

Cabinet



Date of meeting:	12 August 2024
Title of Report:	The King's Speech – 17 July 2024
Lead Member:	Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader)
Lead Strategic Director:	Tracey Lee (Chief Executive)
Author:	Kevin Mckenzie (Policy Advisor)
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Your Reference:	
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

The speech delivered by the King at the state opening of parliament sets out the Government's legislative programme for this Parliament. The report provides a briefing covering the bills that have relevance to Local Government.

The Policy Team, in collaboration with relevant Council Departments, will keep Cabinet up to date on the passage of the bills through Parliament and will advise of any significant implications for the Council.

The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Panels will be invited to track and evaluate the impacts of relevant legislation as part of their on-going work programme.

Recommendations and Reasons

1. Cabinet to ask the Policy and Intelligence Team to continue to regularly circulate a legislation tracker which will provide an overview of the progression of bills through Parliament.

Reason: This is already in place and provides a convenient way to keep Cabinet, Councillors and relevant officers informed.

2. Cabinet to invite the Scrutiny Management Board and the Chairs of the Council's four Overview and Scrutiny Panels to consider relevant new legislation, and, where they deem it proportionate, to keep it under review and to provide recommendations to Cabinet in line with their existing terms of reference.

Reason: The Council's Constitution sets out that the aim of the Overview and Scrutiny process includes the review of relevant central government policy development and legislation and to assess the impact on the city and make recommendations to Cabinet.

3. Note that Councillor's Sally Haydon and Chris Penberthy as Council representatives on the Police and Crime Panel will assess the forthcoming Police and Crime Plan against relevant new legislation, specifically the Crime and Policing Bill.

Reason: To ensure the Council is addressing the relevant requirements, statutory or otherwise in relation to its functions.

Alternative options considered and rejected

1. No alternative options were considered as the Council already has robust democratic systems in place.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The elements of the Government's legislative programme included in the appended schedule have been selected for their relevance to Corporate and Plymouth Plan priorities.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

No new resources are required to deliver the recommendations in this report. Some aspects of the legislative programme may have implications for Council finances. As details emerge and any financial impacts identified, these will be addressed through the existing mechanisms and decision-making processes.

Financial Risks

The legislative programme may present both financial risks and opportunities. Effective review and scrutiny of relevant bills as they pass through Parliament will help to ensure the Council is well prepared in either event.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None from the recommendations in this report. The Government's ambition and expectation is that the legislative programme will have a net positive impact on reducing the UK's carbon footprint.

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.

- If passed the draft Equality Bill will help to ensure that the council delivers its Equality duties.
- There are no specific bills covering Child Poverty or Health and Safety, however there may be relevant actions incorporated in specific bills.

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
A	Briefing report on the King's Speech							

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) <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
Not applicable							

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Tracey Lee, Chief Executive

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Date agreed: 01/08/2024

Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Tudor Evans OBE, Leader of the Council (agreed via email)

Date approved: 01/08/2024