

# EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a **Cabinet Member**




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

Executive Decision Reference Number – ECC01 23/24

| Decision |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>1</b> | <p><b>Title of decision:</b></p> <p>Innovate UK's Net Zero Living: Pathfinder Places initiative - application for funding for Owing Net Zero project</p>  |
| <b>2</b> | <p><b>Decision maker (Cabinet member name and portfolio title):</b></p> <p>Councillor Tom Briars-Delve, Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change</p>   |
| <b>3</b> | <p><b>Report author and contact details:</b></p> <p>Jonathan Bell, Head of Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development, 01752 304353, jonathan.bell@plymouth.gov.uk</p>  |
| <b>4</b> | <p><b>Decision to be taken:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Plymouth City Council take on the 'lead organisation' role for a bid for Phase 2 funding from the Net Zero Living: Pathfinder Places programme of Innovate UK, on behalf of Plymouth Net Zero Partnership for its Owing Net Zero project.</li> <li>2. That the Service Director for Spatial Planning &amp; Infrastructure be authorised to submit the bid for Phase 2 funding on behalf of the Plymouth Net Zero Partnership.</li> <li>3. That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director for Place to accept any Phase 2 funding awarded to the Council under the Net Zero Living: Pathfinder Places programme and to award contracts and enter into grant agreements relating to the allocation of any funds successfully secured where they would otherwise not have authority to do so.</li> </ol> |
| <b>5</b> | <p><b>Reasons for decision:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide the necessary assurances to the funder and meet the eligibility requirements for the fund.</li> <li>2. To ensure that the bid can be submitted in time for the 6 September 2023 deadline.</li> <li>3. To provide for the effective management of grant funds, if the bid is successful.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>6</b> | <p><b>Alternative options considered and rejected:</b></p> <p>One alternative has been considered and rejected. Namely, that the City Council decline the opportunity to be 'lead organisation' and submit the bid on behalf of the Net Zero Partnership. However, the Council has been asked by the Partnership to take on this role given its capacity to deliver, and the terms of the fund itself identify only a limited range of organisations that it will accept as lead. If the Council were to decline this opportunity, it is highly unlikely that a bid for Phase 2 funding will be able to be made at all, with a significant opportunity cost for the Partnership and the city net zero mission.</p>  |
| <b>7</b> | <p><b>Financial implications and risk:</b></p>  |

|                         |   |   |  |  |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|--|
|                         | <p>A grant of between £2m and £5m is a potential outcome. This would be funding for the Net Zero Partnership rather than the City Council, although the Council's costs in developing, delivering and monitoring the project would be met. The Council would also have a significant influence over the identification of collaboration projects and initiatives that the grant funding would be allocated to. There is an expectation of match funding from partners, and for the Council this would be from existing resources already allocated to the net zero mission.</p> <p>As the lead organisation, the Council will have a key responsibility in ensuring that the grant is effectively managed and administered.</p> |   |  |  |
| 8                       | <b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b><br>(Please contact <a href="#">Democratic Support</a> for further advice)  | Yes   | No   | <b>Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:</b>  |
|                         |   |   | 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. |  |
|                         | <b>If yes, date of publication of the notice in the <a href="#">Forward Plan of Key Decisions</a></b>   |   |  |  |
| 9                       | <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>  | <p>The Corporate Plan has a mission of 'Making Plymouth a fairer, greener city, where everyone does their bit'. Owing Net Zero is all about this mission. It seeks to address barriers to engagement with and ownership of the net zero mission, so that everyone is able to do their bit in helping make Plymouth a low carbon city.</p> <p>The Plymouth Plan sets out the aspiration for Plymouth to be a net zero city by 2030. The Owing Net Zero project is focussed explicitly on supporting this aspiration.</p> |  |  |
| 10                      | <b>Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)</b>   | <p>The Owing Net Zero project exists precisely because there is a need for wider engagement of the city in driving down carbon emissions and helping the city to become net zero. Its implications are therefore entirely positive.</p>   |  |  |
| <b>Urgent decisions</b> |   |   |  |  |
| 11                      | <b>Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?</b>  | Yes   |  | (If yes, please contact Democratic Support ( <a href="mailto:democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk">democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk</a> ) for advice)      |
|                         |   | No  | X  | <b>(If no, go to section 13a)</b>  |
| 12a                     | <b>Reason for urgency:</b>  |   |  |  |

|                     |   |                                    |                                     |  |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| I2b                 | Scrutiny Chair Signature:   |                                    | Date                                |  |
|                     | Scrutiny Committee name:  |                                    |                                     |  |
|                     | Print Name:   |                                    |                                     |  |
| <b>Consultation</b> |   |                                    |                                     |  |
| I3a                 | Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?                 | Yes                                |                                     |  |
|                     |   | No                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (If no go to section I4)                           |
| I3b                 | Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?                 |                                    |                                     |  |
| I3c                 | Date Cabinet member consulted   | 17 August 2023                     |                                     |  |
| I4                  | Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision? | Yes                                |                                     | If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer |
|                     |   | No                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |  |
| I5                  | Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?                          | Name                               | Anthony Payne                       |  |
|                     |   | Job title                          | Strategic Director for Place        |  |
|                     |   | Date consulted                     | 11 August 2023                      |  |
| <b>Sign-off</b>     |   |                                    |                                     |  |
| I6                  | Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:                             | Democratic Support (mandatory)     | DS 32 23/24                         |  |
|                     |   | Finance (mandatory)                | DJN.23.24.83                        |  |
|                     |   | Legal (mandatory)                  | LS/00001312/1/AC/22/8/23            |  |
|                     |   | Human Resources (if applicable)    | n/a                                 |  |
|                     |   | Corporate property (if applicable) | n/a                                 |  |
|                     |   | Procurement (if applicable)        | n/a                                 |  |
| <b>Appendices</b>   |   |                                    |                                     |  |
|                     | Ref.  | Title of appendix                  |                                     |  |

|  |   |   |                                   |          |  |          |            |          |          |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|----------|--|----------|------------|----------|----------|
| <b>17</b>                              | A   | Owning Net Zero - Background Paper  |                                   |          |  |          |            |          |          |
| <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.<br><br>(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.<br><br>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>  |          | 25/08/2023 |          |          |

OFFICIAL

|                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Print Name</b> | Cllr Tom Briars-Delve |
|-------------------|-----------------------|