

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Cabinet Member



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


Executive Decision Reference Number –L8 21/22

Decision	
1	Title of decision: Tree Planting Programme - 2021/22
2	Decision maker (Cabinet member name and portfolio title): Councillor Nick Kelly - Leader of the Council
3	Report author and contact details: Chris Avent (Green Estate Manager) 304184
4	<p>Decision to be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves the Business Case • Allocates £131,300 into the Capital Programme, to be funded by Corporate Borrowing £122,000 and Local Councillor Grant Contributions of £9,300. In the event of the successful award of an Urban Tree Challenge Fund grant, the full value of the award will substitute 50% of the Corporate Borrowing • Authorises the procurement process • Delegates the award of the contract to the Strategic Director for Place
5	<p>Reasons for decision:</p> <p>The Plan for Trees and Plymouth's Climate Emergency Action Plan commit the city to securing funding for large scale, city-wide tree planting schemes. This business case proposes allocating funding to bring forward the next significant tree planting programme across the city in line with manifesto commitment 8 which will increase the currently funded planting programme to 2021 trees and in doing so promote and enhance the city's urban forest.</p> <p>This commitment will need to be underwritten by corporate borrowing, of which 50 % will be able to be repaid if a bid to the Urban Tree Challenge Fund is successful.</p>
6	<p>Alternative options considered and rejected:</p> <p>Do Minimum – Only invest in additional schemes funded by LCG – currently 56 additional trees. Does not deliver against manifesto commitment.</p> <p>Do Nothing – use existing funding to deliver current commitment of 1307 trees. Does not deliver against manifesto commitment.</p>
7	Financial implications:

	Total Project cost = £0.131million Corporate borrowing commitment = £0.122m Councillor Local Community Grant contributions = £0.009m			
8	Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact Democratic Support for further advice)	Yes	No	Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:
			x	in the case of capital projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total
			x	in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1million
			x	is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority.
	If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions			
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:	<u>Corporate Plan</u> A green, sustainable city that cares about the environment <u>Joint Local Plan</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DEV026 Protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geological conservation, DEV028 Trees, woodlands and hedgerows <u>Plymouth Plan</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SO1 – Delivering a healthy city HEA7 - Optimising the health and wellbeing benefits of the natural environment 		
10	Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)	This programme of works aligns with and supports the delivery of the Plymouth Climate Emergency Action Plan by delivering a programme of works that will enhance and add resilience to the city's tree estate. Plymouth currently has just under 400,000 trees which contribute £4.6m of annual benefits to the city through the Ecosystem Services that they provide, including £1.1 million of carbon storage and £2.9 million of pollution removal (i-Tree Eco survey 2020). This work will enhance this service provision. An outcome of the project will be to deliver a carbon		

		budget for the investment programme and calculate the cost: benefit to inform future tree planting schemes and funding bids.		
Urgent decisions				
11	Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?	Yes		(If yes, please contact Democratic Support (democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk) for advice)
		No	x	(If no, go to section 13a)
12a	Reason for urgency:			
12b	Scrutiny Chair Signature:		Date	
	Scrutiny Committee name:			
	Print Name:			
Consultation				
13a	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?	Yes	x	
		No		(If no go to section 14)
13b	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?	Cllr Patrick Nicholson – Portfolio holder for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Cllr Bridgeman – Cabinet member for Environment and Street Services		
13c	Date Cabinet member consulted	15.06.2021		
14	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?	Yes		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
		No	x	
15	Which Corporate Management Team member has been	Name	Anthony Payne	
		Job title	Strategic Director Place	

	consulted?	Date consulted	4.8.21					
Sign-off								
16	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	DS29 21/22					
		Finance (mandatory)	ba.21.22.78					
		Legal (mandatory)	MS/37109					
		Human Resources (if applicable)	NA					
		Corporate property (if applicable)	NA					
		Procurement (if applicable)	NA					
Appendices								
17	Ref.	Title of appendix						
	A	Business Case						
Confidential/exempt information								
18a	Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?	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 18b below. (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)				
		No	x					
		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18b	Confidential/exempt briefing report title:							
Background Papers								
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.						
Title of background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cabinet Member Signature							
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.						
Signature			Date of decision	4 August 2021			
Print Name	Councillor Nick Kelly – Leader of the Council						