

Date of meeting:	20 November 2023
Title of Report:	<b>Withdrawal from the Heart of the South West Joint Committee</b>
Lead Member:	Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader)
Lead Strategic Director:	Giles Perritt (Assistant Chief Executive)
Author:	Caroline Marr, Senior Policy Advisor
Contact Email:	Caroline.marr@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	20.11.23 HotSWJC
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

**Purpose of Report:**

To present the case and seek approval to serve notice for the withdrawal of Plymouth City Council as a constituent member of the Heart of the South West Joint Committee (HotSW JC). As a result of serving this notice, and following similar decisions made by Devon County Council, Somerset Council and Torbay Council, the Joint Committee would be dissolved.

The proposal in this report specifically relates to the HotSW Joint Committee's governance arrangements only, and do not cover the HotSW Local Enterprise Partnership or the associated HotSW Joint Scrutiny Committee.

**Recommendations and Reasons:**

Recommendation: That Council agrees to serve notice for its withdrawal from the HotSW Joint Committee and endorses the dissolution of the Committee.

*Reason: Changes in Government policy and the forthcoming integration of functions and assets of the HotSW Local Enterprise Partnership into the relevant upper tier local authorities, means that the purpose of the HotSW JC has largely been superseded, and other partnership arrangements between the Constituent Authorities will deliver its aims.*

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

To not serve notice of withdrawal. This option has been rejected – other constituent authorities are expected to bring forward a proposal to withdraw. The Committee's governance arrangements determine that "where a majority of the Constituent Authorities at any time agree (via formal resolutions) that the Joint Committee should be dissolved or terminated on a specified date then the Joint Committee shall cease to exist from that date."

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

Regional governance and leadership arrangements will continue to fulfil the Council's commitment to 'being a strong voice for Plymouth'.



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**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: 10/11/2023

Cabinet Member approval: Approved verbally.

Date approved: 10/11/2023