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North Devon Council
Brynsworthy Environment Centre
Barnstaple
North Devon EX31 3NP

K. Miles
Chief Executive.

STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee will be held in the Barum Room - Brynsworthy on **MONDAY, 7TH OCTOBER, 2024 at 10.00 am.**

(NOTE: A location plan for the Brynsworthy Environment Centre is attached to the agenda front pages. For meetings held at Brynsworthy only, you can join the meeting virtually via Microsoft Teams. There are also limited spaces to attend the meeting in person. Please check the Council's website for the latest information regarding the arrangements that are in place and the requirement to book a place 2 working days prior to the meeting. Taking part in meetings (northdevon.gov.uk)

Members of the Strategy and Resources Committee Councillor Clayton (Chair)

Councillors Bell, Crabb, Hunt, D Knight, R Knight, Lane, C Leaver, P Leaver, Maskell, Milton, Prowse and Wilkinson

AGENDA

10. **Household Support Fund 6 (Pages 5 - 6)**

Document Tabled at meeting (attached)
By the Head of Customer Focus

If you have any enquiries about this agenda, please contact Corporate and Community Services, telephone 01271 388253

27.09.24



North Devon Council protocol on recording/filming at Council meetings

The Council is committed to openness and transparency in its decision-making. Recording is permitted at Council meetings that are open to the public. Members of the public that attend meetings must be aware that these meetings are open to the public and so therefore both individuals and the Council itself have the right to record the meeting. The Council understands that some members of the public attending its meetings may not wish to be filmed. The Chair of the meeting will make sure any request not to be filmed is respected.

The rules that the Council will apply are:

1. The recording must be overt (clearly visible to anyone at the meeting) and must not disrupt proceedings. The Council will put signs up at any meeting where we know recording is taking place.
2. The Chair of the meeting has absolute discretion to stop or suspend recording if, in their opinion, continuing to do so would prejudice proceedings at the meeting or if the person recording is in breach of these rules.
3. We will ask for recording to stop if the meeting goes into 'part B' where the public is excluded for confidentiality reasons. In such a case, the person recording should leave the room ensuring all recording equipment is switched off.
4. Any member of the public has the right not to be filmed. We ensure that agendas for, and signage at, Council meetings make it clear that recording can take place – anyone not wishing to be filmed must advise the Chair at the earliest opportunity to allow them to be directed to an area in the room where they will not be caught on camera. Subject to paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 above, audio recordings shall be permitted at all times during public meetings.
5. The recording should not be edited in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or in a way that ridicules or shows a lack of respect for those in the recording. The Council would expect any recording in breach of these rules to be removed from public view.

Notes for guidance:

Please contact either our Corporate and Community Services team or our Communications team in advance of the meeting you wish to record at so we can make all the necessary arrangements for you on the day.

For more information contact the Corporate and Community Services team on **01271 388253** or email memberservices@northdevon.gov.uk or the Communications Team on **01271 388278**, email communications@northdevon.gov.uk.

North Devon Council offices at Brynsworthy, the full address is:
Brynsworthy Environment Centre (BEC), Roundswell,
Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 3NP.

Sat Nav postcode is EX31 3NS.

At the Roundswell roundabout take the exit onto the B3232, after about ½ mile take the first right, BEC is about ½ a mile on the right.

Drive into the site, visitors parking is in front of the main building on the left hand side.

On arrival at the main entrance, please dial 8253 for Corporate and Community Services.

All public meetings held at Brynsworthy Environment Centre are held on the ground floor and are accessible through the main entrance to the building or via a ramp located adjacent to the main entrance



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Agenda Item 10

The following information came from the Head of Customer Focus and was sent to members of the Strategy and Resources Committee ahead of its meeting on Monday 7 October 2024 in relation to item 9 on the agenda: Household Support Fund 6.

Central Government has announced a new household Support Fund for the period of October 2024 – March 2025. From Devon County Council's allocation of just over £5 million, NDC is to receive £349,975 to award to our residents. This is the 6th fund we have administered since 2021.

We are proposing to administer with a mixture of direct awards applications, as with all our previous schemes.

Along with other districts in Devon, we are looking to direct award to pensionable age households which receive council tax reduction (means tested) but do not receive pension credit (which would entitle them to the winter fuel payment). We can do this in two different ways (a) a set amount to all households or (b) staggered amounts dependent on income.

Options are below:

- (a) Award either £100/£150/£175/£200 to all pensionable age households who are on a low income (receiving council tax reduction which is a means tested benefit) but are not currently in receipt of pension credit

Totals for this option 988 Households: **£100 = £98,800, £150 = £148,200, £175 = £172,900, £200 = £197,600**

- (b) Split the pensionable age households who are on a low income (receiving council tax reduction which is a means tested benefit) but are not in receipt of pension credit by income:

Households which are either below the pension credit threshold but not yet applied / had an application approved or are within £50 of the threshold per week

532 x £200 = £106,400

Households above £50 per week of the threshold = 456 x £100 = £45,600

Total for this option: **£152,000**

This would leave between: **£150k - £250k** for applications. Based on previous schemes, an allocation for applications of approximately £150k – £200k is most appropriate.

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