

City Council



Date of meeting: 27 March 2023
 Title of Report: **Urgent Decisions**
 Lead Member: Councillor Richard Bingley (Leader)
 Lead Strategic Director: Giles Perritt (Assistant Chief Executive)
 Author: Jamie Sheldon (Senior Governance Advisor)
 Contact Email: jamie.sheldon@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 meeting of Council on 30 January 2023. 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:

- **L22 22/23 – Home Upgrade Grant 2**
 1. Allocate £3,376,610 for the project into the Capital Programme funded by a grant from BEIS Home Upgrade Grant Phase 1.
 2. Delegate's authority to Section 151 officer and Chief Executive to sign the MoU.
 3. Delegate authority to the Service Director for Strategic Planning & Infrastructure to spend the allocated funds and enter into further agreements in relation to it where they would not already have authority to award it within the scheme of delegation.
- **L34 22/23 - Better Places Programme: Armada Way Scheme**
 1. To note the outcome of the Engagement exercise as set out at appendix C;
 2. To consider and agree the proposed amended design for Armada Way, to include additional tree planting within Armada Way and a revised tree planting schedule, together with the investigation of wider tree planting within the City Centre and set out at B in the report;
 3. To agree with the implementation of the final design and for the redevelopment of Armada Way to recommence without further delay.
- **L35 22/23 – Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) grant and Memorandum of Understanding**
 1. Accept the Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) grant from (Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities; DLUHC);
 2. Delegate authority to the Section 151 officer to sign the Memorandum of Understanding;

3. Delegate authority to the Section 151 officer disperse the funds to Bournemouth Churches Housing Association to deliver in line with the MOU where they do not already have authority to do so.

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**L22 22/23 – Home Upgrade Grant 2**

The project is an excellent fit with the strategic objectives of The Council. Social inequalities will be reduced by the provision of efficient heating and efficiency measures to social housing households experiencing fuel poverty. This not only provides a much healthier, warmer, and comfortable environment for the householder, it also reduces the annual energy bill ensuring vulnerable households income is maximised. The retrofitted energy efficiency measures will help to reduce the carbon emissions of the city, contributing to the delivery of the Joint Local Plan and Climate Emergency Action Plan.

L34 22/23 - Better Places Programme: Armada Way Scheme

The delivery of the Armada Way scheme is consistent with several policies in the Plymouth Plan and the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan

L35 22/23 – Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) grant and Memorandum of Understanding

Providing 16 affordable homes for Afghan/Ukrainian refugees, refurbished to EPC C, aligns with the following PCC policies, plans and priorities:

Policy HEA8 of the Plymouth Plan outlines aims to ensure everyone has access to a decent, safe and affordable home, achieved through identifying sites and delivery programmes to develop a range of new and affordable homes to rent and buy. Section 4.71 of the Plymouth Plan further outlines the significant need for more affordable homes in Plymouth.

Policy SPT3 of the JLP makes provisions to deliver 4,550 new affordable homes by 2034. In addition, Policy DEV7 of the JLP outlines the need to ensure there is a broad range of housing available to suit households with specific needs, including large family homes.

This project will refurbish properties to an EPC C rating, thereby improving the energy efficiency of homes and supporting plans to improve the energy efficiency of homes in Plymouth as outlined in the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP).

A star action of the Plymouth's Future 'Our Opportunity, Our Delivery Plan' involves delivering affordable homes in the city through our housing partnership agreements with housing associations. Furthermore, the reduction in carbon emissions from housing is outlined as a key measure of success.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

Financial implications of these decisions are set out in the published appendices to these decisions.

Financial Risks

Financial risks of these decisions are set out in the published appendices to these decisions.

Carbon Footprint and Environmental implications of these decisions are set out in the published appendices to these decisions.

** 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.

*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	L22 22/23 – Home Upgrade Grant 2 Decision							
B	L34 22/23 - Better Places Programme: Armada Way Scheme Decision							
C	L35 22/23 – Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) grant and Memorandum of Understanding Decision							

**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)						
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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

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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: 23/03/2023