

**Oversight and Governance**

Chief Executive's Department

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## Delegated Decisions

### Delegated Executive/Officer Decisions

Notice of call-in for non-urgent decisions must be given to Democratic Services by 4.30 pm on Wednesday 14 January 2026. Please note – urgent decisions and non-key Council Officer decisions cannot be called in. Copies of the decisions together with background reports are available for viewing as follows:

- on the Council's Intranet Site at <https://modgov/mgDelegatedDecisions.aspx>
- on the Council's website at <https://tinyurl.com/3hwmppzp>

The Cabinet Member decisions detailed below may be implemented on Thursday 15 January 2026, if they are not called-in.

The non-key officer decision may be implemented immediately.

## **Delegated Decisions**

**1. Councillor Jemima Laing (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Communications and Culture) (Acting Leader):**

1a. DL05 25/26 - St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme business case change request

**(Pages 1 - 36)**

**2. Councillor Tom Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change):**

2a. ECC03 25/26 - Increase in Household Bulky Waste Charges

**(Pages 37 - 52)**

**3. Council Officer Decision - Gary Walbridge (Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Communities):**

3a. COD10 25/26 - Passporting the Rough Sleeper Prevention and Recovery Grant (RSPARG) Top Up Funding to the Plymouth Alliance & Direct Awards to Partner Organisations

**(Pages 53 - 72)**

# EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a **Cabinet Member**



## REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER

Executive Decision Reference Number – DL05 25/26

Decision	
1	<b>Title of decision:</b> St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme business case change request
2	<b>Decision maker (Cabinet member name and portfolio title):</b> Councillor Jemima Laing (Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications) (Acting Leader)
3	<b>Report author and contact details:</b> Sarah Durbridge (Civil Engineer), Tel: 01752 308681, Email: sarah.durbridge@plymouth.gov.uk
4	<b>Decision to be taken:</b> It is recommended that the Deputy Leader: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approves the Capital Business Case Change Request for the St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme;</li> <li>2. Approves the allocation of an additional £88,780.89 into the Capital Programme for the St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme, funded by Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid funding.</li> </ol>
5	<b>Reasons for decision:</b> The business case sets out clear aims and objectives for the project and details how the Scheme is to be financed. To allocate sufficient funding into the Capital Programme in accordance with the funding sources set out in the report.
6	<b>Alternative options considered and rejected:</b> <u>Do Nothing Option:</u> Do statutory minimum – Cease all expenditure (capital and revenue), undertake no further flood risk management activities and walk away. Discounted because not investing in the improved management of flooding in the St Levan Park area will result in the ongoing chronic flooding of homes and businesses. With climate change, the frequency of flooding will increase, resulting in properties becoming unviable and, therefore, abandoned. This will inevitably result in significant social issues related to negative equity, loss of livelihood and homelessness. Decaying properties would also be a significant blight on the wider area's economic activity. <u>Do Minimum Option:</u> Clean and rehabilitate the existing system. Discounted because not investing in the improved management of flooding in the St Levan Park area will result in the ongoing chronic flooding of homes and businesses. With climate change, the frequency of flooding will increase, resulting in properties becoming unviable and, therefore, abandoned. This will inevitably result in significant social issues related to negative equity, loss of livelihood and homelessness. Decaying properties would also be a significant blight on the wider area's economic activity.
7	<b>Financial implications and risk:</b>

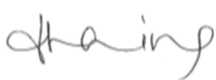
	Funding is entirely via the Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid allocation and UK Shared Prosperity Funding, with no cost implication or requirement for PCC.			
8	Is the decision a Key Decision? (Please contact <a href="#">Democratic Support</a> for further advice)	Yes	No	Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:
			x	in the case of <b>capital</b> projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of <b>£3million</b> in total
			x	in the case of <b>revenue</b> projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of <b>£1 million</b>
			x	is <b>significant</b> in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising <b>two or more</b> wards in the area of the local authority.
	If yes, date of publication of the notice in the <a href="#">Forward Plan of Key Decisions</a>	N/A		
9	Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council's corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:	<p>The Scheme will deliver the following Corporate Plan priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping children, young people and families safe</li> <li>• Green investment, jobs, skills, and better education</li> <li>• Spending money wisely</li> <li>• Focussing on prevention and early intervention</li> </ul> <p>The Scheme will support the Plymouth Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plymouth as a healthy city</li> <li>• Plymouth as a growing city</li> <li>• Plymouth as an international city</li> </ul> <p>It is relevant to the following sections of the Joint Local Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SO12 (Delivering infrastructure and investment)</li> <li>• SPT1 (Delivering sustainable development)</li> <li>• SPT2 (Sustainable linked neighbourhoods and sustainable rural communities)</li> <li>• SPT10 (Balanced transport strategy for growth and healthy and sustainable communities)</li> <li>• SPT12 (Strategic approach to the natural environment)</li> <li>• SPT13 (Strategic infrastructure measures to deliver the spatial strategy)</li> <li>• DEVI (Protecting health and amenity)</li> <li>• DEV2 (Air, water, soil, noise, land and light)</li> <li>• DEV20 (Place shaping and the quality of the built environment)</li> <li>• DEV23 (Landscape character)</li> </ul>		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DEV26 (Protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geological conservation)</li> <li>• DEV27 (Green and play spaces)</li> <li>• DEV32 (Delivering low carbon development)</li> <li>• DEV 35 (Managing flood risk and water quality impacts)</li> </ul> <p>The Scheme also supports the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, the Green Minds Model and South West Water's plans for the city.</p>
10	<b>Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)</b>	<p><b>Climate impact assessment summary</b></p> <p>A Climate Impact Assessment has been completed via the online tool (see Appendix C)</p> <p><b>Properties better protected from flooding</b></p> <p>When the Scheme completes, it is anticipated that 113 properties will be better protected from flooding during a 1 in 100 year storm event. All the relevant households sit within the 21% to 40% most deprived areas of the country.</p> <p><b>Biodiversity net gain (BNG)</b></p> <p>The Scheme will deliver BNG improvements of at least 10%.</p> <p><b>Additional flood risk reduction and ecological improvements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced risk of sewerage spills within St Levan Park</li> <li>• Reduced risk of CSO spills in the River Tamar</li> <li>• Bathing water quality improvement in the River Tamar</li> </ul> <p><b>Amenity improvements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced risk of surface water flooding on St Levan Road</li> <li>• Better usage of St Levan Park during periods of heavy rainfall</li> </ul>

#### Urgent decisions

11	<b>Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?</b>	<b>No</b>		(If yes, please contact Democratic Support ( <a href="mailto:democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk">democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk</a> ) for advice)
		<b>No</b>	x	<b>(If no, go to section 13a)</b>
12a	<b>Reason for urgency:</b>			
12b	<b>Scrutiny Chair Signature:</b>		<b>Date</b>	

	<b>Scrutiny Committee name:</b>			
	<b>Print Name:</b>			
<b>Consultation</b>				
<b>I3a</b>	<b>Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	x	
		<b>No</b>		<b>(If no go to section I4)</b>
<b>I3b</b>	<b>Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?</b>	Councillor Tom Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change) Councillor John Stephens (Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport)		
<b>I3c</b>	<b>Date Cabinet member consulted</b>	Councillor Briars-Delve has been regularly briefed, including 16/10/2025 Councillor Stephens was briefed on 26/08/2025		
<b>I4</b>	<b>Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?</b>	<b>Yes</b>		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
		<b>No</b>	x	
<b>I5</b>	<b>Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?</b>	<b>Name</b>	Glenn Caplin-Grey	
		<b>Job title</b>	Strategic Director for Growth	
		<b>Date consulted</b>	8 December 2025	
<b>Sign-off</b>				
<b>I6</b>	<b>Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:</b>	<b>Democratic Support (mandatory)</b>	JS45 25/26	
		<b>Finance (mandatory)</b>	ITG.25.26.002	
		<b>Legal (mandatory)</b>	LS/00001312/1/AC/29/4/25	
		<b>Human Resources (if applicable)</b>	N/A	
		<b>Corporate property (if applicable)</b>	N/A	
		<b>Procurement (if applicable)</b>	N/A	
<b>Appendices</b>				
<b>I7</b>	<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Title of appendix</b>		
	A	Capital Business Case Change Request		
	B	Briefing Note		

	C	Equalities Impact Assessment						
	D	Climate Impact Assessment						
<b>Confidential/exempt information</b>								
<b>18a</b>	<b>Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?</b>	<b>Yes</b>		If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in <b>18b</b> below.  (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)				
		<b>No</b>	x					
		<b>Exemption Paragraph Number</b>						
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>18b</b>	<b>Confidential/exempt briefing report title:</b>							
<b>Background Papers</b>								
<b>19</b>	Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below.  Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.							
<b>Title of background paper(s)</b>		<b>Exemption Paragraph Number</b>						
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Cabinet Member Signature</b>								
<b>20</b>	I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.							
<b>Signature</b>			<b>Date of decision</b>		18 December 2025			
<b>Print Name</b>	Councillor Jemima Laing, Acting Leader of Plymouth City Council							

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## CAPITAL BUSINESS CASE CHANGE REQUEST



### St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme (on capital programme as “St Levan Park Flood Defence”)

#### What is the endorsement you are seeking from CPOG

Allocate £88,780.89 into the capital programme for the St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme, funded by Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid funding

#### Business Case Change CATEGORY

Project Variations	Add Funding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Funding Source	£88,780.89 - Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid funding
	Remove Funding <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Virements <input type="checkbox"/>		

Other please specify:

#### Project Detail

Insert previous business case number and link to the business case		N/A – S151 approval	
Total value of capital project currently within the approved capital programme.		£130,433.11	
Value to be added/ - removed from Capital programme (if any)		£88,780.89 Capital £5,000 Revenue	<b>additional / reduction</b>
Does this project need to go to CMT?	No	Date business case approved by CMT (if required)	N/A
		Directorate	Growth
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Tom Briars-Delve, Environment and Climate Change	Service Director	Paul Barnard, Strategic Planning & Infrastructure
Senior Responsible Officer (client)	Andy Cottam, Engineering Design Manager (Strategic Planning & Infrastructure)	Project Manager	Sarah Durbridge, Civil Engineer (Strategic Planning & Infrastructure)

**Purpose of Business Case Change Request:** *(Provide a brief outline of what has happened to date. Explain the details of the proposal and how the proposal will address the issue)*

**Required change to business case**

This project is currently on the capital programme with the following allocation, totalling £130,433.11:

- Environment Agency (EA) Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) - £94,219.11
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund - £36,214

On 4 February 2025, due to the further costs of required modelling work, the EA granted a further FDGiA Allocation of £93,780.89 (£88,780.89 Capital + £5k Revenue).

Accordingly, we now wish to bring the further £88,780.89 into the capital programme.

**Background**

St Levan Road is identified in Plymouth City Council’s Flood Risk Management Strategy as a Locally Significant Area at risk from surface water flooding. PCC has defined a ‘Local Significant Area for Surface Water Flooding’ as one where there are 10 residential properties or one critical infrastructure asset at risk.

In the St Levan area, there are very steep streets, which funnel the water down to the low-lying areas in and around St Levan Park. This problem is compounded by a combined sewer system, which is at capacity. Additionally, the system can sometimes get tide-locked, which causes the water to back-up.

Figure 1 shows the EA’s surface water flood risk map for the area. The dark blue areas are those at high risk (more than 3.3% Annual Exceedance Percentage (AEP)).

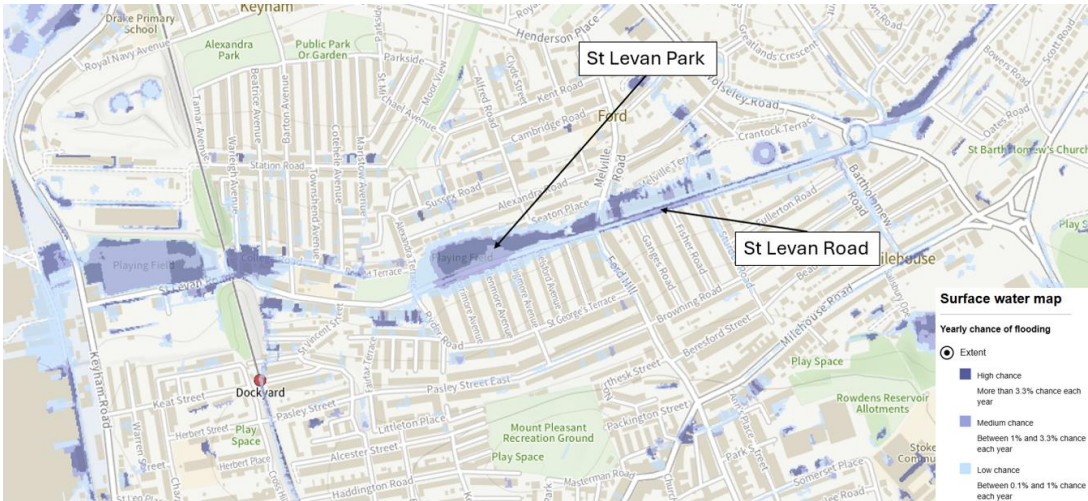


Figure 1: Environment Agency surface water flood risk map

**Flood Risk Data**

Figures 2 and 3 below show EA surface water flood risk mapping data for 1 in 100-year (1% AEP) storm events. These are indicative images because the modelling on which this data is based is high level and does not take account of the existence of buildings.





Figure 2: St Levan Road East – I in 100-year (1% AEP) storm event



Figure 3: St Levan Road West – I in 100-year (1% AEP) storm event



Within this heavily urbanised catchment, most drainage is connected to the combined sewer network, resulting in the combined network being overloaded and floodwater being contaminated. The current environmental impacts of Combined Sewer Outfall (CSO) discharges, pumping and treating surface water drainage are high.

Flooding and other extreme weather events are likely to become more frequent as a result of climate change. Over the past five years St Levan has experienced several flood events:

- Figure 4 shows flooding in St Levan Park in August 2020.
- Flash flooding in summer often occurs after prolonged spells of dry weather. When heavy rainfall hits hard and dry ground, it is less permeable and therefore unable to soak away, causing excess water on the surface and increasing the pressure on the already overworked combined sewer system
- Figures 5 to 7 show flooding in October 2024 of both St Levan Park and St Levan Road.



*Figure 4: St Levan Park while flooded, August 2020*



*Figure 5: St Levan Park while flooded, October 2024*

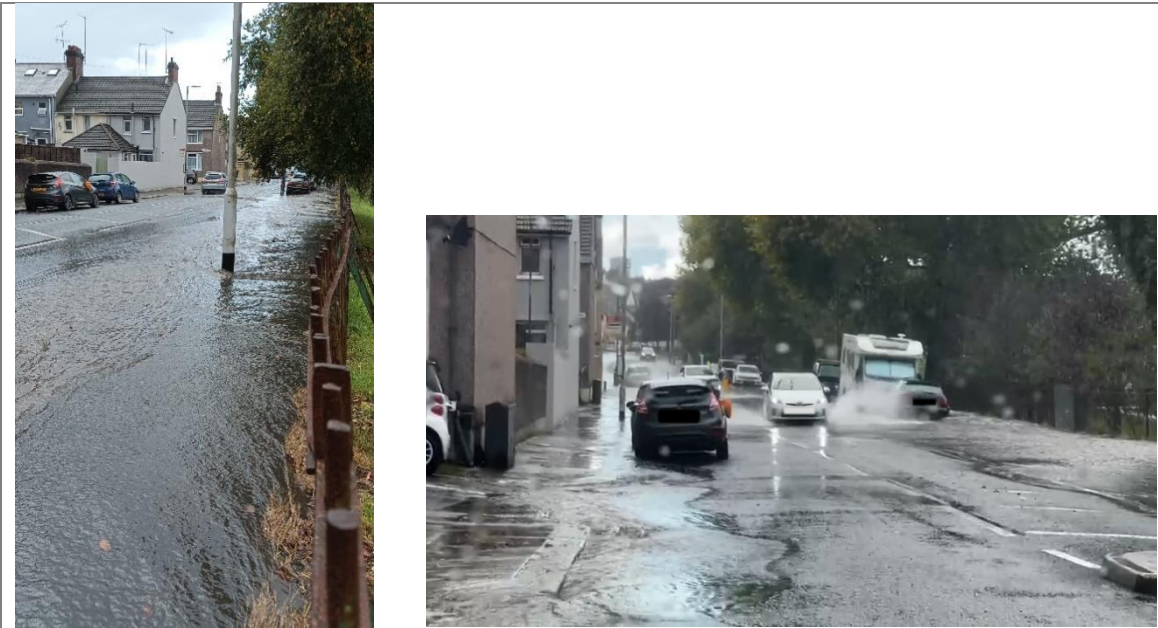


Figure 6: St Levan Road while flooded, October 2024

**Progress to date**

Following an initial public consultation in April 2022, an internal cross-department design team (assisted by an external landscape architect) has been considering how the surface water that collects in St Levan Park might be better stored. The team is also considering how the park’s appearance and biodiversity can be improved.

Ground investigations have been carried out.

**Next steps**

- Validation of the outline designs by the EA
- Modelling by South West Water of the outline design options to determine how to make best use of the available crate storage within the park
- Stakeholder consultation about proposed buildouts within the streets surrounding the park
- Public consultation covering all proposed flood risk management interventions, in the main part of the park, the play park and the surrounding streets

**Revised Key Risks:** *(Explain any changes to the risk register / risk log in the approved business case*

Key risks have been identified as:

- St Levan Park is a historical landfill site, with potential for contamination; there is believed to be a historic underground bomb shelter under one end of the park
- Unexploded UXO
- Presence of underground utilities
- Proximity of park users to the works

**Revised Outcome and Benefits:** *(Explain any changes to the financial and non-financial outcomes and benefits as identified in the approved business case)*

The following outcomes and benefits have been identified:

**Financial outcomes and benefits**

- Direct benefits to PCC:
  - Reduced costs for Street Services having to clear flooding
  - St Levan Road not being regularly damaged by flooding
- Reduction in flood damages:
  - Homes
  - Non-residential properties
  - Public services:
    - Clearance of flood debris from public spaces
- Reduction in volume of water entering the combined sewer network:
  - Reduced volume treated by SWW, therefore reduced energy and infrastructure required, leading to lower costs
  - Freed foul water capacity within the combined drainage network, opening up opportunities for local development

**Non-financial outcomes and benefits**

- Reduction in flood damages:
  - Homes (intangible, mental health and risk to life)
  - Disruption of road traffic including bus services
- Improvement of public amenity spaces within St Levan Park
- Habitat and biodiversity improvement within St Levan Park
- Reduction in volume of water entering the combined sewer network:
  - Reduced volume treated by SWW, therefore reduced energy and infrastructure required, leading to less carbon emissions
  - Freed foul water capacity within the combined drainage network
- Reduction in the volume of water spilled via CSOs to the water environment, therefore improving water quality
- Reduction of carbon emissions
  - In a flood, higher plant biomass has the potential to increase methane emissions due to increased carbon availability. This project will reduce the risk of flooding and reduce carbon emissions in line with PCC's Carbon Neutral Policy
  - Use of natural flood management, incorporating natural means to store and treat surface water run off will contribute to the policy

Enhanced quality of surface water entering the River Plym through passive water polishing measures

**Revised Milestones and Date:**

Has the start /completion date changed? <i>(If so, please update with new dates)</i>		No
Modelling work complete	Public consultation	Design and EA Business Case Completion
March 2026	March 2026	August 2026

**Is further Consultation required:** *(if so, please ensure you consult with legal and procurement prior to submission)*

Will this change request require new procurement activity or the variation of an existing contract?

No

If yes, have procurement been consulted?

Provide name of Procurement Officer consulted:

**Does the change in your project require Legal advice? if yes please explain why.**

No

**Does the change alter the Climate Impact Assessment.** *(If yes, this would need to be updated)*

No

**Does the change alter the Equalities Impact Assessment.** *(If yes, this would need to be updated)*

No

Please note we were not previously required to draft a Climate Impact Assessment. We have now drafted one in support of this change request.

Please note we were not previously required to draft an Equality Impact Assessment. We have now drafted one in support of this change request.

**Revised Financial Implications:** *(Capital and Revenue – capital profile and ongoing PCC revenue implications)*

Capital Cost and Financing:

Breakdown of project costs including fees surveys and contingency	Prev. Years £	25/26 £	26/27 £	27/28 £	28/29 £	29/30 £	Future Years £	Total £
Original business case capital cost	130,433.11	0						130,433.11
Revised capital costs	130,433.11	88,780.89						219,214.00
Difference		+88,780.89						+88,780.89



Detail on financing change (+£ or -£) to match the difference above								
		25/26 £	26/27 £	27/28 £	28/29 £	29/30 £	Future Years £	Total £
Grant Funding (Ringfenced/ Un- Ringfenced)		+88,780.89						+88,780.89
SI06 /CIL								
Corporate / Service Borrowing								
Internal Contribution (RCCO)								
External Contribution								

<b>Are there any bidding constraints /restrictions/ conditions attached to the funding</b>	Allocated EA funding will need to be spent by 31 March 2026 at the very latest.
Does the change have any Tax and VAT implications. (If yes, please contact Sarah Scott)	The project will not directly generate any VAT-exempt income for the PCC. Flood defence works relate to a non-business activity of PCC and so any VAT incurred on costs relating to the project will be fully recoverable and there will be no adverse impact on PCC's partial exemption position.

Revised Revenue Implications:							
Revised Revenue Implications for Service Area:							
		25/26 £	26/27 £	27/28 £	28/29 £	29/30 £	Future Yrs.
Original business case revenue cost (A)							
Change to costs (B) increase / - reductions		5,000					
Change in income ( C ) reduction / - increase		- 5,000					
Revised revenue costs D = (A+/- B & C)		0					
Difference (A – D)		0					
Revised Service Area benefit & savings:							
Has the revised cost changes from this request been budgeted for or would it make a revenue pressure.		Of the £93,780.89 capital grant, £5k will be made available for staff time that has been spent on compiling EA business cases in support of future EA project funding. The EA Memorandum allows for this: "Local authorities can include in their business case the costs of people working on the project including the overheads for them".					
<b>Loan value</b>	£	<b>Interest Rate</b>	%	<b>Term Years</b>		<b>Annual Repayment</b>	£



Service Director		
Either signed		Date
Or Email date:	Paul Barnard	28/11/2025

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**BRIEFING NOTE****St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme**

Following the approval of the Capital Business Case Change Request by the Capital Programme Officer Group and the Capital Programme Board, it is now recommended that the Leader:

- Approves the Capital Business Case Change Request for the St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme Capital Business Case
- Approves the allocation of an additional £88,780.89 into the Capital Programme for the St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme, funded by Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid funding

The total value of the capital project currently within the approved capital programme is £130,433.11. These costs are fully funded by the Environment Agency (Flood Defence Grant in Aid) and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The additional £88,780.89 to be brought into the Capital Programme is also fully funded by Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid.

**SCHEME SUMMARY**

The St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme (the Scheme) is a flood risk management project in the St Levan area, designed to provide storage for surface water during storm events, reduce flood risk and storm overflow spills, and create environmental enhancement.

Once construction of the Scheme completes, it is anticipated that 113 properties will be better protected from surface water flooding during a 1 in 100 year storm event. The Scheme and further phases of work should avoid properties within the St Levan area becoming unviable and, therefore, abandoned, with the associated blight on the wider area's economic activity.

The Scheme and combined works will also:

- reduce the frequent disruption of the movement of traffic along St Levan Road between Devonport Dockyard and Milehouse, including one bus route
- reduce the ongoing disruption to the education of 603 children attending College Road Primary School, Ford Primary School, and Morice Town Primary School
- reduce the risk of Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) spills, with associated bathing water quality improvement in the River Tamar
- provide habitat improvement, including a biodiversity net gain of at least 10%
- provide significant amenity improvements, including improved walking provision
- provide additional capacity in the combined drainage and sewage network for new development

As far as impact upon the climate is concerned, most of the outputs of the Scheme have been assessed as positive with long-term benefits. Where there is no or neutral impact, there is mitigation.

The key identified risks are:

- St Levan is a historical landfill site, with potential for contamination; there is believed to be a historic underground bomb shelter under one end of the park
- Unexploded UXO
- Presence of underground utilities
- Proximity of park users to the works

## STRATEGIC CASE

### Which Corporate Plan priorities does this project deliver?

- Keeping children, young people and families safe
- Green investment, jobs, skills, and better education
- Spending money wisely
- Focussing on prevention and early intervention

### How does the project deliver or support delivery of the Plymouth Plan / Joint Local Plan Policies?

#### Plymouth Plan

- Plymouth as a healthy city:
  - Assisting good health and wellbeing within the St Levan area, where people feel safe in their homes
  - The wellbeing of children, young people and their families is protected and promoted
  - Everyone has a decent home that suits their needs
  - Good access to high quality open space
  - Improved local environment, leading to improved public health and wellbeing
  - Built natural environment to support health and wellbeing
- Plymouth as a growing city:
  - Infrastructure project delivered to enable economic growth within the St Levan area
  - St Levan area is more resilient to the social, economic and environmental impacts of climate change
- Plymouth as an international city:
  - Seasonal wetland basins and SuDS scheme support Plymouth as a leading sustainable clean, green city, addressing its climate emergency

#### Joint Local Plan

- SO12 (Delivering infrastructure and investment):
  - Assessing infrastructure and investment needs to enable growth, remove barriers to investment and deliver sustainable communities
  - Creating supportive conditions that enable and encourage private, public and community sector investment in new jobs and infrastructure
- SPT1 (Delivering sustainable development):
  - Opportunities for business growth
  - Accessible green space that meets the needs of local people

- Resilient community and development, able to accommodate the impacts of climate change without causing detrimental impacts to other communities and developments, e.g. by increasing flood risk
- Gain in biodiversity
- Minimisation of pollution and adverse environmental impacts
- Local distinctiveness and sense of place is respected, maintained and strengthened through high design standards
- SPT2 (Sustainable linked neighbourhoods and sustainable rural communities):
  - Promote resilience to future change
  - Well served by walking and cycling opportunities
  - Safe, accessible, healthy and wildlife-rich local environment, with well-designed public and natural space that is family friendly and welcoming to all
  - Provide a positive sense of place and identity
- SPT10 (Balanced transport strategy for growth and healthy and sustainable communities):
  - Improved walking and cycling provision through St Levan Park
- SPT12 (Strategic approach to the natural environment):
  - Enhancing green space that meets the needs of communities and wildlife
  - Improved cycling provision
- SPT13 (Strategic infrastructure measures to deliver the spatial strategy):
  - Strategic green infrastructure site
  - Strategic drainage and flood defence
- DEVI (Protecting health and amenity):
  - Ensuring public space is designed to be accessible to all people, including people with disabilities or for those whose mobility is impaired by other circumstances
- DEV2 (Air, water, soil, noise, land and light):
  - Avoid harmful environmental impacts and health risks arising from soil, water or land pollution
  - Protect, enhance and restore water quality in the watercourse within St Levan Park and the River Tamar
- DEV20 (Place shaping and the quality of the built environment):
  - Using resilient materials and design solutions
  - Achieving a good quality sense of place and character
  - Delivering locally distinctive design
  - Delivering landscape design that is appropriate to the location, with full consideration given to its future management and maintenance and the need for landscape measures that are resilient
  - Ensuring that the design layout adequately contributes towards high standards of community safety
  - Repairing a damaged environment
- DEV23 (Landscape character):
  - Designed to respect scenic quality and maintain the area's distinctive sense of place and reinforce local distinctiveness
  - Conserve and enhance the characteristics and views of the area along with valued attributes and existing site features such as trees, hedgerows and watercourses that contribute to the character and quality of the area
  - High quality landscape design appropriate to its landscape context
  - Restore positive landscape characteristics and features that reinforce local landscape quality and distinctiveness
- DEV26 (Protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geological conservation):
  - BNG of at least 10%
  - Long term management of biodiversity features retained and enhanced within the site

- DEV27 (Green and play spaces):
  - Improving quality of accessible green space
- DEV32 (Delivering low carbon development):
  - Design includes climate change allowance
- DEV 35 (Managing flood risk and water quality impacts):
  - SuDS project that will reduce the risk of flooding in the St Levan area
  - Development within the City's Critical Drainage Area to reduce the risk of surface water flooding

### **How does the project support other strategies and plans?**

#### Local Flood Risk Management Strategy – Dockyard catchment

- Key issue: Surface water flooding in the St Levan area
- Objectives:
  - Reduce risk of surface water flooding along the St Levan Road corridor
  - Remove pollution discharge into the River Tamar
- Delivery: St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme, including surface water capacity improvements for College Road

#### PCC's Green Minds Model

The scheme aligns with the objectives of PCC's Green Minds model, which seeks to re-wild urban parks, gardens and verges, introduce a new system of working with partners and crucially, encourage more people from all walks of life to enjoy the health benefits that green spaces provide.

#### SWW's Plans

The separation of surface water drainage from the combined network aligns with SWW's "Downstream Thinking" initiative and SWW's AMP7 ODI drive to reduce the number of properties with internal flooding. It assists with lowering loading on the combined network helping to reduce CSO spill volumes and frees capacity for development.

OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS	
Financial outcomes and benefits:	Non-financial outcomes and benefits:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct benefits to PCC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reduced costs for Street Services having to clear flooding</li> <li>○ St Levan Road not regularly being damaged and/or disrupted by flooding</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reduction in flood damages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Homes</li> <li>○ Non-residential properties</li> <li>○ Public services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clearance of flood debris from public spaces</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reduction in volume of water entering the combined sewer network: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reduced volume treated by SWW, therefore reduced energy and infrastructure required, leading to lower costs</li> <li>○ Freed foul water capacity within the combined drainage network opening opportunities for local development</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in flood damages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Homes (intangible, mental health and risk to life)</li> <li>○ Disruption of road traffic including bus services</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Improvement of public amenity spaces within St Levan Park (interesting green space, new rain gardens, new seating, and paths)</li> <li>• Habitat and biodiversity improvement within St Levan Park</li> <li>• Reduction in volume of water entering the combined sewer network: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reduced volume treated by SWW, therefore reduced energy and infrastructure required, leading to less carbon emissions</li> <li>○ Freed foul water capacity within the combined drainage network</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reduction in the volume of water spilled via CSOs to the water environment, therefore improving water quality</li> <li>• Reduction of carbon emissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In a flood, higher plant biomass has the potential to increase methane emissions due to increased carbon availability. This project will reduce the risk of flooding and reduce carbon emissions in line with PCC's Carbon Neutral Policy</li> <li>○ Use of natural flood management, incorporating natural means to store and treat surface water runoff will contribute to the policy</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Enhanced quality of surface water entering the River Tamar through passive water polishing measures</li> </ul>

**KEY RISKS**

Strategic risks have been identified as:

- Reliance on partner organisations working together, which requires alignment of funding streams and priorities
- Flood event prior to the completion of construction
- Inflation, recession or other economic pressures altering the Partners' priorities or their capacity to deliver projects
- The project being disrupted, delayed or stopped due to:
  - Adverse public opinion
  - Change in local, regional or national priorities with regards to flooding

Main risks/issues and assumptions have been identified as:

- St Levan Park is a historical landfill site, with potential for contamination; there is believed to be a historic underground bomb shelter under one end of the park
- Unexploded UXO
- Presence of underground utilities
- Proximity of park users to the works

**MILESTONES AND DATES**

- Public consultation concerning outline design – December 2025
- SWW modelling to validate design proposals – by March 2026
- Outline business case to secure full funding for the design and construction of the scheme to be submitted to the Environment Agency – by end March 2026

**FUNDING**

The total value of the capital project currently within the approved capital programme is £130,433.11. These costs are fully funded by the Environment Agency (Flood Defence Grant in Aid) (£94,219.11) and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (£36,214).

The additional £88,780.89 to be brought onto the Capital Programme is also fully funded by Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid.

The table below sets out the projected Scheme costs up to the end of March 2026:

Capital Cost and Financing:								
Breakdown of project costs including fees surveys and contingency	Prev. Years £	25/26 £	26/27 £	27/28 £	28/29 £	29/30 £	Future Years £	Total £
Original business case capital cost	130,433.11	0						130,433.11
Revised capital costs	130,433.11	88,780.89						219,214.00



Difference		+88,780.89						+88,780.89
Detail on financing change (+£ or -£) to match the difference above								
		<b>25/26</b> <b>£</b>	<b>26/27</b> <b>£</b>	<b>27/28</b> <b>£</b>	<b>28/29</b> <b>£</b>	<b>29/30</b> <b>£</b>	<b>Future</b> <b>Years</b> <b>£</b>	<b>Total</b> <b>£</b>
Grant Funding (Ringfenced/ Un-Ringfenced)		+88,780.89						+88,780.89
SI06 /CIL								
Corporate / Service Borrowing								
Internal Contribution (RCCO)								
External Contribution								

## REVENUE & VAT IMPLICATIONS

### Tax and VAT implications:

The project will not directly generate any VAT-exempt income for PCC. Flood risk management works are a statutory, non-business activity of the local authority and so any VAT incurred by PCC on costs relating to this flood defence project will be fully recoverable and there will be no adverse impact on PCC's partial exemption position.

### Revenue implications:

Of the £93,780.89 capital grant, £5k will be made available for staff time that has been spent on compiling EA business cases in support of future Environment Agency project funding.

## RECOMMENDATION


It is recommended that the Deputy Leader:

- Approves the Capital Business Case Change Request for the St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme
- Approves the allocation of an additional £88,780.89 into the Capital Programme for the St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme, funded by Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid funding

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# EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ST LEVAN PARK FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

## SECTION ONE: INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSAL

<b>Author(s):</b> The person completing the EIA template.	Anna Baldock	<b>Department and service:</b>	Engineering Design Group Strategic Planning & Infrastructure	<b>Date of assessment:</b>	02/04/2025
<b>Lead Officer:</b> Head of Service, Service Director, or Strategic Director.	Philip Heseltine	<b>Signature:</b>		<b>Approval date:</b>	02/04/2025
<b>Overview:</b>	<p>The St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme (the Scheme) is a flood risk management project in the St Levan area, designed to provide storage for surface water during storm events, reduce flood risk and storm overflow spills, and create environmental enhancement.</p> <p>Once construction of the Scheme completes, it is anticipated that 113 properties will be better protected from surface water flooding during a 1 in 100 year storm event. The Scheme and further phases of work should avoid properties within the St Levan area becoming unviable and, therefore, abandoned, with the associated blight on the wider area’s economic activity.</p> <p>The Scheme and combined works will also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• reduce the frequent disruption of the movement of traffic along St Levan Road between Devonport Dockyard and Milehouse, including one bus route</li><li>• reduce the ongoing disruption to the education of 603 children attending College Road Primary School, Ford Primary School, and Morice Town Primary School</li><li>• reduce the risk of Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) spills, with associated bathing water quality improvement in the River Tamar</li><li>• provide habitat improvement, including a biodiversity net gain of at least 10%</li><li>• provide significant amenity improvements, including improved walking provision</li><li>• provide additional capacity in the combined drainage and sewage network for new development</li></ul>				

	As far as impact upon the climate is concerned, most of the outputs of the Scheme have been assessed as positive with long-term benefits. Where there is no or neutral impact, there is mitigation.
Decision required:	<b>It is recommended that the Leader:</b>  1. Approves the revised St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme Capital Business Case 2. Approves the allocation of an additional £95,000 within the Capital Programme for the St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme

SECTION TWO: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING TOOL

<b>Potential external impacts:</b> Does the proposal have the potential to negatively impact service users, communities or residents with protected characteristics?	Yes		No	X
<b>Potential internal impacts:</b> Does the proposal have the potential to negatively impact Plymouth City Council employees?	Yes		No	X
Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (if you have answered yes to either of the questions above then a full impact assessment is required and you must complete section three)	Yes		No	X
If you do not agree that a full equality impact assessment is required, please set out your justification for why not.	<p>The Scheme will deliver the following Corporate Plan priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keeping children, young people and families safe</li><li>• Green investment, jobs, skills and better education</li><li>• Spending money wisely</li><li>• Focussing on prevention and early intervention</li></ul> <p>When the Scheme completes, it is anticipated that 113 properties will be better protected from surface water flooding in a 1 in 100 year storm event. All the relevant households sit within the 21% to 40% most deprived areas of the country.</p>			

There are no negative impacts anticipated.

SECTION THREE: FULL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Protected characteristics (Equality Act, 2010)	Evidence and information (e.g. data and consultation feedback)	Adverse impact	Mitigation activities	Timescale and responsible department
Age	<p>Plymouth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 16.4 per cent of people in Plymouth are children aged under 15.</li><li>• 65.1 per cent are adults aged 15 to 64.</li><li>• 18.5 percent are adults aged 65 and over.</li><li>• 2.4 percent of the resident population are 85 and over.</li></ul> <p>South West</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 15.9 per cent of people are aged 0 to 14, 61.8 per cent are aged 15 to 64.</li><li>• 22.3 per cent are aged 65 and over.</li></ul> <p>England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 17.4 per cent of people are aged 0 to 14.</li><li>• 64.2 per cent of people are aged 15 to 64.</li><li>• 18.4 per cent of people are aged 65 and over.</li></ul> <p>(2021 Census)</p>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A

<p><b>Care experienced individuals</b></p> <p>(Note that as per the Independent Review of Children's Social Care recommendations, Plymouth City Council is treating care experience as though it is a protected characteristic).</p>	<p>It is estimated that 26 per cent of the homeless population in the UK have care experience. In Plymouth there are currently 7 per cent of care leavers open to the service (6 per cent aged 18-20 and 12 per cent of those aged 21+) who are in unsuitable accommodation.</p> <p>The Care Review reported that 41 per cent of 19-21 year old care leavers are not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared to 12 per cent of all other young people in the same age group.</p> <p>In Plymouth there are currently 50 per cent of care leavers aged 18-21 Not in Education Training or Employment (54 per cent of all those care leavers aged 18-24 who are open to the service).</p> <p>There are currently 195 care leavers aged 18 to 20 (statutory service) and 58 aged 21 to 24 (extended offer). There are more care leavers aged 21 to 24 who could return for support from services if they wished to.</p>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A
<p><b>Disability</b></p>	<p>9.4 per cent of residents in Plymouth have their activities limited 'a lot' because of a physical or mental health problem.</p> <p>12.2 per cent of residents in Plymouth have their activities limited 'a little' because of a physical or mental health problem (2021 Census)</p>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A

<b>Gender reassignment</b>	0.5 per cent of residents in Plymouth have a gender identity that is different from their sex registered at birth. 0.1 per cent of residents identify as a trans man, 0.1 per cent identify as non-binary and, 0.1 per cent identify as a trans women (2021 Census).	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	40.1 per cent of residents have never married and never registered a civil partnership. 10 per cent are divorced, 6 percent are widowed, with 2.5 per cent are separated but still married.  0.49 per cent of residents are, or were, married or in a civil partnerships of the same sex. 0.06 per cent of residents are in a civil partnerships with the opposite sex (2021 Census).	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	The total fertility rate (TFR) for England was 1.62 children per woman in 2021. The total fertility rate (TFR) for Plymouth in 2021 was 1.5.	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A

<b>Race</b>	<p>In 2021, 94.9 per cent of Plymouth's population identified their ethnicity as White, 2.3 per cent as Asian and 1.1 per cent as Black (2021 Census)</p> <p>People with a mixed ethnic background comprised 1.8 per cent of the population. 1 per cent of the population use a different term to describe their ethnicity (2021 Census)</p> <p>92.7 per cent of residents speak English as their main language. 2021 Census data shows that after English, Polish, Romanian, Chinese, Portuguese, and Arabic are the most spoken languages in Plymouth (2021 Census).</p>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A
<b>Religion or belief</b>	<p>48.9 per cent of the Plymouth population stated they had no religion. 42.5 per cent of the population identified as Christian (2021 Census).</p> <p>Those who identified as Muslim account for 1.3 per cent of Plymouth's population while Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish or Sikh combined totalled less than 1 per cent (2021 Census).</p>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A
<b>Sex</b>	<p>51 per cent of our population are women and 49 per cent are men (2021 Census).</p>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	<p>88.95 per cent of residents aged 16 years and over in Plymouth describe their sexual orientation as straight or heterosexual. 2.06 per cent describe their sexuality as bisexual, 1.97 per cent of people describe their sexual orientation as gay or lesbian. 0.42 per cent of residents describe their sexual orientation using a different term (2021 Census).</p>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A



**SECTION FOUR: HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

Human Rights	Implications	Mitigation Actions	Timescale and responsible department
	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A

**SECTION FIVE: OUR EQUALITY OBJECTIVES**

Equality objectives	Implications	Mitigation Actions	Timescale and responsible department
<b>Work together in partnership to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>promote equality, diversity and inclusion</li> <li>facilitate community cohesion</li> <li>support people with different backgrounds and lived experiences to get on well together</li> </ul>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A
<b>Give specific consideration to care experienced people to improve their life outcomes, including access to training, employment and housing.</b>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A
<b>Build and develop a diverse workforce that represents the community and citizens it serves.</b>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A
<b>Support diverse communities to feel confident to report crime and anti-social behaviour, including hate crime and hate incidents, and work with partners to ensure Plymouth is a city where everybody feels safe and welcome.</b>	No adverse impact is anticipated.	N/A	N/A

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# St Levan Flood Relief Scheme

## Project details

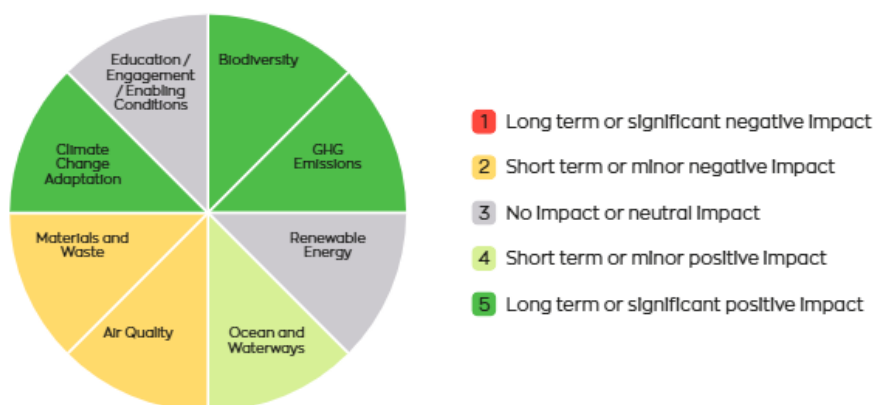
### Assessment author

Anna Baldock, Pete Mugford, Flemy-Mariya Inikkal-Raphy

### Project summary

St Levan Park SuDS Scheme to provide surface water storage and improve the facilities in the park

## Summary of assessment



There will be positive long-term impacts for: Biodiversity, GHG Emissions and Climate Change Adaptations. There will be limited positive impact for Oceans and Waterways.

There will be short-term negative impacts for: Air Quality and Materials and Waste. This is through the construction phase of the project. After this, there will be either no or neutral impact for Materials and Waste, and for Air Quality there will be a longer-term positive impact due to improvements in greenspace. For Air Quality, this score is dependent on mitigation being in place to dampen down and control dust created throughout the construction of the SuDS scheme. For Materials and Waste, this score is dependent on South West Water separating surface water upstream to reduce the amount of treated combined sewage, any granite kerbs that have been removed being used elsewhere, and the reuse of materials on-site.

There will be no or neutral impact for Renewable Energy and Education/Engagement/Enabling Conditions. There are no elements of renewable energy in the scheme and for Education/Engagement/Enabling Conditions there will be a raised path to make the park more accessible when flooding occurs and the Building Resilience in Communities team will continue to work in the St Levan area (until at least 2027).

## Assessment scores

## Biodiversity

### Score

(5) Long lasting or extensive positive impact

### Score justification

Existing park is amenity grassland. Biodiversity will be marginally increased through more diverse planting, rain gardens, and potential rain garden build-outs

## GHG Emissions

### Score

(5) Long lasting or extensive positive impact

### Score justification

Separation of surface water and reduction in flooding in habited areas will also reduce greenhouse gas emissions as there will be less energy used in processing waste water and cleaning up and rebuilding after flooding events have damaged property.

The inclusion of rain gardens may lead to improved carbon absorption through their planting.

## Renewable Energy

### Score

(3) No impact or neutral impact

### Score justification

There are no renewable energy elements to the project.

## Ocean and Waterways

### Score

(4) Short term or limited positive impact

### Score justification

Additional filtration of water. No overall improvement of the waterway because no waterway exists.

There will be fewer combined sewer overflow spills entering the surface water drainage system (these are discharged into the River Tamar)

## Air Quality

### Score

(2) Short term or limited negative impact

### Score justification

During construction there could be a short term negative impact on air quality. There will be an increase in the number of vehicle journeys (including HGVs) made throughout the construction. There will be an overall longer-term improvement in air quality due to increased and more diverse vegetation planted as part of the scheme.

**Mitigatory measures applied:**

Construction methods will seek to dampen down and control dust created.

## **Materials and Waste**

**Score**

(2) Short term or limited negative impact

**Score justification**

During construction the project will create waste and require transportation of materials. This will be managed by a Site Waste Management plan.

**Mitigatory measures applied:**

Following on from the scheme, SWW will separate out surface water upstream which will reduce the amount of treated combined sewage. If granite kerbs are removed, they will be reused in these works or elsewhere. We have the option of reusing excavated materials on-site so that they are not transported off-site. The materials are not contaminated so they may be suitable to be reused in the landscaped areas.

## **Climate Change Adaptation**

**Score**

(5) Long lasting or extensive positive impact

**Score justification**

As surface water will be stored the effects of climate change such as flooding will be reduced in the future. This aims to increase resilience to flooding for the local area within Plymouth. For this scheme the number of properties with decreased flooding potential is 53 (1:30 flood event), 113 (1:100 flood event)

## **Education / Engagement / Enabling Conditions**

**Score**

(3) No impact or neutral impact

**Score justification**

There will be a raised path through the park - making walking more accessible during flooding. The project is also supported by the Building resilience in Communities Team who are working with St Levan residents to help them be better prepared, for flooding, act promptly during a flood and recover quickly after a flood event. It will be a better public space, so the score could increase as the design develops.

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# EXECUTIVE DECISION

## made by a Cabinet Member



### REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER


Executive Decision Reference Number – ECC03 25/26

Decision	
1	<b>Title of decision:</b> Increase in household bulky waste charges
2	<b>Decision maker:</b> Councillor Tom Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change)
3	<b>Report author and contact details:</b> Sarah Easton, <a href="mailto:Sarah.Easton@plymouth.gov.uk">Sarah.Easton@plymouth.gov.uk</a> 01752 308869
4	<b>Decision to be taken:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To approve the increase of household bulky waste charges as set out in the briefing paper.</li> </ol>
5	<b>Reasons for decision:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve service accessibility and reduce waiting times.</li> <li>To move the service closer to cost recovery for collection activities.</li> <li>To restore a five day a week collection service for residents.</li> </ol>
6	<b>Alternative options considered and rejected:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt a per item charging structure - rejected could discourage residents from consolidating items, potentially increasing collection trips and reducing efficiency.</li> <li>Maintain current pricing - rejected as existing charge does not cover operational costs.</li> <li>Apply a higher increase immediately - rejected as an incremental approach is preferred to minimise the impact on residents.</li> </ol>
7	<b>Financial implications and risks:</b> <p>Annual increased income from the proposed increase is approximately £52k if the service returns to a five day a week operation, which will contribute towards a 5 day week crew.</p> <p>Risks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An income shortfall from estimate if price increase reduces take-up, mitigated by applying a 20% contingency margin.</li> <li>Negative public perception managed through clear communication emphasising the charges reflect operational costs.</li> <li>Low risk of fly-tipping if charges are seen as too high. Mitigated by benchmarking prices against other local authorities and currently no evidence that bulky waste charge is linked to fly tipping.</li> </ul>
8	<b>Legal Implications:</b> <p>The Council has a statutory duty under Section 45(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA 1990) to arrange for the collection of household waste in its area. Under Section 45(3), the Council may</p>

	<p>make a reasonable charge for the collection of <i>certain types</i> of household waste, including bulky waste, provided that such waste is classified as “household waste” under the Controlled Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2012.</p> <p>However, charges must not include the cost of disposal — only the costs of <i>collection, transport, and administration</i> can be recovered through fees. This is consistent with statutory guidance and long-standing case law under the EPA 1990.</p> <p>The proposed charge increase is therefore lawful, provided the charge remains a reasonable reflection of the cost of collection only, excluding disposal.</p> <p>Concessionary arrangements for residents receiving Council Tax Support are discretionary but demonstrate compliance with the Council’s equality duties under the Equality Act 2010, by helping to mitigate any disproportionate impact on lower-income households.</p>			
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> (please contact <a href="#">Democratic Support</a> for further advice)</p> <p>Please type an X into the relevant boxes</p>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<p><b>Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:</b></p>
			<b>X</b>	in the case of <b>capital</b> projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of <b>£3million</b> in total
			<b>X</b>	in the case of <b>revenue</b> projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of <b>£1 million</b> annually
			<b>X</b>	is <b>significant</b> in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising <b>two or more</b> wards in the area of the local authority.
	<b>If yes, date of publication of the notice in the <a href="#">Forward Plan of Key Decisions</a></b>	N/A		
<b>10</b>	<b>Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council’s corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:</b>	The decision to increase household bulky waste charges aligns with the Corporate Plan priorities of ‘Providing Quality Public Services’ and ‘Cleaner, Greener Streets’ by improving environmental outcomes, service responsiveness and operational efficiency. It also strengthens the financial stability of the service, directly contributing to the Council’s budget management and reducing reliance on subsidy.		
<b>11</b>	<b>Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)</b>	Potential reduction in fly tipping, supporting cleaner safer communities. Continuing to encourage reduction in collection journeys by maintaining a pricing structure of multiple items.		
<b>Urgent decisions</b>				
<b>12a</b>	<p><b>Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?</b></p> <p>Please type an X into the relevant box</p>	<b>Yes</b>		(If yes, please contact Democratic Support ( <a href="mailto:democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk">democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk</a> ) for advice)
		<b>No</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>(If no, go to section 13a)</b>
<b>12b</b>	<b>Reason for urgency:</b>			



I2c	Scrutiny Chair Signature:		Date
	Scrutiny Committee name:		
	Print Name:		
<b>Consultation</b>			
I3a	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision? Please type an X into the relevant box	Yes	
		No	X (If no go to section I4)
I3b	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?	N/A	
I3c	Date Cabinet member consulted	N/A	
I4	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision? Please type an X into the relevant box	Yes	
		No	X If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
I5	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name	Glenn Caplin-Grey
		Job title	Strategic Director of Growth
		Date consulted	16 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
<b>Sign-off</b>			
I6	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	JS59 25/26
		Finance (mandatory)	DN.25.26.004
		Legal (mandatory)	LS/00003 I2/I/AC/23/ I2/25
		Procurement (if applicable)	
		Corporate property (decisions involving Council owned land or facilities) (if applicable)	
		Human Resources (if applicable)	
<b>Appendices</b>			
I7	Ref.	Title of appendix	
	A	Bulky Waste Briefing November 2025	

	B	Equalities Impact Assessment						
<b>Confidential/exempt information</b>								
18a	Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information? Please type an X into the relevant box	Yes		If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in <b>18b</b> below.  (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)				
		No	X					
		<b>Exemption Paragraph Number</b>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18b	Confidential/exempt briefing report title:							
<b>Background Papers</b>								
19	Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below.  Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.							
<b>Title of background paper(s)</b>		<b>Exemption Paragraph Number</b>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Cabinet Member Signature</b>								
20	I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act (2010) and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.							
<b>Signature</b>				<b>Date of decision</b>		06 <sup>th</sup> January 2026		
<b>Print Name</b>		Tom Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change)						



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# INCREASE IN HOUSEHOLD BULKY WASTE CHARGES

Street Services



## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends an increase in the household bulky waste collection charge to enable the service to return to a 5 days week operation. The change is necessary to address growing waiting times currently experienced by residents, now averaging around 7 weeks and to ensure the service remains financially sustainable.

The proposed fee increase reflects the financial pressures on staffing, vehicle operation and administrative costs as well as significant growth of the Commercial Waste Service, which has absorbed capacity previously available for the household bulky waste. By re-establishing a five day a week service, residents will benefit from faster access to collections and reduced risk of fly-tipping linked to long waiting periods.

Although the service will continue to be subsidised, the proposed uplift moves charges closer to the full cost recovery for collection activities (excluding disposal) and aligns the Council with Regional and APSE member benchmarks. The increase is therefore both operationally justified and financially responsible.

## 2. BACKGROUND

The Household Bulky Waste has been managed by the Commercial Waste Service since July 2021. Initially it operated five days a week (Monday – Thursday 30 collections and Friday's 15 collections), using a caged vehicle. The arrangement provided operational benefits by allowing the Commercial Waste team to use the same vehicle for commercial bulky collection and bin deliveries, rather than relying on the Domestic Waste team. This operational flexibility supported the wider commercial waste business, which has grown significantly and now generates higher margin income streams.

As commercial activity has grown, the service has prioritised commercially viable work, resulting in a reduction of days allocated to household bulky waste collections. The household service currently operates two days per week, with the crew deployed on other days to support commercial collections, bins deliveries or major City event such as Summer Sessions on the Hoe, which demand additional support and resource.

This reduction has caused longer waiting times for residents, currently averaging seven weeks. There is concern that these delays could discourage residents from using the formal service and increase the risk of fly-tipping or other inappropriate disposal methods.

The current charge for household bulky waste is £30 for up to four items with an additional £11 per extra item. Residents receiving Council Tax Support receive a 50% concession on the initial £30 charge and may use this concession twice within a 12-month period. Approximately 30% of households who use the bulky waste service qualify for this concession.

In 2024/25 household bulky waste income totalled £74k, supplemented by £36k from commercial bulky waste work. The operational cost of running the household bulky waste service is approximately £150k per annum, covering labour, vehicle and administration costs. Disposal costs of £32k per year are excluded, in line with Section 45 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, which prohibits charging residents for disposal.

### 3. PROPOSED CHANGES AND REASONS

It is proposed to increase the charge for household bulky waste charge to help offset operational costs and enable the service to return to a five day a week schedule. This will improve accessibility and service quality for residents.

After modelling a range of pricing scenarios, the following is recommended:

- **Current Charge:** £30 for up to four items (£15 concession)
- **Proposed Charge:** £34.50 for up to three items (£17.25 concession)
- **Additional items:** Increase from £11 to £12.50 per item.

This adjustment is designed to:

- Support cost recovery of the collection service, including labour, vehicle and administrative overheads
- Allow sufficient resourcing to operate five days per week, reducing waiting times
- Maintain concessionary discounts for low-income households
- Align with neighboring authority pricing levels

#### Alternative Options Considered and rejected

1. **Adopt a per-item charging structure** – rejected as this could discourage residents from consolidating items, potentially increasing collection trips and reducing efficiency.
2. **Maintain current pricing** – rejected as the existing charge does not cover operational costs.
3. **Apply a higher increase immediately** – rejected as an incremental approach is preferred to minimise the impact on residents and allow time for monitoring of service demand and income.

### 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

- Between 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025 household bulky waste income was £67k, based on the service only operating two to three days per week.
- Operational running costs total £150k, which includes labour, fleet, fuel and administration. This excludes disposal costs of approximately £32k, which cannot be recovered from householders under Section 45 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
- The proposed increase the charge from £30 for up to 4 items to £34.50 for up to 3 items, and from £11 to £12.50 for each additional item is expected to raise approximately £52k of additional annual income if the service returns to a five day a week operation. This £52k will contribute to the cost of an additional crew to carry out the 5 day a week bulky waste service.

The additional operational capacity will also enable the Commercial Waste team to proactively secure commercial bulky jobs, which generate a financial surplus that historically has helped to offset the losses from household bulky waste activity.

**Risks and Mitigations**

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Mitigation/Management</b>
<b>Income shortfall</b> – demand does not increase as projected or price elasticity reduces take-up	Reduced cost recovery, ongoing subsidy required	Medium	A 20% margin has been applied to the predicted income to cover.
<b>Public Perception</b> – increase seen as disproportionate or discouraging responsible disposal	Negative publicity	Medium	Clear messaging that the fee covers only collection operational costs and supports more frequent service to reduce waiting times and fly-tipping
<b>Fly Tipping risk</b> – if charges are perceived as too high	Environmental impact, clean-up cost pressure	Low – Medium	Balance pricing against Local Authority comparators, maintaining concession for Council tax support households.

**5. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Climate Change approve the proposed increase in household bulky waste collection charges, as detailed in this report, with immediate effect. This will enable the Council to:


- Restore a five-day a-week collection service for residents
- Improve service accessibility and reduce waiting times
- Move the service closer to cost recovery for collection activities
- Support wider environmental and waste management objectives by discouraging fly-tipping and promoting responsible disposal.

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EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT – HOUSEHOLD BULKY WASTE SERVICE

SECTION ONE: INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSAL

<b>Author(s):</b> The person completing the EIA template.	Sarah Easton	<b>Department and service:</b>	Growth, Waste Disposal	<b>Date of assessment:</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
<b>Lead Officer:</b> Head of Service, Service Director, or Strategic Director.	Sarah Easton; Head of Commercial	<b>Signature:</b>		<b>Approval date:</b>	29/12/2025
<b>Overview:</b>	Increase of for the household bulky waste charge. The service is being extended to cover for 5 days a week rather than the current 2 days. This is part of a 2-phase pricing increase. The first phase being approved in January 2026 and a further increase in April 2026 to better reflect the cost of providing the service and to be able to offer a 5 day a week service.				
<b>Decision required:</b>	To approve the increase of household bulky waste charges as set out in the briefing paper.				

SECTION TWO: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING TOOL

<b>Potential external impacts:</b> Does the proposal have the potential to negatively impact service users, communities or residents with protected characteristics?	<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>	X
<b>Potential internal impacts:</b> Does the proposal have the potential to negatively impact Plymouth City Council employees?	<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>	X
Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (if you have answered yes to either of the questions above then a full impact assessment is required and you must complete section three)	<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>	X
If you do not agree that a full equality impact assessment is required, please set out your justification for why not.				

**SECTION THREE: FULL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Protected characteristics (Equality Act, 2010)	Evidence and information (e.g. data and consultation feedback)	Adverse impact	Mitigation activities	Timescale and responsible department
<b>Age</b>	<p>Plymouth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16.4 per cent of people in Plymouth are children aged under 15.</li> <li>• 65.1 per cent are adults aged 15 to 64.</li> <li>• 18.5 percent are adults aged 65 and over.</li> <li>• 2.4 percent of the resident population are 85 and over.</li> </ul> <p>South West</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15.9 per cent of people are aged 0 to 14, 61.8 per cent are aged 15 to 64.</li> <li>• 22.3 per cent are aged 65 and over.</li> </ul> <p>England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17.4 per cent of people are aged 0 to 14.</li> <li>• 64.2 per cent of people are aged 15 to 64.</li> <li>• 18.4 per cent of people are aged 65 and over.</li> </ul> <p>(2021 Census)</p>	No adverse impact	N/A	N/A

<p><b>Care experienced individuals</b></p> <p>(Note that as per the Independent Review of Children's Social Care recommendations, Plymouth City Council is treating care experience as though it is a protected characteristic).</p>	<p>It is estimated that 26 per cent of the homeless population in the UK have care experience. In Plymouth there are currently 7 per cent of care leavers open to the service (6 per cent aged 18-20 and 12 per cent of those aged 21+) who are in unsuitable accommodation.</p> <p>The Care Review reported that 41 per cent of 19-21 year old care leavers are not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared to 12 per cent of all other young people in the same age group.</p> <p>In Plymouth there are currently 50 per cent of care leavers aged 18-21 Not in Education Training or Employment (54 per cent of all those care leavers aged 18-24 who are open to the service).</p> <p>There are currently 195 care leavers aged 18 to 20 (statutory service) and 58 aged 21 to 24 (extended offer). There are more care leavers aged 21 to 24 who could return for support from services if they wished to.</p>	No adverse impact	N/A	N/A
<p><b>Disability</b></p>	<p>9.4 per cent of residents in Plymouth have their activities limited 'a lot' because of a physical or mental health problem.</p> <p>12.2 per cent of residents in Plymouth have their activities limited 'a little' because of a physical or mental health problem (2021 Census)</p>	No adverse impact	N/A	N/A

<b>Gender reassignment</b>	0.5 per cent of residents in Plymouth have a gender identity that is different from their sex registered at birth. 0.1 per cent of residents identify as a trans man, 0.1 per cent identify as non-binary and, 0.1 per cent identify as a trans women (2021 Census).	No adverse impact	N/A	N/A
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	40.1 per cent of residents have never married and never registered a civil partnership. 10 per cent are divorced, 6 percent are widowed, with 2.5 per cent are separated but still married.  0.49 per cent of residents are, or were, married or in a civil partnerships of the same sex. 0.06 per cent of residents are in a civil partnerships with the opposite sex (2021 Census).	No adverse impact	N/A	N/A
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	The total fertility rate (TFR) for England was 1.62 children per woman in 2021. The total fertility rate (TFR) for Plymouth in 2021 was 1.5.	No adverse impact	N/A	N/A

<b>Race</b>	<p>In 2021, 94.9 per cent of Plymouth's population identified their ethnicity as White, 2.3 per cent as Asian and 1.1 per cent as Black (2021 Census)</p> <p>People with a mixed ethnic background comprised 1.8 per cent of the population. 1 per cent of the population use a different term to describe their ethnicity (2021 Census)</p> <p>92.7 per cent of residents speak English as their main language. 2021 Census data shows that after English, Polish, Romanian, Chinese, Portuguese, and Arabic are the most spoken languages in Plymouth (2021 Census).</p>	No adverse impact	N/A	N/A
<b>Religion or belief</b>	<p>48.9 per cent of the Plymouth population stated they had no religion. 42.5 per cent of the population identified as Christian (2021 Census).</p> <p>Those who identified as Muslim account for 1.3 per cent of Plymouth's population while Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish or Sikh combined totalled less than 1 per cent (2021 Census).</p>	No adverse impact	N/A	N/A
<b>Sex</b>	51 per cent of our population are women and 49 per cent are men (2021 Census).	No adverse impact	N/A	N/A
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	88.95 per cent of residents aged 16 years and over in Plymouth describe their sexual orientation as straight or heterosexual. 2.06 per cent describe their sexuality as bisexual, 1.97 per cent of people describe their sexual orientation as gay or lesbian. 0.42 per cent of residents describe their sexual orientation using a different term (2021 Census).	No adverse impact	N/A	N/A

SECTION FOUR: HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

Human Rights	Implications	Mitigation Actions	Timescale and responsible department
	No implications	N/A	N/A

SECTION FIVE: OUR EQUALITY OBJECTIVES

Equality objectives	Implications	Mitigation Actions	Timescale and responsible department
<b>Work together in partnership to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ promote equality, diversity and inclusion</li><li>▪ facilitate community cohesion</li><li>▪ support people with different backgrounds and lived experiences to get on well together</li></ul>	No implications	N/A	N/A
<b>Give specific consideration to care experienced people to improve their life outcomes, including access to training, employment and housing.</b>	No implications	N/A	N/A
<b>Build and develop a diverse workforce that represents the community and citizens it serves.</b>	No implications	N/A	N/A
<b>Support diverse communities to feel confident to report crime and anti-social behaviour, including hate crime and hate incidents, and work with partners to ensure Plymouth is a city where everybody feels safe and welcome.</b>	No implications	N/A	N/A

# EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Council Officer



## REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL OFFICER

Executive Decision Reference Number – COD10 25/26


Decision	
1	<b>Title of decision:</b> Passporting the Rough Sleeper Prevention and Recovery Grant (RSPARG) Top Up Funding to the Plymouth Alliance & Direct Awards to Partner Organisations.
2	<b>Decision maker:</b> Gary Walbridge (Director for Adults, Health and Communities)
3	<b>Report author and contact details:</b> Jackie Kings (Head of Housing Solutions), <a href="mailto:Jackie.Kings@plymouth.gov.uk">Jackie.Kings@plymouth.gov.uk</a>
4a	<b>Decision to be taken: :</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To Approve the transfer of the revenue funds of £478,649 to the Plymouth Alliance Via deed of Contract Variation to the Complex Needs Alliance Contract Reference PEO 16175.</li> <li>2. To Approve the direct award of the revenue funds to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Adelaide Surgery – £217,532</li> <li>b. Trevi - £34,000</li> <li>c. Plymouth Community Homes - £63,750</li> <li>d. Plymouth University - £62,570</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
4b	<b>Reference number of original executive decision or date of original committee meeting where delegation was made:</b> <a href="#">Committee Report Complex Needs Alliance FINAL.pdf</a> Cabinet, 11 March 2024. For Variation to the Complex Needs Alliance Contract. (only applies to the Plymouth Alliance)
5	<b>Reasons for decision:</b> To passport and direct award the RSPARG Top Up funding to deliver the service interventions in the health, housing and homelessness pilot. MHCLG provides annual funding that is ringfenced and must be used to deliver the agreed service interventions. <i>(A contract variation for the Plymouth Alliance contract is a formal amendment that updates the agreement between Plymouth City Council and the Alliance when changes to funding, scope or service delivery are required. It sets out the specific adjustments being made, such as revised contract values to support new roles or activities, while confirming that all other terms remain unchanged. This ensures that any changes are authorised, transparent and properly recorded within the existing contract framework.)</i>

6	<b>Alternative options considered and rejected:</b> The Council to deliver these services directly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This has been discounted as it does not have the expertise to deliver these services.</li></ul> The Council to commission a new contact. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This has been discounted due to the funding time frame and that a majority of the funding is to be passported to the Plymouth Alliance.</li></ul> The Council to not commission any services <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This has been discounted as the funding has been accepted and must be used for service delivery</li></ul>			
7	<b>Financial implications and risks:</b> This grant allocation of £856,501 for the 2025 to 2026 financial year is entirely revenue funding. It will be used to support services delivered through the Plymouth Alliance of which Plymouth City Council is a member, as well as through direct awards to partner organisations including Adelaide Surgery, Trevi, Plymouth Community Homes and the University of Plymouth. This funding will contribute to homelessness prevention and relief and help manage the significant financial pressures associated with the Council’s response to homelessness. Financial risk is minimised as this is funded through external grant funding.			
8	<b>Legal Implications and risks:</b> The variation to the Plymouth Alliance contract will be documented			
9a	Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact <b>Democratic Support</b> for further advice)	Yes	No	<b>Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:</b>  <div><div>x</div>in the case of <b>capital</b> projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of <b>£3million</b> in total</div> <div><div>x</div>in the case of <b>revenue</b> projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of <b>£1 million</b>, annually</div> <div><div>x</div>is <b>significant</b> in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising <b>two or more</b> wards in the area of the local authority.</div>
9b	If yes, date of publication of the notice in the <b>Forward Plan of Key Decisions</b>	N/A		
10	Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council’s corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:	Plymouth Alliance and other partners will specifically target priorities: Working with the Police to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour, keeping children, adults and communities safe, working with the NHS to provide better access to health, care and dentistry. It will work to		



		enhance the provision of public services, it will be trusting and engaging with communities, will focus on prevention and early intervention, spending money wisely, will engage and empower		
<b>11</b>	<b>Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)</b>	No adverse impacts anticipated.		
<b>Urgent decisions</b>				
<b>12 a</b>	<b>Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?</b>	<b>Yes</b>		(If yes, please contact <a href="#">Democratic Support</a> for advice)
		<b>No</b>	<b>X</b>	(If no, go to section 13a)
<b>12 b</b>	<b>Reason for urgency:</b>			
<b>12 c</b>	<b>Scrutiny Chair signature:</b>		<b>Date</b>	
	<b>Scrutiny Committee name:</b>			
	<b>Print Name:</b>			
<b>Consultation</b>				
<b>13 a</b>	<b>Which Cabinet Member's portfolio does this decision relate to?</b>	Councillor Chris Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development and Communities).		
<b>13 b</b>	<b>Date Cabinet Member consulted</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025		
<b>13 c</b>	<b>Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>X</b>	
		<b>No</b>		(If no go to section 14)
<b>13 d</b>	<b>Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?</b>	Councillor Mary Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health, Adult Social Care)		
<b>13 e</b>	<b>Date other Cabinet member(s) consulted</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025		
<b>14</b>	<b>Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?</b>	<b>Yes</b>		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
		<b>No</b>	<b>x</b>	
<b>15</b>		<b>Name</b>	Gary Walbridge	

	<b>Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?</b>	<b>Job title</b>	Director for Adults, Health and Communities						
		<b>Date consulted</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> December 2025						
<b>Sign-off</b>									
16	<b>Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:</b>	<b>Democratic Support (mandatory)</b>	JS60 25/26						
		<b>Finance (mandatory)</b>	DN.25.26.002						
		<b>Legal (mandatory)</b>	LS/00001312/2/AC/22/12/25						
		<b>Human Resources (if applicable)</b>	n/a						
		<b>Corporate property (if applicable)</b>	n/a						
		<b>Procurement (if applicable)</b>	LL/AHC/806/ED/12/25						
<b>Appendices</b>									
17	<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Title of appendix</b>							
	A	Briefing report for publication							
	B	Equalities Impact Assessment							
<b>Confidential/exempt information</b>									
18a	<b>Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in <b>18b</b> below.						
		<b>No</b>							
		<b>Exemption Paragraph Number</b>							
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	
18b	<b>Confidential/exempt briefing report title:</b>								
<b>Background Papers</b>									
19	<p>Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below.</p> <p>Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</p>								

Title of background paper(s)		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Contract Standing Order Waivers for Direct Awards:				X				
PRO011.v2 - CSO Waiver Authorisation Form_ Adelaide Surgery								
PRO011.v2 - CSO Waiver Authorisation Form_ Plymouth Community Homes								
PRO011.v2 - CSO Waiver Authorisation Form_ Trevi								
PRO011.v2 - CSO Waiver Authorisation Form_ University of Plymouth								
<b>Council Officer Signature</b>								
20	I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.							
<b>Signature</b>				<b>Date of decision</b>	6 January 2026			
<b>Print Name</b>	Gary Walbridge (Director for Adults, Health and Communities)							

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## **HOUSING SOLUTIONS, COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

### **I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has awarded Plymouth City Council an additional allocation of £856,501 through the Rough Sleeping Prevention and Recovery Grant (RSPARG) for 2025/26. This funding is intended to strengthen the local health, housing and homelessness response to individuals experiencing multiple disadvantage.

This aligns with the *Fit for the Future: 10-Year Health Plan for England* by promoting integrated, community-based care for individuals experiencing multiple disadvantage, ensuring that health, housing and support services work collaboratively to address the complex needs of people who are homeless or at risk of rough sleeping.

Recent engagement with our central government Rough Sleeping Lead has provided clear guidance on the expected outcomes and impact of this investment. Locally, there has been a rise in long-term rough sleeping, alongside increasing recognition that chronic homelessness is not solely a housing issue but also a challenge for health and social care services.

The one-year pilot aims to deliver a more integrated, community-based, co-located and assertive response to individuals experiencing chronic homelessness and rough sleeping, including those at risk of rough sleeping. Funded through the Rough Sleeping Prevention and Recovery Grant, the pilot will enhance the city's "One Team" approach by formalising a multi-disciplinary partnership approach across health, housing and support services. An embedded researcher will build a case for sustainability during the term of the pilot.

The key objectives of the "One Team" pilot are to:

- Improve outcomes through personalised, trauma-informed whole system joined up case co-ordination and management.
- Boost existing services via co-located, community-based interventions that address health, housing, support and social care needs
- Reduce reliance on nightly paid accommodation and decrease levels of chronic homelessness
- Test and evaluate a joined-up model of system delivery to build the case for long-term, sustainable funding
- Embed integrated, co-located multi-disciplinary working to reshape system delivery for those furthest from services

This pilot presents a strategic opportunity to expand holistic joined up service interventions and develop a more agile and responsive system for some of the city's most marginalised residents.

The Health Inclusion Partnership Plymouth (HIPP) plays a central role in strengthening the city's response to homelessness by delivering specialist healthcare to individuals who are homeless or sleeping rough. Currently the HIPP lacks the capacity and scope to deliver intensive, tailored

healthcare in the community for individuals with the most acute and multiple needs. The RSPARG funded “One Team” brings together Adelaide Street and St Levan’s GP surgeries, University Hospitals Plymouth, Plymouth City Council, Livewell Southwest and the Plymouth Alliance into a formal multi-disciplinary joined up partnership response.

This one-year pilot will also be used to build the case for long-term, sustainable funding to:

- Enhance existing services to provide a more assertive, agile and personalised response for individuals experiencing multiple disadvantage, who are homeless and/or rough sleeping
- Launch an innovative “test and learn” pilot to deliver an integrated, multi-agency health, housing and homelessness response

This funding provides a strategic opportunity to expand and strengthen a holistic and integrated response for those with the most acute needs. The One Team approach offers a chance to reshape system and service delivery for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness and complex health challenges, who are often the furthest away from services.

The briefing paper outlines the proposed service interventions to be funded through the additional Rough Sleeping Prevention and Recovery Grant for 2025 to 2026, and the associated decisions regarding its allocation to the Plymouth Alliance and direct awards to partner organisations.

**It is recommended that the Strategic Director:**

1. Approve the transfer of the revenue funds of £478,649 to the Plymouth Alliance Via deed of Contract Variation to the Complex Needs Alliance Contract Reference PEO 16175:

Livewell Occupational Therapist	£62,570
Livewell Mental Health Interventions	£51,285
Livewell Clinical supervision/reflective practice/therapeutic interventions	£35,803
PATH Street Outreach c. 12 Night Shelter Spaces	£124,000
Shekinah Day Centre Officers	£85,000
Hamoaze House -Day Centre Posts	£34,991
BCHA Housing First Officers	£85,000
<b>Total to the Plymouth Alliance</b>	<b>£478,649</b>

Approve the direct awards:

- a. Adelaide Surgery – £217,532
- b. Trevi - £34,000
- c. Plymouth Community Homes - £63,750
- d. Plymouth University - £62,570

## 2. KEY AREAS OF ACTIVITY

The additional RSPARG funding will boost our current work to prevent and relieve rough sleeping and chronic homelessness. This will focus on: -

- Early intervention and prevention, including tackling complex homelessness and rough sleeping as a health issue as well as a housing issue
- The Target Priority Group (rough sleeping and at risk of rough sleeping)
- Those who are long term rough sleepers in the City
- Those at risk of multiple disadvantage, chronic homelessness and rough sleeping.

The proposal is to bring together and boost our current response into “One Team” - Health, Housing and Homelessness a multi-disciplinary response with the Plymouth Alliance setting up a formal partnership with HIPP to deliver the proposed one-year pilot and to work collectively to build the business case for sustainable funding.

One Team (community based, co-located, assertive and integrated)	Organisation/ Service-Type	One year Cost Profile (£)
<u>Centralised Co-ordinated Team Around Me (TAM)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lead co-ordinators will facilitate the multi-disciplinary TAM process, strengths-based plans tailored to each individual/s unique needs, aspirations and circumstances.</li> <li>Personalisation/ Flexible Budget, including for bespoke health related and other assessments</li> </ul>	<u>Adelaide Surgery</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 x FTE Team Around Me Co-ordinators</li> <li>Flexible Budget</li> </ul>	72,648
	Has a key role in supporting people experiencing homelessness and those with complex needs through its involvement in the Health Inclusion Pathway Plymouth (HIPP) and collaboration with the Plymouth Alliance	55,000
<u>Health, Treatment and Therapeutic Support:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drug and alcohol assessment and treatment</li> <li>Specialist mental health services</li> <li>Therapeutic interventions informed by research and lived experience</li> <li>All support will be trauma-informed and aligned with best practice from the Three Lens Model</li> </ul>	<u>Adelaide Surgery</u> Drug and Alcohol Treatment Hours	31,285
	<u>Plymouth Alliance -Livewell</u> 1 x FTE Occupational Therapist	62,570
	<u>Plymouth Alliance - Livewell</u> .5 FTE Mental Health Interventions	51,285
	<u>Plymouth Alliance - Livewell</u> .5 FTE Clinical supervision/reflective practice/therapeutic interventions	35,803
<u>Street Outreach and Case Support Expansion</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen multi-disciplinary street outreach and intensive, assertive and co-ordinated case management:</li> </ul>	<u>Plymouth Alliance - PATH</u> 2 x FTE Street Outreach c. 12 Night Shelter Spaces	124,000
	<u>Trevi</u>	34,000

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand night shelter provision in partnership with community and faith-based organisations</li> <li>Strengthen local networks to support emergency accommodation and engagement</li> <li>Gender specific outreach</li> </ul>	.6 FTE Women's Street Outreach Worker  Provides support to access housing, therapeutic, and support services for women and children.	
<u>Boosting Day Centre-Based Support</u>	<u>Plymouth Alliance - Shekinah</u> 2 x Day Centre Officers	85,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key engagement hubs offering accessible, wraparound services</li> <li>Enhanced, co-ordinated casework and welfare support</li> </ul>	<u>Plymouth Alliance - Hamoaze House</u> 2 x .25 Day Centre Posts	34,991
<u>Bespoke Housing Solutions</u>	<u>Plymouth Alliance - BCHA</u> 2 x Housing First Officers	85,000
<u>Implementing Housing First and other personalised housing interventions.</u>	<u>Plymouth Community Homes</u> 1.5 x Housing Management/ Welfare Support	63,750
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritise safe, stable accommodation as a foundation for recovery and long-term wellbeing</li> <li>Tailor housing solutions to individual needs, recognising the role of housing in addressing multiple disadvantage</li> </ul>	<u>Adelaide Surgery</u> 2 x Housing Placement/ Homelessness Assessment Officers	58,599
<u>Building a case for sustainability:</u>	<u>Plymouth University</u> 1 x Evaluation Project/ Report – systemic inquiry model	62,570
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embed a joint health, housing and homelessness researcher within the HIPP multidisciplinary team.</li> <li>Establish a system around meeting the Local Outcomes Framework</li> </ul>		
<b>Total Additional RSPARG Funding (25/26)</b>		<b>£856,501</b>

### 3. OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS

<b>Financial outcomes and benefits:</b>	<b>Non-financial outcomes and benefits:</b>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To decrease the use of nightly paid emergency accommodation for this cohort</li> <li>• To reduce the level of rough sleeping and those at risk of rough sleeping and chronic homelessness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated, multi-disciplinary Health, Housing and Homelessness “One Team” for people experiencing multiple disadvantage will deliver a joined-up response and better outcomes</li> <li>• Boosting existing services to provide a more assertive, agile and personalised response for individuals at risk of or experiencing rough sleeping which reduces the numbers of those rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping</li> </ul>
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#### 4. KEY RISKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

There are minimal risks to PCC as agreed funding is allocated through PCC to the Plymouth Alliance and direct awards can be made to partner organisations that comply with the Council’s Procurement Standing Orders

- PCC will co-ordinate the reporting to MHCLG
- This is 100% externally funded and as such there is no impact on existing PCC budgets


#### RECOMMENDATION

- I. To Approve the transfer of the revenue funds of £478,649 to the Plymouth Alliance Via deed of Contract Variation to the Complex Needs Alliance Contract Reference PEO 16175.
2. To Approve the direct award of the revenue funds to:
  - a. Adelaide Surgery – £217,532
  - b. Trevi - £34,000
  - c. Plymouth Community Homes - £63,750
  - d. Plymouth University - £62,570

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EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT – PASSPORTING THE ROUGH SLEEPER PREVENTION AND RECOVERY GRANT (RSPARG) TOP UP FUNDING TO THE PLYMOUTH ALLIANCE & DIRECT AWARDS TO PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

SECTION ONE: INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSAL

<b>Author(s):</b>  The person completing the EIA template.	Ruth Tune-Holmes	<b>Department and service:</b>	Community Connections	<b>Date of assessment:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
<b>Lead Officer:</b>  Head of Service, Service Director, or Strategic Director.	Jackie Kings	<b>Signature:</b>		<b>Approval date:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
<b>Overview:</b>	<p>Plymouth City Council receives funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to ensure the delivery of services to single homeless individuals and couples, including those with a history of, or at risk of, rough sleeping. The Rough Sleeping Recovery and Prevention Grant (RSPARG) aims to combat rough sleeping as part of a broader strategy to address homelessness and enhance services for those at risk.</p> <p>Plymouth City Council, in collaboration with the Plymouth Alliance, has used this funding to provide a systemic approach alongside broader Alliance services and partners, offering pathways out of homelessness and rough sleeping wherever possible with a particular focus on meeting the needs of individuals and couples who are homelessness and rough sleeping and often experiencing multiple disadvantage.</p> <p>The MHCLG has allocated Plymouth City Council Top Up RSPARG funding of £856,541 to build on homelessness prevention, relief and health interventions to those who are experiencing multiple disadvantages and are often the farthest away from services.</p>				
<b>Decision required:</b>	It is recommended that the Strategic Director:				

	<div>1. Approve the transfer of the revenue funds of £478,649 to the Plymouth Alliance Via deed of Contract Variation to the Complex Needs Alliance Contract Reference PEO 16175</div> <div>2. Approve the direct award of the revenue funds to:<div><div>a. Adelaide Surgery – £217,532</div><div>b. Trevi - £34,000</div><div>c. Plymouth Community Homes - £63,750</div><div>d. Plymouth University - £62,570</div></div></div>

SECTION TWO: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING TOOL

<div>Potential external impacts:</div> <div>Does the proposal have the potential to negatively impact service users, communities or residents with protected characteristics?</div>	Yes		No	x
<div>Potential internal impacts:</div> <div>Does the proposal have the potential to negatively impact Plymouth City Council employees?</div>	Yes		No	x
<div>Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (if you have answered yes to either of the questions above then a full impact assessment is required and you must complete section three)</div>	Yes		No	x
<div>If you do not agree that a full equality impact assessment is required, please set out your justification for why not.</div>	<div>The RSPARG funds services that explicitly work to have positive equality, diversity and social inclusion impacts. All services support people experiencing multiple disadvantage. The Plymouth Alliance has a range of interventions which support greater social inclusion. This includes gender and age specific services.</div>			

SECTION THREE: FULL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Protected characteristics (Equality Act, 2010)	Evidence and information (e.g. data and consultation feedback)	Adverse impact	Mitigation activities	Timescale and responsible department
Age	<p>Plymouth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>16.4 per cent of people in Plymouth are children aged under 15.</li><li>65.1 per cent are adults aged 15 to 64.</li><li>18.5 percent are adults aged 65 and over.</li><li>2.4 percent of the resident population are 85 and over.</li></ul> <p>South West</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>15.9 per cent of people are aged 0 to 14, 61.8 per cent are aged 15 to 64.</li><li>22.3 per cent are aged 65 and over.</li></ul> <p>England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>17.4 per cent of people are aged 0 to 14.</li><li>64.2 per cent of people are aged 15 to 64.</li><li>18.4 per cent of people are aged 65 and over.</li></ul> <p>(2021 Census)</p>	Where necessary older residents will be referred to Adult Social Care and young people to specialist services	N/A	Ongoing, Community Connections

<p><b>Care experienced individuals</b></p> <p>(Note that as per the Independent Review of Children's Social Care recommendations, Plymouth City Council is treating care experience as though it is a protected characteristic).</p>	<p>It is estimated that 26 per cent of the homeless population in the UK have care experience. In Plymouth there are currently 7 per cent of care leavers open to the service (6 per cent aged 18-20 and 12 per cent of those aged 21+) who are in unsuitable accommodation.</p> <p>The Care Review reported that 41 per cent of 19-21 year old care leavers are not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared to 12 per cent of all other young people in the same age group.</p> <p>In Plymouth there are currently 50 per cent of care leavers aged 18-21 Not in Education Training or Employment (54 per cent of all those care leavers aged 18-24 who are open to the service).</p> <p>There are currently 195 care leavers aged 18 to 20 (statutory service) and 58 aged 21 to 24 (extended offer). There are more care leavers aged 21 to 24 who could return for support from services if they wished to.</p>	N/A	Monitoring of lettings and related services to those who are care experienced	Ongoing, Community Connections
<p><b>Disability</b></p>	<p>9.4 per cent of residents in Plymouth have their activities limited 'a lot' because of a physical or mental health problem.</p> <p>12.2 per cent of residents in Plymouth have their activities limited 'a little' because of a physical or mental health problem (2021 Census)</p>	Some individual may require medical and social care and/or accessible housing and services	Partnership with health and social care is in place that provides a dedicated and specialist service	Ongoing, Community Connections

<b>Gender reassignment</b>	0.5 per cent of residents in Plymouth have a gender identity that is different from their sex registered at birth. 0.1 per cent of residents identify as a trans man, 0.1 per cent identify as non-binary and, 0.1 per cent identify as a trans women (2021 Census).	N/A. If participants fall within this category; existing support services will be made available	N/A	N/A
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	40.1 per cent of residents have never married and never registered a civil partnership. 10 per cent are divorced, 6 percent are widowed, with 2.5 per cent are separated but still married.  0.49 per cent of residents are, or were, married or in a civil partnerships of the same sex. 0.06 per cent of residents are in a civil partnerships with the opposite sex (2021 Census).	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	The total fertility rate (TFR) for England was 1.62 children per woman in 2021. The total fertility rate (TFR) for Plymouth in 2021 was 1.5.	N/A	N/A	N/A

<b>Race</b>	<p>In 2021, 94.9 per cent of Plymouth's population identified their ethnicity as White, 2.3 per cent as Asian and 1.1 per cent as Black (2021 Census).</p> <p>People with a mixed ethnic background comprised 1.8 per cent of the population. 1 per cent of the population use a different term to describe their ethnicity (2021 Census).</p> <p>92.7 per cent of residents speak English as their main language. 2021 Census data shows that after English, Polish, Romanian, Chinese, Portuguese, and Arabic are the most spoken languages in Plymouth (2021 Census).</p>	There is potential for those from minoritised communities to feel isolated and to be the target of racism and hostility.	We are seeking to address the potential for isolation and racism as part of wider Council strategy.	Ongoing, Community Connections
<b>Religion or belief</b>	<p>48.9 per cent of the Plymouth population stated they had no religion. 42.5 per cent of the population identified as Christian (2021 Census).</p> <p>Those who identified as Muslim account for 1.3 per cent of Plymouth's population while Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish or Sikh combined totalled less than 1 per cent (2021 Census).</p>	<p>Plymouth has a population from a range of diverse national backgrounds. There are two mosques offering prayer and other facilities. There are also a number of shops with halal provision.</p> <p>There are numerous churches in Plymouth that have a congregation from a range of diverse national backgrounds.</p>	This will be monitored through letting arrangements	Ongoing, Community Connections
<b>Sex</b>	51 per cent of our population are women and 49 per cent are men (2021 Census).	No impact anticipated, there are gender specific homelessness services	Lettings will be monitored	Ongoing, Community Connections



<b>Sexual orientation</b>	88.95 per cent of residents aged 16 years and over in Plymouth describe their sexual orientation as straight or heterosexual. 2.06 per cent describe their sexuality as bisexual, 1.97 per cent of people describe their sexual orientation as gay or lesbian. 0.42 per cent of residents describe their sexual orientation using a different term (2021 Census).	No impact anticipated. If participants fall within this category, existing support services will be made available	This will be monitored through the letting process and partnership working.	Ongoing, Community Connections
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SECTION FOUR: HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

Human Rights	Implications	Mitigation Actions	Timescale and responsible department
	<p>Homeless individuals have the same rights of protection as everyone else under the terms of the Human Rights Act 1998. The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on us to:</p> <p>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity between those with a protected characteristic and others</p> <p>Improved housing and support provision will evidence that we are committed to improving the quality of life for all in our city.</p>	<p>Delivery of the service interventions through the Plymouth Alliance to work closely with this homeless population.</p>	<p>2025/26</p> <p>Community Connections</p>

SECTION FIVE: OUR EQUALITY OBJECTIVES

Equality objectives	Implications	Mitigation Actions	Timescale and responsible department
<b>Work together in partnership to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ promote equality, diversity and inclusion</li><li>▪ facilitate community cohesion</li><li>▪ support people with different backgrounds and lived experiences to get on well together</li></ul>	Ensure that the Plymouth Alliance, which the Council is a part of, works closely together to promote E, D, I policies, procedures and practices in its day-to-day service delivery with the homeless and rough sleeping cohorts.	The Council commissions and is part of the leadership of the Plymouth Alliance.	2025/26 Community Connections
<b>Give specific consideration to care experienced people to improve their life outcomes, including access to training, employment and housing.</b>	Care experienced individuals are a proportion of this homeless cohort.	Specific services and interventions to be developed.	2025/26 Community Connections
<b>Build and develop a diverse workforce that represents the community and citizens it serves.</b>	No impact	No impact	No impact
<b>Support diverse communities to feel confident to report crime and anti-social behaviour, including hate crime and hate incidents, and work with partners to ensure Plymouth is a city where everybody feels safe and welcome.</b>	No impact	No impact	No impact