

City Council

Urgent Decisions to be reported



Date of meeting: 20 June 2022
 Title of Report: **Urgent Decisions**
 Lead Member: Councillor Richard Bingley
 Lead Strategic Director: Giles Perritt (Assistant Chief Executive)
 Author: Ross Jago, Head of Governance, Performance and Risk
 Contact Email: Ross.jago@plymouth.gov.uk
 Your Reference: UD 01 22/23
 Key Decision: No
 Confidentiality: Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

As set out in section 4.5 of Part C and section 14 of Part F of the Constitution, urgent decisions are required to be reported to the next ordinary Council meeting after they were taken. This report sets out the urgent decisions taken since the last meeting of Council on 21 March 2022. Copies of the decisions are provided as appendices.

Recommendations and Reasons

Council is requested to note the following decisions taken in line with due process:

- Appointment of an Interim Company Director for the Plymouth and South Devon Freeport**
 Reason for urgency: In order for the Freeport Company to be set up and Landowner agreements signed ahead of the 22 May 2022 deadline.
- Household Support Fund Round 2 Expenditure Plan**
 Reason for urgency: We were notified of the grant in April, there is a requirement the expenditure plan is returned to government by 29 April 2022. We are still working to the draft guidance as final versions have not yet been issued by government.
- Bereavement Infrastructure Project – Enabling Phase 3 (Officer Decision)**
 Reason for urgency: The contractor is currently working on site completing an initial phase of enabling works. If this decision is not taken urgently the contractor will decant from site and potentially have to move key personnel onto other jobs. This would shift the programme considerably plus we would miss the long lead in times for critical items. The new crematorium would then be delivered much later and at higher costs.

Alternative options considered and rejected

None. Urgent decisions are required to be reported to the next ordinary Council meeting after they were taken.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

- **Appointment of an Interim Company Director for the Plymouth and South Devon Freeport**
 - We have set out a number of strategic objectives in the Plymouth Plan that a Freeport could help us to achieve. SO2 - Strengthening Plymouth's role in the region SO3 - Delivering the international city SO11 – Delivering high quality development SO12 – Delivering infrastructure and investment The Freeport could also assist us to deliver priorities in our Corporate Plan: -
 - Strongly supports the delivery of economic growth that benefits as many people as possible.
 - Strongly supports the delivery of quality jobs and skills.
- **Household Support Fund Round 2 Expenditure Plan**
 - This proposal links to the Child Poverty agenda for the city and also A Bright Future 2021 – 26 in supporting children to stay safe and well through the provision of adequate food.
- **Bereavement Infrastructure Project – Enabling Phase 3 (Officer Decision)**
 - The Council is committed to delivering quality public services and as part of that commitment the Bereavement Service seeks to ensure it provides high quality remembrance and cremation service fit for the future. The Bereavement Service delivers on the Corporate Plan values and priorities in the following ways:
 - It is Democratic by engaging with the funeral industry and increasing community engagement opportunities through open days and events as well as strengthening work with local schools and charities.
 - It is Responsible by caring about its impact on the customers and the funeral industry retaining the choice of funeral service locations.
 - It is Fair by creating a variety of opportunities for remembrance across a range of locations and costs
 - It demonstrates Plymouth City Council's is committed to being Co-operative by working with our partners in the funeral industry and developing stronger ties with local bereavement charities
 - It is a Caring Council that reduces health inequality by providing a modern facility that is fit for purpose meeting the needs of the whole city with sensitivity to differing faith requirements
 - The project supports economic growth as part of a Growing City that benefits as many people as possible
 - It will also support a Growing City by investing in facilities that we can be proud to offer and become a destination of choice for remembrance
 - A Growing City that is green and sustainable by providing modern cremators with the latest abatement technology that meets emissions requirements and also provides alternative memorialisation offers such as green burial
 - The Plymouth Plan sets out a single vision for the city to 2034 with a clearly stated ambition to grow Plymouth's population to 300,000 as well as new developments on our urban fringes such as Sherford Community, crematoria and burial capacity are recognised as a key infrastructure requirement for a growing city.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

- **Appointment of an Interim Company Director for the Plymouth and South Devon Freeport**

None

- **Household Support Fund Round 2 Expenditure Plan**

The funding is provided by the Department for Work and Pensions. The total grant for the Council is £2,294,796.82, to April to September 2022. The grant is funded in arrears based on actual expenditure.

- **Bereavement Infrastructure Project – Enabling Phase 3 (Officer Decision)**

This approval is for £4,013,124.77 for the Enabling 3 package and £407,813.32 for the PCSA increase for design fees. Costs related to this are to be met from the approved budget for the new Crematorium facility as detailed on the Capital Programme, this work has been budgeted for and is included in that budget. A detailed breakdown of the cost is provided in the briefing report.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None arising from this report.

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

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give 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.

None associated with this report

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
	Household Support Fund Round 2 Expenditure Plan							
	Appointment of an Interim Company Director for the Plymouth and South Devon Freeport ("Freeport Company")							
	Bereavement Infrastructure Project – Enabling Phase 3							

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)						
	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.						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

Fin	N/A	Leg	EJ/38 728/2	Mon Off	EJ/38 728/2	HR		Asset s		Strat Proc	
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Giles Perritt											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 10/06/2022											