

Report to: Council



Date of Meeting 16 July 2025

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A

Motion on Notice – Inclusion of care homes and hotel accommodation in flood risk assessments

Report summary:

The constitution provides that members of Council may submit written notice of motions for debate at Council. A motion must be signed by the proposer and seconder and at least 3 members and submitted not later than 10 clear days before the date of the meeting.

Motions must be about matters for which the council has a responsibility, or which affect East Devon District Council and will be listed on the agenda in the order in which notice received.

Motions for which notice has been given will be listed on the agenda in the order in which notice was received unless the member giving notice states, in writing, that they propose to move it to a later meeting or withdraw it.

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes ☒ No ☐

Policy Framework Yes ☒ No ☐

Recommendation:

That the Motion on Notice – inclusion of care homes and hotel accommodation in flood risk assessments is debated and determined by Council.

Reason for recommendation:

The constitution makes provision for motions on notice to be debated and decided by Council.

Officer: Andrew Melhuish, Democratic Services Manager (andrew.melhuish@eastdevon.gov.uk)

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- ☐ Assets and Economy
- ☐ Communications and Democracy
- ☐ Council, Corporate and External Engagement
- ☐ Culture, Leisure, Sport and Tourism
- ☐ Environment - Nature and Climate
- ☐ Environment - Operational
- ☐ Finance
- ☐ Place, Infrastructure and Strategic Planning
- ☐ Sustainable Homes and Communities

Equalities impact Low Impact

The impact is low as this report is dealing with the submission of motions on notice. Any work undertaken following the consideration of the motion on notice would be subject to an equalities impact assessment being undertaken.

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk; A risk assessment would need to be completed on any works or further investigations resulting from the motions of notice.

Links to background information N/A

Link to [Council Plan](#)

Priorities (check which apply)

- ☒ A supported and engaged community
- ☐ Carbon neutrality and ecological recovery
- ☐ Resilient economy that supports local business
- ☐ Financially secure and improving quality of services

Report in full

Motion 2: Inclusion of care homes and hotel accommodation in flood risk assessments.

Proposed by Cllr Stuart Hughes

Seconded by Cllr Geoff Jung

Motion signed by: Cllrs Aurora Bailey, Brian Bailey, Iain Chubb, Mike Goodman, Jenny Brown, Colin Brown, Paul Hayward, Yehudi Levine, Tim Dumper, Del Haggerty, Bethany Collins, Charlotte Fitzgerald, Matt Hall, Anne Hall, Olly Davey, Paula Fernley, Marcus Hartnell, Joe Whibley

As part of East Devon's work on Coastal Protection Schemes, care homes housing a significant number of vulnerable residents, plus important hotel accommodation are assessed as commercial properties. Unfortunately the current flood risk assessment models' classification means only individual dwellings count towards substantial grant funding yet care homes and hotel accommodation are classed as commercial properties and are subject to far less beneficial funding.

To ensure a comprehensive and a more accurate assessment, the Council urge the Government, through Defra & the Environment Agency, to formally classify both care homes and hotels as dwellings in calculations for flood defence funding and coastal protection schemes. This adjustment would better reflect community vulnerability, improve resource allocation, and strengthen long-term resilience planning for East Devon and beyond.

Therefore the Council calls on Defra and the Environment Agency to review this oversight and incorporate care homes and hotels as a distinct category in future flood risk strategies.

Financial implications:

To be confirmed, subject to the outcome of the consideration on the Motion on Notice.

Legal implications:

The motions on notice have been submitted in accordance with the Part 4 of the Council's Constitution – Rules of Procedure 10.1 Notice: Except for motions which can be moved without notice under Rule 11, written notice of every motion, signed by at least 5 members, must be delivered to the Chief Executive not later than 10 clear days before the date of the meeting.