

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Cabinet Member




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

Executive Decision Reference Number – L14 24/25

Decision				
1	Title of decision: Mount Edgcumbe: English Garden House (EGH) Roof Replacement Scheme			
2	Decision maker: Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of The Council)			
3	Report author and contact details: David Marshall (Business Development Manager)			
4	Decision to be taken: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Approves the Business Case Allocates £326,000 into the Capital Programme, financed by £256,000 from DEFRA, £50,000 from Historic England and £20,000 from Friends of Mount Edgcumbe 			
5	Reasons for decision: <p>The English Garden House is a Grade II* listed building located in the lower gardens at Mount Edgcumbe Country Park, that receive 250,00 visitors a year. The house retains many of its original features as a 'Pleasure House', including a sunken bath and intricate 18th century woodwork. In its current state the building remains inaccessible for public access with considerable water ingress, condemned electrical infrastructure and is included as a structure on the 'At Risk' register. Restoration of the roof and associated drainage work is required to protect the listed interior and the artefacts that are within it. For works to begin, the project requires approval, and an allocation of £326,000 into the Capital Programme, financed by £256,000 from DEFRA, £50,000 from Historic England, and £20,000 from Friends of Mount Edgcumbe.</p>			
6	Alternative options considered and rejected: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> No action – Rejected as this would lead to further deterioration of the building, exposing MECF to potential fines from Historic England (and legal insistence that work be undertaken to address the roof), as well as ongoing safety issues and risks to the listed interior. Ongoing maintenance patchwork – Rejected as would lead to higher annual costs and perpetuate the slow decline of a unique and listed asset. 			
7	Financial implications and risks: <p>Financial Implications: £326,000 has been secured for the project, financed by £256,000 from DEFRA, £50,000 from Historic England, and £20,000 from Friends of Mount Edgcumbe. Due to tight grant funding timelines, the project is potentially susceptible to overspend. This will be mitigated by close management by Plymouth City Council's Capital Projects Team.</p>			
8	Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact Democratic Support for further advice)	Yes	No	Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which: in the case of capital projects and
			X	

	Please type an X into the relevant boxes			contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total
			X	in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1 million annually
			X	is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority.
	If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions		N/A	
9	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:		<p>The English Garden House (once safe and watertight) will be developed to provide free pre-booked tours for Plymouth residents and schools to visit and learn about the history and importance of garden development, the environment, biodiversity, pollinating plants and insects (it will include visits to the Black Bee Reserve next door).</p> <p>This links to the Council's Corporate Plan priorities of Green investment, jobs, skills, and better education; Providing quality public services; and Spending money wisely.</p>	
10	Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)		A climate Impact Assessment is attached.	
Urgent decisions				
11	Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public? Please type an X into the relevant box	Yes		(If yes, please contact Democratic Support (democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk) for advice)
		No	X	(If no, go to section 13a)
12a	Reason for urgency:			
12b	Scrutiny Chair Signature:		Date	
	Scrutiny Committee name:			
	Print Name:			
Consultation				
13a	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?	Yes	X	
		No		(If no go to section 14)

	Please type an X into the relevant box				
13b	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?		Councillor Jemima Laing (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications. Portfolio Holder for Mt. Edgumbe).		
13c	Date Cabinet member consulted		19/09/2024		
14	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision? Please type an X into the relevant box	Yes		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer	
		No	X		
15	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name		David Draffan	
		Job title		Service Director: Economic Development	
		Date consulted		May 2024	
Sign-off					
16	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)		DS45 24/25	
		Finance (mandatory)		DJN.24.25.087	
		Legal (mandatory)		LS/00001312/1/AC/11/9/24.	
		Procurement (if applicable)		HG/PS/751/ED/0924.	
		Corporate property (decisions involving Council owned land or facilities) (if applicable)		JW 0125 12/09/24	
		Human Resources (if applicable)		N/A	
Appendices					
17	Ref.	Title of appendix			
	A	Business Case			
	B	Equalities Impact Assessment			
	C	Climate Impact Assessment			
Confidential/exempt information					
18a	Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?		Yes		If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for

	Please type an X into the relevant box	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in 18b below. (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)				
		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18b	Confidential/exempt briefing report title:							
Background Papers								
19	Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. 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.							
Title of background paper(s)		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cabinet Member Signature								
20	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 (2010) and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.							
Signature			Date of decision	19 September 2024				
Print Name	Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of The Council)							