
CABINET SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

11 February 2019
(Published on 12 February 2019)

NOTE:

In accordance with the Scrutiny Procedure Rules in the Council's Constitution, all decisions listed below (unless stated otherwise) are subject to call-in for consideration within 5 working days of the publication of this Summary of Decisions.

A request for call-in in respect of any of the decisions listed below must therefore be received **NO LATER THAN 5.00 P.M. on the TUESDAY following the meeting**. Each call-in must specify what is being called-in, why it is being called-in, if the implementation of the decision should be delayed until the scrutiny process is complete, and the preferred outcome.

Item No.	Title
5	Quarter 3 Performance Report
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>The Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Considered and commented on the information contained within this report.2. Considered the proposed management actions already in place are adequate to improve performance to the desired level.3. Agreed this report and any appendices as the latest position for Somerset County Council against its Council Vision. <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report</p>
6	Revenue Budget Monitoring Update - Quarter 3 2081/19
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>The Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Noted the projected revenue budget outturn position for 2018/19 (being an underspend of £1.067m), the current Aged Debt Analysis, the position regarding reserves and the projected delivery of the

Item No.	Title
	<p>Medium Term Financial Plan savings.</p> <p>2. Approved one-off use of £1.382m from the corporate contingency as set out above in the summary section and in paragraphs 3.20 and 3.44.</p> <p>3. Noted the plans to improve the Councils financial resilience by increasing the General Fund balance from £7.796m to £11.637m.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report</p>
7	Capital Investment Programme update - Quarter 3 2018/19
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the contents of this report.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report</p>
8	Report of the Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee on Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the recommendations of the Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee and agreed:</p> <p>1. In partnership with other stakeholders including Group Leaders and Somerset MP's, that the Council takes a leading role in proactively lobbying central government about the urgent need for sustainable long-term funding for adult social care in Somerset.</p> <p>2. That the Cabinet is aware of the future risk to adult social care funding, particularly the future capacity to deliver further savings and the impact this will have on preventative services.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report</p>
9	Medium Term Financial Plan 2019-22 and Annual Budget 2019/20
	DECISION

Item No.	Title
	<p>The Cabinet agreed all of the following recommendations and also recommended these recommendations to Full Council for approval to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree a gross revenue budget of <u>£780.181m</u> and a net revenue budget in 2019/20 of <u>£327.967m</u> 2. Agree the application of up to <u>£2.791m</u> in 2019/20 of capital receipts to fund the revenue costs associated with reforming services, subject to further development and review of business cases. 3. Delegate authority to the S151 Officer, in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Director for Corporate Affairs to review all business cases before agreeing to the use of capital receipts or the Invest to Save reserve. 4. Agree the replenishment of depleted reserves as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Create Invest to Save earmarked reserve of £2.852m to ensure resources are available to support further service reform; b. Addition of £2.000m to the General Fund, from the base budget provision, to bring the balance up towards a reasonable level for a Council of this size, and; c. Contribute an additional <u>£3.389m</u> to repay the Buildings Maintenance Insurance Scheme (BMIS) and Repairs & Maintenance Fund deficit reserves as the schemes have now ended; d. Addition of <u>£0.540m</u> to the Insurance Fund to partially replenish the fund to enable it to support likely claims against the Council. 5. Agree the actions required to manage the gap to be reduced to £15.112m in 2019/20: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the reversal of previously identified savings and technical adjustments totalling £18.154m as set out in paragraph 4.5 and Appendix A • approve the revised Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) statement and policy (Appendix B), which delivers a saving in 2019/20 of £3.714m; • the reduction of the corporate contingency by £0.575m to £7.226m for 2019/20; • the use of the additional one-off Adult Social Care grant of £2.498m to meet the requirements set out by Government for this grant; • the use of the additional one-off Social Care grant of £4.267m for social care pressures, and; • approve the removal of the staff unpaid leave saving of £0.454m following rejection of the proposal by the Unions. 6. Consider the proposed treatment of the minor funding changes following receipt of the Final Financial Settlement received on 29

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	<p>January 2019 and the potential use of these additional resources as set out in Table 2 of this report.</p> <p>7. Agree the proposals for change (as set out in Appendices D and E1-E5 – subject to any amendments agreed by recommendation 6 above) necessary to set a balanced budget for 2019/20, totalling £8.512m, and delegated the implementation to the relevant director(s) following due process.</p> <p>8. Agree that due regards have been taken to any equalities implications identified and risk implications prior to any decision being taken in relation to the recommendations in this report, noting the initial equalities impacts as set out in Appendix C.</p> <p>9. Agree that the savings target relating to Waste Disposal costs (£225k) is endorsed to the Somerset Waste Board to consider agreeing to make savings to this value as part of setting its 2019/20 budget.</p> <p>10. Agree the Strategy for the Flexible use of Capital Receipts (CRF) as set out in this report, in section 4.40.</p> <p>11. Agree to keep the Scheme of Members' Allowances unchanged for 2019/20.</p> <p>12. Note that the Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Resources, Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer will oversee and monitor the delivery of the proposals for change and report on progress as part of the budget monitoring reports.</p> <p>13. Delegate authority for the development of any additional alternative proposals for change that may be necessary to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and relevant Director(s).</p> <p>14. Agree that the Cabinet and the Council have reviewed and confirmed that account has been taken of the Section 151 Officer's assessment of the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves as set out in section 6 of this report.</p> <p>15. Agree the Reserves and Balances Policy Statement in Appendix K</p> <p>16. Agree to increase the level of the general Council Tax by 2.99%, which will provide a further <u>£7.073m</u> to support the Councils expenditure.</p> <p>17. Agree to increase Council Tax by a further 1% for the adult social care precept, which will provide a further <u>£2.365m</u> to support the growth in demand for services.</p> <p>18. Agree to continue the Council Tax precept of £12.84 within the base budget for the shadow Somerset Rivers Authority (representing no increase). This results in a Council Tax Requirement of <u>£2.547m</u></p>

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	<p data-bbox="268 174 1353 280">19. Agree to set the County Council precept for band D Council Tax at £1,239.73 which represents a 3.99% uplift. This is a rise of £0.91 per week for a Band D property, as set out in Appendix H.</p> <p data-bbox="268 324 1401 430">20. Note that the amount of council tax payable for dwellings listed by valuation band, calculated in accordance with the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Local Government Act 1992, shall be as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="386 465 778 878"> <thead> <tr> <th>Valuation Band</th> <th>Amount (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>A</td><td>826.48</td></tr> <tr><td>B</td><td>964.23</td></tr> <tr><td>C</td><td>1,101.98</td></tr> <tr><td>D</td><td>1,239.73</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>1,515.23</td></tr> <tr><td>F</td><td>1,790.72</td></tr> <tr><td>G</td><td>2,066.22</td></tr> <tr><td>H</td><td>2,479.46</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="268 918 1353 1064">21. Agree that the district councils are requested to make payments totalling <u>£245.955m</u> to Somerset County Council of sums due under precepts calculated in proportion to their council tax Band D equivalents as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="454 1102 1236 1438"> <thead> <tr> <th>District</th> <th>Total Precept (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Mendip District Council</td><td>50,204,179.15</td></tr> <tr><td>Sedgemoor District Council</td><td>50,839,974.83</td></tr> <tr><td>South Somerset District Council</td><td>74,713,671.47</td></tr> <tr><td>Somerset West & Taunton</td><td>70,196,974.55</td></tr> <tr><td>Total</td><td>245,954,800.00</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="268 1505 1423 1579">22. Note that the district councils are required to make payments of precept by equal instalments of the above sums on the following dates:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="386 1612 1204 1841"> <tbody> <tr><td>18</td><td>April</td><td>2019</td><td>18</td><td>October</td><td>2019</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>May</td><td>2019</td><td>18</td><td>November</td><td>2019</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>June</td><td>2019</td><td>17</td><td>December</td><td>2019</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>July</td><td>2019</td><td>20</td><td>January</td><td>2020</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>August</td><td>2019</td><td>18</td><td>February</td><td>2020</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>September</td><td>2019</td><td>18</td><td>March</td><td>2020</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="268 1881 1417 1989">23. Additionally, note that payments be made by the district councils (or to them) in respect of the estimated surplus/(deficit) on their collection funds by the 31 March 2019*</p>	Valuation Band	Amount (£)	A	826.48	B	964.23	C	1,101.98	D	1,239.73	E	1,515.23	F	1,790.72	G	2,066.22	H	2,479.46	District	Total Precept (£)	Mendip District Council	50,204,179.15	Sedgemoor District Council	50,839,974.83	South Somerset District Council	74,713,671.47	Somerset West & Taunton	70,196,974.55	Total	245,954,800.00	18	April	2019	18	October	2019	22	May	2019	18	November	2019	21	June	2019	17	December	2019	22	July	2019	20	January	2020	20	August	2019	18	February	2020	19	September	2019	18	March	2020
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	<p>*although the final value of both the Council Tax and Business Rates collection fund surplus/(deficit) have yet to be confirmed by districts, the Council has estimated a surplus of £3.000m for the council tax collection fund and a break-even (£nil) position for the business rates. <u>Late changes to the funding levels for the Council are proposed to be reflected as set out elsewhere in this addendum.</u></p> <p>24. Agree to maintain the Council Tax rate set above after the Final Local Government Settlement.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report</p>
10	Capital Strategy 2019-22 (Investment Strategy)
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Cabinet agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To recommended the Capital Strategy 2019/20-2021/22, and the prudential indicators contained within, to the Council for consideration and approval at their meeting on 20 February 2019 (as set out in Appendix 1). 2. to recommend to Full Council to delegate authority to the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader, Deputy Leader, Opposition Spokesperson for Resources, Monitoring Officer and County Solicitor, to design the governance arrangements and remit of the non-treasury investments for recommendation to, and approval by, the Cabinet and the Council before the end of July 2019. <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report</p>
11	Treasury Management Strategy 2019/20
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>The Cabinet endorsed the following recommendations and recommended approval by Council on 20th February 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To adopt the Treasury Borrowing Strategy (as shown in Section 2 of the report). • To approve the Treasury Investment Strategy (as shown in Section 3 of the report) and proposed Lending Counterparty Criteria (attached at Appendix B to the report).

Item No.	Title
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To adopt the Prudential Treasury Indicators in section 4. <p>The Cabinet noted the current Treasury Management Practices (TMPs) attached at Appendix D to the report.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report</p>
12	CAF 14b Proposals for the alteration and / or reduction of early help services provided to the children and thier families - getset
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>The Cabinet agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposals set out in Appendix 1 to improve Somerset’s early help approach. • The delegation of the award of the commissioning/grant fund to the Director of Children’s Services. • The submission of a business case for support from the Invest to Save fund, or Capital Receipts Flexibilities as determined by the Director of Finance, in June 2019, enabling development work of the electronic early help module to support partners in delivering early help. • The delegation of the approval of business cases to the Director of Children’s Services and Director of Corporate Affairs for the implementation of the electronic early help module (See Appendix 1 Section 2). <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report</p>