

# Brexit, Infrastructure and Legislative Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date of meeting:	11 March 2020
Title of Report:	<b>Policy Update</b>
Lead Member:	Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader)
Lead Strategic Director:	Giles Perritt (Assistant Chief Executive)
Author:	Kevin McKenzie (Policy & Intelligence Advisor)
Contact Email:	Kevin.McKenzie@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	BILCO PB 15012020
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

## **Purpose of Report**

To provide Brexit, Infrastructure and Legislative Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the latest national picture in respect of policy announcements and legislation.

## **Recommendations and Reasons**

For Scrutiny to consider the information provided in regard to their role and future agenda items.

## **Alternative options considered and rejected**

N/A

## **Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan**

Delivery of the Corporate Plan and Plymouth Plan needs to take account of emerging policy and the legislative picture.

## **Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:**

No implications for the MTFP direct resource impacts arising from the recommendations

## **Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:**

No direct carbon/environmental impacts arising from the recommendations

## **Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:**

No EIA completed as no decision is being taken item is for noting and to inform the BILCO work plan.

**Appendices**

\*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	BILCO Policy Brief							

**Background papers:**

\*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
N/A							

**Sign off:**

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Giles Perritt (Assistant Chief Executive)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 28/02/20											
Cabinet Member approval: Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council) Date approved: 28/02/20											


## Brexit, Infrastructure and Legislative Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Policy Update (Compiled – 28 February 2020)



### Government policy, legislative announcements and news

#### Headlines

- [Budget set for 11 March 2020](#)
- [Cabinet reshuffle finalised,](#)
  - Rishi Sunak replaces Sajid Javid as Chancellor
  - Vicky Ford has been appointed as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families.
  - Gillian Keegan has been appointed as the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Apprenticeships and Skills
  - Michelle Donelan takes on a new portfolio and has been appointed as Minister of State for Universities.
  - Baroness Berridge has been appointed as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the School System.
- [UK leaves the European Union, with a transition period until 31 December 2020](#)
- [Full Universal Credit rollout delayed until 2024](#)
- [KS4 performance released](#)

Date of publication	Brexit, Infrastructure and Legislative Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee	 GOV
14 January	<p><b>Marine Management Organisation</b> <a href="#">Have your say on Marine Planning in England</a> Closes April 2020</p> <p>Since 2016 the Draft South West Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan has been developed with stakeholders, providing a robust and evidence-based plan that is tailored to the economic, environmental and social needs of the south west inshore and offshore marine plan areas.</p> <p>The Marine Management Organisation have announced that the consultation on the Draft South West Inshore and Offshore Marine Plan, and Sustainability Appraisal, will be between 14th January - 6th April 2020.</p>	Open consultation
15 January	<p><b>Department for Transport</b> <a href="#">Government announces measures on regional connectivity</a></p> <p>In support of the Prime Minister’s commitment to levelling up all regions of the UK, a review of regional connectivity will ensure all nations and regions of the UK have the domestic transport connections local communities rely on – including regional airports.</p>	Announcement
21 January	<p><b>Department for Transport</b> <a href="#">Funding for on-street chargepoints doubled to help charge up electric vehicle revolution</a></p> <p>The Transport Secretary today (21 January 2020) announced that government funding will be doubled to £10 million for the installation of chargepoints on residential streets next year. This could fund up to another 3,600 chargepoints across the country and make charging at home and overnight easier for those without an off-street parking space.</p>	Funding

27 January	<p><b>Department for Transport</b> <a href="#">Government pledges £500 million to bring back historic rail lines, improving connectivity for communities across the country</a></p> <p>Long-isolated communities across the country will benefit from better rail connections that will level-up regional economies and boost access to jobs and education, thanks to a <a href="#">£500 million fund to kickstart the restoration of lines</a> closed more than 50 years ago.</p>	Announcement
29 January	<p><b>Ministry of Housing, Communities &amp; Local Government</b></p> <p><a href="#">A coastal concordat for England</a></p> <p>The coastal concordat sets out the separate processes for consenting coastal developments in England. This revised version replaces the original published on 11 November 2013. It supports decision-making between Local Authorities and those regulators who work in the marine area. The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan aims for all Local Authorities with a coastal interest to adopt the concordat by 2021. Working under the concordat is currently a voluntary arrangement.</p>	Guidance
29 January	<p><b>Natural England</b> <a href="#">New £2.5 million project launched to restore fragile marine habitats</a></p> <p>The future of England's most important underwater habitats received a boost after a marine restoration project received £2.5 million funding. The LIFE Recreation ReMEDIES project, led by Natural England, will protect seagrass meadows - a critically endangered EU red listed habitat which are easily damaged and slow to recover. The five Marine Protected Areas, set to benefit from the funded project include Plymouth Sound &amp; Estuaries.</p>	Funding
29 January	<p><b>Ministry of Housing, Communities &amp; Local Government</b> <a href="#">Housing Secretary: beautiful homes should become 'norm'</a></p> <p>Launch of the Building Better Building Beautiful Commission's final report. contains over 130 practical recommendations to support the creation of more beautiful communities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• planting millions of trees over the next 5 years, as well as opening old canals and supporting every home to have its own or access to a fruit tree</li> <li>• speeding up the planning process for beautiful buildings through a new 'Fast Track for Beauty' rule for councils</li> <li>• increasing democracy and involving communities in local plans and planning applications, including using digital technology like virtual reality and 3D modelling to help locals shape their own areas</li> </ul>	Announcement
30 January	<p><b>Department for Environment, Food &amp; Rural Affairs</b> <a href="#">Environment Bill sets out vision for a greener future</a></p> <p>Our precious natural environment will be better protected for generations to come with today's (Thursday 30 January) introduction of a far-reaching Environment Bill. The government claims that the speedy</p>	Announcement

	return of the Bill underlines their commitment to tackling climate change and to protecting and restoring our natural environment for future generations.	
6 February	<p><b>Department for Transport</b> <a href="#">Britain's first all-electric bus town to pave the way for green communities of the future</a></p> <p>Local authorities can now <a href="#">apply to become the UK's first all-electric bus town</a>, setting the 'gold-standard' in environmentally friendly public transport, Transport Secretary Grant Shapps has announced today (6 February 2020). The winning area will receive up to £50 million to help pay for a brand-new fleet of electric buses, reducing emissions and cleaning up the air in their community.</p>	Expression of interest
8 February	<p><b>Department for Environment, Food &amp; Rural Affairs</b> <a href="#">Thousands of trees to be planted in England's towns and cities</a></p> <p>Plymouth was one of thirteen urban communities across England to be awarded a share of the £10m in the first round of the <a href="#">Urban Tree Challenge Fund</a>. Across the country over 22,000 large trees and 28,000 small trees will be planted in urban areas. These will help improve health and wellbeing, as well as playing a crucial role in the fight against climate change, supporting the UK's journey to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.</p>	Announcement
10 February	<p><b>Department for International Trade</b> <a href="#">Freeports consultation</a> Closes 20 April 2020</p> <p>The government wants to establish freeports, which have different customs rules than the rest of the country, that are innovative hubs, boost global trade, attract inward investment and increase productivity. In doing so, the government wants freeports to generate employment opportunities to the benefit of some of our most deprived communities around the UK.</p> <p><a href="#">Press release</a></p>	Open consultation
10 February	<p><b>Department for Transport</b> <a href="#">Major boost for bus services as PM outlines new vision for local transport</a></p> <p>Bus services across the country will be transformed with simpler fares, thousands of new buses, improved routes and higher frequencies. In a statement to Parliament, the PM will announce £5 billion of new funding to overhaul bus and cycle links for every region outside London. The package of investment will boost bus services by focusing on a range of priorities. The details of these programmes will be announced in the upcoming National Bus Strategy, to be published later this year.</p>	Announcement



## Parliamentary Legislation

[Agriculture Bill](#)

[Fisheries Bill \[HL\]](#)

[Environment Bill 2019-20](#)

[Local Authorities \(Transport Powers\) Bill \[HL\] 2019-20](#)

[Rented Homes Bill \[HL\] 2019-20](#)

[Local Government \(Governance\) Bill 2019-20](#)

[Local Authorities \(Borrowing and Investment\) Bill 2019-20](#)

[Local Authorities \(Removal of Council Tax Restrictions\) Bill 2019-20](#)

[Devolution in England Bill \[HL\] 2019-20](#)



## Consultation Outcomes

Department	Consultation Response	Outcome
Regulator of Social Housing	<a href="#">Consultation on a new Rent Standard from 2020</a>	<a href="#">Decision statement</a>
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs	<a href="#">Single use plastic: banning the distribution and/or sale of plastic straws, stirrers and plastic-stemmed cotton buds in England</a>	<a href="#">Summary of consultation responses and government's response.</a>

### Plymouth City Council – Open Consultations

PCC LIVE Consultations	Closes	Link to Parliamentary or Government consultation	Department
<a href="#">Budget Feedback 2020-21</a>	24 February		Finance
<a href="#">PCC Draft Equalities Objectives 2020-24</a>	1 March		CEX

### News stories of interest

- [Government looking to restrict Council planning powers to increase housebuilding. \(The Times, paywall\) possibly as part of expected Planning Whitepaper](#)
- [Government given ultimatum on housing of people with learning disabilities and autism](#)

Version control	Author
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