

# City Council

**Monday 24 November 2025**

## **PRESENT:**

Councillor Ms Watkin, in the Chair.

Councillor Tofan, Vice Chair.

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Mrs Bridgeman, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Loveridge, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Ney, S. Nicholson, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, Ricketts, Simpson, M. Smith, R. Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy and Wood.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Evans OBE, Murphy and P. Nicholson.

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 6.43 pm.

*Note: The full discussion can be viewed on the webcast of the City Council meeting at [www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk). At a future meeting, the Council will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.*

## 36. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting that took place on 15 September 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

For (49)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Mrs Bridgeman, Coker, Cresswell, Darcy, Dingle, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Loveridge, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Ney, Noble, S. Nicholson, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, Ricketts, Simpson, M. Smith, R. Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy, and Wood.

Against (0)

Abstain (2)

Councillors Lowry and Cuddihee.

Absent/did not vote (3)

Councillors Dann, Tofan and Ms Watkin.

## 37. **Declarations of Interest**

The following declarations of interest were made by councillors in accordance with the code of conduct in respect of items under consideration at the meeting -

Name	Minute Number	Reason	Interest
Councillor Goslin	I3d – Motion on Notice - Support for the University of Plymouth Peninsula Dental School.	Employee of the University of Plymouth	Pecuniary

38. **Appointments to Committees, Outside Bodies etc**

There were no changes to committees, outside bodies or proportionality.

39. **Questions by the Public**

The following question was asked by Mr Surtees.

**Question:** In a recent meeting, you said: "we are not here to represent the public" this has already been widely publicised. I'd like to ask you Councillor Stevens, why you think you don't represent the public who put you where you are?

**Answer:** As Chair of our city's Planning Committee I have a duty to ensure Planning laws are not broken. A key part of this is making sure councillors do not put our Planning decisions at risk or leave council tax payers to foot the bill for legal costs. It is important to understand that applications must be decided on their objective Planning merits alone. That means we do not, indeed cannot, include the number of public comments as part of our decision-making and that is what the comment you have highlighted was referring to. When we are acting in our quasi-judicial roles on the Planning committee we are not representing the residents of our individual wards, we are considering the applications before us on their Planning merits. If there are Planning Committee members who do not understand their legal responsibilities in this regard that is a concern and we may need to identify if further training is required.

I give everyone time to have their say and am proud to have brought in many changes to make Plymouth's Planning processes more accessible and responsive to the public and I'm always keen to hear more suggestions that can help in this way.

To address Mr Surtees' point about representation I want to make it clear, that in my capacity as a ward councillor, I actively and passionately represent everyone in Devonport Ward, which includes Devonport itself, Mount Wise, Granby, Morice Town and Keyham, and have done for more than 20 years.

Being their voice on the City Council, along with Councillors Mark Coker and Anne Freeman, is an honour and a privilege. I regularly speak up for local people on many committees, boards and community groups and I like to think I have a reputation in Devonport for getting things done. I regularly get potholes repaired, fly tipping removed, grass cut and problem parking dealt with and I endeavour

every day to represent those to whom I'm accountable to the best of my ability.

40. **Announcements**

The Lord Mayor made the following announcements:

- a) The first award was presented to Jane Elliott-Tonic, who received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the National Safeguarding Adults Sports Excellence Awards, in recognition of over 40 years of service;
- b) The second award recognised Plymouth GATI (Graduated Approach to Inclusion), which was runner-up in the National SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Resource of the Year category at the NASEN (National Association for Special Educational Needs) Awards. The award recognised the collaborative approach between schools, young people and partners in developing a graduated response and resource directory. The award was received by Tina Brinkworth;
- c) The final award was presented for Supported Internships, which won the Co-Production Award at the NASEN Awards 2025 for the Supported Internship Programme delivered with Discovery College. The programme has supported young people into paid employment, achieving outcomes significantly above national averages. Tina Brinkworth and Jane Hunt accepted the award.

Councillor Laing (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Culture and Communications) made the following announcements:

- d) Thanked Members for their kind wishes regarding Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council) and confirmed that he was recovering well;
- e) The launch of Team Plymouth, including events held in Plymouth and Westminster which were well attended and focused on funding and inward investment. Discussions were ongoing and workstreams were being mobilised, alongside the development of business cases for an initial £50 million investment;
- f) A cultural roundtable was hosted in Westminster, attended by national cultural organisations including Arts Council England, Creative UK and Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Culture was confirmed as a central element of Team Plymouth, supporting talent attraction and city living;
- g) Homes England had confirmed £18.44 million of investment into the Civic Centre, completing the funding package. Progress included asbestos removal, design consultation and installation of new hoardings. Structural surveys and concrete repairs would begin in 2026, with cladding replacement commencing in 2027;
- h) Updates were also provided on capital projects including completion of the Derriford District Centre, Tinside enhancements, ABP (Associated British Ports) Port improvements, shore power delivery, Freeport investment, Ocean's Gate development, Mount Batten Centre works and progress at Langage;

Councillor Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care) made the following announcements:

- i) Safeguarding Week, focused on prevention and empowering safer cultures. Councillors were reminded that safeguarding was everyone's responsibility and concerns should always be reported;
- j) Councillors were also encouraged to promote flu and COVID19 vaccinations, noting uptake remained below desired levels;
- k) Congratulations were extended to Paul Caston, who had been named Newly Qualified Adult Social Worker of the Year, with thanks also extended to the Principal Social Worker.

Councillor Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development and Communities) made the following announcements:

- l) An update was provided on housing delivery, including confirmation of a £33 million Homes England grant in partnership with Plymouth Community Homes to deliver 80 new social rent homes at Bath Street, creating a new community. Works were expected to start in the new year;
- m) An update was also provided regarding the Guildhall, outlining its historic context and the discovery of structural and fire safety issues during internal works. Further investigations and surveys were underway, alongside a review of the business case, to ensure long-term viability. It was confirmed that delays were not due to contractual issues.

Councillor Haydon (Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Events, Libraries, Cemeteries and Crematoria) made the following announcements:

- n) She congratulated the Bereavement Services team on winning Building of the Year for The Park Crematorium;
- o) Marked the start of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, reiterating Plymouth's commitment to tackling violence against women and girls through prevention and partnership working, with activities available via the Council's website.

Councillor Dann (Cabinet Member for Customer Experience, Sport, Leisure and HR and OD) made the following announcements:

- p) Plymouth had been designated a Sport England Priority Place, with £1 million of initial funding secured following successful Pathfinder work;
- q) The funding would support schools, children and families, with benefits for both physical and mental health, highlighting improvements at Foulston Park, including the opening of a new dual-use pitch supporting community and elite sport.

Councillor Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change) made the following announcements:

- r) Plymouth had launched the Plymouth Plan for Nature and People, developed through extensive collaboration. Plymouth had been accredited as the second Nature City in the UK;
- s) Achievements including expanded wildflower planting, community bulb planting, tree planting schemes, expansion of the community tree nursery at Poole Farm, and successful grant bids exceeding £26 million in the past month alone.

41. **Capital Monitoring Report Quarter 2**

Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) introduced the report, which was seconded by Councillor Laing (Deputy Leader).

Council agreed to:

- 1. Approve the revision to the Capital Budget for 2025-2030 to £372.311 as shown in Table 2 with reconciliation and detail of the movements in the quarter set out in Tables 1 and Table 4.;
- 2. Note the performance against prudential Indicators for quarter 2 of 2025/26 detailed in section 2.

For (47)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Darcy, Dann, Dingle, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, Simpson, M. Smith, R. Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy and Wood.

Against (0)

Abstain (5)

Councillors Mrs Bridgeman, Loveridge, Ney, S. Nicholson and Ricketts.

Absent/did not vote (2)

Councillors Tofan and Ms Watkin.

42. **Plymouth City Council's Local Government Reorganisation Proposal for Devon**

Councillor Stephens (Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport) introduced the item, which was seconded by Councillor Lugger (Leader of the Conservative Group).

Following contributions from Councillors Mrs Beer, Freeman, Briars-Delve, Cresswell, Steel, McLay, Wood and Aspinall, Council agreed to:

- 1. Endorse the "Plymouth City Council's Local Government Reorganisation Proposal for Devon" attached as Appendix A of the report;

2. Subject to agreement by Exeter City Council at their meeting on 25 November 2025, the proposal and Exeter's proposal be presented as a single joint submission comprising a shared Executive Summary and the two individual proposals as appendices.

For (47)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Mrs Bridgeman, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Darcy, Dann, Dingle, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Loveridge, Lowry, Luggar, McCarty, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Noble, S. Nicholson, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, Simpson, M. Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tuohy and Wood.

Against (2)

Councillors Ney and Ricketts.

Abstain (2)

Councillors McLay and Tippetts.

Absent/did not vote (3)

Councillors R. Smith, Tofan and Ms Watkin.

#### 43. **Medium Term Financial Strategy 2025/26 - 2029/30**

Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) introduced the report, which was seconded by Councillor Laing (Deputy Leader).

Following contributions from Councillors Wood and Cresswell, Council agreed to:

- I. Approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2025/26 – 2029/30

For (43)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Darcy, Dann, Dingle, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Luggar, McCarty, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Raynsford, Reilly, Simpson, M. Smith, R. Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tuohy and Wood.

Against (0)

Abstain (9)

Councillors Mrs Beer, Mrs Bridgeman, Loveridge, McLay, Ney, S. Nicholson, Poyser, Ricketts and Tippetts.

Absent/did not vote (2)

Councillors Tofan and Ms Watkin.

#### 44. **Senior Management Structure**

Councillor Ms Watkin (Lord Mayor) proposed to move a motion to suspend standing orders to allow the Chief Executive to introduce the report and answer questions, this was seconded by Councillor Tofan (Deputy Lord Mayor).

This was agreed by Council.

For (52)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Mrs Bridgeman, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Loveridge, Lowry, Luggar, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Ney, S Nicholson, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, Ricketts, Simpson, M. Smith, R. Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy and Wood.

Against (0)

Abstain (0)

Absent/did not vote (2)

Councillors Tofan and Ms Watkin.

Tracey Lee (Chief Executive) introduced the report and answered a question from Councillor Mrs Beer.

Councillor Dann (Cabinet Member for Customer Experience, Sport, Leisure and HR and OD) moved the recommendations, which was seconded by Councillor Laing (Deputy Leader).

Council agreed to:

1. To approve the addition of the posts of the following service director posts to Plymouth City Council's senior management structure;
  - a. Service Director Team Plymouth;
  - b. Service Director Quality Assurance, Safeguarding & Partnerships;
2. To note the designation of the role of Statutory Scrutiny Officer to the Head of Democratic and Electoral Services;
3. To approve the designation of the SI51 role to the successful applicant for the Interim Service Director for Finance;
4. To note the latest management structure for Plymouth City Council.

For (47)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy,

Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, S Nicholson, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, Simpson, M. Smith, R. Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy and Wood.

Against (0)

Abstain (4)

Councillors Mrs Bridgeman, Loveridge, Ney and Ricketts.

Absent/did not vote (3)

Councillors Finn, Tofan and Ms Watkin.

45. **Annual report on Treasury management activities for 2024/25**

Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) introduced the report, which was seconded by Councillor Allen (Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee).

Council agreed to:

1. Approve the Treasury Management Annual Report 2024/25;
2. Note that the threshold level of fixed rate exposure for borrowing was exceeded during the year, which was done to mitigate against interest rate risk from temporary borrowing with other local authorities.

For (43)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McNamara, McLay, Moore, Morton, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Reilly, Simpson, M. Smith, R. Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy and Wood.

Against: (0)

Abstain (7)

Councillors Mrs Beer, Mrs Bridgeman, Loveridge, Ney, S. Nicholson, Poyser, and Ricketts.

Absent/did not vote (4)

Councillors Finn, Raynsford, Tofan and Ms Watkin.

46. **Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2025/26**

Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) introduced the report which was seconded by Councillor Allen (Chair of Audit and Governance).

Council agreed to:

1. Note the Mid-Year Treasury Management Report 2025/26;



2. Note impact created by borrowing for SEND deficit and liability benchmark exposure to high borrowing exceeding capital financing requirement;
3. Note non-compliance with the Treasury Management indicator for interest rate exposure through upper limit on fixed interest rate exposure, explained in paragraph 12.3 of the report;
4. Approve the following amendments to the Treasury Management Strategy:
  - a. Increasing the upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure to 100%;
  - b. Increasing the counterparty limit from £12m to £15m for investment in Money Market Funds.

For (42)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Reilly, Raynsford, Simpson, M. Smith, R. Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tuohy and Wood.

Against (0)

Abstain (9)

Councillors Mrs Beer, Mrs Bridgeman, Loveridge, McLay, Ney, S. Nicholson, Poyser, Ricketts and Tippetts.

Absent/did not vote (3)

Councillors Finn, Tofan and Ms Watkin.

#### 47. **Motions on Notice**

#### 48. **Motion on Notice - Enforcement of Parking Restrictions Near Schools**

Councillor Wood, introduced the motion, as amended, which was seconded by Councillor Lugger (Leader of the Opposition).

Following contributions from Councillors Tippetts, Taylor, Stephens, Penrose, Haydon, Cresswell, Mrs Beer, McLay, Bannerman, Goslin, Noble, Council agreed to:

Request the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport in addition to the actions already undertaken:

1. To investigate how to increase and better resource active enforcement against illegal parking on School Keep Clear road markings and double yellow lines near schools, particularly during peak hours.
2. To run a public awareness campaign in partnership with schools, highlighting the safety risks caused by illegal inconsiderate and dangerous parking and encouraging

responsible driving, parking and crossing behaviour near our schools. A campaign would also promote the safe and responsible actions used by most children and adults near schools.

3. To provide a progress report to Scrutiny within 6 months outlining actions taken, data on enforcement activity, and recommendations for any further improvements.

For (51)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Mrs Bridgeman, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Loveridge, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Ney, S. Nicholson, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, Simpson, M. Smith, R. Smith, Sproston, Stephens, Steel, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy and Wood.

Against: (0)

Abstain: (0)

Absent/did not vote (3)

Councillors Ricketts, Tofan and Ms Watkin.

49. **Motion on Notice - Non - Attendance of Councillor Rebecca Smith MP**

Councillor Mrs Beer introduced the motion, which was seconded by Councillor Mrs Bridgeman.

Following contributions from Councillors Lugger, Darcy, Dann, R. Smith, Wood, the motion was not carried.

For (3)

Councillors Mrs Beer, Mrs Bridgeman and S Nicholson.

Against (47)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Darcy, Dann, Dingle, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, M Smith, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, R Smith, Ricketts, Simpson, Sproston, Stephens, Steel, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy and Wood.

Abstain (2)

Councillors Loveridge and Ney.

Absent/did not vote (2)

Councillors Tofan and Ms Watkin.

50. **Motion on Notice - Two Child Benefit Cap**

Councillor Lawson introduced the motion which was seconded by Councillor Bannerman.

Following contributions from Councillors Reilly, McLay, Tippetts and Penberthy, Council agreed to:

- I. Request that the Leader of the Council wrote to the Chancellor of the Exchequer encouraging them to tackle child poverty by lifting the two-child benefit cap.

For (40)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Dann, Dingle, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, McCarty, McNamara, McLay, Moore, Morton, Noble, S Nicholson, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, Simpson, M. Smith, Sproston, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts and Tuohy.

Against (0)

Abstain (8)

Councillors Mrs Beer, Mrs Bridgeman, Darcy, Finn, Lugger, Loveridge, Ricketts and Wood.

Absent/did not vote (6)

Councillors Holloway Ney, R. Smith, Steel, Tofan and Ms Watkin.

51. **Motion on Notice - Support for the University of Plymouth Peninsula Dental School**

Councillor Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care) introduced the motion which was seconded by Councillor Lugger (Leader of the Conservative Group).

Following contributions from Councillors Laing and Finn, Council agreed to:

- I. Ask the Leader to write to the Minister for Health and the three Members of Parliament representing Plymouth, to endorse and support the ambition to increase the student numbers entering the Plymouth Peninsula Dental School.

For (47)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Mrs Bridgeman, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Dann, Dingle, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Haydon, Hendy, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Loveridge, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Ney, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, Ricketts, Simpson, M. Smith, R. Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy and Wood.

Against (0)

Abstain (0)

Absent/did not vote (7)

Councillors Darcy, Goslin, Holloway, Lowry, S. Nicholson, Tofan and Ms Watkin.

52. **Motion on Notice - Regulation and Oversight of Government-Contracted Temporary Accommodation in Plymouth**

Councillor Ricketts introduced the motion, which was seconded by Councillor Mrs Beer.

Following contributions from Councillors Penberthy, McLay and Krizanac, the motion was not carried.

For (6)

Councillors Mrs Beer, Mrs Bridgeman, Finn, Loveridge, Ney and Ricketts.

Against (40)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Cuddihee, Dann, Dingle, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Krizanac, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Reilly, Simpson, M. Smith, Sproston, Stephens, Stevens, Steel, Taylor, Tippetts and Tuohy.

Abstain (2)

Councillors Lugger and Wood.

Absent/did not vote (6)

Councillors Darcy, Holloway, S. Nicholson, R. Smith, Tofan and Ms Watkin.

53. **Questions by Councillors**

	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Subject</b>
1	Cllr Tippetts	Councillor Laing	Does the Cabinet Member believe that £50,000 represents good value for money for a logo that bears similarity to the BBC Weather sunrise symbol?
			Response: The £50,000 expenditure was not solely for a logo, but rather covered an 18-month programme to reimagine Plymouth's brand. This included extensive consultation with partners and residents across the city, working with DNCO, a company with international experience, including rebranding San Francisco. The branding work had been well received, and framing the cost as being only for a logo misrepresented the scope and value of the work undertaken.
2	Cllr Raynsford	Councillor Haydon	As the city begins the 16 Days of Action campaign, could the Cabinet Member outline what action was being taken by the Council to embed prevention of violence against women and girls into Council policies, workplaces, schools, and colleges?
			Response: Since the Violence Against Women and Girls Commission in 2023, the Council had embedded prevention work throughout its services. Initiatives include the Safe Bus operating on Saturday nights and during major

	events and extensive multi-agency working. The Council continues to work with partners to ensure Plymouth takes a clear stance against violence against women and girls.		
	Supplementary: Would the Cabinet Member encourage residents to participate in activities during the 16 Days of Action?		
	Response: Yes. Residents were encouraged to visit the Council's website where a comprehensive programme of events, training, and activities were listed. Participation was strongly encouraged.		
3	Cllr Allen	Councillor Laing	With the success of recent exhibitions at The Box, would the 2026 programme continue to build on visitor numbers?
	Response: Yes. Major exhibitions were planned, including a Beryl Cook exhibition starting in January 2026, which was already heavily subscribed, and the arrival of <i>Journeys with Mai</i> , a world-famous Joshua Reynolds painting, in February 2026. These exhibitions were expected to make 2026 the strongest year yet for The Box.		
4	Cllr Wood	Cllr Stephens	When would the full Manadon Roundabout consultation report be shared with ward members, following previous assurances?
	Response: There had been a high level of engagement and a substantial volume of feedback. Officers were currently reviewing responses, with the aim of publishing the consultation results before Christmas 2025, outlining the next steps in the project.		
	Supplementary: Would the Cabinet Member be willing to attend a local meeting with affected residents prior to Christmas 2025?		
	Response: Yes. While some meetings were being held as listening sessions, they were happy to arrange a suitable meeting time with ward councillors and residents.		
5	Cllr Poyser	Cllr Penberthy	Given ongoing complaints regarding the condition of Guinness Trust properties, would the Cabinet Member meet to discuss how the Council might support affected residents?
	Response: The Council normally becomes involved after the landlord complaints process and the Housing Ombudsman process were completed. While happy to meet, residents should first pursue the formal complaint route. If issues remain unresolved following an Ombudsman ruling, the Council could then intervene in line with national practice.		
6	Cllr Ricketts	Cllr Laing	Had a response been received to the letter sent following the previous motion concerning asylum hotels?
	Response: An answer would be provided back to you as soon as possible as the information was not known.		
7	Cllr Cuddihee	Cllr Haydon	What was the Cabinet Member's view on the Government's proposal to abolish the Police and

			Crime Commissioner role, and how might this affect Plymouth?
			Response: The proposal was welcomed. The Police and Crime Commissioner model had been costly and ineffective, and removing it should allow funding to be redirected to frontline policing. The decision had also been supported by national policing bodies and the Police Federation.
8	Cllr M. Smith	Cllr Laing	Could the Leader comment on recent defence sector investment in Plymouth, including the Helsing factory opening?
			Response: Plymouth's designation as the National Centre for Marine Autonomy had been pivotal. The Helsing facility would create hundreds of jobs and produce autonomous subsea technology. Credit was given to the Council's Economic Development and Freeport teams, as well as the local MP, for supporting this growth.
9	Cllr McLay	Cllr Penberthy	With the Plymouth City of Sanctuary charter now inactive, what steps were being taken to support refugees and vulnerable people?
			Response: The Council continued extensive behind-the-scenes support, focusing on practical assistance rather than formal charters, following guidance from refugee and community organisations.
			Supplementary: Could further detail be provided on this support?
			Response: Over £600,000 had been invested into supporting more than 40 organisations, alongside continued engagement, listening work, and partnership activity. Support included funding community organisations, joint working with partners, engagement with minority communities, and regular meetings to understand and respond to emerging concerns, with a commitment to ongoing dialogue and action.
10	Cllr Noble	Cllr Aspinall	A great deal was learnt through the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel about the role of end-of-life care in the city. At the end of the month, Marie Curie was holding a " <i>Light to Remember</i> " event. This was an opportunity to talk more about the importance of celebrating the work of end-of-life care providers such as Marie Curie and St Luke's Hospice here in the city.
			Response: As you're well aware, the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel shared a significant amount of information about end-of-life care in Plymouth. One of the key points was the pilot being delivered by Marie Curie in Cllr Noble's ward. The Cabinet Member had not yet received the final results of that pilot, but would follow up. It included social prescribing alongside medical interventions, which was extremely encouraging. Following Cllr Noble's email, she had approached Councillor Laing to ask whether Smeaton's Tower could be lit, and she kindly agreed. This weekend, on 30 November 2025, Smeaton's Tower would be illuminated in yellow, the Marie Curie colours. There would also be an event at the

	<p>Crowne Plaza Hotel, where friends, families, and members of the public were invited to come together to remember loved ones they had lost.</p> <p>While it might have been a difficult and emotional occasion for some, it would also be a valuable and supportive experience for others. Importantly, people did not have to have used Marie Curie services to attend. The event would run from approximately 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm. The Cabinet Member would encourage anyone who felt it might be beneficial to attend, come along and look out for the yellow illumination.</p>		
11	Cllr Wood	Cllr Haydon	<p>The Crownhill Christmas lights switch on, would not be taking place in 2025. The main reason for this was the cost of hosting the event, including the cost of putting up and replacing the lights. Part of that cost related to road closures. To close a road for a Category 1 or Category 2 event on the highway cost £644.</p> <p>Was there any scope for us to do something differently for events like this, which were really positive for the community? Was there anything the Council could do to reduce or remove those costs? Were there any provisions in place that the event organisers might not be aware of?</p>
	<p>Response: Lights were going up across the city. Cllr Haydon suggested they had a discussion outside of the meeting to explore options. It might be that community grant funding could be used, and Councillors could consider applying for that as that is what Councillor's had been done in the past in St Budeaux.</p>		
10	Cllr Steel	Cllr Haydon	<p>What role could men play in tackling violence against women and girls?</p>
	<p>Response: Men and boys were encouraged to participate in programmes such as Man Culture, men could challenge inappropriate behaviour, and actively speak out against violence and sexism. Training opportunities were available year-round via the Council's website.</p>		
11	Cllr Sproston	Cllr Stephens	<p>Was there an update on progress toward a pedestrian crossing at Budshead Road near Whiteleigh Green?</p>
	<p>Response: Funding had been allocated through the Active Travel capital programme. A new signal-controlled crossing was planned, with construction expected to begin in spring 2026.</p>		

*Please note that questions, answers, supplementary questions and supplementary answers have been summarised.*

This page is intentionally left blank