

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2026**

Present:

Councillors Bullivant (Chair), Hayes, MacGregor, C Parker, Rollason, Swain, J Taylor and Thorne (Vice-Chair)

Members in Attendance:

Councillors Buscombe, Buscombe, Hook, Keeling, Nutley, Palethorpe and Williams

Apologies:

Councillors Cox, James, Major, Ryan and Steemson

Officers in Attendance:

Chris Braines, Head of Environmental Services  
Gordon Bryant, Head of Financial Services and Audit  
Trish Corns, Principal Democratic Services Officer  
Kay Fice, Scrutiny Officer  
Christopher Morgan, Assistant Democratic Services Officer

### **149. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **150. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None.

### **151. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

None.

### **152. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS**

None.

### **153. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN**

The Executive Forward Plan listing issues to be considered by the Executive over the next few months was received.

It was agreed that all items be allocated to an informal overview and scrutiny meeting for discussion before the issues are considered by the Executive.

**154. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY FORWARD PLAN**

The overview and scrutiny forward plan and work programme were received.

There were no matters arising other than it was noted that the items of the Executive forward plan would be incorporated into the overview and scrutiny forward plan and work programme as agreed in Minute 153 above.

**155. FINAL FINANCIAL PLAN PROPOSALS 2026/27 TO 2028/29**

The Executive Member for Corporate Resources presented the final financial plan proposals 2026/27 to 2028/29 which reflected the 3 year Government grant settlement. Members were also referred to the circulated budget forecast 2026/27 flow chart detailing the revenue and capital budgets.

During discussions concerns raised and information noted included:

- Savings made by the council through the climate action plan energy efficiency works in council owned buildings.
- The council's share of the council tax amounted to 8% and was providing good value to money services effectively providing services with a continuously decreasing budget.
- The storm damage budget has increased and grant funding for the current year has been applied for.
- The development of 1 and 2-bed council houses was welcomed.
- The increase in employment infrastructure and proposed development of business units in Newton Abbot.
- Sunday car parking charges had been adjusted in line with inflation and were now more equitable with normal parking charges.
- The budget reflected the approved One Teignbridge Council Strategic Action Plan

Further information requested included how the Council compares with other district councils on savings from energy efficiency, and to have sight of policy documents relating to the One Teignbridge action Plan which the budget aligns with.

It was proposed by Councillor C Parker, seconded by Councillor Swain and unanimously

**RECOMMENDED**

The Committee recommends to the Executive that the final financial plans proposals as set out in the agenda report be considered together with any subsequent consultation comments for approval by Council as the final budget for 2026/27 and the outline plan for the subsequent years 2027/28 and 2028/29.

The proposed budget includes:

- An increase in council tax of £6.05 or 2.99% to £208.33

- Maintaining 100% council tax support
- Continuing to react to the climate change emergency by maintaining ongoing revenue budgets for a climate change officer and associated spending in revenue and provision in the capital programme, including ongoing provisions for corporate decarbonization schemes as per 5.5
- A £3 million provision for employment sites funded by borrowing
- Authority for Executive to exceed the approved overall revenue budget by up to £200,000 per 4.25
- Support for housing – the Homes4Teignbridge initiative including £7,243,317 for the Sherborne House Car Park social rented flats and further purchases supported by the Local Authority Housing Fund (see 5.3) whilst backing business and bringing people and organisations together for local neighbourhood planning
- Infrastructure delivery plan investment funded by community infrastructure levy (CIL) and external sources where available (see 5.4); continuation of grant-funded South West Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme as per 5.6
- Town centre investment in infrastructure and employment as per 5.7
- Revenue contributions to capital being maintained at £1,500,000 per annum for 2026/27 and £500,000 thereafter
- Councillors community fund set at £1,000 each
- Providing additional 4% inflationary funding to voluntary group grants
- The level of general reserves necessary for the council as per 4.22 – recommended at £2.6 million
- The Financial Plan 2026 – 2031 as updated for adoption (at Appendix 8) and to continue to facilitate Member progression of work plans by Overview & Scrutiny to address the budgetary position and deliver savings

**156. REVISION OF THE COUNCIL'S KERBSIDE RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE TO MEET SIMPLER RECYCLING REFORMS**

The Executive Member for Environmental Services presented the agenda report.

The Council's current recycling service already meets most of the statutory requirements of the 2023, the UK Government Simpler Recycling requirements and the Environment Act 2021 brought into force in May 2024. To achieve full compliance the following service enhancements are required:

- Cartons to be added to the kerbside collection service by March 2026
- Plastic bags and wrapping to be added to the kerbside collection service by March 2027

In relation to battery recycling collections battery fires in waste vehicles and sites create a significant safety risk to our collection crews, vehicles and at the waste transfer station.

The report advised on the outcome and feedback of the 10-week trial to 500 properties to collect both cartons and plastic bags and wrapping, two recycling options available and cost implications.

It was proposed by Councillor Macgregor and seconded by Councillor Swain that recommendation 1 as set out in the agenda report be approved. The proposal was vote on and carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Councillor Bullivant and seconded by Councillor c Parker that recommendation 2 as set out in the agenda report be approved with the following words being added: *and appropriate monitoring programme is put in place to ensure the service safety is considered*. The proposal was voted on and carried unanimously

## RECOMMENDED

The Council is recommended to approve:

- (1) The collection of cartons, plastic bags and wrapping for recycling is introduced in line with Option 1 as detailed in the agenda report.
- (2) The collection of batteries is removed from the household recycling collection service from April 2027, and appropriate monitoring programme is put in place to ensure the service safety is considered.

### **157. EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIENNIAL UPDATE**

The Committee scrutinised the agenda biennial update report from the Executive Member for Leisure and Recreation. The Executive Member further updated the Committee on the report which summarised the service and legal responsibilities covered by the EM remit, Strategic Plan objectives, service delivery updates, how OS can support upcoming decisions and the delivery of the strategic plan, and any other relevant information for the OS forward plan/work programme.

The full discussion can be found the link below and made reference to the recent storm damage to property and structures and the resulting debris to be cleared up. [Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Tuesday 3 February 2026, 10:00am - Start video at 1:22:42 - Teignbridge District Council Webcasting](#)

### **158. OUTSIDE ORGANISATION UPDATES FROM THE COUNCIL'S APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES**

The Chair referred to the agenda reports from the Council's appointed representatives for the outside organisations of HATOC, Newton abbot Community Interest Group, South West Councils and South West Employers Panel Provincial Council.

The agenda reports summarised the purpose of the organisation, attendance requirements, feedback on the work of the organisation, the role the outside organisation plays in promoting and aligning with the Council's priorities, policies

and strategies, the value that the Council brings to the origination, why the organisation needs the Council, and any other relevant information for OS.

In response to questions, the representative for HATOC presenting the report Cllr C Parker, advised that he would take back to the committee the consideration that the quality of pothole repair had decreased over the past 12 months, and that there was insufficient signage regarding the speed camera along Ashburton Road, and that several drivers had been caught for speeding. However it was pointed out by the representative that the speed camera matter had been discussed at a recent HATOC meeting when it was advised that all required signage was in place.

**159. FEEDBACK ON TASK AND FINISH GROUPS**

It was noted that the Medium-Term Financial Plan Review Group would be meeting in March.

CLLR P BULLIVANT  
Chairman