



Agenda for Overview Committee Thursday, 27th February, 2020, 6.00 pm

Members of Overview Committee

Councillors: N Hookway (Chairman), V Johns (Vice-Chairman), M Allen, S Chamberlain, B De Saram, I Hall, M Hartnell, S Hawkins, F King, J Loudoun, M Rixson, T Woodward and P Millar

Venue: Council Chamber, Blackdown House, Honiton

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(or group number 01395 517546)

Tuesday, 18 February 2020

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1 Public Speaking

Information on [public speaking](#) is available online.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting (Pages 3 - 8)

3 Apologies

4 Declarations of interest

Guidance is available online to Councillors and co-opted members on making [declarations of interest](#).

5 Matters of urgency

Information on [matters of urgency](#) is available online.

6 Confidential/exempt item(s)

To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including press) have been excluded. There are **no** items that officers recommend should be dealt with in this way.

7 Update on the Governance Review Working Party (Pages 9 - 12)

8 Seaton Wetlands Link Project (Pages 13 - 14)

9 Motions referred to Overview under Procedural Rule 10.4 (Pages 15 - 22)

1. Local Authority Mental Health Challenge (Cllr Hall)
2. Healthy Weight Declaration (Cllr de Saram)

10 Forward Plan (Pages 23 - 24)

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[Decision making and equalities](#)

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EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**Minutes of the meeting of Overview Committee held at Council Chamber, Blackdown House, Honiton on 30 January 2020****Attendance list at end of document**

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 9.11 pm

40 Public Speaking

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

41 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 November 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record.

42 Declarations of interest

9. Economic Development in Coastal & Rural Areas - A short presentation by Councillor Mike Allen.

Councillor Mike Allen, Personal, Assists with running a food bank.

10. Update on the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Consultation of future Service Delivery - Safer Together.

Councillor Ian Hall, Personal, Devon County Councillor.

43 Matters of urgency**Poverty Working Panel**

The Chairman advised that Cllr Paul Millar had requested to raise as a matter of urgency the report and recommendation of the Monitoring Officer regarding the appointment and composition of a Poverty Working Panel which would be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 5 February 2020.

The Chairman confirmed that he had accepted Cllr Millar's request on the basis of special circumstances due to the timescales involved.

Cllr Millar advised that the recommendation of the Monitoring Officer included the following:

'It is recommended that the Panel should be chaired by the Portfolio Holder for Homes and Sustainable Communities. In terms of the makeup of the Panel, it is recommended that this should comprise seven councillors, as per the Constitution, and that the Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Homes and Sustainable Communities to agree the membership with Group Leaders to ensure, as far as possible, a cross-party involvement.'

The Overview Committee discussed the proposed composition of the Poverty Working Panel, with particular reference to cross-party balance. The appointment of the Panel's

Chairman was discussed and it was noted that the motion to establish the Panel had come from members in the first instance.

RECOMMENDED:

That Cabinet;

1. Increases the membership of the Poverty Working Panel from seven councillors, as initially recommended by the Monitoring Officer, to twelve councillors, and
2. Agrees that the Poverty Working Panel elects a Chairman at its first meeting.

44 **Confidential/exempt item(s)**

There were no items to be dealt with in this way.

45 **Draft Drone Policy**

Tim Child, Senior Manager Property and Estates, presented the draft Drone Policy which would only apply to EDDC owned land and would ensure that the Council's interests were protected. Permission would be granted solely for those uses set out in the Policy and for commercial operators only.

The Committee noted that the requirements of the Policy would be incorporated into the appropriate signage over time as signage was replaced or updated.

Following discussion, it was agreed to recommend that the reference to the release of lanterns be removed from the Policy as this would be dealt with elsewhere under a different policy.

RESOLVED:

That the Overview Committee noted the draft Drone Policy and agreed the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDED:

That Cabinet:

1. Deletes the reference to the release of lanterns from the draft Drone Policy and,
2. Adopts the Policy.

46 **House of Lords Select Committee on Regenerating Seaside Towns**

Linda Perry, Place, Assets and Commercialisation, presented the findings of the House of Lords Select Committee on Regenerating Seaside Towns and Communities and the implications for EDDC.

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that questions remained regarding the response of the previous Government. EDDC would follow up on previous commitments with the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to ascertain whether East Devon would see the same benefits as other areas of the country.

The Committee discussed the implications of the report from an economic perspective and the need to be proactive in attracting larger businesses and a younger population.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted and that the following recommendations be agreed:

RECOMMENDATION:

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the content of the report of the House of Lords Select Committee on Regenerating Seaside Towns and Communities and where appropriate that the Select Committee's report recommendations and the Government's response are fed into the Council's forward planning process including service plans
2. Uses the Select Committee recommendations and Government responses where possible to inform funding bids and influence among third parties such as HotSW LEP, MHCLG or Lottery Fund
3. Assesses the implications of the Select Committee's report and the Government's response.

47 **Economic Development in Coastal & Rural Areas - A short presentation by Councillor Mike Allen**

Cllr Allen presented his report on economic development in rural and coastal areas and the following issues were discussed:

- The need for more small business units and opportunities for expansion for small businesses
- 3 year survival rates for small businesses
- The need to attract larger businesses and retain skilled and qualified younger people
- The poverty cycle, reliance on food banks and zero hours employment contracts

The Chairman advised that currently there were no planned resources to deliver economic development in rural and coastal areas.

The Deputy Chief Executive suggested that the Committee may wish to request an officer report to address the issues raised by Cllr Allen.

Cllr Allen stressed that the resources should be recommended at the current time due to the point reached in the budget cycle.

It was noted that all previous proposals and amendments were withdrawn.

Cllr Allen proposed that the Overview Committee recommends to Cabinet the resources needed within economic development and that a report be requested from the economic development team in time for the current budget round. This was seconded and **RESOLVED**.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Cabinet:

1. Agrees that the resources needed within economic development are:
 - Economic Development Manager and Senior Officer
 - Inward investment resource (specialist)
 - Business liaison resource(s) – technology vs tourism vs farming
 - Research resource
 - Place marketing resource
 - Spatial planning resource (allowing DMC comment on business applications and negotiation with incoming businesses)
 - Partnerships resource, and

2. Requests a report from the economic development team in time for the current budget round.

48 **Update on the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Consultation of future Service Delivery - Safer Together**

The Committee discussed the revised recommendations of the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority approved on 10 January 2020 and the implications for the service in East Devon.

The update was noted.

49 **Overview Forward Plan 2019/20**

The Committee discussed the Forward Plan, including the four recommendations from the joint meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 15 January 2020.

The Forward Plan was agreed:

Meeting date	Topic
27 February 2020	Governance Arrangements at EDDC
26 March 2020	Items from joint Overview & Scrutiny Budget meeting on 15 January 2020: Commercialisation Strategy Consultancy Spend 2020 / 21
tbc	Items from joint Overview & Scrutiny Budget meeting on 15 January 2020: Delivery at Cranbrook Town Centre Seaton Wetlands Link Project

Other work was discussed and agreed as follows:

Meeting date Priority or referral	Topic
tbc	Public Toilet Review – consultation plan
26 March 2020	Income generation - agreed to include in the Commercialisation Strategy (above)
tbc	High Street and village centre regeneration, expand to include the development of new high street in reference to Cranbrook – agreed to include in Delivery at Cranbrook Town Centre (above)
Low priority	Natural Capital in the Heart of the South West document

tbc	Business case for increase in community engagement officers, to include community focus (see below)
Refer to Scrutiny Committee	Review out of hours telephone system provided by the Council for residents and tenants
tbc	Climate change – including rising sea levels, coastal erosion, single use plastics, to determine what can be done locally as well as lobby Government and feed in to the Devon Group
High priority	Fairer funding from Government for the South West region – clarification from the Chief Executive would be needed
tbc	Community focus – include with the Business case for increase in community engagement officers (above)
Low priority	Promotion of EDDC services to local residents
tbc	Improving working with Town and Parish Councils – to be scoped
Covered elsewhere – remove from Overview	Tackling poverty – awaiting the outcome of the Poverty Working Panel
Refer to Scrutiny Committee	Review of internal recharges – understanding the breakdown of recharges, and being satisfied that these are correctly applied to be confident that the Council is as efficient as possible before examination of making further budget reductions
Refer to Scrutiny Committee	Street trading
Refer to Scrutiny Committee	Right to buy effect on housing stock
Refer to Housing Review Board	Delivery of housing, specifically assisted living – has been discussed by the Housing Review Board, to be discussed further by Strategic Planning Committee before being referred back to HRB
Medium priority	Transport – specifically fare for 16 – 18 year olds still in education by not qualifying for state help
Refer to Scrutiny Committee	Policy implementation – that policies put in place were being applied in practice
High priority	GESP involvement

Due to the workload in the Forward Plan, the Committee discussed the need to meet more often. It was agreed to wait for the outcome of the Governance Review and to discuss the practicalities with the Democratic Services Manager.

Attendance List

Councillors present:

N Hookway (Chairman)
V Johns (Vice-Chairman)
M Allen
S Chamberlain
B De Saram
I Hall
M Hartnell
S Hawkins
F King
M Rixson
T Woodward
P Millar

Councillors also present (for some or all the meeting)

S Bond
P Faithfull
B Ingham
D Ledger
A Moulding

Officers in attendance:

Linda Perry
Tim Child, Service Lead - Place, Assets & Commercialisation
Richard Cohen, Deputy Chief Executive
Alison Hayward, Senior Manager Regeneration & Economic Development
Susan Howl, Democratic Services Manager
Sarah Jenkins, Democratic Services Officer
Anita Williams, Principal Solicitor (and Deputy Monitoring Officer)
Andrew Wood, Service Lead - Growth Development and Prosperity

Councillor apologies:

J Loudoun

Chairman

Date:



Report to: **Overview Committee**

Date of Meeting: 27 February 2020

Public Document: Yes

Exemption: None

Review date for release None

Subject: **Update on the work of the Governance Review Working Party**

Purpose of report: To update the Overview Committee on the activity of the Governance Review Working Party

Recommendation: **To note the content of the report**

Reason for recommendation: As the report is simply to provide an update there is no specific decision required.

Officer: Henry Gordon Lennox, Monitoring Officer

Portfolio Holder: Choose Portfolio Holder.

Financial implications: There are no financial implications arising

Legal implications: There are no legal implications arising

Equalities impact: Low Impact

Climate change: Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk

Links to background information: [Council 23rd October 2019](#)

Link to [Council Plan](#): Outstanding Council and Council Services

Report in full

1. On 10th July, the Cabinet considered a report relating to the carrying out of a review of the Council's governance arrangements. The resolution was as follows;

RESOLVED:

1. *that Cabinet ask the Overview Committee to carry out a review of the Council's governance arrangements and options for change and reports its findings and recommendations back to Cabinet in due course. The Overview Committee to set*

the terms of reference for carrying out the review and consideration of the alternative models,

- 2. that the Portfolio Holder for Transformation establishes a Think Tank for the purpose of investigating the options for change and to enable engagement with the wider membership of the Council on the necessity for and objective of change.*

2. At the meeting of the Overview Committee of 25th July, the committee resolved as follows;

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the request from Cabinet to carry out a review of the Councils governance arrangements and options for change, and report back on its findings, be accepted;*
- 2. That at the 29 August 2019 meeting, Members put forward and agree the reasons for change to the current governance arrangements and the objectives for the Council's governance arrangements going forward;*
- 3. That at the 29 August 2019 meeting, Members consider, discuss and agree the method and process to be followed for undertaking a review of options;*
- 4. That additional meetings of the committee be considered specifically to debate this item.*

3. There was an update at 29th August meeting of the Overview Committee as follows;

Review of the Council's Governance Arrangements - update

Minutes:

The Chairman advised the committee that circumstances had prevented a meeting between him and the Portfolio Holder for Transformation, but that work would continue on this issue.

An additional meeting for the committee was set for the 17 October 2019 to debate this issue only. Further discussion had also been timetabled in for the scheduled meeting in February 2020.

4. Subsequently the Portfolio Holder for Transformation ceased to be a member of the Cabinet and left the Independent Group. The Council also received the outcome of the Peer Review. There was also an informal meeting of the Overview Committee on 17th October in which a number of issues were considered and which concluded that a cross party group should be established. Accordingly, the matter was reported to the Council at its meeting of 23rd October. The resolution is below and a copy of the report (with hyperlinks to the various meetings referred to above) can be accessed from the background links.

RESOLVED;

A Governance Review Working Party be set up on the basis set out in paragraph 7 of the report but with the word 'thereafter' added before Cabinet in (j). Delegated authority be given to the Monitoring Officer to finalise the composition of the Working Group and agree membership with the Group Leaders/non-affiliated members.

5. Subsequent discussion between the Monitoring Officer and Group Leaders resulted in a group comprising the following membership;

Independent Group 4 (including the Chair)

Conservative 4

EDA	3
Liberal Democrats	1
Green	1
<u>Independent</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	14

Made up of Cllrs Hookway (Chair), Pratt, Bloxham, Blakey, Allen, Hartnell, Skinner, Barrow, Arnott, Rixson, Hayward, Wragg, Davey and Millar.

6. The Group's first meeting was an informal meeting on 17th October. The LGA were present to facilitate discussion and help determine the way forward. Items discussed included a reminder of why the group was meeting, summary of issues to explore and precise of potential options that may be available and discussion over what the Council is trying to achieve. The LGA confirmed their availability to assist throughout the process.
7. At the next meeting of 11th November, a facilitated discussion was undertaken by the LGA to determine what the group were trying to achieve (i.e. what were the goals) and what was stopping the goal being achieved currently. There was then discussion on what works well and what would be the priorities for the group in terms of improvement / focus going forward.
8. At the meeting of 25th November, there was further discussion on the goals of the review with an extra goal being added. There was a general discussion around shadow cabinet arrangements but there was no specific outcome as it was not seen as a priority for the group. There was a brief discussion in relation to our current Overview and Scrutiny arrangements. It was discussed that there needed to be engagement with other Councils (operating different models) to help inform the work of the Group to ensure appropriate assessment and evidence in relation to options due to being committed to a legal change for 5 years. This was discussed as including a survey to a number of councils (to include the Leader, Group Leaders / minority members, CEO and Monitoring Officers). The need to assess cost implications was referenced as were the overall timings of the review. Given the importance of understanding the rationale for change and because it would underpin the Monitoring Officer's report to Council, the goals were looked at again. Finally, the options to be considered as part of the review were agreed as being;
 - a. Remain the same
 - b. 'Leader-Cabinet' model with constitutional change to strengthen accountability
 - c. A hybrid model
 - d. Committee system
9. At the meeting of 9th December, the Group agreed the survey questions and that the survey would be sent to the persons identified above at South Somerset District Council, South Gloucestershire Council, Stroud District Council, Worcester City Council, Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, North Devon District Council, Mendip District Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council. It was also agreed that there would be some research undertaken on the Councils that were being considered as possible options to visit with an online vote of the membership of the Group being taken.
10. The survey was sent out on 19th December and members, having received the analysis from the Monitoring Officer, agreed to seek to visit Mendip (Executive arrangements), South Somerset (Hybrid arrangements), Stroud (Committee system) and North Devon (Committee system).

11. At the meeting on 21st January, members discussed the visits and it was agreed that a small number of councillors (no more than 6) would visit two of the Councils (each visiting one of those with a committee system) with the intention of having a number of open sessions to hear the views of the Leader, the wider membership and a core group of officers comprising the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer and key senior officers. In light of progress, it was considered that the Group should refine the goals with a view to making it easier to assess whether a particular option meet a goal. Members also agreed that it was important to get the decision right and that therefore meeting the deadline to present this to Annual Council was unrealistic. Not rushing the work would also permit the Council to consult / engage with the public and stakeholders prior to final decisions being taken. The Group agreed that they would look to conclude the review by September / October 2020. Finally, it was noted that only six responses had been received (from four councils) to the 100+ surveys sent. It was agreed that the Monitoring Officer would send a chaser in relation to the survey and make contact with those councils that had been identified for visits.
12. At the meeting on 7th February, it was noted that there had been no further responses to the survey. North Devon had confirmed their willingness to facilitate a visit but no response had been received from the other Councils. The Monitoring Officer agreed to progress the visit with North Devon and to chase the other three Councils. Other topics discussed, which were to be factored into the review as it progressed, where political group assistants / apolitical assistants within Democratic Services, the scrutiny call-in procedures, timing and number of Overview meetings and shadow cabinet arrangements.
13. The goals were further refined following discussion and have been agreed to be;

Increased member involvement and engagement in decision-making	
Improved public involvement to aid decision-making	
Improved efficiency in the running of the Council	
Resilience to future political change	
Ability to foster consensual decision-making	
Increased openness on interactions with partners	
Increased availability of information	

14. The next meeting of the Working Group is the 10th March.



Report to: **Overview Committee**

Date of Meeting: 27 February 2020

Public Document: Yes

Exemption: None

Review date for release None

Subject: **Seaton Wetlands Link Project**

Purpose of report: The purpose of the report is to update members on progress with the Seaton Wetlands Link Project which was reported for noting at cabinet in January.

The project involves a series of interventions on land between Seaton Jurassic and Seaton Wetlands that will, if delivered, see a circular route for pedestrians, cyclists and tram users, developed between the three attractions.

Recommendation: **That Overview Committee notes the progress with the Seaton Wetlands Link project.**

Reason for recommendation: As the report is simply to provide an update there is no specific decision required.

Officer: Alison Hayward, 01404 571738
Charles Plowden, 01404 515616

Financial implications: This report is to note progress and there no direct financial implications from the recommendations.

Legal implications: There are no specific legal implications requiring comment

Equalities impact: Low Impact

Climate change: Low Impact
The project proposals will boost opportunities for low carbon leisure options that can be linked together as part of a single trip and extend dwell time. The proposals further enhance the outstanding environmental leisure offer and a deeper understanding and appreciation of the local natural environment.

This further builds upon the excellent environmental educational offers from both Seaton Wetlands and Seaton Jurassic which is increasingly focussing upon climate change issues.

Risk: Medium Risk

There are risks associated with delivery of some of the projects, where land acquisition is required or the availability of funding. At this stage, there are no budget issues identified.

As the projects are developed, any budgetary implications (e.g. land purchase or changes in use of land) will be reported on, with necessary mitigation and approvals sought.

Links to background information: • [Cabinet report 8 Jan 2020](#)

Link to Council Plan: Outstanding place and environment

Outstanding level of economic growth, productivity and prosperity

Report in full

- 1.1 Following the cabinet meeting in January, officers met with the Seaton and Coly Valley ward members along with staff from Seaton Jurassic, to provide further detail and background on the project interventions and explain the next tasks that officers will be taking forward. A positive discussion took place regarding the various projects and the tasks required to deliver them.
- 1.2 Such tasks will include:
 - Undertake preliminary work in advance of starting work on Sheep's Marsh to create the new wetland area;
 - Contacting relevant landowners to discuss the acquisition of land to enable a pedestrian route through the Sheep's Marsh site. (interventions 2 and 3);
 - Preparing a bid for feasibility funding by Seaton Jurassic colleagues for some initial design work for the external areas (intervention 6);
 - Liaising with other project owners to receive updates on progress with their projects
- 1.5 An update was received from DCC regarding project intervention no. 8 which would see the delivery of the cycle route to the north of the wetlands up to Colyford. The current DCC view is that development of the Stop Line Way is no longer supported beyond Colyford and this section should now be referred to as the Seaton Colyford shared path. There are no further works planned at the Colyford end.
- 1.6 A quarterly update will be provided to the Portfolio Holder for Assets, the Portfolio Holder for the Environment, the Deputy Portfolio Holder for Environment and the ward members for Seaton and Coly Valley along with Cllr Martin Shaw, county councillor, given the input of DCC regarding the Stop Line Cycle way.
- 1.7 Officers will now meet to progress the tasks required.

Notes to assist the further scoping and assessment by the Overview Committee, outside the meeting, of the Motions referred by Council

Two motions have been referred to the Overview Committee with the agreement of the Council Chairman prior to the full Council meeting on 26 February 2020:

- Local Authority Mental Health Challenge (Cllr Hall)
- Healthy Weight Declaration (Cllr de Saram)

The following notes comprise:

1. Information and recommendations to assist the Overview Committee in scoping the issues
2. Work currently undertaken across the Council
3. The two motions in full.

Officers will attend the Committee meeting to expand on the notes and to answer questions.

1 Information and recommendations to assist the Overview Committee in scoping the issues outside the meeting

When scoping the issues, the Committee may wish to take the following into account:

- In principle both initiatives offer a way of focusing on evidence-based priorities and of working within a national/regional structure that has already been worked out
- To comply fully with both initiatives would require financial and officer resources
- It is expected that the budget will be approved by the full Council on 26 February. To appoint a Member Champion and officer time dedicated to mental health and healthy weight may raise expectations around what EDDC can realistically achieve within its existing resources and budgets beyond what is currently being undertaken
- Greater awareness of both issues and available support could be promoted district wide by ward members and focussed on needs within wards
- We recommend that during 2020/2021 we continue our ongoing activities towards both mental health and healthy weight, to the extent that they are already addressed in Service Plans
- During the year we could scope what additional resourcing would be required to commit fully to either or both of these national initiatives

2 Work currently undertaken across the Council

Health and wellbeing – both physical and mental, is a theme that runs throughout the new [Council Plan](#). Its priorities, guiding principles and values include the following statement, to “support initiatives which specifically promote the health and well-being of our residents providing help and advice at the earliest opportunity”.

Mental Health

Mental Health is identified as one of the Council’s priority areas for activities in the [Public Health Strategic Plan 2019-23](#). Services are all encouraged to include activities supporting health and wellbeing, in their annual Service Plans.

The concerns being raised and the prevalence of poor mental health in communities today is recognised by the Council. EDDC already has initiatives which will go some way to supporting those experiencing mental health issues, including:

- Public Health Strategic Plan, Homelessness Strategy and relevant Service Plans and operational procedures reflect the implications and how EDDC supports people with mental health conditions
- EDDC’s equalities work also has regard to mental health
- Housing is in the process of preparing a mental health strategy for housing, which will be presented to the Housing Review Board in March or June
- EDDC works closely with mental health professionals, has existing relationships with the Devon Partnership Trust, Safeguarding Adults Board and supports services operating locally. Whilst Officers do have concerns about the capacity of support services in the district and are seeing people display severe behavioural issues with no apparent access to support/care, it should be borne in mind that Officers are not mental health practitioners
- EDDC provides mental health awareness training for frontline staff
- Staff have regular meetings with the Mental Health team in Exmouth, with the same being arranged for Honiton. Information sharing is improving greatly and the Council is looking to introduce more front line staff across the teams now to help improve lines of communication still further
- The Landlord Services Manager is involved in the Honiton Mental Health Friendly Town steering group, which is setting up a charter for the town
- EDDC has run a session with Mobile Support Officers around the criteria applicants for sheltered housing need to achieve. This is important to help get the right people in the right homes as much as possible, to support them better throughout their tenancy
- Community Development Work – various activities
- Countryside & Thelma Hulbert Gallery teams’ work – e.g. with volunteers
- LED outreach – e.g. links with Social Prescribers

- Making Every Contact Count (MECC) training, funded and delivered via Devon Sustainability and Transformation Partnership – already delivered to many frontline staff and to some community representatives
- Proposed support offer for taxi drivers could include MECC training; dementia awareness training
- Planning and regeneration considerations
- Happy Healthy Here initiatives for all EDDC staff, including a monthly newsletter.

The “Mental Health Challenge for Local Authorities” began in 2013 to encourage and support councils in England to champion mental health in their communities. To date 120 local councils have elected member champions for mental health. Devon County and Somerset County are listed; we note that neighbouring districts do not appear to have registered.

Healthy Weight

Improving physical activity, diet and nutrition are identified as priority areas for activities in the [Public Health Strategic Plan 2019-23](#). Services are all encouraged to include activities supporting health and wellbeing, in their annual Service Plans. These priorities are consistent with the Council’s ambition for its communities and its own staff.

The Public Health Project Officer was involved in Devon County Council’s roll-out of the Healthy Weight Declaration in late 2018 / early 19 and is not aware of more recent activities.

EDDC is already working on some projects that support the commitments:

- Public Health Officer and Environmental Health staff have received Sugar Smart training and have created fliers to provide to cafés
- Streetscene and EH staff are working to support provision of free tap water for people to refill their bottles
- LED are also exploring Sugar Smart and Refill initiatives

The 14 Healthy weight Declaration commitments are listed below. We understand organisations who adopt the Declaration must agree to all commitments rather than selection.

3 Motions

Motion 1 - Local Authority Mental Health Challenge (Cllr Hall)

Preamble:

One in four people in the U.K. experience a mental health problem in any given year. The World Health Organisation predicts that by 2020 depression will be the second most common condition worldwide, and mental health is now the leading cause for work absence in the UK accounting for over 50% of all work health-related absences. Evidence also shows that people with severe mental illness die up to 20 years younger than their peers in the UK.

As a local authority we have a crucial role to play in improving the mental health of everyone in our local community, and to help tackle some of the widest and most entrenched inequalities in health. Mental health should be a priority across all the local authority areas of responsibility.

All 60 Councillors, Officers and caseworkers can play a positive role in our communities, championing mental health on an individual and strategic basis. It's vitally important that we play our part.

This will complement the work that was set out in the last quarterly report presented to Scrutiny by Karen Simpkin on the 21 November 2019.

<https://eastdevon.gov.uk/media/3708984/quarter-2-performance-report-2019-20.pdf> (see extract below).

Service Plan Objectives - Priority 1 v2				
Priority: Encouraging communities to be outstanding				
Key Strategic Objective				
Objective Status	Code	Objective	Service	Comments
On track	HOU-PA-2541	Create a Mental Health Strategy for Housing in order to capture the increasing impact mental health is having on our tenants to ensure our teams have the right toolkits to manage. The strategy will explore and build upon current ways the housing service is managing mental health with the objective of ensuring this is embedded in our day to day service delivery.	Housing	Contact has been made with mental health teams locally and a first meeting held to discuss how a joint strategy could help both Housing and the NHS to achieve our goals and help support local people with their mental ill health more effectively. A MHED group has been formed (Mental Health East Devon) to agree the basis of the strategy and develop ways of working together at the point of tenancy start up to identify the best ways to work with each individual to help sustain their tenancy and good health.
On track	HOU-PA-2542	Deliver 30 events in partnership with HALFF charity (changing lives through food) promoting healthy eating and cooking.	Housing	So far we have delivered 23 events with HALFF since 1 April 2019.

Proposed Motion:

We call on the Council to:

Sign the Local Authority Mental Health Challenge. Full details here:

<http://www.mentalhealthchallenge.org.uk/>

We call on the Council

1. To commit to appointing an elected member as “Mental Health Champion”.
 - The Member Champion will advocate for mental health issues in council meetings and policy development and will reach out to the local community to raise awareness of mental health issues and challenge stigma.
 - The Member Champion will listen to people with personal experience of mental health and get their perspective on local needs and priorities.
 - The Member Champion will scrutinise areas that have an impact on people's mental health such as Housing needs, developments and other areas.
 - The Member Champion will look at fostering local partnerships between agencies to support people with mental health problems more effectively.
 - The Member Champion will identify at least one priority each year for focused work.
 - The Member Champion will respond to occasional requests from the challenge coordinator for updates on activities undertaken in the role of Member Champion.
 - The Member Champion will have access to advice and support from the mental health challenge national partners, access to resources on the challenge website, and an annual meeting with other member champions to share information, experience and ideas.
2. We will also seek to identify a current member of staff within the council to act as a lead officer for mental health:
 - Advising the Member Champion on current issues and priorities.
 - Supporting implementation of strategies initiated by the Member Champion.
 - Raising awareness within the Council's staff about mental health issues.
 - Seeking external support for activities led by the council to promote mental health and wellbeing.
 - Providing information to the Member Champion to support their work.

- Liaising with mental health challenge national partners to secure information and advice.
 - The lead officer will also have access to the benefits described above for Member Champions.
3. The Council will also look to support positive mental health in our community, including in local schools, neighborhoods and in all other areas of our community.
 4. We will work with local partners to offer effective support for people with mental health needs, we will also work to tackle discrimination on the grounds of mental health in our local community and to proactively listen to people of all ages and backgrounds about what they need for better mental health.

Proposed by Cllr Ian Hall

Seconded by Cllr Andrew Moulding

Supported by Cllr Howe, Cllr Dent, Cllr Hartnell, Cllr Barrow, Cllr Allen

Motion 2 – Healthy Weight Declaration (Cllr de Saram)

Background

In a recent survey of members of the public in Devon, most of which were parents, 72.5% of respondents said that their main concern was the effect of food and drink on their child's dental health, with many having additional concerns about the impact on their child's weight, behaviour and mood.

Among other Local Authorities, Devon County Council have been working towards local pledges for the declaration including making water freely available across its sites, encouraging schools to sign up and be 'Sugar Smart', banning the advertising of junk foods on its campuses and encouraging responsible retailing by supporting the voluntary ban of energy drinks to under 16-year olds.

See <http://www.foodactive.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Food-Active-Declaration-Support-Pack-FINAL.pdf>

<http://www.devonhealthandwellbeing.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Healthy-Weight-Declaration-making-the-case-FINAL.pdf>

Healthy Weight Declaration: the 14 commitments

- Engage with the local food and drink sector (retailers, manufacturers, caterers, out of home settings) where appropriate to consider responsible retailing (such as not selling energy drinks to under 18s), offering and promoting healthier food and drink options, and reformulating and reducing the portion sizes of high fat, sugar and salt (HFSS) products.

- Consider how commercial partnerships with the food and drink industry may impact on the messages communicated around healthy weight to our local communities. Funding may be offered to support research, discretionary services (such as sport and recreation and tourism events) and town centre promotions.
- Review provision in all our public buildings, facilities and 'via' providers to make healthy foods and drinks more available, convenient and affordable and limit access to high-calorie, low nutrient foods and drinks (this should be applied to public institutions such as schools, hospitals, care homes and leisure facilities where possible).
- Increase public access to fresh drinking water on local authority controlled sites.
- Consider supplementary guidance for hot food takeaways, specifically in areas around schools, parks and where access to healthier alternatives are limited.
- Advocate plans with our partners including the NHS and all agencies represented on the Health and Wellbeing Board, Healthy Cities, academic institutions and local communities to address the causes and impacts of obesity.
- Protect our children from inappropriate marketing by the food and drink industry such as advertising and marketing in close proximity to schools; 'giveaways' and promotions within schools; at events on local authority controlled sites.
- Support action at national level to help local authorities reduce obesity prevalence and health inequalities in our communities.
- Ensure food and drinks provided at public events include healthy provisions, supporting food retailers to deliver this offer.
- Support the health and well-being of local authority staff and increase knowledge and understanding of unhealthy weight to create a culture and ethos that normalises healthy weight.
- Invest in the health literacy of local citizens to make informed healthier choices.
- Ensure clear and comprehensive healthy eating messages are consistent with government guidelines.
- Consider how strategies, plans and infrastructures for regeneration and town planning positively impact on physical activity.
- Monitor the progress of our plan against our commitments and publish the results.

Motion - We call on the Council to sign the Healthy Weight Declaration

We move that this Council supports the Healthy Weight Declaration, showing commitment in reducing unhealthy weight in our communities. This is an opportunity to protect and support some of the most vulnerable in society by giving them the best start in life and enabling all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and make informed choices, by signing the Health Weight Declaration.

Proposed by Councillor Bruce De Saram

Seconded by Councillor Ian Hall

Supported by Councillors Maddy Chapman, Philip Skinner and Marcus Hartnell

Overview Forward Plan 2020

Meeting date / Priority	Topic
27 February 2020	<p>Governance Arrangements at EDDC</p> <p>Seaton Wetlands Link Project (referred from joint Overview & Scrutiny Budget meeting 15 January 2020)</p> <p>Items referred from Council meeting on 26 February 2020, with the agreement of the Council Chairman:</p> <p>Local Authority Mental Health Challenge (to be scoped)</p> <p>Healthy Weight Declaration (to be scoped)</p>
26 March 2020	<p>Items from joint Overview & Scrutiny Budget meeting on 15 January 2020:</p> <p>Commercialisation Strategy (including income generation)</p> <p>Consultancy Spend 2020 / 21</p>
tbc	<p>Items from joint Overview & Scrutiny Budget meeting on 15 January 2020:</p> <p>Delivery at Cranbrook Town Centre (including High Street and village centre regeneration)</p>
tbc	Improving working with Town and Parish Councils (to be scoped)
tbc	Public toilet review – consultation plan
tbc	Business case for increase in community engagement officers, to include community focus
tbc	Climate change – including rising sea levels, coastal erosion, single use plastics, to determine what can be done locally as well as lobby Government and feed in to the Devon Group
High priority	Fairer funding from Government for the South West region – clarification from the Chief Executive would be needed
High priority	GESP involvement
Medium priority	Transport – specifically fare for 16 – 18 year olds still in education by not qualifying for state help

Low priority	Promotion of EDDC services to local residents
Low priority	Natural Capital in the Heart of the South West document

Referred from Overview Committee meeting 30 January 2020

Referral	Topic
Refer to Scrutiny Committee	Review out of hours telephone system provided by the Council for residents and tenants
Refer to Scrutiny Committee	Review of internal recharges – understanding the breakdown of recharges, and being satisfied that these are correctly applied to be confident that the Council is as efficient as possible before examination of making further budget reductions
Refer to Scrutiny Committee	Street trading
Refer to Scrutiny Committee	Right to buy effect on housing stock
Refer to Scrutiny Committee	Policy implementation – that policies put in place were being applied in practice

Refer to Housing Review Board	Delivery of housing, specifically assisted living – has been discussed by the Housing Review Board, to be discussed further by Strategic Planning Committee before being referred back to HRB
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