

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Cabinet Member



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

Executive Decision Reference Number – ECC01 25/26

Decision	
1	Title of decision: Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest (PSDCF) 25 Year Plan
2	Decision maker: Councillor Tom Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change)
3	Report author and contact details: Peter Hawking-Sach (Natural infrastructure Officer) peter.hawking-sach@plymouth.gov.uk
4	Decision to be taken: 1. To adopt the Community Forest 25 Year Plan
5	Reasons for decision: 1. To fulfil Defra requirements that Community Forest plans are approved and completed, as per Trees for Climate funding obligations; 2. To commit Plymouth City Council as lead partner in the PSDCF partnership to the objectives and targets in the PSDCF Plan; 3. To enable continued delivery of PSDCF activities at city, regional, and national scale inclusive future funding opportunities.
6	Alternative options considered and rejected: 1. Do not adopt the plan – Exposes potential risk for PSDCF to return Trees for Climate monies as a failed duty agreed to in the funding agreement 2. Delay adoption until partner authorities have confirmed respective adoption – Presents reputational risk to Plymouth City Council as lead partner in the PSDCF partnership. Partner authorities are seeking adoption simultaneously, in good faith.
7	Financial implications and risks: There are no direct financial risks to adopting the PSDCF plan. There is an implicit assumption that adoption of the plan confirms commitment to seeking future funding through the partnership. However, PCC and other programme partners have no obligation to commit financially to the delivery of the objectives and targets.
8	Legal Implications: (For completion by Legal Officers) None arising from this report.

9	Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact Democratic Support for further advice) Please type an X into the relevant boxes	Yes	No	Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:
			X	in the case of capital projects and 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		
10	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>Making Plymouth a fairer, greener city</p> <p>Green Investment, jobs, skills and better education</p> <p>DEV27 – Natural Environment & Green Spaces</p> <p>GRO6 – Delivering Plymouth's Natural Network</p> <p>GRO7 - Reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change</p> <p>INT6 – Enhancing Plymouth's 'Green City' credentials</p>		
11	Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)	Adoption of the PSDCF Plan will enable opportunities to be realised regarding carbon mitigation, offset and climate adaptation		
Urgent decisions				
12a	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)
12b	Reason for urgency:			
12c	Scrutiny Chair Signature:		Date	
	Scrutiny Committee name:			
	Print Name:			

Consultation			
I 3 a	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?	Yes	
	Please type an X into the relevant box	No	X (If no go to section I4)
I 3 b	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?		
I 3 c	Date Cabinet member consulted		
I 4	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?	Yes	
	Please type an X into the relevant box	No	X If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
I 5	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name	Glenn Caplin-Grey
		Job title	Strategic Director for Growth
		Date consulted	24 July 2025
Sign-off			
I 6	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	JM02 25/26
		Finance (mandatory)	ITG.25.26.053
		Legal (mandatory)	LS/00001312/1/AC/13/8/25
		Procurement (if applicable)	N/A
		Corporate property (decisions involving Council owned land or facilities) (if applicable)	N/A
		Human Resources (if applicable)	N/A
Appendices			
I 7	Ref.	Title of appendix	
	A	Briefing report for publication – 250709 PSDCF 25 Year Plan	
	B	Equalities Impact Assessment – 250709 EqIA PSDCF 25 Year Plan	
	C	Climate Impact Assessment	
	D	PSDCF Plan 2025-2050	
Confidential/exempt information			
	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

18a	Please type an X into the relevant box	No	X	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	3 rd March 2026					
Print Name	Tom Briars-Delve								