultation and how representative this has been of Teignbridge's diverse communities.

Include the main findings of any engagement and consultation in Section 2.1 above.

If you are managing a workforce change process or restructure please refer to HR for advice on how to consult and engage with employees. Relevant stakeholders for engagement about workforce changes may include e.g. staff-led groups, trades unions as well as affected staff.

There has been extensive consultation and discussions with Devon County Council and other local authorities across the county. No other groups specifically affected

## 2.5 How will engagement with stakeholders continue?

Explain how you will continue to engage with stakeholders throughout the course of planning and delivery. Please describe where more engagement and consultation is required and set out how you intend to undertake it. Include any targeted work to seek the views of under-represented groups. If you do not intend to undertake it, please set out your justification. You can ask the Consultation Officer for help in targeting particular groups.

Continued engagement with Devon County Council.  
No other particular groups have been identified that we will need to engage with.

## Step 3: Who might the proposal impact?

Analysis of impacts must be rigorous. Please demonstrate your analysis of any impacts of the proposal in this section, referring to evidence you have gathered above and the characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010. Also include details of existing issues for particular groups that you are aware of and are seeking to address or mitigate through this proposal.

### 3.1 Does the proposal have any potentially adverse impacts on people on the basis of their protected or other relevant characteristics?

Consider sub-categories (different kinds of disability, ethnic background etc.) and how people with combined characteristics (e.g. young women) might have particular needs or experience particular kinds of disadvantage.

Where mitigations indicate a follow-on action, include this in the 'Action Plan' Section 4.2 below.

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b> (highlight any potential issues that might impact <b>all or many groups</b> )	
The proposals will apply to all qualifying care leavers who have a Council Tax liability irrespective of whether they have any protected characteristics or not. Being a care leaver is not considered to be a protected characteristic, however care leavers living within Teignbridge may have one or more protected characteristic.	
<b>PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS</b>	
<b>Age: Young People</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Positive
Mitigations:	<p>The Children and Social Work Act 2017 introduces corporate parenting principles, which comprise of seven needs that local authorities in England must have regard to whenever they exercise a function in relation to looked-after children or care leavers.</p> <p>The corporate parenting principles are intended to secure a better approach to fulfilling existing functions in relation to looked after children and care leavers and for the local authority to facilitate as far as possible secure, nurturing, and positive experiences for looked after children and young people and enable positive outcomes for them.</p> <p>The corporate parenting principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and wellbeing, of those children and young people</li> <li>• To encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings</li> <li>• To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people</li> <li>• To help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners</li> <li>• To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people</li> <li>• For those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work; and</li> <li>• To prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living</li> </ul> <p>The national statutory guidance on the application of the corporate parenting principles to looked after children and care leavers is designed to help local authorities consider the kinds of services that may be offered when having regard to the corporate parenting principles. It states the importance for all who exercise functions in relation to looked-after children and care leavers including those responsible for housing and council tax – to work together to ensure they have a more joined up approach.</p> <p>Looked after children and care leavers are some of the most vulnerable residents in our society and can experience some of the worst outcomes as children and moving into adulthood. This proposal will provide much needed support as they transition into adult life</p>
<b>Age: Older People</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
<b>Disability</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	

Mitigations:	
<b>Sex</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
<b>Pregnancy / Maternity</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Positive
Mitigations:	As noted above, some care leavers are single parents with no family. This potential exemption would be a financial benefit
<b>Gender reassignment</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
<b>Race</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
<b>Marriage &amp; civil partnership</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	

## OTHER RELEVANT CHARACTERISTICS

<b>Socio-Economic (deprivation)</b>	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Positive
Mitigations:	See 3.2 below
<b>Other group(s)</b> <i>Please add additional rows below to detail the impact for other relevant groups as appropriate e.g. Asylums and Refugees; Rural/Urban Communities, Homelessness, Digital Exclusion, Access To Transport</i>	
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	

### 3.2 Does the proposal create any benefits for people on the basis of their protected or other relevant characteristics?

Outline any potential benefits of the proposal and how they can be maximised. Identify how the proposal will support our Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- ✓ Eliminate unlawful discrimination for a protected group

- ✓ Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't
- ✓ Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't

Care leavers are a particularly vulnerable group for Council Tax debt. In Teignbridge, of 31 care leavers with a council tax liability, 19 have something to pay towards their liability and 8 of those are in arrears. This represents 42% struggling with payment.

Also to note:

- Several struggling to hold down jobs and frequently in and out of work, makes it more difficult to budget
- Learning difficulties
- In and out of prison
- Debts other than council tax at a young age
- Relationship splits
- Single parents
- Frequent moves, some periods of homelessness
- Frequently sole occupiers with no-one else to share household bills

Care leavers face the challenge of having to cope with the demands of living on their own at a young age: having to manage finances, maintain a home and manage their lives independently, without the support from families. Whilst not mitigating the impact of all of the disadvantages that care leavers have experienced, a council tax exemption can assist care leavers to overcome them. By providing this council tax exemption, the Council will be providing financial support to care leavers whilst they develop independent lives and life skills.

In addition, the free leisure membership will make it easier for them to access the Council's leisure services which may help to support their physical and mental health.

## Step 4: Impact

### 4.1 How has the equality impact assessment informed or changed the proposal?

*What are the main conclusions of this assessment? Use this section to provide an overview of your findings. This content should be used as a summary in reports, where this full assessment is included as an appendix.*

*If you have identified any significant negative impacts which cannot be mitigated, provide a justification showing how the proposal is proportionate, necessary and appropriate despite this.*

#### Summary of significant negative impacts and how they can be mitigated or justified:

There are no negative impacts, or potential for discrimination

#### Summary of positive impacts / opportunities to promote the Public Sector Equality Duty:

### 4.2 Action Plan

*Use this section to set out any actions you have identified to improve data, mitigate issues, or maximise opportunities etc. If an action is to meet the needs of a particular protected group please specify this.*

Improvement / action required	Responsible Officer	Timescale
The expectation from Devon County Council is to exempt care leavers for whom they have a corporate parenting responsibility for, therefore it should be noted that care leavers living in Teignbridge whose corporate parent is Plymouth, Torbay or outside of Devon would not get the exemption. This does not prohibit them from asking for discretionary help, but the decision to award any help would be based on an analysis of their income and expenditure.	Nikki Rawley – Council Tax Lead Officer	On going



Improvement / action required	Responsible Officer	Timescale
However many local authorities are adopting a Council Tax exemption for care leavers, and for those in Teignbridge whose corporate parent is not Devon County Council, staff will help the care leaver to access support from the appropriate corporate parent.		
Our decisions will be based on datasets provided by and confirmation of a qualifying care leaver status by Devon County Council	Nikki Rawley	On going

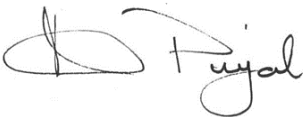
### 4.3 How will the impact of your proposal and actions be measured?

*How will you know if have been successful? Once the activity has been implemented this equality impact assessment should be periodically reviewed to make sure your changes have been effective and your approach is still appropriate. Include the timescale for review in your action plan above.*

Periodical review of care leavers Council Tax accounts and liabilities

### Step 5: Review & Sign-Off

*EIAs should only be marked as reviewed when they provide sufficient information for decision-makers on the equalities impact of the proposal. Please seek review and feedback from management before requesting it to be signed off. All working drafts of EIAs and final signed-off EIAs should be saved in G:\GLOBAL\EIA Once signed-off please add the details to the 'EIA Register' of all council EIAs saved in the same directory.*

<b>Reviewed by Service Manager:</b> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tracey Hooper – Service Lead for Revenue, Benefits and Customer Support No <input type="checkbox"/> Instead was reviewed by:	<b>Strategic Leadership Team Sign-Off:</b> 
Date: 14.09.23	Date: 25 sept 23

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**Teignbridge District Council  
Executive  
03 October 2023  
Part i**

**Future High Streets Fund update**

**Purpose of Report**

To inform the Executive on the progress of the Future High Streets Fund Newton Abbot

**Recommendation(s)**

'To note' only

**Financial Implications**

There are no further financial implications arising from this report as it is 'to note' apart from the further update in 2.3.1 below which is to be costed and funding established.

The implications of the delays are considerable and not only places the entire Project at risk but also jeopardises the £9 million grant. Furthermore, delays continue to have an adverse impact on costs as we remain in a relatively high inflationary environment.

A detailed breakdown of the overall budget was set out in the Part II report to the 4 October 2022 Executive. There are no changes to update Executive on since that report.

Martin Flitcroft  
Head of Corporate Services  
Email: [martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk](mailto:martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk)

**Legal Implications**

There are no specific legal implications arising out of this report as it is an update only. However, implications and risks associated with the project previously identified and reported remain unaltered. Also, the appropriateness of reports "to note" where no decision is sought or being made is questioned.

Paul Woodhead  
Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer  
Email: [paul.woodhead@teignbridge.gov.uk](mailto:paul.woodhead@teignbridge.gov.uk)



## Risk Assessment

There are no risks arising from this report as it is principally only 'to note'.

Risks to the project were set out in the Executive reports of 12 September 2022, 4 October 2022, and 17 November 2022, including the risks caused by additional delays to the project and the impact of additional work on available resources to undertake tasks.

Thomas E Phillips MRICS, Assets Manager  
Email: tom.phillips@teignbridge.gov.uk

## Environmental / Climate Change Implications

There are no environmental or climate change implications arising from this report as it is 'to note' only.

William Elliott, Climate Change Officer  
Email: william.elliott@teignbridge.gov.uk

## Report Author

Thomas E Phillips MRICS, Assets Manager  
Email: tom.phillips@teignbridge.gov.uk

## Executive Member

Councillor Martin Wrigley

## Background Papers

1. [Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 21st July, 2020, 10.00 am - Teignbridge District Council](#) - Executive approval of the submission of the Future High Street Fund bid, July 2020
2. [Agenda item - Future High Street Fund - Teignbridge District Council](#) - Executive endorsement of the Future High Street Fund Project, April 2021
3. [Agenda for Full Council on Thursday, 22nd April, 2021, 10.00 am - Teignbridge District Council](#) - Council approval of the Future High Street Fund Project, April 2021
4. [Agenda item - Future High Street Fund - Newton Abbot Market - Teignbridge District Council](#) - Council approval of the Market Hall business case, February 2022
5. [Agenda for Executive on Monday, 12th September, 2022, 10.00 am - Teignbridge District Council](#) - Executive report considering update on the Future High Street Fund, September 2022
6. [Decision - Urgent Decision - Future High Street Fund - Teignbridge District Council](#) - Urgent decision to progress actions in Executive report following cancellation of Executive meeting, September 2022

7. [Part 1 Executive report - FHSF Oct 2022.pdf \(teignbridge.gov.uk\)](#) – Executive report providing update, October 2022
8. [Agenda for Full Council on Thursday, 17th November, 2022, 10.00 am - Teignbridge District Council](#) – Extraordinary Council Meeting to agree additional funding and revised business case, November 2022
9. [Agenda for Teignbridge Highways and Traffic Orders Committee on Thursday, 1st June, 2023, 2.15 pm - Democracy in Devon](#) – HATOC meeting regarding the Queen Street proposals, June 2023
10. [Agenda item - Notices of Motion - Teignbridge District Council](#) -

## 1. Background

- 1.1 At the Extraordinary meeting of the Council on 06 September 2022, it was agreed that:
- 1.2 ‘With effect from October 2022, officers present a comprehensive written report for each executive meeting (whether held or not) on delivery of the Future High Streets Fund (FHSF) and its various projects. The report will set out key objectives and timelines, progress towards them, identify when decisions will need to be made by council / the executive and all other necessary and relevant information about the FHSF to keep councillors fully informed. If necessary, the report may be a part ii ‘exempt item’.

## 2. Project updates

### 2.1 Key objectives

- 2.1.1 The key objectives for the Future High Streets Fund (FHSF) and the Council’s successful bid were set out in detail in previous reports to the Executive and the Council. It is not proposed to repeat them in this or future update reports.

### 2.2 Timelines

- 2.2.1 No change to timelines since Executive Report issued 22 August 2023. Programmes for the Cinema and Market Hall Projects are currently being revised to reflect the delay in planning determination and planning submission respectively.
- 2.2.2 The planning application for the new four screen cinema is live and yet to be determined. There is a need for an Executive Committee decision to take this forward and officers will bring a report to the 31 October committee meeting.
- 2.2.7 Plans for the Market Hall are currently being developed. A planning application is being prepared and it is hoped to be ready to submit by the end of October. The programme submitted to DLUHC as part of the Project

Adjustment Request set out a 10 July 2023 target submission date, meaning the submission is almost four months behind schedule. Efforts are being made to find other programme savings in order to maintain the target completion date of November 2025.

## **2.3 Further Updates**

2.3.1 Market Hall roof temporarily made secure to enable reopening and requisite work being established and costed. An assessment of what is inside and outside of Project scope, budget, contingency and what is to be undertaken through Repairs and Maintenance budget will be made.

2.3.2 Works will likely require Listed Building Consent, which will cause delay and could bring repair works in line with the main contract timing.

2.3.3 A meeting with Market Curators was held on 18 September to provide the Portfolio Holder with detail of the Market Hall layout, business case and operating model ahead of planning application submission.

2.3.4 No further updates appropriate at this stage

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