

To:

Members of Scrutiny Committee

(Councillors P H Murphy (Chairman), N Thwaites (Vice Chairman), I Aldridge, R Clifford, G S Dowding, B Maitland-Walker, J Parbrook, and R Woods)

Members of Cabinet

(Councillor A Trollope-Bellew (Leader), M Chilcott (Deputy Leader), M Dewdney, K J Mills, C Morgan, S J Pugsley, K H Turner, D J Westcott)

Our Ref CS

Contact Marcus Prouse [mprouse@westsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:mprouse@westsomerset.gov.uk)

Date 12 April 2017

**THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE MEETING  
THIS DOCUMENT CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT, BRAILLE, TAPE FORMAT  
OR IN OTHER LANGUAGES ON REQUEST**

Dear Councillor

I hereby give you notice to attend the following meeting:

**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Date: Thursday 20 April 2017**

**Time: 3.30 pm**

**Venue: Council Chamber, Council Offices, Williton**

Please note that this meeting may be recorded. At the start of the meeting the Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during the recording will be retained in accordance with the Council's policy.

Therefore unless you advise otherwise, by entering the Council Chamber and speaking during Public Participation you are consenting to being recorded and to the possible use of the sound recording for access via the website or for training purposes. If you have any queries regarding this please contact Committee Services on 01643 703704.

Yours sincerely



**BRUCE LANG**  
Proper Officer

## RISK SCORING MATRIX

Report writers score risks in reports uses the scoring matrix below

**Risk Scoring Matrix**

<b>Likelihood</b>	5	Almost Certain	Low (5)	Medium (10)	High (15)	Very High (20)	Very High (25)
	4	Likely	Low (4)	Medium (8)	Medium (12)	High (16)	Very High (20)
	3	Possible	Low (3)	Low (6)	Medium (9)	Medium (12)	High (15)
	2	Unlikely	Low (2)	Low (4)	Low (6)	Medium (8)	Medium (10)
	1	Rare	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Low (4)	Low (5)
			1	2	3	4	5
			Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
<b>Impact</b>							

<b>Likelihood of risk occurring</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Description (chance of occurrence)</b>
1. Very Unlikely	May occur in exceptional circumstances	< 10%
2. Slight	Is unlikely to, but could occur at some time	10 – 25%
3. Feasible	Fairly likely to occur at same time	25 – 50%
4. Likely	Likely to occur within the next 1-2 years, or occurs occasionally	50 – 75%
5. Very Likely	Regular occurrence (daily / weekly / monthly)	> 75%

- Mitigating actions for high ('High' or above) scoring risks are to be reflected in Service Plans, managed by the Group Manager and implemented by Service Lead Officers;
- Lower scoring risks will either be accepted with no mitigating actions or included in work plans with appropriate mitigating actions that are managed by Service Lead Officers.

## **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting to be held on Thursday 20 April 2017 at 3.30 pm**

**Council Chamber, Williton**

### **AGENDA**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

**2. Minutes**

Minutes of the Scrutiny Committee held on 16 February 2017, to be approved and signed as a correct record – **SEE ATTACHED.**

**3. Declarations of Interest**

To receive and record any declarations of interest in respect of any matters included on the Agenda for consideration at this Meeting.

**4. Public Participation**

The Chairman to advise the Committee of any items on which members of the public have requested to speak and advise those members of the public present of the details of the Council's public participation scheme.

For those members of the public wishing to speak at this meeting there are a few points you might like to note.

A three-minute time limit applies to each speaker and you will be asked to speak before Councillors debate the issue. There will be no further opportunity for comment at a later stage. Your comments should be addressed to the Chairman and any ruling made by the Chair is not open to discussion. If a response is needed it will be given either orally at the meeting or a written reply made within five working days of the meeting.

**5. Notes of Key Cabinet Decisions/Action Points**

To review the Key Cabinet Decisions/Action Points from the Cabinet Meeting held on 1 March 2017 – **SEE ATTACHED.**

**6. Cabinet Forward Plan**

To review the latest Cabinet Forward Plan for the months of April onwards, published on 31 March 2017 – **SEE ATTACHED.**

**7. Chairman's Announcements**

An opportunity to update the Committee on any matters of interest or matters arising.

**8. West Somerset Council Corporate Plan**

To consider Report No. WSC 43/17 to be presented by Councillor Trollope-Bellew – [SEE ATTACHED](#).

The purpose of the report is to introduce the draft Corporate Plan for 2017/18.

**9. Public Toilet Transfers**

To consider Report No. WSC 44/17 to be presented by Councillor M Chilcott and Dewdney – [SEE ATTACHED](#).

The purpose of the report is to update for the Scrutiny Committee following the deadline for transfers having passed on 31<sup>st</sup> March, and the expiry of the public toilet budget.

**10. Proposals for Improving the Health Scrutiny Engagement Process in West Somerset**

To consider Report No. WSC 45/17 to be presented by Marcus Prouse – [SEE ATTACHED](#).

The purpose of the report is to explore further the possibilities of engaging with and ensuring that the Council's Health and Wellbeing responsibilities are discharged in the most beneficial way for local people.

**11. For Information Report – Updated Review of Education in West Somerset**

To consider Report No. WSC 46/17 to be presented by Marcus Prouse – [SEE ATTACHED](#).

The purpose of the report is to report is intended as an update on the work of the Task and Finish Group (TFG) that was established by the Scrutiny Committee in 2014 to look into the matter of secondary education in West Somerset.

**12. Scrutiny Committee Work Plan**

To receive items and review the Scrutiny Committee Work plan for 2016/17. - [SEE ATTACHED](#).

**COUNCILLORS ARE REMINDED TO CHECK THEIR POST TRAYS**

**The Council's Vision:**

To enable people to live, work and prosper in West Somerset

## **The Council's Corporate Priorities:**

- Local Democracy:  
Securing local democracy and accountability in West Somerset, based in West Somerset, elected by the people of West Somerset and responsible to the people of West Somerset.
- New Nuclear Development at Hinkley Point  
Maximising opportunities for West Somerset communities and businesses to benefit from the development whilst protecting local communities and the environment.

**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 3.30 pm**

**Present:**

Councillor P H Murphy .....Chairman  
Councillor N Thwaites .....Vice-Chairman

Councillor G S Dowding  
Councillor R Woods

Councillor J Parbrook

**Members in Attendance:**

Councillor M Chilcott  
Councillor M Dewdney

Councillor K Mills  
Councillor A Trollope-Bellew

**Officers in Attendance:**

Finance Manager and Deputy S151 Officer (J Nacey)  
Car Park Manager (T Biss)  
Democratic Services Officer - Scrutiny (M Prouse)  
Democratic Services Officer (C Rendell)

**SC 70 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors I Aldridge, R Clifford, B Maitland-Walker and K Turner.

**SC 71 Minutes**

(Minutes of the Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 19 January 2017 – circulated with the Agenda.)

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Scrutiny Committee held on 19 January 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

**SC 72 Declarations of Interest**

Members present at the meeting declared the following personal interests in their capacity as a Member of a County, Parish or Town Council:

Name	Minute No.	Description of Interest	Personal or Prejudicial or Disclosable Pecuniary	Action Taken
Cllr N Thwaites	All items	Dulverton	Personal	Spoke and voted

**SC 73 Cabinet Key Decisions and Actions**

(Copy of the Cabinet Key Decisions published 4 January 2017, circulated at the meeting)

**RESOLVED** that the Cabinet Key Decisions published on 4 January 2017, be noted.

**SC 74 Cabinet Forward Plan**

(Copy of the Cabinet Forward Plan published 1 February 2017, circulated at the meeting)

**RESOLVED** that the Cabinet Forward Plan published on 1 February 2017, be noted.

**SC 75 Chairman's Announcements**

Councillor Woods had attended the inaugural meeting of the Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Joint Scrutiny Panel with Councillor Maitland-Walker. She reported that Councillor Julian Taylor (Sedgemoor District) had been appointed as Chairman and Councillor Simon Coles (Taunton Deane) had been appointed as Vice-Chairman. The Members received background information on the SRA and the key points on how they operated. Their key priorities were to:-

- Reduce the frequency, depth and duration of flooding.
- Maintain access for communities and businesses.
- Increase resilience to flooding for families, agricultural businesses, communities and wildlife.
- Make the most of the special characteristics of the Somerset Levels and Moors.
- Ensure strategic transport connections in Somerset and to the South West peninsula were continued.
- Promote business confidence and growth.

Concern was raised that the Council Tax precept was still paid to the District Councils and this should be paid directly to the SRA to ensure they received their own funding.

It was noted that the Waste Scrutiny Members would report back, as appropriate, at future meetings of the Committee.

**SC 76 New Traffic Regulation Order (Off Street Parking)**

The report WSC 17/17 was presented by Councillor Mills.

The report made reference to the revocation of the West Somerset Council (Off Street Parking Places) Order 2016 and to operate from June 2017 the West Somerset Council (Off Street Parking Places) Order 2017.

The purpose of the order was:-

- To bring in line the Dulverton Permit Cost with those across the District and modify the car parks covered by the permits.
- To consolidate the 'Named' parking permits for Watchet into one permit to cover all car parks in the town.
- Introduce an overnight parking tariff for Motor Homes in selected car parks.
- Incorporate both the Boat Trailer Parking area in Watchet and the car park area to the north of Quay West in Minehead to the Order to regularise their use.

Nine letters of objections, which had been received from local residents and Councillors against the parking proposals in Dulverton, were read out to the Committee.

During discussion, the following points were raised:-

- Dulverton was not being treated any differently to other villages in the District. Porlock, Dunster, Watchet and Williton had the same sort of parking issues, due to the lack of on-street parking. Dunster had recently had issues due to Somerset County Council who had added restrictions to the on-street parking in Park Street.
- The lease between Dulverton Town Council and West Somerset Council had lasted twenty years and residents had benefited from the low cost of parking during that time.
- Members were interested in how many permits West Somerset Council had issued. They had requested figures for six monthly, twelve monthly and the 'Shoppers' Permit. They thought the 'Shoppers' Permit was the main seller.
- The 'Shoppers' Permit was offered to Dulverton Town Council when they had first been introduced but this had been declined. These were now available to users of Dulverton Car Parks.
- Some Members agreed that the 'shock factor' was the price increase and suggested the cost difference between £90 and £210 was too steep.
- A staged increase approach had not been looked into. The prices would not affect the Dulverton residents until their permits were due for renewal in April 2018. Thus giving them a twelve month notice period. If a staged increase was incorporated in the Order, this would be at an additional cost of £2000 to the Council.
- Visitor numbers should not be affected. They would be paying the daily parking charges and not the permit prices.
- Dulverton Town Council had no choice but to come out of the lease.
- They did not believe they were being treated equally. Reduced bus services in the area and the absence of a bus service to Dulverton meant that residents and visitors had to use their cars to travel to and from Dulverton.
- Did not understand how West Somerset Council justified the 133% price increase.
- Dulverton Town Council had requested that the Lion Stables Car Park should be designated as a short stay car park back in December 2015. All short stay car parks in the District were not included in the permit scheme.

- Summerland Car Park in Minehead was restricted to two hours parking and was not included in the permit scheme because it was a short stay car park. Why should Lion Stables be exempt from these rules?
- Members were all in agreement that the income made by parking charges should be used to maintain the car parks in the District.
- Overnight parking was already in use by Motor Home owners. Why not regularise it and charge users.
- Use of Motor Homes was increasing.
- Taunton Deane Borough Council had been highlighted in a publication for their support of parking for Motor Homes. West Somerset Council had however been highlighted for their lack of parking for Motor Homes.
- Concerns were raised that it would cause disruption to local residents. A Member was already aware of issues in the Warren Road Car Park and complaints received from the residents of the Blue Skies Apartments. It was thought that it might also attract Travellers to the area. Due to these concerns, the Parking Officer would look at which car parks were used for overnight parking.
- Negotiations had been made to employ additional enforcement officers to patrol the car parks used for overnight parking.
- Motor Home owners would hopefully use the local amenities and help the local economy.
- Concern was raised about the additional waste caused by Motor Home users. This would be monitored and action taken if figures relating to fly tipping increased.
- Currently there was no enforcement for the boat trailer parking area in Watchet. The barrier was often illegally removed and there had been problems with parking along the West Pier.
- The parking charges in Watchet were all the same and the car parks were all centrally located. It therefore made sense to combine the permits to make one 'Named' permit for Watchet.
- Queries were raised why Watchet could combine their permits to make one for the town and why Dulverton could not? Was there an urban and rural difference? None of the car parks in Watchet were short stay car parks.
- The inclusion of the 'Shoppers' Permit had increased the use of the Anchor Street Car Park, which allowed visitors to use the central car parks in the town.
- Concerns were raised that the area used for pay and display parking along Quay West in Minehead was confusing and abused by customers.
- Due to the mixture of 'pay and display' machines along Quay Street, customers were paying for their parking, but this was often via the Somerset County Council machines for on-street parking. This meant that West Somerset Council was losing income.
- The land north of Quay West Car Park belonged to West Somerset Council and therefore should be part of the Order to allow it to be regularised and enforced.

**RESOLVED** that:-

(a) The Scrutiny Committee noted and supported:-

- 1) The use of increased revenue created to support the maintenance of the car parks;
- 2) The removal of the Lion Stables (short stay) Car Park from the Dulverton Permit;
- 3) The introduction of a tariff which allowed Motor Homes to park overnight in designated car parks for a maximum of 48 hours with no return within 7 days;
- 4) The incorporation of the Boat Trailer Park area at West Pier, Watchet, within the Order and to combine the payment of daily slipway fees and trailer parking charges;
- 5) The consolidation of the Watchet Named Permit to one Watchet Permit which allowed parking in all Council Car Parks within Watchet; and
- 6) The incorporation of the land north of Quay West, Minehead car park within the Order; and

(b) With regard to recommendation 2.1 which proposed bringing Dulverton (6 and 12 month) Permits in line with "Named" permits across the District, the Scrutiny Committee opted not to make a recommendation on a preferred course of action.

**SC 77**    **Scrutiny Committee Work Plan**

**RESOLVED** that the Scrutiny Forward Plan published on 8 February 2017 be noted.

The meeting closed at 5.10pm.

MEETING: CABINET

DATE: 1 March 2017

## NOTES OF KEY DECISIONS

**Note: The details given below are for information and internal use only and are not the formal record of the meeting**

AGENDA ITEM	DECISION	CONTACT LEAD OFFICER
Forward Plan (Agenda Item 5)	<b>Agreed</b> that the Forward Plan for the month of May 2017 be approved.	Assistant Chief Executive
HPC Planning Obligations Board – Allocation of CIM Funding (Agenda Item 6)	<b>Agreed</b> that the recommendations of the Hinkley Point C Planning Obligations Board be endorsed as follows: (i) To release £331,710 to the Friends of Steam Coast Trail from the CIM fund ring-fenced for West Somerset for Phase 2 of the Steam Coast Trail. (ii) To recommend that the application from Stogursey Parish Council for the Stogursey Lengthsman project is not granted funding from the CIM Fund ring-fenced for West Somerset and to recommend to Stogursey Parish Council that the project is more suited to receiving funding from the CIM fund ring-fenced specifically for projects in Stogursey.	CIM Fund Manager
New Traffic Regulation Order (Off-Street Parking) (Agenda Item 7)	<b>Agreed (1)</b> that it be recommended to Council to approve the revocation of the West Somerset District Council (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2016 and its replacement with the West Somerset District Council (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2017 from June 2017. <b>Agreed (2)</b> that it be recommended to Council to bring Dulverton (6 and 12 month) permits in line with the “Named” permit in two stages. Stage one to be implemented in June 2017, 6 months £105 and 12 months £150, stage two from April 2018 so both permits are full aligned with those across the District. <b>Agreed (3)</b> that it be recommended to Council to approve the use of increased revenue created to support the maintenance of car parks. <b>Agreed (4)</b> that it be recommended to Council to approve the removal of the Lion Stables (short stay) car park from the Dulverton permit. <b>Agreed (5)</b> that it be recommended to Council to approve the introduction of a tariff allowing Motor Homes to park overnight in designated car parks for a maximum of 48 hours with no return within 7 days. <b>Agreed (6)</b> that it be recommended to Council to incorporate the Boat Trailer Park area at West Pier, Watchet within the Order and combine the payment of daily slipway fees and trailer parking charges. <b>Agreed (7)</b> that it be recommended to Council to approve the consolidation of the Watchet “Named” permit to one “Watchet” permit allowing parking in all Council car parks within Watchet. <b>Agreed (8)</b> that it be recommended to Council to approve the incorporation of Quay West, Minehead North car park within the Order.	Car Park Operations Manager

For a record of the reasons for the decision; details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the decision-making body at the meeting at which the decision was made; a record of any conflict of interest relating to the matter decided which is declared by any member of the decision-making body which made the decision; and in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted by the relevant local authority's head of paid service, please use the attached link below, to the Council's website where the minutes and relevant reports can be viewed:

<http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Council---Democracy/Council-Meetings/Cabinet-Meetings/Cabinet---1-March-2017>

Date: 2 March 2017

## Weekly version of Cabinet Forward Plan published on 31 March 2017

Forward Plan Ref / Date proposed decision published in Forward Plan	Date when decision due to be taken and by whom	Details of the proposed decision	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring a resolution for it to be considered in private and what are the reasons for this?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/17/5/01 02/08/2016	17 May 2017	Title: <b>Cabinet Appointments on Outside Bodies</b>  Decision: to appoint representatives to serve on outside bodies for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2018 (except where specific periods are stated)	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Bruce Lang, Assistant Chief Executive 01984 635200
FP/17/5/02 02/08/2016	17 May 2017  By Lead Member for Energy Infrastructure	Title: Hinkley Point  Decision: to consider key issues relating to Hinkley Point	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Andrew Goodchild, Assistant Director Energy Infrastructure 01984 635245
FP/17/5/03 26/01/2017	17 May 2017  By Lead Member Regeneration and Economic Development	Title: West Somerset Opportunity Area  Decision: to update Members on the West Somerset Opportunity Area	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Corinne Matthews, Economic Regeneration and Tourism Manager 01984 635287
FP/17/5/04 16/02/2017	17 May 2017  By Leader of Council	Title: Corporate Plan update  Decision: to provide Members with details of the Corporate Plan updates	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Paul Carter Assistant Director, Corporate Services 01823 218740
FP/17/5/05 15/03/2017	17 May 2017  By Lead Member for Resources and Central Support	Title: West Somerset Asset Strategy  Decision: to recommend to Council to approve the Asset Strategy	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Tim Child, Asset Manager 07760260465
FP/17/5/06 31/03/2017	17 May 2017  By Lead Member Regeneration and Economic Growth	Title: Endorsement of Somerset Growth Plan  Decision: to endorse the Somerset Growth Plan	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Ian Timms, Assistant Director Business Development 01823 356577
FP/17/7/01	12 July 2017	Title: <b>Corporate Performance Report Quarter 4</b>	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Richard Doyle, Corporate Strategy and Performance

Forward Plan Ref / Date proposed decision published in Forward Plan	Date when decision due to be taken and by whom	Details of the proposed decision	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring a resolution for it to be considered in private and what are the reasons for this?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
02/08/2016	By Leader of Council	Decision: to provide Members with an update on progress in delivering corporate priorities and performance of council services		Officer 01823 356309
FP/17/7/02 02/08/2016	12 July 2017 By Lead Member Resources & Central Support	Title: <b>Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 4</b> Decision: to provide Members with details of the Council's expected financial outturn position in 2017/18 for both revenue and capital budgets, together with information relating to predicted end of year reserve balances	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Paul Fitzgerald, Assistant Director Resources 01823 358680
FP/17/7/03 02/08/2016	12 July 2017 By Lead Member for Energy Infrastructure	Title: Hinkley Point Decision: to consider key issues relating to Hinkley Point	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Andrew Goodchild, Assistant Director Energy Infrastructure 01984 635245
FP/17/7/04 19/10/2016	12 July 2017 By Lead Member Resources & Central Support	Title: Allocation of Hinkley Point C Community Impact Mitigation Funding Decision: to present the recommendations of the HPC Planning Obligations Board for the allocation of monies from the CIM Fund	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Lisa Redston, CIM Fund Manager 01984 635218
FP/17/7/05 19/08/2016	12 July 2017 By Lead Member Resources & Central Support	Title: <b>Allocation of Section 106 funds held</b> Decision: to make proposals for the allocation of monies secured through planning obligations to individual schemes, and to update members with the current funding position	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Tim Burton, Assistant Director Planning and Environment 01823 358403
FP/17/9/01 19/10/2016	6 September 2017 By Lead Member Resources & Central Support	Title: <b>Medium Term Financial Plan Update</b> Decision: to present the updated Medium Term Financial Plan	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Paul Fitzgerald, Assistant Director Resources 01823 358680

Forward Plan Ref / Date proposed decision published in Forward Plan	Date when decision due to be taken and by whom	Details of the proposed decision	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring a resolution for it to be considered in private and what are the reasons for this?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/17/9/02 19/10/2016	6 September 2017 By Lead Member for Energy Infrastructure	Title: Hinkley Point Decision: to consider key issues relating to Hinkley Point	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Andrew Goodchild, Assistant Director Energy Infrastructure 01984 635245
FP/17/11/02 19/01/2017	1 November 2017 By Lead Member Resources & Central Support	Title: <b>Allocation of Section 106 funds held</b> Decision: to make proposals for the allocation of monies secured through planning obligations to individual schemes, and to update members with the current funding position	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Tim Burton, Assistant Director Planning and Environment 01823 358403
FP/17/11/03 19/01/2017	1 November 2017 By Lead Member Resources & Central Support	Title: Allocation of Hinkley Point C Community Impact Mitigation Funding Decision: to present the recommendations of the HPC Planning Obligations Board for the allocation of monies from the CIM Fund	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Lisa Redston, CIM Fund Manager 01984 635218
FP/17/11/04 19/01/2017	1 November 2017 By Lead Member for Energy Infrastructure	Title: Hinkley Point Decision: to consider key issues relating to Hinkley Point	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Andrew Goodchild, Assistant Director Energy Infrastructure 01984 635245
FP/17/11/05 04/06/2015	1 November 2017 By Lead Member Resources & Central Support	Title: <b>Review of Financial Regulations [FR2]</b> Decision: to recommend to Council to approve updated Financial Regulations	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Paul Fitzgerald, Assistant Director Resources 01823 358680
FP/18/1/01 19/01/2017	3 January 2018 By Leader of Council	Title: <b>Corporate Performance Report 2017-18 Quarter 2</b> Decision: to provide Members with an update on progress in delivering corporate priorities and performance of council services	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Richard Doyle, Corporate Strategy and Performance Officer 01823 356309

Forward Plan Ref / Date proposed decision published in Forward Plan	Date when decision due to be taken and by whom	Details of the proposed decision	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring a resolution for it to be considered in private and what are the reasons for this?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/18/1/02 19/01/2017	3 January 2018 By Lead Member Resources & Central Support	Title: <b>Budget Monitoring Report Quarter 2</b> Decision: to provide Members with details of the Council's expected financial outturn position in 2017/18 for both revenue and capital budgets, together with information relating to predicted end of year reserve balances	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Paul Fitzgerald, Assistant Director Resources 01823 358680
FP/18/1/03 19/01/2017	3 January 2018 By Lead Member Resources & Central Support	Title: <b>Allocation of Section 106 funds held</b> Decision: to make proposals for the allocation of monies secured through planning obligations to individual schemes, and to update members with the current funding position	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Tim Burton, Assistant Director Planning and Environment 01823 358403
FP/18/1/04 19/01/2017	3 January 2018 By Lead Member Resources & Central Support	Title: <b>Fees and Charges 2018/19</b> Decision: to propose levels of fees and charges for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 (in some cases fee increases will be implemented earlier, this will be stated in the relevant sections of the report) for recommendation to Council	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Paul Fitzgerald, Assistant Director Resources 01823 358680
FP/18/1/05 19/01/2017	3 January 2018 By Lead Member for Energy Infrastructure	Title: Hinkley Point Decision: to consider key issues relating to Hinkley Point	No exempt / confidential information anticipated	Andrew Goodchild, Assistant Director Energy Infrastructure 01984 635245

Note (1) – Items in bold type are regular cyclical items.

Note (2) – All Consultation Implications are referred to in individual reports.

The Cabinet comprises the following: Councillors A H Trollope-Bellew, M Chilcott, M Dewdney, K M Mills, C Morgan S J Pugsley, K H Turner and D J Westcott.

The Scrutiny Committee comprises: Councillors P H Murphy, N Thwaites, R Clifford, G S Dowding, B Leaker, B Maitland-Walker, J Parbrook, R Woods and I Aldridge.

# **West Somerset District Council**

## **Scrutiny Committee – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

### **WSC Corporate Plan 2017/18**

**This matter is the responsibility of Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew, Leader of the Council**

**Report Author: Richard Doyle, Corporate Strategy & Performance Officer**

#### **1 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to introduce the draft Corporate Plan for 2017/18 as it begins its path through the democratic process.

#### **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That Scrutiny supports the adoption of the Corporate Plan for 2017/18.

#### **3 Background Information**

- 3.1 The Corporate Plan flows from our four year strategy which covers the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. The 2017/18 Corporate Plan will be the second year of this strategy.
- 3.2 The Plan describes the actions we will take during the year to ensure the Council's strategic objectives are achieved for the people and place of West Somerset and sets out how we will monitor and measure our progress.
- 3.3 The Corporate Plan does not cover everything that the Council does, but it focuses on a combination of those issues that matter most to local people and the unique challenges arising from the District's changing social, economic and environmental contexts.
- 3.4 The plan is a key component of our corporate planning and performance management framework. It links the strategic priorities of the Council directly to the activities of each individual employee as can be seen from the illustration below:



#### 4 Finance / Resource Implications

The Plan contains *Key Theme 4 – An efficient and Modern Council* – which includes the aims to *Make better use of our land and property assets; transferring or selling assets where it makes sense to do so and Review how services are delivered, by whom and to what standard in order to best allocate our resources.*

#### 5 Legal Implications

It is not a legal requirement to produce a Corporate plan; however, it is an essential business management tool and will provide a clear plan for officers and members to work within.

#### 6 Environmental Impact Implications

The Plan contains *Key Theme 3 – Our Place and Infrastructure* which seeks to keep West Somerset a place to be proud of and one which is well maintained and welcoming to residents, visitors and businesses alike.

#### 7 Safeguarding and/or Community Safety Implications

There are no safeguarding or community safety issues

#### 8 Equality and Diversity Implications

Members need to demonstrate that they have consciously thought about the three aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty as part of the decision making process.

The three aims the authority **must** have due regard for:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

## 9 Social Value Implications

There are no social value implications.

## 10 Partnership Implications

There are no partnership implications.

## 11 Health and Wellbeing Implications

The Plan contains *Key Theme 1 – Our Communities* which seeks to help our communities remain sustainable and vibrant is vital in keeping West Somerset a great place in which to live and work and includes particular focus on the wellbeing of older people as rural isolation and loneliness are particular issues.

## 12 Asset Management Implications

The Plan contains Key Theme 4 – An efficient and Modern Council – which includes the aim to “Make better use of our land and property assets; transferring or selling assets where it makes sense to do so”.

## 13 Consultation Implications

Early drafts of the plan have been shared with the Joint Management Team.

### Democratic Path:

- **Scrutiny – Yes**
- **Cabinet – Yes**
- **Full Council – Yes**

**Reporting Frequency: Annually**

### List of Appendices

Appendix A	Draft Corporate Plan 2017/18
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### Contact Officers

Name	Richard Doyle
Direct Dial	01823 218743
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## West Somerset Council Corporate Plan 2017 - 2018

### Our Communities



### Business & Enterprise



### Our Place & Infrastructure

### An Efficient & Modern Council

**"To enable people to live, work and prosper  
and for business to thrive in West Somerset"**



## Introduction



Cllr. Anthony  
Trollope-Bellew  
Leader of the  
Council



Penny James  
Chief Executive

### **Welcome to West Somerset District Council's Corporate Plan for 2017-18.**

Having agreed our Corporate Strategy for the next four years (2016-20) , setting out our vision, priorities, values and principles, we are committed to putting the Strategy into action and making a difference for local people and business.

We will make sure public money continues to be spent well and build upon our good relationships with partners, work positively with our towns and parishes as well as collaborating with a range of other organisations to deliver and enable services to the benefit of all who visit, live and work in West Somerset.

The Corporate Plan identifies the key actions we will take during the 2017/18 financial year to ensure the Council's strategic objectives are delivered.

We will also transform the way we work to deliver an organisation centred on customers, services and communities.

**"Working with our communities to keep Taunton Deane  
a great place in which to live, work, learn and enjoy"**

## Elected Members of the District Council - Portfolio Holders

The Cabinet are responsible for decisions affecting the day-to-day running of the Council, linking the necessary action to implement the Council's policies. The Cabinet are the policy forming team for the Council.



**Leader of the Council and Performance & Corporate Support:**

**Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew**

Areas Covered: Press & Media, Performance Management, Scrutiny Support and Corporate Support.



**Deputy Leader and Resources & Central Support:**

**Cllr Mandy Chilcott**

Areas Covered: Asset Management, Finance, Information Technology, Audit, Legal Services, Human Resources and Health & Safety (Internal).



**Energy Infrastructure: Cllr Chris Morgan**

Areas Covered: Hinkley Point Development



**Environment: Cllr Martin Dewdney**

Areas Covered: Coast Protection, Planning, Building Control, Waste Management, Street Sweeping, Climate Change, Shoreline Management, Land Drainage, Beach Cleaning, Grounds Maintenance, Street Naming, Public Conveniences and Harbours.



**Regeneration & Economic Growth: Cllr Karen Mills**

Areas Covered: Economic Regeneration, Markets, Tourism and Car Parks.



**Executive Support & Democracy: Cllr Steven Pugsley**

Areas Covered: Elections and Member Services.



**Housing, Health & Wellbeing: Cllr Keith Turner**

Areas Covered: Housing Private Sector, Housing Enabling, Housing Strategy, Housing Options, Food Safety, Health & Safety (External), Environmental Protection, Dog Warden, Pest Control, Pollution Control, Licensing and Local Development Framework.



**Community & Customer: Cllr Dave Westcott**

Areas Covered: Parish Liaison, Community Safety, Art and Culture, Civil Contingencies, Concessionary Fares, Customer Access, Customer Information, Local Taxation, Benefits (incl. Fraud), Debt Recovery and Land Charges.

## Joint Management Team

**West Somerset Council shares a Management Team with Taunton Deane Borough Council.**

**The Joint Management Team works closely with the Council Leaders, elected Members and with our partners to deliver the corporate priorities for both Councils**



**Penny James**, Chief Executive for West Somerset Council and Taunton Deane Borough Council

The Chief Executive leads delivery of the corporate management and operational responsibilities of the Councils, and statutory obligations are Head of Paid Service, Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer.



**Shirlene Adam**, Director - Operations

The Director of Operations main role during 2017/18 will be to focus on the Transformation agenda and the potential creation of a new council.



**James Barraah**, Director - Housing & Communities

The Director of Housing and Communities is responsible for a wide ranging property and development service including new build housing developments and housing enabling.



**Brendan Cleere**, Director - Growth & Development

The Director of Growth & Development has overall responsibility for Planning, Regeneration, delivery of community infrastructure, inward investment and Economic Development. Key priorities include the Hinkley Point nuclear new build.



**Bruce Lang**, Assistant Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer

The Assistant Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer is responsible for the core functions and Elections.

## The Purpose of the Corporate Plan

The Corporate Plan for 2017/18 flows from our four-year Corporate Strategy, which covers the period 1st April 2016 through to 31st March 2020. We are now in the second year of the strategy.

The Plan describes the actions we will take during the year to ensure the Council's strategic objectives are achieved for the people and place of West Somerset and sets out how we will monitor and measure our progress.

The Corporate Plan does not cover everything that the Council does, but it focuses on a combination of those issues that matter most to local people and the unique challenges arising from the District's changing social, economic and environmental contexts.

## How do we use it?

The plan is a key component of our corporate planning and performance management framework. It links the strategic priorities of the Council directly to the activities of each individual employee as can be seen from the illustration below.



## Key Theme 1

### Why is this important?

Helping our communities remain sustainable and vibrant is vital in keeping West Somerset a great place in which to live and work.

## Our Communities



### The key issues we aim to influence and improve:

#### Key Issue

Increase the availability and affordability of homes for local people - to both buy and to rent.

#### What we will do in 2017/18

- Facilitate the delivery of the affordable housing development pipeline to achieve the target of 34 new affordable homes completed during 2016/17.
- In 2017/18 we will work with local partners and the Homes and Communities agency to deliver both private rented bed spaces and new build homes using the Hinkley Point C Housing Fund.

#### Key Issue

The retention of young people – West Somerset experiences a net migration of young people which impacts negatively on the sustainability, balance and vibrancy of some of our communities.

#### What we will do in 2017/18

- In 2017/18 using the Hinkley Point C project as a catalyst we will work with partners and seek to coordinate activity with our young people to inspire them, to provide pathways to education, good quality training and employment opportunities.

### **Key Issue**

The well being of older people – West Somerset's has the oldest average age of any district in England. Rural isolation and loneliness in particular, are real issues.

### **What we will do in 2017/18**

- Work with partners to support vulnerable older people with a range of health initiatives such as social isolation events, Health Living Fairs, social prescribing (Living Better project), flu clinics, Archie dementia promotion etc.
  - Implement new local lottery to raise money for local voluntary and community sector organisations to offer additional support to vulnerable local residents.
  - Promote 'iChoosr', 'Wiser£Money', 'Forum 21' and other initiatives to tackle fuel poverty in West Somerset.
-

## Key Theme 2

## Business & Enterprise

### Why is this important?

Access to well-paid employment is key to retaining young people and raising living standards across West Somerset.



### The key issues we aim to influence and improve:

#### Key Issue

Encourage inward investment and the creation of new higher-paid jobs for local people.

#### What we will do in 2017/18

- In 2017/18 we will work with the Into Somerset brand to attract new business and bring new employment opportunities to the area. We will work with existing businesses to increase business resilience, support increased productivity and higher value skills requirements leading to better paid jobs.

#### Key Issue

Support and promote West Somerset's vital tourism and agricultural sectors.

#### What we will do in 2017/18

- In 2017/18 we will deliver a programme of activity to support, develop and promote the tourism sector in West Somerset, as set out in the strategies and plans of the Hinkley Tourism Action Partnership.

#### Key Issue

Work with stakeholders to improve the skills, knowledge and aspirations of young people in particular.

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### **What we will do in 2017/18**

- In 2017/18 we will work with partners to deliver activity to inspire young people and drive up aspiration. We will use the developing employment hub network to increase the level of tailored support available across the district and develop practical employability programmes related to the needs of local employers.
- 

#### **Key Issue**

Greater promotion of West Somerset as a place in which to set up business.

### **What we will do in 2017/18**

- In 2017/18 we will work in partnership with the Into Somerset Brand and our tourism partners to ensure that we fully promote the natural assets of West Somerset to encourage new business start-ups.
- 

#### **Key Issue**

Maximise the local economic benefits from Hinkley Point C.

### **What we will do in 2017/18**

- In 2017/18 we will continue to support businesses which aspire to gain contracts within the HPC supply chain. We will provide business support workshops open to all businesses and one-to-one support for those requiring specialist assistance.
- 

#### **Key Issue**

Push for the rollout of fibre broadband and better mobile phone signal coverage across the District.

### **What we will do in 2017/18**

- Provide financial contribution to Superfast Broadband Cornwall, Devon and Somerset (CDS) phase 2 rollout by 30th March 2018.
-

## Key Theme 3

## Our Place & Infrastructure

### Why is this important?

West Somerset is a beautiful place to visit and in which to live and work. We want to keep West Somerset a place to be proud of and one which is well-maintained and welcoming to residents, visitors and businesses alike.



### The key issues we aim to influence and improve:

#### Key Issue

Support measures and proposals that protect local communities from flooding.

#### What we will do in 2017/18

- Continue to improve surface water drainage systems under WSC control.
- District Flood Board – Facilitate, encouraging to produce local action plans.
- Work with the Environment Agency when opportunities arise to support the community suffering from coastal erosion.
- Work with the Somerset Rivers Authority to ensure extra flood protection for West Somerset streams (Doniford Stream, Horner Water, Trapole Stream and Washford River), plus natural flood management activities to be carried out with the West Somerset Flood Group and numerous parishes.

#### Key Issue

Influence others to improve the road network within West Somerset and the way in which it is managed and maintained.

#### What we will do in 2017/18

- In 2017/18 we will champion the needs of West Somerset communities within the development of plans and initiatives to mitigate the transport impacts of the Hinkley Point C development through our involvement in the Transport Review.

### **Key Issue**

Work with others to find solutions that ensure facilities valued by local communities and visitors (such as public toilets) continue to be available.

### **What we will do in 2017/18**

- Work with communities to make bids for available Section 106 monies, Community Impact Mitigation (CIM) funds and lottery bids to provide facilities in communities such as village halls, play areas, footpaths etc. A recent example of a successful bid was Cuckoo Meadow.
  - Through Community Asset Transfer and other mechanisms find solutions where possible to enable public conveniences and other types of assets to remain available.
  - Minehead Customer Services – embed our customer facing service in the new office shared with the Library and Registrars service.
- 

### **Key Issue**

Mitigate negative impacts on the community from the construction phase of Hinkley Point C.

### **What we will do in 2017/18**

- In 2017/18 we will support affected communities to develop plans for mitigating the impacts of the Hinkley Point C development and fund appropriate initiatives and projects from the Section 106 agreement contributions which we have secured.
  - In 2017/18 we will continue to work with the most affected communities to understand the issues arising from the development and coordinate activity across the Council and amongst partners to ensure that measures are put in place to minimise the impacts of the Hinkley Point C project.
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## Key Theme 4

### An Efficient & Modern Council

#### Why is this important?

Like all Councils, we continue to be challenged by significant budget cuts and pressure on services. Many of the challenges ahead of us cannot be solved by the District Council on its own. We need to continue to collaborate with a range of organisations to deliver and enable outcomes that are important to our communities and find new ways of working that ensure we continue to get the best possible value out of the funds available to us.



#### The key issues we aim to influence and improve:

##### Key Issue

Make better use of our land and property assets; transferring or selling assets where it makes sense to do so.

##### What we will do in 2017/18

- We will set targets for income generation from asset sales to generate funding to enable revenue savings to be made through more efficient and transformed services.
- Community Asset Transfer Policy - support and evaluate proposals by community type groups expressing an interest in taking on current Council assets.

##### The Accommodation Programme

The Accommodation Programme is being delivered as part of the Transformation programme which will deliver new ways of working. This will include new office furniture and telephone systems, better IT enablement, agile and more SMART office style working. The programme will also deliver reductions in overall operating costs and have the potential to generate income through the renting of space to other organisations that will reduce overall costs and repayment periods.

##### Customer Access Shared Accommodation Project (West Somerset House)

- Create a customer services hub.
- Relocation of Somerset County Council Library and Registration services into West Somerset House.
- Relocation Avon and Somerset Police and their Williton enquiry service to West Somerset House.

## Key Issue

Review how services are delivered by whom and to what standard in order to best allocate our resources.

## What we will do in 2017/18

### The Transformation Programme

The Transformation High Level Business Case approved by both TDBC and WSC in July and Sept 2016 respectively, details the ambition for change and explains what this will mean for our staff, our customers, our systems and processes, and our councillors

The Design Principles and New Operating Model that underpin our transformation approach reflect that the customer is at the heart of everything we do, be it public, colleague, councillor, business, potential investor etc. To achieve our transformation vision, we recognise we need to completely review what we do, how we do it and who will do it.

The desired outcome for our communities, our organisation, our members and staff can only be achieved by radical changes to how we operate to deliver services.

This programme of change is significant and will take 18-24 months to complete.

The key activities (which will be included within a detailed Programme Plan) planned for the next 12 months (2017-18) include:

- Finalising the organisational design and the staffing structure required to support the transformed delivery model. Appointing staff into the new structure.
- Developing and delivering an organisational development programme to deliver the people change fundamental to the successful delivery of the transformation outcome and benefits.
- Undertake service and business process reviews to ensure that our processes reflect the corporate design principles.
- Specify, procure and implement the core technology platform that is fundamental to achieve the required transformational change.
- Deliver key supporting technology solutions to enable the new ways of working.
- Refurbishment of Deane House and West Somerset House to provide fit- for- purpose offices and the opportunity to provide rental space.
- During 2017/18, should the Secretary of State approve a proposal to create a new council covering the existing TDBC and WSC areas then work will be undertaken in line with the relevant legislation to determine the governance arrangements of a new authority. If the Secretary of State does not agree to create a new council then the electoral review of the existing TDBC areas will be recommenced with the Boundary Commission to agree a new wording pattern in time for the 2019 local elections based on the agreed principle that the future size of the council will be 43.

- Approval of the detailed organisational design and implementation of the design commenced.
  - Procuring and commencing the implementation of the software to support the delivery of our transformation objectives and Corporate Design Principles.
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### **Key Issue**

Facilitate ways of giving members more time in their communities and greater, more-timely access to information.

### **What we will do in 2017/18**

- Implement the recently approved ICT Strategy to support Transformation for both Councils, in particular to move to a single ICT platform and enabling “smart” working for staff.
  - Continuing to hold ‘Making a Difference’ workshops to support and prepare members to be actively engaged in shaping the transformation programme for the council going forward.
  - Reviewing the decision making processes (timetable of meetings, constitution etc) to provide members with additional capacity to focus on the community engagement element of their role.
  - Consider the implementation of the modern.gov system for producing electronic committee minutes and agendas.
  - Member working groups (New Council and IT) will explore possibilities relating to digital agenda management.
  - Rollout the ‘Slack’ social media business tool to members to ensure a simple method of real time communication of key messages and information in a consistent way across a variety of devices.
-

### **Key Issue**

Work more closely with the County, Town and Parish Councils to achieve mutually desired outcomes for the Community.

### **What we will do in 2017/18**

- To continue to support the Area Panels as a vehicle to enhance liaison between all tiers of local government in West Somerset.
  - Explore options for Infrastructure Planning to enable the Council to determine in 2017/18 if it wishes to pursue the Community Infrastructure Levy set of charges. This could provide a mechanism to help fund essential infrastructure within West Somerset.
  - Through an adopted new Community Asset Transfer policy, facilitate the transfer of assets to others where that will facilitate achievement of mutually desirable outcomes. This will relate to public conveniences but also potentially other categories of assets.
-

## Measuring our Progress

**Performance measures are set at a corporate, team and individual level within the Council in order that we can track progress, take remedial action where necessary and know when and whether the desired outcome has happened.**

We have established a 'basket' of corporate measures related to our strategic aims which will be reported to our Councillors and published on our website.

### Key Theme 1 - Our Communities

- Homelessness - Number of homelessness preventions (includes finding accommodation; preventing evictions; interventions; negotiations etc).
  - Homelessness - Number of households making a homeless application and percent accepted where we have a duty.
  - Disabled Facilities Grants - Average time to complete DFG process once allocated by Somerset West Private Sector Housing Partnership.
  - Disabled Facilities Grants - Average overall waiting time for high priority DFGs (once recommendation made by OT).
  - Affordable Homes - Number of units delivered within the District.
  - Community Impact Mitigation (CIM) Fund – no. of communities / organisations supported through the provision of advice.
  - Community Impact Mitigation (CIM) Fund – no. of communities / organisations receiving CIM Funding.
  - Housing – no. of bed spaces delivered using the Hinkley Housing Fund.
-

## **Key Theme 2 - Business & Enterprise**

- Births of new enterprises (Business 'birth' rates as a % of business stock).
  - Skill level within the workforce (NVQ Level 2, 3 & 4).
  - Benefit claimant count as % of resident West Somerset population.
  - Employment Rate within the District.
  - Unemployment Rate within the District.
  - Long term unemployed (more than 12 months).
  - Youth unemployment (18-24 year olds).
  - Wage levels within the District.
  - Business survival rate (5 year survival %).
  - Business – no. of businesses accessing support through the provision of advice.
  - Workers – no. of individuals accessing support through the provision of advice.
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## **Key Theme 3 - Our Place & Infrastructure**

- Fly-Tipping; Number of reported incidents.
  - Fly-Tipping - reported fly-tipping removed with 48 hrs.
  - Street Cleansing - % service requests actioned within 5 working days.
-

## Key Theme 4 - An Efficient & Modern Council

- % MAJOR planning applications determined within 13 weeks (or within agreed extension of time) Majors' are defined as residential developments of 10 or more units, or retail/commercial developments of more than 1000 square metres of additional floor space.
  - % MINOR planning applications determined within 8 weeks. Minor's are defined as residential developments of less than 10 units, or retail/commercial developments of 1000 square metres or less of additional floor space.
  - % of OTHER planning applications determined within 8 weeks – Other's are defined as applications for advertisement consent, changes of use, listed building and conservation area consents and all householder applications.
  - Freedom of Information Requests - percentage processed within the statutory 20 working day deadline.
  - Staff Sickness Absence – Average number of days per full-time equivalent members of staff.
  - Abandoned telephone call rate to main Council Switchboard number - as a % of total calls received.
  - Corporate Complaints - Percentage of recorded complaints receiving a full response within 20 working days.
  - Ombudsman -Number of complaints investigated by the Ombudsman requiring a remedy (excludes minor injustices).
  - Invoice payment - % of undisputed invoices for commercial goods and services paid within 30days of receipt.
  - Average processing times for new Housing Benefit claims.
  - Average processing times for change in circumstances to Housing Benefit claims.
  - % Licences issues on time.
  - % Environmental Health requests completed on time.
  - % Council Tax collected.
  - % Non-domestic Rates collected.
  - Timeliness of draft minutes of Committee meetings being provided to Committee chair.
-

## For more information contact

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Email: [customerservices@westsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@westsomerset.gov.uk)



### English

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### Bengali

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### Hindi

अगर आप इस दस्तावेज़ का अनुवाद दूसरी भाषाओं या ब्रेल, बड़े अक्षरों वाली छपाई, ऑडियो टेप, या सीडी में चाहते हैं, तो कृपया हमें इस नंबर पर फ़ोन कीजिये 01643 703704 या यहाँ ईमेल कीजिये [customerservices@westsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@westsomerset.gov.uk)

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# West Somerset Council

## Scrutiny Committee – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017

### Public Toilet Transfers

This matter is the responsibility Lead Member Cllr Chilcott and Cllr Dewdney

Report Author: Chris Hall

#### 1 Executive Summary

This briefing is an update for the Scrutiny Committee following the deadline for transfers having passed on 31<sup>st</sup> March, and the expiry of the public toilet budget.

Of the 13 toilets originally covered by the Full Council decision, 8 have been transferred.

#### 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members note the content of the report.
- 2.2 It is recommended that Scrutiny committee support the negotiated position with MTC for the funding of a new facility should the land at Quay Street Minehead, including the current toilets, be sold.

#### 3 Risk Assessment

##### Risk Matrix

Description	Likelihood	Impact	Overall
Town or Parish Council's do not wish to take on the public toilets	4	3	12
<i>A number of the toilet would be closed</i>	4	3	12
Potential for anti-social behaviour at closed sites	3	3	9
<i>Asset management team, property services and operational deliver will share the responsibility to manage the closed sites until alternative uses are found</i>	3	2	6
Town or Parish Councils are unable to complete the transfer	4	3	12
<i>Further toilet may be closed as we move through the process.</i>	2	3	6

## **4 Background and Full details of the Report**

- 4.1 For the purposes of this update a transfer means operationally and financially under the control of a body other than West Somerset Council. The means of transfer, is identified in the final table in this report.
- 4.2 The non-transferring toilets have been closed, with the exception of Porlock Central which remains open during the notice period. Toilets were not included in the new cleaning contract, utilities have been suspended / disconnected, and business rates have also been suspended on these facilities for 6 months. The suspension period for business rates provides a window for the future of the assets to be resolved.
- 4.3 With some toilets not transferring there has been a small impact on the saving approved by Full Council. This is considered to be £2,000 pa to cover utility standing charges, business rates at Selworthy and other small items. The full £107k has been removed from the budget from 1st April 2017 and a budget amendment will need to be considered to take account of the £2,000 additional and ongoing costs.
- 4.4 The Asset Management Group have considered the future of the assets and their current suggestions are identified in the table at the rear of this report.
- 4.5 Porlock Parish Council have taken the offer of the Doverhay toilets and in turn given notice on their lease for the Porlock Central toilets. The Central toilets have now joined the list of assets being considered by the Asset Management Group.
- 4.6 Despite their initial interest and their submission of a sustainability reserve bid, Williton Parish Council had not responded to a number of requests to confirm their position. However on 31<sup>st</sup> March, the day of transfer, we received a request to proceed on a much changed set of heads of terms, attached as appendix B. It would appear that these had been produced and held until the last minute to try and force the hand of West Somerset Council. These HOT's were not reasonable and were too late in their delivery so were rejected. If Williton PC have a genuine interest in transferring these facilities then we remain open to this but on the same terms as the other transfers. For now these facilities have also joined the Asset Management Groups list to consider the future use of the building.
- 4.7 The transfer process has been time consuming for Officers, Members, community groups and the Town and Parish Councils. The scale of the work involved has been delivered within the time constraints set by the budget approval process, but a number of difficulties were identified along the journey of negotiation that have prevented smooth delivery.
- 4.8 Officers have delivered the transfers alongside normal business, this has been a particular pressure within the Assets Management team where a large number of other projects are also underway. The lessons learnt from these transfers have been: improve pre decision consultation; define the resources and fund these; give consideration to a contingency fund.

## **5 Links to Corporate Aims / Priorities**

- 5.1 The proposal introduced by the new Order will assist the Council to regularise car park assets and support maintenance and long term investment plans.

## 6 Finance / Resource Implications

- 6.1 The table below identifies the current financial position of the sustainability reserve.
- 6.2 The drainage repairs at Blenheim Gardens were delivered under budget with the difference remaining in the fund.
- 6.3 Additional costs to achieve the transfer were identified, these were mainly additional pre transfer maintenance items, and sub metering at some sites where the electrical supplies serve more than just the toilets. These additions have used up the remainder of the sustainability reserve, and the remainder of the 2016/17 toilet maintenance budget allocation.

	Costs £	Budget remaining £
"Sustainability Fund" full budget as reported to Scrutiny 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec '16		105,200
Summerland Road drainage repairs	4,980	100,220
Bid approved (now less Williton)	85,022	15,198
Transfer support (£1000 per facility transferred)	8,000	7,198
Blenheim Garden drainage repairs	4,960	2,238
Additional pre transfer repairs (electrical sub-metering, pre transfer repairs, etc.)	2,238	00
<b>Uncommitted balance</b>		<b>00</b>

- 6.4 The facility at Selworthy has been closed but there remains some costs that are payable by WSC until an exit of the lease can be negotiated. The annual cost for the business rates and minimal external cleaning / repair are estimated at £1,200 pa which make up part of the £2,000 unbudgeted cost.

## 7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 All transfers and licences to occupy have been progressed through the legal service.
- 7.2 The facility at Selworthy is leased from the National Trust, there has been difficulty in having a negotiation on these facilities. The toilet will be closed but the lease requires that WSC maintain it in a clean and proper condition, as it is closed this will only be for

the outside. The building cannot be used for anything other than public toilets. Business rates are also payable on this site after the initial 6 month suspension.

## **8 Environmental Impact Implications**

8.1 This update report evidences that many of the toilets that may have otherwise had to close continue to be available to the public preventing some of the environmental impacts that were of concern when the original decisions were made.

## **9 Safeguarding and/or Community Safety Implications**

9.1 There are no identified safeguarding implications as a result of this update report.

## **10 The Equality and Diversity Implications**

10.1 An equality impact assessment was carried out for the full council decision to cease financial involvement in the public toilets. The transfer process has mitigated the impact on many of the communities.

## **11 Social Value Implications**

11.1 There are no implications as a result of this report.

## **12 Partnership Implications**

12.1 The transfers have been through a legal process of freehold or leasehold and there are no formal partnerships created through this process.

## **13 Health and Wellbeing Implications**

13.1 By transferring so many of the facilities we, with the support of the town and parish councils have been able to support the health and wellbeing needs of our local communities.

## **14 Asset Management Implications**

14.1 The transfer of these facilities will reduce the impact on the council in terms of asset management, property maintenance and operations delivery. These are the budget that have been reduced to support the budget gap.

14.2 All transfers have been conducted with asset management team support to ensure freehold and leasehold terms work for the Town and Parish Councils and for West Somerset Council.

## **15 Consultation Implications**

15.1 Considerable consultation has been undertaken with the Town and Parish Councils

### **Democratic Path:**

- **Scrutiny– Yes**
- **Cabinet – No**

- Full Council – No

Reporting Frequency :  Once only

### List of Appendices

Appendix A	List of facilities and status
Appendix B	HOT's received on transfer day from Williton Parish Council

### Contact Officers

Name	Chris Hall	Name	
Direct Dial	01823 356499	Direct Dial	
Email	c.hall@tauntondeane.gov.uk	Email	

Standing charges costs for non transferring facilities

Drainage works

### Risk Scoring Matrix

<b>Likelihood</b>	5	Almost Certain	Low (5)	Medium (10)	High (15)	Very High (20)	Very High (25)
	4	Likely	Low (4)	Medium (8)	Medium (12)	High (16)	Very High (20)
	3	Possible	Low (3)	Low (6)	Medium (9)	Medium (12)	High (15)
	2	Unlikely	Low (2)	Low (4)	Low (6)	Medium (8)	Medium (10)
	1	Rare	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Low (4)	Low (5)
			1	2	3	4	5
			Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
			<b>Impact</b>				

Likelihood of risk occurring	Indicator	Description (chance of occurrence)
1. Very Unlikely	May occur in exceptional circumstances	< 10%
2. Slight	Is unlikely to, but could occur at some time	10 – 25%

3. Feasible	Fairly likely to occur at same time	25 – 50%
4. Likely	Likely to occur within the next 1-2 years, or occurs occasionally	50 – 75%
5. Very Likely	Regular occurrence (daily / weekly / monthly)	> 75%

<b>Toilet Location</b>	<b>Originally subject to Full Council budget decision</b>	<b>Transferred</b>	<b>Status</b>
Minehead – Carousel Amusements	YES		Closed, transfer not being progressed. AMG recommend an asset review and possible change of use, no suggested use yet.
Minehead – Summerland Car Park	YES	YES	Open, freehold transfer agreed but not completed. MTC have not gained a resolution to transfer and are operating the facility of a management agreement. MTC have no planned date to return to their Full Council for a decision at this point in time.
Minehead – Quay West car park	YES	YES	Open, leasehold transfer agreed but as above.
Minehead – Blenheim Gardens	YES	YES	Open, freehold transfer agreed but as above.
Minehead – Warren Road Seafront	YES		Closed, transfer not being progressed. AMG recommend continued discussions with Butlins in light of the seafront proposals. The block is has a covenant on it preventing uses other than as a public toilet.
Dunster – Dunster Steep car park	YES	YES	Open, freehold transfer agreed, works have started under licence. Management agreement in place for one month to allow for completion, likely in w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> April.
Watchet - Market Street	YES		Closed, transfer not being progressed. AMG recommend putting this on the rental market in April subject to a change of planning use.
Watchet - Harbour Road	YES	YES	Open, freehold transfer agreed, works were completed under licence in advance. Management agreement in place for one month to allow for completion, likely in w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> April.
Williton – Killick Way	YES		Closed, transfer not being progressed. There appears to be a demand for WSC's own storage as part of the CASA project and this site may be suitable in the short term.
Blue Anchor – Seafront	YES	YES	Open, 12m leasehold transfer agreed, may lead to a freehold transfer later.

Porlock – Doverhay car park	YES	YES	Open, 35yr leasehold transfer agreed. Works have been completed under licence. Management agreement in place for one month to allow for completion, likely in w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> April.
Porlock – Central car park	No – Lease was already in place but Porlock have given notice to terminate		Open, notice given to terminate leasehold mid-August. Asset management Group will look to allow other uses, subject to a planning change of use.
Dulverton – Lion Stables car park	YES	YES	Open, Freehold transfer complete.
Selworthy	YES		The lease has no keep open clause so the facilities are closed pending further negotiations with National Trust.
Weddon Cross	No – the transfer was already under negotiation	YES	Closed, for works to be undertaken. Freehold transfer agreed and progressing



## WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

2 Killick Way  
Williton  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA4 4PY

**Chairperson : Cllr Keith Richards**  
**Clerk : Mrs Michelle Francis**  
**Deputy Clerk : Mrs Sarah Towells**

**Tel: 01984 633979**  
**Email: [willitonpc@btconnect.com](mailto:willitonpc@btconnect.com)**  
**[www.willitonparishcouncil.org](http://www.willitonparishcouncil.org)**

31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

West Somerset Council  
West Somerset House  
Killick Way  
Williton  
Somerset  
TA4 4QA

Dear Sirs

**Re : Killick Way Public Conveniences, Williton**

Further to our recent communications regarding the above conveniences, I have been asked to submit the revised Heads of Terms below, that the Councillors would like you to consider. The amendments have been marked in **bold**.

1. The extent of the premises to be included in the sale is shown edged red of the attached Plan. Vehicular and pedestrian rights of access will be granted over the land edged blue connected to the use of the building edged red only.
2. The consideration shall be the sum of £1 freehold with vacant possession (if demanded).
3. The purchaser and its successors in title shall maintain the property in good repair and condition at all times to the reasonable satisfaction of the District Council for a period of **THREE** years.
4. The building will continue to be used as a public convenience (PC's) for the benefit of the community for a period of **THREE** years from date of transfer. Notwithstanding this, should the purchaser decide to use part of the property alongside a public convenience / conveniences for some other community benefit or for income generating purposes, **other than the existing acceptable use**, then **PLANNING** consent would be required. For the avoidance of doubt, for a period of **THREE** years there must be a public convenience facility provided **WITHIN THE PARISH OF WILLITON** although the size of that facility may reduce.

5. Should the purchaser wish to dispose of the interest in the property or any part thereof, the District Council would be required to give its consent, not to be reasonably withheld. Furthermore, the District Council would be entitled to 50% of any proceeds without deduction unless a commitment is given by the Purchaser to promptly reinvest those sales monies in their entirety into benefitting the local community and providing a public convenience facility. This overage and conditions are only to apply for **THREE** years from date of transfer.
6. All costs and outgoings to be the responsibility of the purchaser.
7. A spreadsheet is enclosed to provide an indication of the operating costs for the facilities as a guide. These costs are for information purposes only and are subject to change depending on the operating hours of the facility and general changes over time. Any income generated from the facility (i.e. toilet charges) will be retained by the purchaser.
8. The purchaser will be responsible for Business Rates for the property from completion of the transfer. However, it has been agreed that the District Council will provide a discretionary transitional relief for the first three years of the **FREEHOLD FROM THE DATE OF TRANSFER**. The transitional relief will be 80% in year 1 (2017/18), 50% in year 2 and 30% in year 3, at which point there will be no further relief unless Central Government policy changes.
9. Each party shall be responsible for the payment of its own legal fees incurred in completing the transfer as well as any further fees incurred.
10. On completion of the transfer of the property the purchaser is to be given £1,000.00 as a one off sum for each public convenience building to be spent however the purchaser deems appropriate.
11. The transfer is subject to any other standard terms and conditions considered reasonable by the Council's Solicitor to protect the interests in **THE** property.
12. **The Parish Council reserves its right to purchase four parking spaces directly to the rear of the building with right of access, to be exercised within the first three years from the date of the sale.**

I look forward to your reply in due course.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.L. Francis', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michelle Francis (Mrs)  
Clerk, Williton Parish Council

# West Somerset Council

## Scrutiny Committee – Thursday 20 April

### Proposals for Improving the Health Scrutiny Engagement Process in West Somerset

Report Author: Marcus Prouse – Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny)

#### 1 Executive Summary / Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 Following the engagement and attendance at West Somerset Scrutiny Committee in 2016 of the South West Ambulance Trust, the Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group, and the Somerset Partnership NHS Trust; and following the recent publication of the Somerset Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), there is a desire from Members to explore further the possibilities of engaging with and ensuring that the Council's Health and Wellbeing responsibilities are discharged in the most beneficial way for local people.
- 1.2 It is recognised that the area of West Somerset faces many challenges in the current environment as it relates to Health and Healthcare, and that this unique perspective would benefit from a permanent presence on the Upper Tier's Health Body, with that representative, once chosen, reporting back to the Scrutiny Committee as appropriate.
- 1.3 The proposed recommendation of the Scrutiny Committee to have a co-opted representative to sit on the Upper Tier Body, if agreed, would be shared with the other four District and Borough Councils to gauge their interest in each expressing a wish to also place a co-opted member from their respective Scrutiny on the Upper Tier Body. The possibility of together issuing a Joint Letter stating that the five Districts and Borough wishes to do this could be the result, however, this proposal does not hinge on gaining the agreement of the four other authorities Scrutiny bodies, though that would possibly add more impact to the proposal.
- 1.4 It is suggested that a Task and Finish Group is set up to further scope out and consult on policies and proposals that would benefit the local area's Health and Wellbeing aims.

#### 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Scrutiny Committee recommends that:-
  - (1) The proposal of placing a co-opted Member of the West Somerset Scrutiny Committee on The Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee at Somerset County Council be endorsed;
  - (2) Somerset County Council be approached following engagement with Somerset's other Four District and Borough Authorities to gauge interest, and the possibility looked into of the creation of a more impactful Joint Letter;

- (3) The creation of a Task and Finish Group be endorsed to look at the Challenges of Health and Wellbeing in the West Somerset District, taking the document at Appendix A as a reference point in defining the scope of potential topics to consider that would be appropriate for a District Authority;
- (4) Consider these and other appropriate ways to engage in the consultation phase of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan proposed by the Health Authorities to ensure that the challenges apparent in the West Somerset Area such as Rurality, are taken into account.

### 3 Risk Assessment (if appropriate)

#### Risk Matrix

Description	Likelihood	Impact	Overall
The Policies, Adults and Health Committee/ Somerset County Council policies or inclination means they refuse to accept co-opted Membership.	3	4	16

#### Risk Scoring Matrix

Likelihood	5	Almost Certain	Low (5)	Medium (10)	High (15)	Very High (20)	Very High (25)
	4	Likely	Low (4)	Medium (8)	Medium (12)	High (16)	Very High (20)
	3	Possible	Low (3)	Low (6)	Medium (9)	Medium (12)	High (15)
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4. Likely	Likely to occur within the next 1-2 years, or occurs occasionally	50 – 75%
5. Very Likely	Regular occurrence (daily / weekly / monthly)	> 75%

## **4 Background and Full details of the Report**

- 4.1 West Somerset Council has a track record of engaging with Local Health authorities in recent times, when local concerns around topics such as Ambulances and Bed Closures have led to increased public concern. Whilst the Policies, Adults and Health Committee at Somerset County Council is the Upper Tier Authority with the jurisdiction that covers Health Matters, it has been recognised as valid that District Members have a role to play as Community Leaders and have given voice to local concerns that have been engaged with by Health bodies in the Local Area.
- 4.2 Following discussions on this issue at the Scrutiny Committee Agenda Setting on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 with Scrutiny Committee Members, and with the advent of the Somerset Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) consultation it was decided to bring forth these recommendations. The STP was presented to West Somerset Members at the December Scrutiny Meeting and has also been discussed at County Council Meetings. There is a desire from Members of the Scrutiny Committee to make sure that the feedback and viewpoint from the West Somerset Area is fed into the consultation process of this important document.
- 4.3 The proposal to have a co-opted Member would proceed with the hopeful agreement of the Four District Council Area's relevant Scrutiny Committees, who would make a joint request for a co-opted representative on the Upper Tier Authority body through a device such as a Joint Letter.
- 4.4 Having made contact with the Governance Scrutiny Team at the County Council to inform them of our proposals and discussions and agreed any response they provide will be circulated to all Members. From speaking to the County Council the current understanding is there are currently no co-opted Members from the Districts, this is not an area that is uniform in the country, for instance, from a quick desktop exercise undertaken there are co-opted Members from the District Authorities on the Upper Tier Health Scrutiny function at Suffolk County Council, Lancashire County Council, Gloucestershire County Council, Dorset County Council and in all likelihood even more.
- 4.5 Legally, with non-education matters Council scrutiny functions have the opportunity to co-opt people from outside the council to sit either on scrutiny committees (as voting or non-voting co-optees), or on task and finish groups. In relation to formal appointments to committees in England, this power is conferred by s9FA(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 2000. This provides for the co-option of a person onto a committee to occupy a non-voting position. Under Schedule 1 of the 2000 Act (originally introduced by s115 of the Local Government Act 2003), a local authority may put in place a scheme to appoint voting co-optees to sit on overview and scrutiny committees.<sup>1</sup>
- 4.6 The Scrutiny Committee at West Somerset has a precedent of placing Members of its Committee on external Scrutiny bodies, for instance, the Committee recently endorsed two of its Members to sit on the Joint Scrutiny for the Somerset Rivers Authority.
- 4.7 Task and finish groups may be established by a Scrutiny Committee for the purpose of conducting an in-depth review of any service, policy or issue that affects the District,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cfps.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/PG-6.pdf>

which falls under the remit of that Committee.

- 4.8 The Committee setting up the group will decide on the terms of reference, number of members to form the group (usually 4 to 6), and also seek volunteers from within the Scrutiny Committee and the wider Council membership to join the group. The Committee may also decide to open up membership of the task and finish group to co-opt other members on to the group from relevant partners, organisation or community groups. The Task and Finish Group will have elect its own chairman and be politically proportional. Finally, the Committee will agree a timescale for the process. The length of a review and its scope will define how frequently a task group meets, but it is usual to have at least one meeting at the start for planning, and one (possibly two) at the end to settle the report's findings and recommendations.
- 4.9 The task and finish group can gather evidence through a variety of ways, such as: written evidence, oral evidence and interviews with external and internal witnesses, site visits, visiting other organisations - partners, user groups, other councils, research, holding public meetings to seek views on an issue, talking to people who are affected by the issue. Once the evidence has been gathered, the task and finish group will produce a report to be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee outlining details of the review process, evidence gathered, conclusions and subsequent recommendations for action. The Scrutiny Committee can then refer to the report to the Cabinet and/or the appropriate partner organisation, asking them to consider the recommendations arising from the review.
- 4.10 The proposed Task and Finish Group would use as its springboard for discussion the report issued by the King's Fund in 2015 entitled 'The District Council contribution to public health: a time of challenge and opportunity.' This was an editorially independent report, and the King's Fund is a widely respected health care Think Tank. The report brings forward some discussion points worth exploring further in a Task and Finish such as health is primarily determined by factors other than health care, and the core functions of a District Council such as Housing and Environmental Health are key areas in being able to influence public health. District Councils are recognised as being in a good position to influence many of these factors through their key functions and in their wider role supporting communities and influencing other bodies.
- 4.11 District Councils face key challenges such as funding, but public health reform and localism agendas have created some unique opportunities for District Councils to increase their contribution to the health of their residents, with many actions possibly leading to savings for the public purse. The report covers how District Councils can ensure their actions have a positive effect on public health, offers actions that are cost-effective and the possibility of assuming an enabling role in health of local residents. One of the key ways that District Councils can influence in less direct ways is through their power to influence other bodies such as County Councils and the Local NHS as well as Health and Wellbeing Boards.<sup>2</sup> The report can be found in PDF format in the following link:
- 4.12 [https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/files/kf/field/field\\_publication\\_file/district-council-contribution-to-public-health-nov15.pdf](https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/sites/files/kf/field/field_publication_file/district-council-contribution-to-public-health-nov15.pdf)

## **5 Links to Corporate Aims / Priorities**

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<sup>2</sup> Buck. D., Dunn. P. – The District Council Contribution to Public Health: A time of challenge and opportunity, (2015)

- 5.1 West Somerset Council's Vision is "to enable people to live, work and prosper and for Business to thrive in West Somerset."
- 5.2 This proposal links in with Key Theme 3 – Our Place & Infrastructure, namely:
- 5.3 "C) Work with others to find solutions that ensure facilities valued by local communities and visitors (such as public toilets) continue to be available."

## **6 Finance / Resource Implications**

- 6.1 None related to this report.

## **7 Legal Implications (if any)**

- 7.1 None related to this report.

## **8 Environmental Impact Implications (if any)**

- 8.1 None related to this report.

## **9 Safeguarding and/or Community Safety Implications (if any)**

- 9.1 None related to this report

## **10 Equality and Diversity Implications (if any)**

- 10.1 None related to this report.

## **11 Social Value Implications (if any)**

- 11.1 None related to this report.

## **12 Partnership Implications (if any)**

- 12.1 Possible implications in relation to Scrutiny arrangements with Somerset County Council.

## **13 Health and Wellbeing Implications (if any)**

- 13.1 This report is about looking at ways in which West Somerset Councillors can engage with and encourage people, families and communities in relation to taking responsibility for their own health and wellbeing, as well as making sure that families and communities are thriving and resilient, and Somerset people are able to live independently.

## **14 Asset Management Implications (if any)**

- 14.1 None related to this report.

## **15 Consultation Implications (if any)**

- 15.1 None related to this report.

### **Democratic Path:**

- **Scrutiny – Yes**

- Cabinet/Executive – No
- Full Council – No

Reporting Frequency :  Once only    Ad-hoc    Quarterly  
 Twice-yearly    Annually

**Contact Officers**

Name	Marcus Prouse	Name	
Direct Dial	01823 356410 / 01984 635251	Direct Dial	
Email	mprouse@westsomerset.gov.uk	Email	

Name		Name	
Direct Dial		Direct Dial	
Email		Email	

# **West Somerset Council**

## **Scrutiny Committee – Thursday 20 April**

### **FOR INFORMATION REPORT:**

#### **Updated Review of Education in West Somerset**

**Report Author: Marcus Prouse – Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny)**

#### **1 Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report is intended as an update on the work of the Task and Finish Group (TFG) that was established by the Scrutiny Committee in 2014 to look into the matter of secondary education in West Somerset.
- 1.2 Following on from the findings of the Government's Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission Report in 2016 which showed that West Somerset is a 'coldspot' and is ranked 324<sup>th</sup> out of 324 Authorities in the country for social mobility, this piece of work is intended as a further report on the issues of education in the region, at a moment of ongoing change for a large number of the Schools in the District.
- 1.3 This is a 'For Information' Report which is designed to help inform Members of the current situation, encourage a 'joined-up' approach on Education in the Council, feeding into the work of the Economic Development team and the West Somerset Opportunity Area.

#### **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the Scrutiny Committee notes the report.

#### **3 Background and Full details of the Report**

- 3.1 The provision of education as such is not part of West Somerset Council's formal remit; nevertheless, the Committee is aware that this issue is of significant interest to local communities involved and by taking an interest the Committee and Council is fulfilling its role of championing and helping people, local organisations and communities in West Somerset to achieve the Council's vision of enabling people to live, work and prosper in West Somerset.
- 3.2 With the Local Government Act 2000, all local authorities gained new statutory powers in respect of their community leadership role in promoting and improving the economic well-being, social well-being and environmental well-being of their area.

- 3.3 The work of the Task and Finish Group in the previous quadrennium led to a final report going before Cabinet in July 2015 (No. WSC 84/15) outlining the recommendations which were that the Cabinet:-
- 3.4 - 'Fully supports the principle of ongoing engagement between the West Somerset College and the Council and is committed to being supportive in promoting the highest possible standard of education provision for the young people of West Somerset.'<sup>1</sup>
- 3.5 - 'The Cabinet would welcome any further reports from the Scrutiny Committee on the whole issue of education provision in the district with particular reference to the potential for joint scrutiny working across the county on educational matters'.<sup>2</sup>
- 3.6 This is an on-going concern, which has been highlighted by the Social Mobility Index Report from Government, and also highlighted is the role played by 'brain-drain', whereby young people are not attracted to laying down roots in this part of the world due to a number of factors.

#### 4 **Terms of Reference and Objective of the Review:**

4.1 In the last Task and Finish Group Report, the recommendations were as follows:-

- 'The TFG...support is given to any initiatives which have the raising of attainment as their goal...the TFG support the ambition to form a Multi Academy Trust in West Somerset.'
- 'The TFG recommends that national government and the LGA is lobbied to address the effectiveness of the governance structure of academy schools and to clarify the role and responsibility of the LA in relation to the challenging of underperforming academies.'
- 'The TFG recommends that West Somerset College be asked to inform Councillors how they can engage with the school directly and invite them to do so.'
- 'The TFG...continue to monitor developments in the education system in West Somerset as it continues to evolve with a view to inviting providers to engage with the Council as circumstances permit.'
- The TFG recommends that they explore the potential for joint scrutiny work between the District and County Council concerning educational matters in West Somerset.<sup>3</sup>

4.2 The terms of reference the Scrutiny Officer revisited were:-

- Re-consider current attainment levels and compare results league tables.
- Re-consider funding issues.
- Re-look at restructure of West Somerset College, the Exmoor Federation and any other schools in the area.
- Examine the issues as laid out by the Social Mobility Report.

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<sup>1</sup> Report No: WSC 84/15, Cllr P. Murphy and E. McGuinness, p.1

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.,

<sup>3</sup> Scrutiny Task and Finish Group Report, Review of Secondary Education in West Somerset, Item 8

## 5 **Attainment Levels/ Ofsted Reports/Floor Standards-Progress 8**

- 5.1 A refresh on the issues which instigated the initial investigation would be a good place to start, where low attainment levels at West Somerset College caused concern and led to the College going into special measures.
- 5.2 For the purposes of this review the Task and Finish Group focused on two data sets, key stage 2 and key stage 4.
- 5.3 **Floor Standards/Progress 8 & Attainment 8**
- 5.4 A new secondary school accountability system will be implemented from 2016, including two new headline measures – ‘attainment 8’ and ‘progress 8’.
- 5.5 Progress 8 aims to capture the progress a pupil makes from the end of primary school to the end of secondary school. It is a type of value added measure, which means that pupils’ results are compared to the actual achievements of other pupils with the same prior attainment. The new performance measures are designed to encourage schools to offer a broad and balanced curriculum with a focus on an academic core at key stage 4, and reward schools for the teaching of all their pupils, measuring performance across 8 qualifications. Every increase in every grade a pupil achieves will attract more points in the performance tables.
- 5.6 Progress 8 will be calculated for individual pupils solely in order to calculate a school’s Progress 8 score, and there will not be a need for individual’s scores to be shared with the pupils. Schools are still encouraged to continue to focus on which qualifications are most suitable for individual pupils.
- 5.7 Attainment 8 will measure the achievement of a pupil across 8 qualifications including mathematics (double weighted) and English (double weighted), 3 further qualifications that count in the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) measure and 3 further qualifications that can be GCSE qualifications (including EBacc subjects) or any other non-GCSE qualifications that are on a DfE approved list.
- 5.8 The Progress 8 Score will be calculated for each pupil using their Attainment 8 score. The average Attainment 8 score of all pupils nationally who had a similar starting point (or ‘prior attainment’), calculated using assessment results from the end of primary school. The greater the Progress 8 Score, the greater the progress made by the pupil compared to the average of pupils with similar prior attainment. In 2016, a school will be below the floor standard if it’s Progress 8 score is below -0.5, and the upper band of the 95% confidence interval is below zero. If a school falls below this floor standard, then the school may come under scrutiny through inspection.<sup>4</sup>
- 5.9 **Key Stage 2**
- 5.10 Key Stage 2 is the term used for the four years of schooling normally known as Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6, when pupils are aged between 7 and 11.
- 5.11 At the end of Key Stage 2 teacher assessments and a series of tests are carried out to

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<sup>4</sup> [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/497937/Progress-8-school-performance-measure.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/497937/Progress-8-school-performance-measure.pdf)

ascertain the level of achievement that a pupil has reached. Most children were expected to achieve level 4 at the end of KS2 and this was seen as a good indicator of a pupil's chances of success at secondary school.

5.12 Table 1 below showed the percentage of pupils at Key Stage 2 achieving level 4 or above in English and Mathematics for the period 2012 – 2015 for the three middle schools in West Somerset. Table 2 shows the Progress 8 scores of pupils at Key Stage 2 for the year 2016 for the three middle schools in West Somerset.

5.13 **Table 1**

<b>Key Stage 2</b>	<b>2012 Level 4+ in reading, writing and maths</b>	<b>2013 Level 4+ in reading, writing and maths</b>	<b>2014 Level 4+ in reading, writing and maths</b>	<b>2015 Level 4+ in reading, writing and maths</b>
England/National Average – All Schools	75%	75%	78%	80%
Somerset Average	74%	75%	78%	78%
<b>School Name</b>				
Minehead Middle	64%	60%	73%	67%
Variance between school result and Somerset average	-10%	-15%	-5%	-11%
Dulverton Middle	70%	67%	70%	72%
Variance between school result and Somerset average	-4%	-8%	-8%	-6%
Danesfield Middle	59%	66%	66%	29%
Variance between school result and Somerset average	-15%	-9%	-12%	-49%

(Figures from Department for Education website – 15 Mar 2016)

5.14 Table 2

<b>Key Stage 2 Performance 2016</b>	<b>2016 Reading</b>	<b>2016 Writing</b>	<b>2016 Maths</b>
England/National Average – All Schools	0	0	0
Somerset Average	-0.1	-0.5	-0.8
<b>School Name</b>			
Minehead Middle	+ 1.8 Above national average (10% of schools)	+ 1.7 Above national average (10 % of schools)	-0.70 Average (60% of schools)
Confidence Intervals	+0.7 to +2.9	+0.6 to +2.8	-1.60 to +0.2
Dulverton Middle	+1.4 Average (60% of Schools)	+0.3 Average (60% of schools)	-1.70 Average (60% of Schools)
Confidence Intervals	-1.10 to +3.9	-2.20 to +2.8	-3.80 to +0.4
Danesfield Middle	-0.90 Average (60% of schools)	-4.10 Well below national average (10% of schools)	-2.40 Below national average ( 10% of schools)
Confidence Intervals	-2.40 to +0.6	-5.60 to -2.60	-3.70 to -1.10

5.15 Confidence Intervals play a part in the definition of a school being above or below the floor standard, and a school will be defined as “coasting” if, over three consecutive years, its score is below -0.25 and the upper band of the confidence interval is below zero.<sup>5</sup>

5.16 Progress 8 results are calculated for a school based on a specific cohort of pupils. A school may have been just as effective but have performed differently with a different

<sup>5</sup> <http://schoolsweek.co.uk/progress-8-beware-confidence-intervals/>

set of pupils. Similarly some pupils may be more likely to achieve high or low grades independently of which school they attend. To account for this natural uncertainty 95% confidence intervals around Progress 8 scores are provided as a proxy for the range of scores within which each school's underlying performance measure can be confidently said to lie. The results of schools with a small cohort tend to have wider confidence intervals; this reflects the fact that the performance of a small number of pupils taking their key stage 4 exams can have a disproportionate effect on the school's overall results. Both the Progress 8 score and the confidence interval for a school should be taken into account when comparing with other schools, pupil groups or national averages. School scores should be interpreted alongside their associated confidence intervals. If the lower bound of the school's confidence interval is greater than zero, it can be interpreted as meaning that the school has achieved greater than average progress compared to pupils nationally, and vice versa if the upper bound is negative.<sup>6</sup>

#### 5.17 Key Stage 4

5.18 At the end of this stage, pupils in Year 11 (aged 16) are normally entered for GCSE examinations.

5.19 One of the most significant indicators was to measure attainment at key stage 4 is 'Percentage of students achieving 5A\*-C GCSEs including English and mathematics.

5.20 Table 2 below showed the percentage of pupils achieving measures 5+A\*-C grade GCSE including English and mathematics for the period 2012-2015.

#### 5.21 Table 2

Key Stage 4	2012	2013	2014	2015
	<b>Percentage achieving 5+ A*- C GCSE's including English and Maths GCSEs</b>			
England/National Average	59.4%	59.2%	53.4%	53.8%
Somerset Average	56.5%	58%	53.9%	58.6%
West Somerset College	49%	48%	42%*	49%

\*Figure was revised upwards on appeal from 36%.

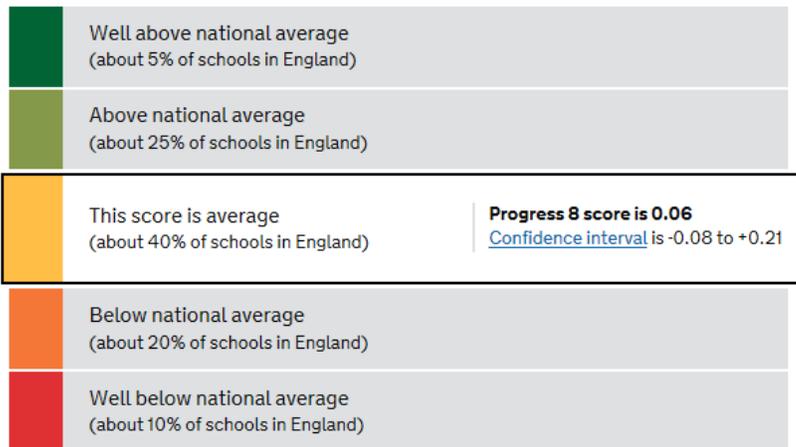
(Figures from Department for Education website – 15 Mar 2016)

#### 5.22 2016 Results for West Somerset College

<sup>6</sup>[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/583857/Progress\\_8\\_school\\_performance\\_measure\\_Jan\\_17.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/583857/Progress_8_school_performance_measure_Jan_17.pdf)

# Progress 8 score

[▶ Show more info](#)

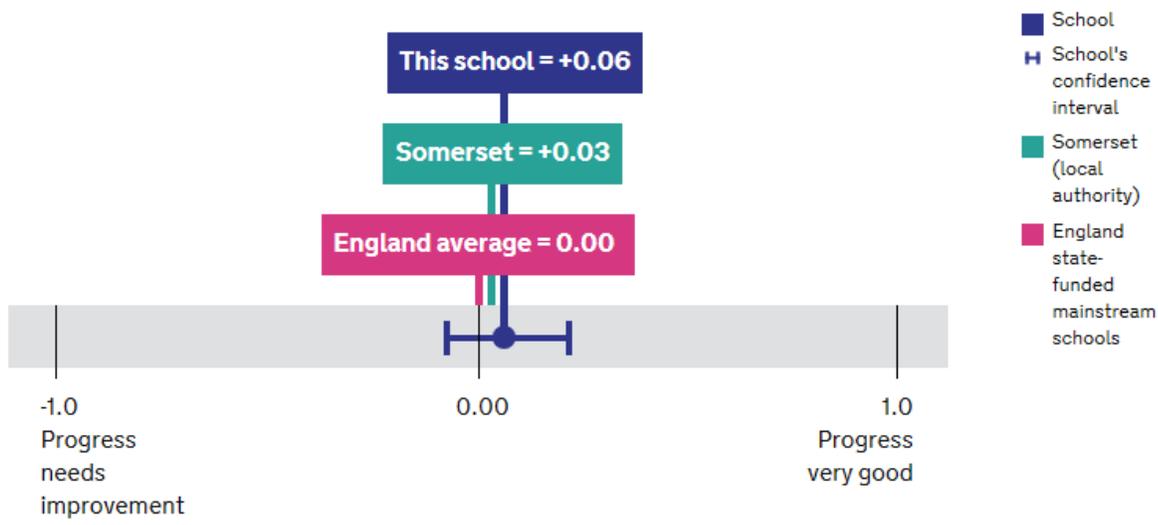


[View as table](#)

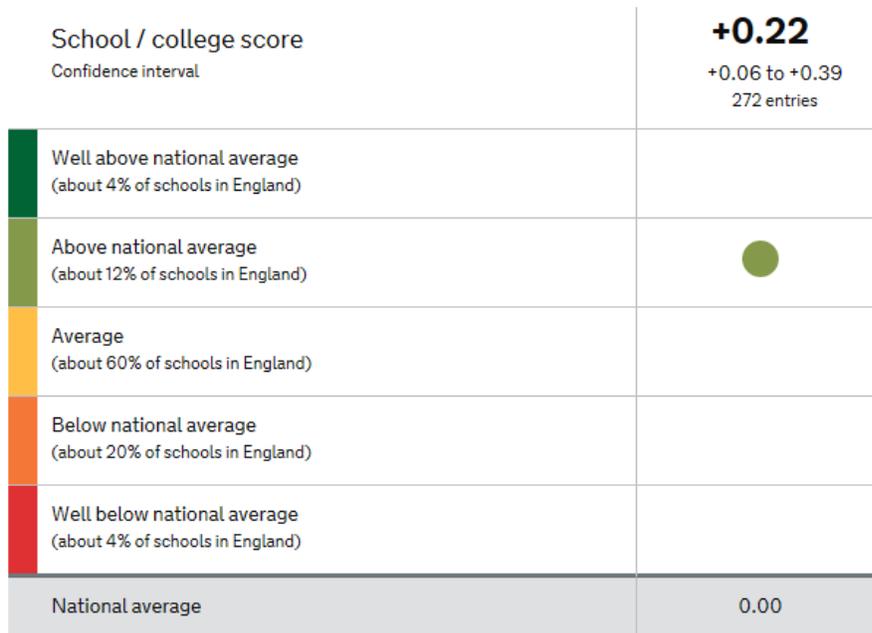
[▶ Additional chart](#)

- 5.23 Progress 8 Score (during Secondary) tells us how well pupils at the College have progressed between the end of primary school (key stage 2) and the end of secondary school (key stage 4), compared to pupils in other schools who received similar results at the end of primary school.
- 5.24 A school is above average if their Progress 8 score is above 0 and the whole confidence interval is above 0. Similarly, a school is below average if their Progress 8 score is below 0 and the whole confidence interval is below 0.

The chart below shows how the school compares on Progress 8 against the England and local authority averages:



## 5.25 A-Level Results for West Somerset College in 2016



### Average result

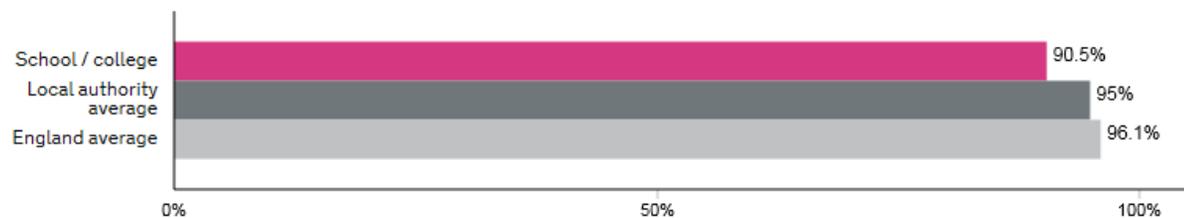
► [Show more info](#)

School / college	<b>C</b>	(29.21 points)
Number of Students	76	
Somerset average (Local Authority)	<b>C</b>	(30.32 points)
National Average	<b>C+</b>	(31.79 points)

### Percentage of students completing their main study programme

► [Show more info](#)

Number of students enrolled to study mainly A levels: 74



## 6 **Individual Schools Update**

### 6.1 **Dulverton Junior School/All Saints Infant School/ Exford First School (all part of the Exmoor Federation):**

6.2 Dulverton Middle School changed to a Junior School and All Saints changed from a First School to an Infant School in September 2016. Each school has its own substantive Head Teacher and is governed by one governing body. The Senior Leadership Team of the three schools meet weekly and work together on a continuous cycle of school improvement for all its stakeholders. The changes effective from September 2016 better reflect national standards and eliminate the three tier structure down to two. Dulverton Junior now takes pupils from age 7-11, with All Saints Infants taking pupils from 3-7. Exford still retains an Infant and Junior element, and its strategic development will be assessed by the Exford School Working Group, which has created its own roadmap and development documents separately to the Dulverton Schools.

### 6.3 **Exmoor Coast Federation (Cutcombe First School, Exford First School, Knights Templar First School, Timberscombe First School, St Dubricius First School, St Michaels First School, Dunster First School, Minehead First School and Minehead Middle School)**

6.4 This is a 'soft' Federation and the collaboration provides a number of benefits for the school which include: joint Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities for all staff, coaching, cross school observations, leadership development and support, shared policy development, SENCo guidance, transition events, joint trips/visits, enrichment activities such as Musical events and sporting events which ultimately raise outcomes and improve standards for our children.

### 6.5 **West Somerset College (part of the Bridgwater College MAT)**

6.6 West Somerset College has faced pressures in recent years, partly due to declining demographics in the area, which impacts on pupil numbers and thus subsequently funding due to the Government's funding formula, which disadvantages sparse areas. This has been looked at being redressed by the Government to devise a new formula, however the implementation of that has been delayed to at least 2018/19 by the incoming Education Secretary, Justine Greening with further consultation to follow.<sup>7</sup>

6.7 West Somerset College joined the Bridgwater College Multi-Academy Trust at the start of February 2016 after assurances were given to the MAT by the Education Funding Agency. The MAT had already been working with the College since the spring of 2015, at the request of the College's governing body and the Regional Commissioner for Schools with a focus on Leadership and School Improvement. The Trust inherited a deficit of £1.6 million pounds when it took over the management of the College, and this has led to them from September 2016 only offering classes where demand and class size make them viable to do so, offering a reduced set of choices for both pre and post 16 children. The school came out of special measures in May 2016.

6.8 The Farm Unit is also uncertain in the medium to longer term, with the Exmoor National

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<sup>7</sup> <http://schoolsweek.co.uk/national-funding-formula-delayed-to-2018/>

Park stepping in with some funding to keep it running until August. Peter Elliott, Chief Executive Officer of the Bridgwater College Trust has said: "The Bridgwater College Trust has been working with a series of partners, including Exmoor National Park, The Beach Hotel, Somerset Rural Youth, West Somerset Council, Shearwell data, Channel Training and Business Exmoor over the past few months. We have been working with these organisations to come up with a viable business proposal to make some changes to how the farm unit is used which will ensure the long term provision of this site as an educational facility for the people of West Somerset."<sup>8</sup>

**6.9 Danesfield Middle/St. Peter's First/Old Cleeve First/St Michael's/Minehead First/Minehead Middle (part of the West Somerset Academies MAT)**

6.10 These six schools are now part of the West Somerset Academies Trust as of April 2016. The six schools are located in Minehead, Williton and Watchet. They work with children from 3 to 13 years of age and most of the children progress to The West Somerset College in Minehead from their Middle Schools. They have one of the largest catchment areas in England stretching from Devon across the top of Exmoor and right up to the Quantock Hills.

**7 Governance in Multi Academy Trust**

7.1 There are currently 5758 Academies in England as of October 2016, with a further 1004 identified by the Government as in the pipeline to come into existence in the near future. This has gone up from January 2016 when it was 5096, and the previous Task and Finish Report when the number stood at 4404. The direction of travel in favour of Academies is clear, as seen by the absorption of West Somerset College into a MAT a local example, however the desire to convert all schools to Academy Status by 2020 has been shelved.

**Academies in trusts and size of trusts:**

Trust Size	Academies	% Academies	Trusts	% Trusts
N/A	89	1.5%	-	-
1	1,915	33.3%	1,915	70.8%
2	566	9.8%	283	10.5%
3--5	1,224	21.3%	335	12.4%
6--10	881	15.3%	121	4.5%
11--20	433	7.5%	32	1.2%
21--30	272	4.7%	11	0.3%
31--40	138	2.4%	4	0.1%

<sup>8</sup>[http://www.somersetcountygazette.co.uk/news/14839996.College\\_farm\\_unit\\_future\\_remains\\_uncertain\\_with\\_land\\_sale\\_looming/?ref=mmpg](http://www.somersetcountygazette.co.uk/news/14839996.College_farm_unit_future_remains_uncertain_with_land_sale_looming/?ref=mmpg)

41+	240	4.2%	5	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,758</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,706</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-academies-and-academy-projects-in-development>

7.2 A MAT is a single legal structure that is responsible for multiple Academies within it. One board of trustees/directors govern the MAT, but often there is delegation to local Academy level committees. All Academy Trusts have articles of association, the legal governing document that sets out the governance composition and procedures for the academy trust.

7.3 The MAT structure has been approved by the DfE as it offers the ability to intervene quickly and robustly when one school in the MAT is under performing. There are a number of ways in which governance can be conducted within a MAT, depending on the level of devolution that is required.

#### 7.4 Regulation

7.5 There is nothing in education legislation that prescribes how MATs must be composed. Academies are governed through their articles of association. The DfE's MAT model articles and memorandum contains information about trustees and how meetings are managed. The only prescriptions are as follows:-

- There must be at least three signatory members;
- The CEO is a trustee, unless they themselves choose not to be;
- There will be two elected parent trustees or representatives, either on the board of MAT or on each of the local governing bodies;
- The number of **trustees** that are Local Authority influenced cannot exceed 20%;
- The number of **members** that are Local Authority influenced cannot exceed 19.9%.

7.6 The relationship between the Trust and the Secretary of State for Education is set out in a legal document known as 'the funding agreement'. 'The funding agreement' and the Academies Financial Handbook are two key documents that all trustees need to be aware of. The Academies Financial Handbook sets out the related duties and obligations of academy trusts. Non-compliance with the funding agreement could lead to the Secretary of State rescinding the academy order. Governors must also provide an annual governance statement.

7.7 In a Multi-Academy Trust, a single trust is responsible for a number of academies. The MAT consists of the members and the trustees.

7.8 The 'Members' are akin to the shareholders of a company. They have ultimate control over the Academy Trust, with the ability to appoint some of the trustees and the right to amend the Trust's articles of association.

7.9 The Trustees are responsible for the same three core governance functions performed by the governing body in a maintained school:-

- Setting the direction;
- Holding the Head teacher to account; and
- Ensuring Financial Probity.

7.10 Trustees must comply with charity law requirements and company law requirements. The model articles state that the Chair of the Board of Trustees will also be a 'Member', ensuring a link between the two layers of governance. Whilst other trustees can also serve as Members, it is advised that the most effective governance models recognise the Members are responsible for holding the trustees to account, and a separation is desirable to achieve robust accountability.

7.11 Most MATs have some sort of local governance at individual Academy Level, the actual responsibility of these local committees differs hugely from one MAT to another. Some MATs have chosen to in effect have local governing bodies that function in much the same way to a maintained school governing body. Other MATs have avoided putting decision makers in at a local level, instead opting to set up a local advisory board whose role is to inform the central board of the performance and issues at the local academy level. The delegation of governance functions is entirely at the discretion of the trustees, for instance, they could delegate all functions to academies in the chain that are performing well but choose not to with those academies in need of greater support.

## 8 **Educational Attainment SCC – Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families**

8.1 On the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016, SCC's Committee looked at Results and Attainment at Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 on their agenda. The report provided their members with an update on actions taken as a result of assessment outcomes in 2015 in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EFYS), KS1, KS2, GCSE and A Levels. It was recognised by the Strategic Commissioning Manager, Education Outcomes that there are some fundamental issues that need to be addressed across all sectors, from early years to post-16. County Councillors were informed that limited resources were being targeted through Somerset Education Partners (SEPs) and teaching schools. 2016 would see the start of a new tougher national assessment approach in Years Two and Six. Somerset was stated as being the most improved rural county with good GCSE and A level results. Officers agreed to provide a written response on the issues around lacking a University town.

8.2 On the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016, the feedback was given from the Somerset Education Strategic Vision Consultation. Members heard that there was a plan for a clearly articulated vision for Somerset to be the most forward looking area in England for education and learning so Somerset would be the best place for children and young people to grow up, learn, develop and achieve. It was explained that there had been a good and on-going dialogue with schools and early year settings across Somerset. Regarding the way forward it was noted that 25 out of the 29 secondary schools that were academies had agreed in principle with the proposed way forward. Members were encouraged by the direction of travel and the commitment to continue to consult with young people as service users.

8.3 The Committee considered School Performance for 2016 at their meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017, and in their draft minutes as follows;

8.4 It was reported that Schools either as academies or as maintained schools have increasing autonomy and the Council worked in partnership with all schools to maximise this autonomy and to increase school effectiveness. Following the development of the strategic vision 'Achieving Excellence for All' the Council has put in place a number of key activities to support areas for improvement. Overall it was stated that between 94-95% of Somerset Schools were good or outstanding however when compared to the national average (NA) figures or statistical neighbours (SN) Somerset's performance was average and this was a recurring theme. Vulnerable groups were still not performing as well as their peers although students with English as an additional language and Black and Minority ethnic groups had performed better than in previous years. The achievement gap for those in receipt of Free School Meals and their peers had increased. There was a question about male/female performance and it was noted that Somerset was still better than NA and SN in terms of the difference in performance between boys and girls. Members considered and discussed the performance at the various key stages with consideration to also given to higher education and A level results and how children in care at the virtual school had performed. The Chairman sought and received reassurance the gaps between the most vulnerable groups and their peers remained an urgent priority. It was explained that Schools were very aware of this and the focus was to support School improvement through the Somerset Education Partner programme to enable more focus and support for those schools struggling to close the gaps. The report was accepted.

## 9 **Funding Issues/Pupil Numbers**

- 9.1 Proposals under the former Education Secretary were looking at addressing the historic disparities in School funding which are currently in place, which is generally seen to disadvantage rural schools, and can lead to disparities such as one school with the same number of pupils in a different area of the country to another receiving 50 percent less in funding. The implementation of that has been delayed to at least 2018/19 by the incoming Education Secretary, Justine Greening with further consultation to follow.
- 9.2 The average amount of per pupil school funding individual local authorities in England receive from the Government each year varies considerably. Funding is distributed onwards to schools using local funding formulas, which give different weights to different factors, meaning that different schools, even within the same area, receive different levels of per pupil funding. Critics argue that these disparities are unfair, and that funding should more closely reflect area, school and pupil characteristics.<sup>9</sup>
- 9.3 The Coalition Government began reforms, holding a number of consultations and allocating some additional funding to the 'least fairly funded' areas. However, they stopped short of introducing a national funding formula.
- 9.4 In March 2016 then-Education Secretary Nicky Morgan announced the first of two major consultations on further funding reform. This proposed a national school funding formula to include a basic per-pupil amount, and factors reflecting pupil characteristics, school and areas costs. The second stage of consultation is underway currently. The first stage established the principles and structure, with the second the detailed design. The second stage ended on 22 March 2017 and the Government is currently analysing feedback.

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<sup>9</sup> <http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN06702/SN06702.pdf>

## 10 **Social Mobility Commission Report:**

- 10.1 England's geography of disadvantage has been mapped out in the country's first Social Mobility Index. This was published on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016, and is the first piece of research to examine social mobility in detail at an individual local area level. It shows coastal areas like the area around Minehead are becoming entrenched social mobility cold spots. The index compares the chances that a child from a disadvantaged background will do well at school and get a good job across each of the 324 local authority district areas of England. It examined a range of social mobility indicators covering the educational outcomes of disadvantaged young people – in the early years, at school and college and in higher education as well as in jobs and housing. The study focused on children whose families qualify for free school meals, and then ranked every single local authority on access to good education from pre to higher.<sup>10</sup>
- 10.2 The index looked at to what extent do people up and down the country have the 'same shot' at achieving good outcomes? The aim of the Social Mobility Index was to help inform national and local policymakers and to encourage action in tackling "social mobility cold spots" – where outcomes are relatively bad - drawing on the successes of social mobility hot spots where they are relatively good.
- 10.3 The report looked firstly at the educational attainment of those from poorer backgrounds in each local area – from the early years, through primary and secondary school, to post-16 outcomes and higher education participation. This reflects the academic literature that suggests that this is the most important driver of a child's life chances.
- 10.4 Secondly, the report looked at outcomes achieved by adults in the area – average income, prevalence of low paid work, availability of professional jobs, home ownership and the affordability of housing. This measures the prospects that people have of converting good educational attainment into good adulthood outcomes.
- 10.5 West Somerset is in Performance Zone 4 – Weak across the Board. A large number of social mobility cold spots are formerly prosperous seaside resorts built on a booming tourist trade which have struggled in the last few decades due to increased competition from Mediterranean resorts associated with cheaper air travel and a change in tastes away from the traditional British seaside holiday. These disadvantages are accentuated by poor transport links to England's main urban centres. Blackpool, Lowestoft (Waveney), Scarborough, Great Yarmouth, Huntstanton (Kings Lynn and West Norfolk) and Minehead (West Somerset) are all among the lowest performing 10 per cent of areas. Many of these areas combine bad educational outcomes for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds with weak labour markets which have a greater share of low skilled, low paid employment than elsewhere in the UK.
- 10.6 One of the recommendation from the Commission is to launch Social Mobility Measures: Government should demonstrate its commitment to narrowing the attainment gap by launching a new set of social mobility measures at a national, local authority and school level and should increase transparency on destinations.<sup>11</sup> The recent announcements of funding availability for six of the 'cold spots' is proof of Government desire to address

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/social-mobility-index>

<sup>11</sup> [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/545819/Schools\\_factsheet.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/545819/Schools_factsheet.pdf)

the recommendations of the Report.

## 11 **Links to Corporate Aims / Priorities**

11.1 The priorities of the Council have now been laid out in their Corporate Plan for 2016/2020, and they include some key themes that directly relate to the education and wellbeing of young people in our District and so are relevant to this report:

11.2 Key Theme 2 section c: 'Work with stakeholders to improve the skills, knowledge and aspirations of young people in particular.'<sup>12</sup>

11.3 Key Theme 1 section b: The retention of young people – West Somerset experiences a net migration of young people which impacts negatively on the sustainability, balance and vibrancy of some of our communities.<sup>13</sup>

11.4 Key Theme 4 section d: 'Work more closely with the County, Town and Parish Councils to achieve mutually desired outcomes for the community.'<sup>14</sup>

## 12 **Finance / Resource Implications**

12.1 None related to this for information report.

## 13 **Legal Implications** (if any)

13.1 None related to this for information report.

## 14 **Environmental Impact Implications** (if any)

14.1 None related to this for information report.

## 15 **Safeguarding and/or Community Safety Implications** (if any)

15.1 None related to this for information report.

## 16 **Equality and Diversity Implications** (if any)

16.1 None related to this for information report.

## 17 **Social Value Implications** (if any)

17.1 None related to this for information report.

## 18 **Partnership Implications** (if any)

18.1 None related to this for information report.

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<sup>12</sup> Corporate Strategy 2016-2020, p. 7, <http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/getattachment/Council---Democracy/About-Your-Council/Corporate-Priorities/Corporate-Strategy-2016-20.pdf.aspx>

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., p.6

<sup>14</sup> Corporate Strategy 2016-2020, p. 9, <http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/getattachment/Council---Democracy/About-Your-Council/Corporate-Priorities/Corporate-Strategy-2016-20.pdf.aspx>

19 **Health and Wellbeing Implications** (if any)

19.1 None related to this for information report.

20 **Asset Management Implications** (if any)

20.1 None related to this for information report.

21 **Consultation Implications** (if any)

21.1 None related to this for information report.

22 **Scrutiny Comments / Recommendation(s)** (if any)

22.1 None related to this for information report.

**Democratic Path:**

- **Scrutiny – Yes**
- **Cabinet/Executive – No**
- **Full Council – No**

Reporting Frequency :  Once only  Ad-hoc  Quarterly  
 Twice-yearly  Annually

**List of Appendices (delete if not applicable)**

Appendix A	Further Data on Schools
Appendix B	SCC Report to Policies, Children and Families on School Performance in 2016
Appendix C	

**Contact Officers**

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## Appendix A

### Updated Review of Education in West Somerset

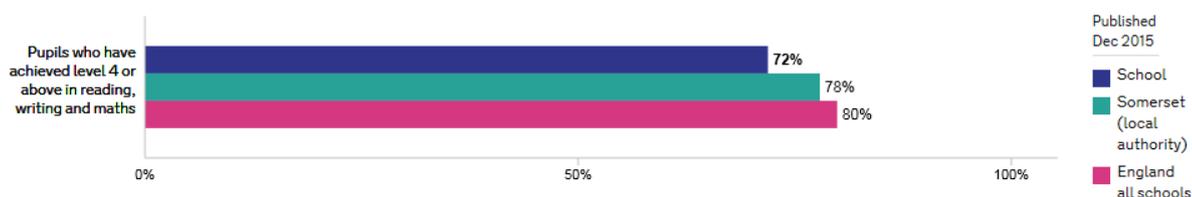
#### Individual Schools Update

- **Dulverton Junior School/All Saints Infant School/ Exford First School (all part of the Exmoor Federation):**
- Dulverton Junior School was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in July 2013, and was published in September 2013.

#### Dulverton Junior School

##### Key stage 2 achievement

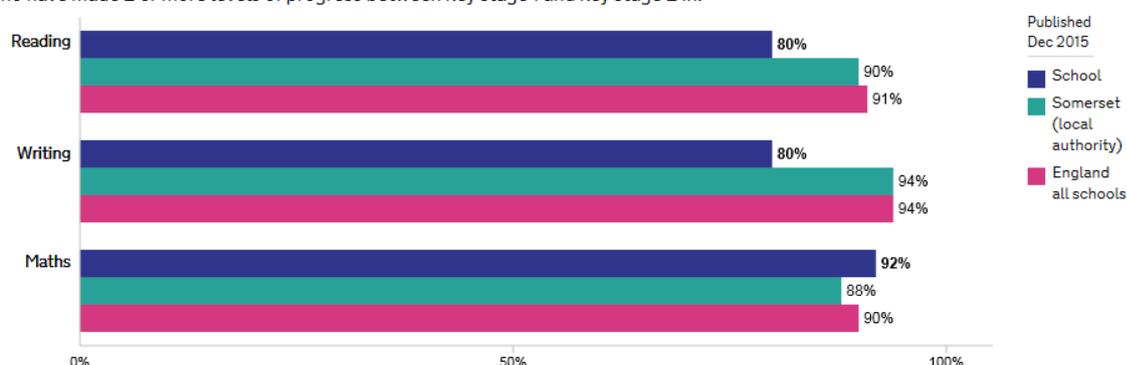
[▶ more info](#)



[View as table](#)

##### Pupil progress since key stage 1

Pupils who have made 2 or more levels of progress between key stage 1 and key stage 2 in:



- All Saints CofE Infant School has recently been rated “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report.<sup>1</sup>
- Exford First School was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in July 2013, and was published in September 2013.

<sup>1</sup>

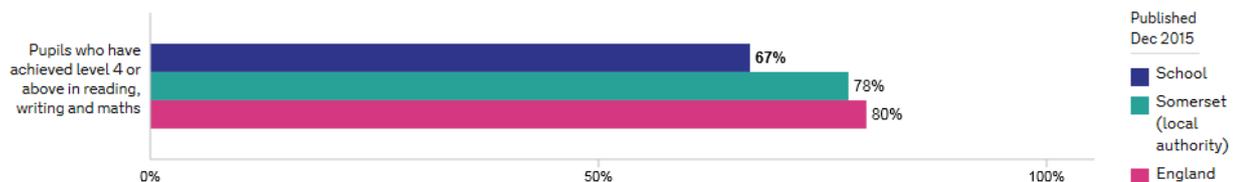
<http://www.somersetcountygazette.co.uk/news/14905247>. Good news from Ofsted for Dulverton school/

- **Exmoor Coast Federation (Cutcombe First School, Exford First School, Knights Templar First School, Timberscombe First School, St Dubricius First School, St Michaels First School, Dunster First School, Minehead First School and Minehead Middle School)**
- Cutcombe First School was rated as “Outstanding” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in December 2008, and was published in January 2009.
- Knights Templar First School was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in June 2012, and was published in July 2012.
- Timberscombe First School was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in June 2013, and was published in July 2013.
- St. Dubricius First School was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in May 2013, and was published in June 2013.
- St. Michael’s First School was rated as “Good” in its last Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in June 2013, and was published in July 2013.
- Dunster First School was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in September 2014, and was published in October 2014.
- Minehead First School was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in March 2012.
- Minehead Middle School was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place and was published in March 2014.

## Minehead Middle School

### Key stage 2 achievement

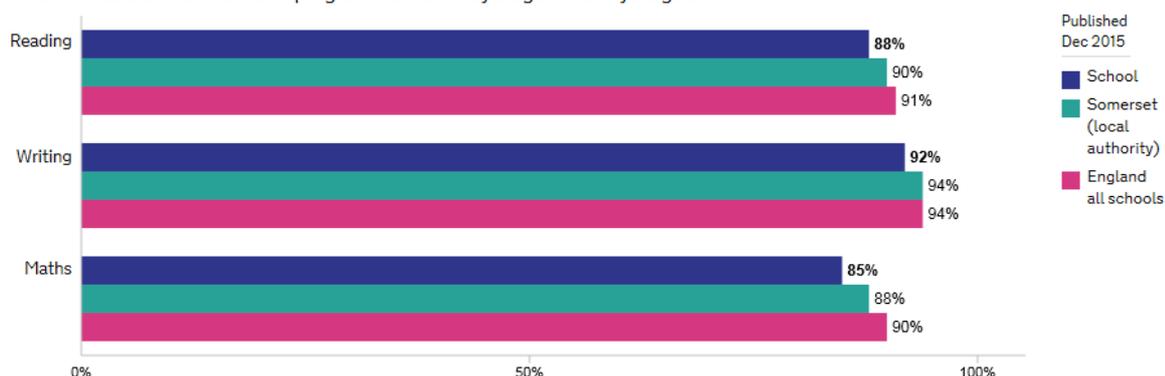
[▶ more info](#)



[View as table](#)

### Pupil progress since key stage 1

Pupils who have made 2 or more levels of progress between key stage 1 and key stage 2 in:



## West Somerset College (part of the Bridgwater College MAT)

- West Somerset College was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016, and was published on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016. This is a positive improvement considering it was issues at the College which instigated the original Task and Finish investigation. The school has 875 pupils on its register, out of a capacity of 1500. It is a sponsored academy. The arrangements for the governance of the college changed when it joined Bridgwater College Trust. Overall responsibility now lies with the Bridgwater College Trust Board. A local governing body has responsibility for most aspects of the college’s work, other than currently for finance.

The Absence figures for the College are as follows:

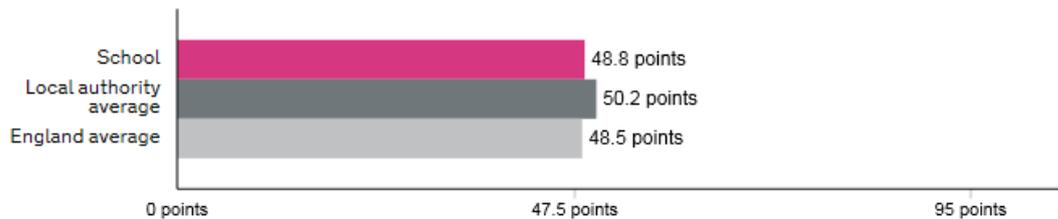
- Overall Absence: School = 7.6% National = 5.3%
- Persistent Absence: School = 11.7% National = 5.4%

## Secondary 2016 results:

### West Somerset College

#### Attainment 8 score

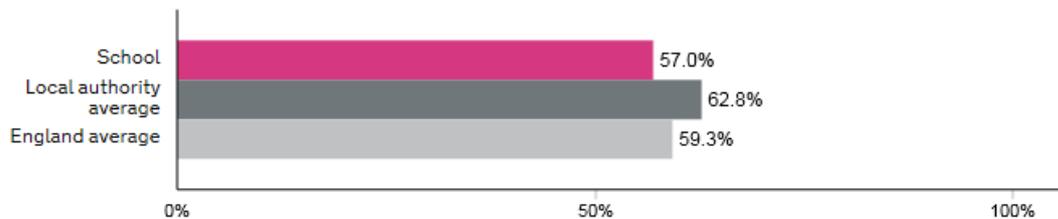
[▶ Show more info](#)



[View as table](#)

#### Pupils achieving Grade C or better in English and maths GCSEs

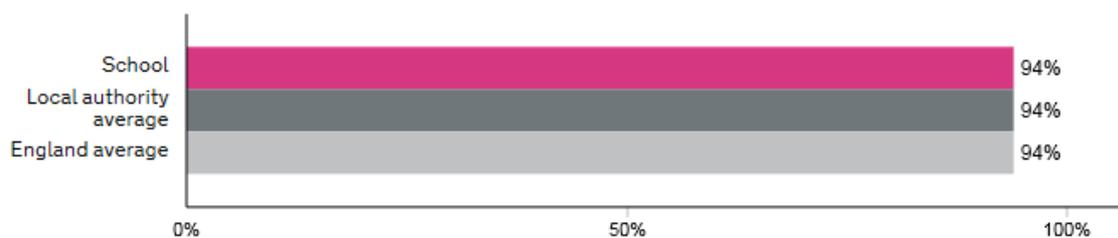
[▶ Show more info](#)



[View as table](#)

#### Pupil destinations - pupils staying in education or going into employment

This measures the number of pupils who either stayed in education or went into employment after year 11 (after key stage 4). The data published in October 2016 is for pupils who finished year 11 in 2014, which is the most recent data currently available.



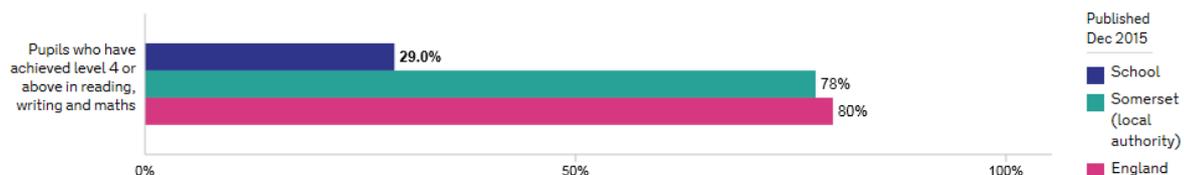
## Danesfield Middle/St. Peter's First/Old Cleeve First/St Michael's/Minehead First/Minehead Middle (part of the West Somerset Academies MAT)

- Danesfield Middle School was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in September 2011.

### Danesfield Middle School

#### Key stage 2 achievement

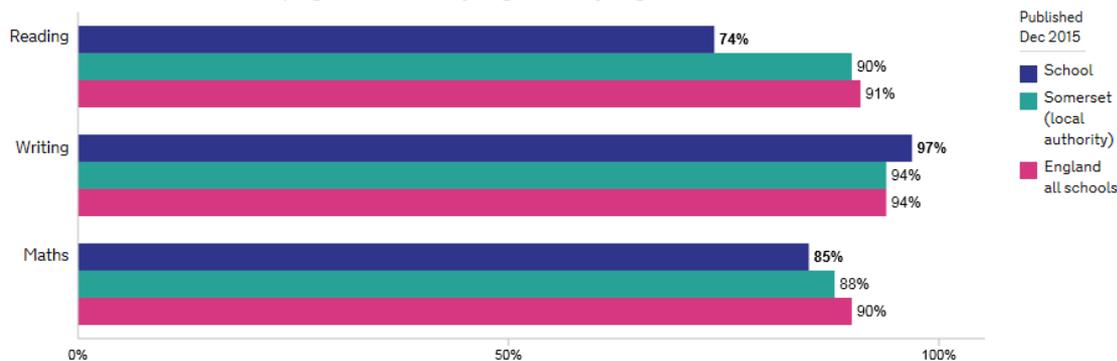
[▶ more info](#)



[View as table](#)

#### Pupil progress since key stage 1

Pupils who have made 2 or more levels of progress between key stage 1 and key stage 2 in:



- St. Peter's First School was rated as “Good” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in January 2011.
- Old Cleeve First School was rated as “Outstanding” in its latest Ofsted Inspection Report, which took place in January 2011.

### Governance in Multi Academy Trust

- All Academies are charitable companies limited by guarantee. There is no legal difference between sponsored and non-sponsored Academy Trusts. Sponsored Academies are usually those that are not performing well and need support to improve pupil attainment. This can take the form of a school joining an established MAT or linking with another school or schools to create one. The vast majority of sponsored academy groups are MATs and in a sponsored situation are likely to have less delegation to the local level.
- As a large number of schools have moved into group arrangements, with a significant majority of these being MATs, these raise important questions around governance. MATS that are set up with clear effective

structures, some believe it can offer the same rewards as Local Authority maintained Federations, such as comparing schools results, financial efficiencies, and offering development opportunities for staff.

- As an Academy is set up as a company but also as an exempt charity, there will be directors (who are also the charitable trustees) and members of the Trust. In MATs there is also an additional layer of a local governing body. The board of directors will agree what decision making powers are passed to these local governing bodies or councils, typically through a written document called a scheme of delegation/terms of reference. The board retains ultimate accountability for each Academy within the MAT.
- The members of the Academy Trust are, at least initially, the persons who signed the memorandum of understanding at conversion. In reality, it is assumed they will rarely meet, perhaps once a year to approve auditors and accounts. Directors and charitable trustees are terms that can be interchanged as they will refer to the same persons; in a MAT this would be people appointed to the main board.
- For some schools, a MAT model has enabled them to remain local but also to grow and expand, and support a wider network of schools. Equally, the MAT model offers a school the potential to retain its unique characteristics and maintain its own local governing body; it also offers head teachers a high degree of autonomy in leading their schools, whilst giving them the freedom to focus on teaching and learning. It has also been affirmed for offering a school to retain its unique characteristics by allowing for the maintenance of its own governing body, and offering head teachers more autonomy over leading their schools, giving them the freedom to focus on teaching and learning.
- MAT Model perceived benefits include sharing best practice, economic benefits, such as centralised services, the ability to focus funds where they are most needed, increased and flexible staffing resources, remain local but also grow and expand, the opportunity to establish succession planning programmes and, in doing so, retain good staff who might otherwise move on – including head teachers.<sup>2</sup>

### **Funding Issues/Pupil Numbers**

- The Government intends that most funding – with the exception of high need funding – will eventually be given directly to schools and not routed through local authorities, as now (in the case of maintained schools). An extra £390 million in 2015-16 was promised to the ‘least fairly funded’ local authorities.
- ‘High need’ funding largely supports special educational provision. For this funding, the Government is also proposing the introduction of a

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/458632/governance-in-multi-academy-trusts\\_Sept2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/458632/governance-in-multi-academy-trusts_Sept2015.pdf)

national formula which will be used to allocate money to local authorities. However, for at least the next five years, funding allocations would continue to be calculated, in part, on the basis of LAs' planned high needs spend in 2016-17 and not solely on assessed area needs, in order to ensure stability.

- In 2015 Government stated that savings of around £600 million would be made from the Education Services Grant (ESG). This is additional funding given to academies and local authorities for services such as human resources, school improvement and education welfare services.
- The Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) estimated in April 2016 that there would be at least a 7% real terms reduction in per-pupil spending between 2015-16 and 2019-20.
- **Funding Formula Proposals:**
  - To provide up to 3% per pupil increases in 2018-19 for schools due to gain under the formula, and up to 2.5% increases in 2019-20;
  - To include a floor in our schools formula that will limit the overall reduction to any individual school's budget as a result of the introduction of this national funding formula to 3% per pupil; and
  - That the MFG for schools of minus 1.5% per pupil year on year will continue - limiting annual reductions to manageable levels.
- For high needs we propose:
  - To provide up to 3% increases in 2018-19 and 2019-20 respectively for local authorities due to gain under the formula; and
  - That there will be no cash losses to local authorities as a result of the high needs formula.
- For central school services we propose:
  - to allow local authorities increases of up to 2.4% in 2018-19; and 8
  - That no local authority will lose more than 2.5% of its per pupil funding in either 2018-19 or 2019-20.<sup>3</sup>

1.1 West Somerset was ranked 324<sup>th</sup> Overall, but the breakdown across the four age groups was thus:

- **Overall – 324 out of 324**
- **Early Years – 323 out of 324**
- **Schools – 212 out of 324**
- **Youth – 71 out of 324**

<sup>3</sup> <https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/>

- **Adulthood – 324 out of 324**

### **Social Mobility Commission Report:**

The measurement used to determine the score for Early Years was:

- The percentage of nursery providers rated 'Outstanding' or 'Good' by Ofsted; **(86.1% for WS)**
- The percentage of disadvantaged children achieving a good level of development at the Early Years Foundation Stage; **(20% for WS)**

1.2 The measurements used to determine the score for Schools was:

- the % of children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) attending a Primary School or Secondary School rating 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. **(89.8% for Primary Schools in WS, 57% for Secondary)**
- Also measured was the percentage of children eligible for FSM achieving at least a level 4 in reading, writing and maths at the end of KS2, **(59.5% for WS)**
- And percentage of children eligible for FSM achieving 5 good GCSE's including Maths and English. **(23.4% for WS)**

1.3 The measurements used to determine the score for Youth were:

- % of young people eligible for FSM that are not in education, employment or training one year after completing their GCSEs **(18% for WS)**
- The Average Points Score per entry for young people eligible for FSM at age 15 taking A-Level or equivalents. **(222 for WS)**
- Also measured was the percentage of young people eligible for FSM at age 15 achieving 2 or more A-Levels or equivalent qualifications by the age of 19. **(33.3% for WS)**
- Also the percentage of those 15 year olds eligible for FSM entering Higher Education (Degree) by the age of 19. **(13% for WS)**
- Also measured is the percentage of those 15 year olds eligible for FSM entering higher education at a 'selective' University by age 19. (Defined as most selective third by UCAS tariff scores). **(5% for WS)**

1.4 The measurements used to determine the score for Adults was the:

- Median weekly salary of employees in Local Authority. **(£287 for WS)**
- Average house prices compared to median Annual Salary of Employees. **(13.4 for WS)**
- Percentage of people in Local Area who are in Managerial and

- Professional Occupations (SOC 1 or SOC 2) = **(N/A for WS)**
- Percentage of Jobs that are paid less than the Living Wage. **(41.9% for WS)**
  - Percentage of Families with Children who own their own home. **(51.6% for WS).**

## Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme 2016/17

April	June	August	October	December	<b>TBC</b>
Notes of any Key Cabinet Decisions / Action Points.	Notes of any Key Cabinet Decisions / Action Points.	Notes of any Key Cabinet Decisions / Action Points.	Notes of any Key Cabinet Decisions / Action Points.	Notes of any Key Cabinet Decisions / Action Points.	West Somerset Opportunity Area Draft Plan – Ec. Development
Corporate Plan Update – R. Doyle	Q4 Performance Report – R. Doyle				Health Services Review - CCG
Public Toilet Transfers – C. Hall	Outturn Report – J. Nacey				Somerset Waste Joint Scrutiny Feedback –
Education Update – M. Prouse					Steam Coast Trail Project Review -
Health Proposals – M. Prouse					Parking Strategy Overview – C. Hall