

# Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee

Wednesday 6 March 2019

10.00 am Council Chamber, Shire Hall,  
Taunton



To: The Members of the Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee

Cllr A Groskop (Chair), Cllr M Lewis (Vice-Chair), Cllr P Ham, Cllr B Filmer, Cllr John Hunt, Cllr L Leyshon, Cllr N Bloomfield and Cllr M Keating

All Somerset County Council Members are invited to attend meetings of the Cabinet and Scrutiny Committees.

Issued By Julian Gale, Strategic Manager - Governance and Risk - 26 February 2019

For further information about the meeting, please contact Lindsey Tawse on 01823 355059, ltawse@somerset.gov.uk or Jamie Jackson on 01823 359040, jajackson@somerset.gov.uk

Guidance about procedures at the meeting follows the printed agenda.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

This agenda and the attached reports and background papers are available on request prior to the meeting in large print, Braille, audio tape & disc and can be translated into different languages. They can also be accessed via the council's website on [www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers)



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# AGENDA

Item Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee - 10.00 am Wednesday 6 March 2019

**\*\*Public Guidance notes contained in agenda annexe\*\***

1 **Apologies for absence**

2 **Declarations of Interest**

Details of all Members' interests in District, Town and Parish Councils will be displayed in the meeting room. The Statutory Register of Member's Interests can be inspected via the Community Governance team.

3 **Minutes from the previous meeting held on 23 January 2019** (Pages 5 - 10)

The Committee is asked to confirm the minutes are accurate.

4 **Public Question Time**

The Chairman will allow members of the public to ask a question or make a statement about any matter on the agenda for this meeting. **These questions may be taken during the meeting, when the relevant agenda item is considered, at the Chairman's discretion.**

5 **Revenue Budget Monitoring Report** (Pages 11 - 34)

The Committee is asked to consider the reports.

6 **Leisure Services Update**

To receive a presentation.

7 **Social Value Policy Statement Refresh** (Pages 35 - 38)

The Committee is asked to consider the report.

8 **Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee Work Programme** (Pages 39 - 52)

To receive an update from the Governance Manager, Scrutiny and discuss any items for the work programme. To assist the discussion, attached are:

- The Committee's work programme
- The Cabinet's forward plan

9 **Any other urgent items of business**

The Chairman may raise any items of urgent business.

# Agenda Annexe

## Guidance notes for the meeting

### 1. Inspection of Papers

Any person wishing to inspect Minutes, reports, or the background papers for any item on the Agenda should contact the Committee Administrator for the meeting – Lindsey Tawse on Tel: (01823) 357628 or 355059 or Email: [democraticservices@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@somerset.gov.uk) They can also be accessed via the council's website on [www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers)

### 2. Members' Code of Conduct requirements

When considering the declaration of interests and their actions as a councillor, Members are reminded of the requirements of the Members' Code of Conduct and the underpinning Principles of Public Life: Honesty; Integrity; Selflessness; Objectivity; Accountability; Openness; Leadership. The Code of Conduct can be viewed at: <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/organisation/key-documents/the-councils-constitution/>

### 3. Minutes of the Meeting

Details of the issues discussed and recommendations made at the meeting will be set out in the Minutes, which the Committee will be asked to approve as a correct record at its next meeting.

### 4. Public Question Time

**If you wish to speak, please tell Lindsey Tawse the Committee's Administrator - by 5pm, 3 clear working days before the meeting (28 February 2019). All Public Questions must directly relate to an item on the Committee's agenda and must be submitted in writing by the deadline.**

**If you require any assistance submitting your question, please contact the Democratic Services Team on 01823 357628.**

At the Chair's invitation you may ask questions and/or make statements or comments about any matter on the Committee's agenda – providing you have given the required notice. You may also present a petition on any matter within the Committee's remit. The length of public question time will be no more than 30 minutes in total.

A slot for Public Question Time is set aside near the beginning of the meeting, after the minutes of the previous meeting have been signed. However, questions or statements about any matter on the Agenda for this meeting may be taken at the time when each matter is considered.

You must direct your questions and comments through the Chair. You may not take direct part in the debate. The Chair will decide when public participation is to finish.

If there are many people present at the meeting for one particular item, the Chair may adjourn the meeting to allow views to be expressed more freely. If an item on the Agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.

An issue will not be deferred just because you cannot be present for the meeting. Remember that the amount of time you speak will be restricted, normally to two minutes only.

## **5. Exclusion of Press & Public**

If when considering an item on the Agenda, the Committee may consider it appropriate to pass a resolution under Section 100A (4) Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, as defined under the terms of the Act.

## **6. Committee Rooms & Council Chamber and hearing aid users**

To assist hearing aid users the Committee meeting rooms have infra-red audio transmission systems.

## **7. Recording of meetings**

The Council supports the principles of openness and transparency. It allows filming, recording and taking photographs at its meetings that are open to the public - providing this is done in a non-disruptive manner. Members of the public may use Facebook and Twitter or other forms of social media to report on proceedings and a designated area will be provided for anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings. No filming or recording may take place when the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting. As a matter of courtesy to the public, anyone wishing to film or record proceedings is asked to provide reasonable notice to the Committee Administrator so that the relevant Chair can inform those present at the start of the meeting.

We would ask that, as far as possible, members of the public aren't filmed unless they are playing an active role such as speaking within a meeting and there may be occasions when speaking members of the public request not to be filmed.

The Council will be undertaking audio recording of some of its meetings in County Hall as part of its investigation into a business case for the recording and potential webcasting of meetings in the future.

A copy of the Council's Recording of Meetings Protocol should be on display at the meeting for inspection, alternatively contact the Committee Administrator for the meeting in advance.

## SCRUTINY FOR POLICIES AND PLACE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee held in the Taunton Library Meeting Room, on Wednesday 23 January 2019 at 2.00 pm

**Present:** Cllr A Groskop (Chair), Cllr M Lewis (Vice-Chair), Cllr P Ham, Cllr B Filmer, Cllr John Hunt, Cllr J Thorne, Cllr L Leyshon and Cllr B Revans (as substitute)

**Other Members present:** Cllr M Chilcott, Cllr D Hall, Cllr F Nicholson, Cllr L Redman and Cllr J Woodman

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr N Bloomfield

156 **Declarations of Interest - Agenda Item 2**

There were no declarations of interest.

157 **Minutes from the previous meeting held on 11 December 2018 - Agenda Item 3**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2018 were accepted as being accurate by the Committee.

158 **Public Question Time - Agenda Item 4**

Mr Alan Debenham asked two public questions in relation to Item 5 and one public question in relation to Item 6. Mr Debenham received a verbal response to his questions.

### **Item 5 – MTFP**

1. At the national budget last November we heard both the Chancellor and the Prime Minister state the good news that the hard-working British people's long suffering under their government's enforced austerity measures against public spending and services was now ending.

How is it then that the Council, after year upon year of severe austerity cuts – totalling £143 millions according to the Leader - still finds itself continuing with savage cuts of £15 millions for today's 2019/20 budget proposals, with potentially another dose of £16.6 millions of savage cuts for 2020/21 and beyond, with future funding precariously awaiting the so-called Comprehensive Spending Review in this autumn?

Has the government simply lied and, if so, doesn't this mean that this Scrutiny Committee and the whole Council will now raise its level of protest against this continued slaughter of local government services, this time really reaching out to as many local organisations and people as possible to join its rebellion?

**Response:** *While the numbers that Mr Debenham quotes in his question are correct, I must dispute that they are "savage". We have made every effort to ensure that we use the funding flexibilities available, implement service improvements that save money and put forward the least damaging proposals for change that we can. It is, of course, with regret that there are still some £2m or so of service reductions proposed in this budget. We will, as a Council,*

*continue to press for a better settlement for all local authorities, and for Somerset in particular, through the 2019 Spending Review.*

2. Regarding the whole question of local government funding, and with reference to the Layfield Royal Commission report of 1979 and the Leader's hinting that a way out of the County's funding dilemma could be consideration of the anti-democratic establishment of a unitary authority, why is he not first campaigning for Layfield's proposals for Councils to really 'govern' as free entities via independent local taxes fund-raising, keeping the distance and likely engagement between Councillors and residents as close as now, or even closer?

**Response:** *Essentially, the Council is seeking to put its effort into developing proposals that are likely to gain some traction with the current Government.*

### **Item 6 – Revenue Budget Monitoring**

When and how was it discovered that the Minimum Revenue Provision for safeguarding repayment of long-term debt could suddenly be re-jigged so that the Council was able to miraculously transfer over £4 millions into its current year revenue budget and, via this technical adjustment, so considerably alleviate, not only several of the big cuts problems of the emergency budget last September, but also end the year with an underspend of nearly a million? What are the chances that this strange newfound sleight of accountancy will not be confirmed by Audit or the full Council and stands as a one-off benefit only?

**Response:** *The Council has sought to review the Minimum Revenue Provision in line with the latest MHCLG guidance. In so doing we have pushed the boundaries of the useful economic lives of our assets to produce a favourable outcome. If the Policy is agreed by the Council in February, then the reduced charge to the revenue account will continue for a few years. However, one of the tests of prudence is that there is enough money put aside over the life of our debt to enable it to be paid off when the debt is due. Given that the debt is of a fixed term, paying less MRP at the beginning means paying more later (although interest payments remain the same). Hence reducing the MRP gives only a temporary respite while the Council puts its financial affairs on to a very solid footing for the future.*

### 159 **Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20 - Agenda Item 5**

With the agreement of the Committee, this report was debated following consideration of Item 6.

The Committee considered this report which summarised the key messages from the Medium Term Financial Strategy (2019-22) ahead of the more detailed budget report being presented to Cabinet and Full Council in February 2019. The report contained the overall budget proposals as well as service specific information.

Scrutiny of the budgets for Children's Services and Adults Services will take place through the respective scrutiny committees. Therefore, the Committee

focused on reviewing the overall 2019/20 budget and MTFP preparations as well as the specific proposals relating to Economic and Community Infrastructure (ECI) and Corporate and Support services.

A Member expressed concern that the savings proposals would affect rural areas proportionally more than urban areas and that impact assessments did not reflect this. In response, Members heard that the authority has had to look at where it can do things differently or reduce services without unacceptably increasing risk. It is understood that some proposals will affect rural areas more but equally some proposals will affect urban areas more and the key is balancing risk.

It was clarified that proposal Corp 1920-01 (pathways to employment budget reductions) will not impact on the apprenticeship scheme.

Members questioned whether the reduction in training budget would have an affect on recruitment particularly if there are less professional development opportunities. No impact on recruitment has been reported and learning and development opportunities can be built into transformation projects. Other funding pots will also be available for training.

Members questioned whether the list of the tier 1 contracts to be reviewed under Corp 1920-17 was available to view. It was clarified that this proposal refers to the top 100 contracts and officers were happy to make this available to Members upon request.

Corp 1920-23 - Concern was expressed that a review of fees and charges might result in less customers. This was noted and it is important that charge rates are right to ensure that overhead costs are met.

ECI 1920-01 – Concern was raised about a decrease in gully cleaning particularly as residents pay a precept towards the Somerset Rivers Authority. Previously the authority has found that very little has collected during routine cleaning of some low risk gullies. To save time the proposal is to move to a more intelligence-based system. Members were reassured that the service will still be able to react quickly to any reported problems.

Corp 1920-13 – Members were reassured that this is a one-year saving only and that there is no risk in delaying the enhanced ICT security.

ECI 1920-04 - In response to concern regarding seed production Members were informed that the change in seed production is expected to be minimal but there it will also have a positive impact for wildlife.

ECI 1920-03 – Members expressed concern that this proposal indicated that an outcome had been decided upon before the consultation had finished. The result of the consultation has not been anticipated but we have seen an increased number of volunteers for this service and are confident that this can continue to be built upon.

A Member questioned why we were receiving an additional council tax surplus and it was explained that the projections rely on data collected by district

council colleagues but these in turn can only be based on estimates. Authorities on both sides tend to be prudent and urge on the side of caution with projecting these figures because so many things could have an impact. A balanced judgement is needed because we don't want to end up with a surplus if we have had to make cuts to services.

In response to concerns about a reduction in salting activity, Members were informed that usually only around 21% of roads are salted so the majority of roads have always been unsalted. The proposal will be reviewed at the end of the winter period but drivers will always need to drive appropriately according to conditions. A Member informed the Committee that the quarries in Mendip have expressed an interest in purchasing a retired gritting lorry. The service area would be happy to discuss this and work with anyone who would be interested on taking on any voluntary responsibilities.

ECI 1920-33 – Members questioned whether this will impact on the rollout of the CDS programme. It was clarified that there is no proposal to cut spend but instead of spending it as revenue, it is proposed to spend it as capital.

Members questioned how the savings for ECI-waste will be achieved. It was confirmed that this is a decision for the Somerset Waste Board and relies on waste volume reducing as current trends indicate.

Members raised that ragwort needs to be controlled and cut once per year. Ragwort is treated as a noxious weed and ideally needs to be pulled rather than cut. This is challenging and we need to work with landowners to address this.

A Member highlighted that C grade footpaths often join two A graded footpaths together so may need to be treated differently. Members were asked to encourage parish councils and members of the public to report any instances of this.

ECI 1920-28 – Members highlighted the importance of keeping local members informed of decisions. This was agreed and it was clarified that if a capital receipt is realised from the disposal then this would appear there rather than as a saving to the revenue budget.

In conclusion, concern was expressed that ECI will not be able to deliver services if any further cuts are made.

Members requested that the link to the current Business Plan be circulated to the Committee.

The Committee noted the report.

160 **Revenue Budget Monitoring Report - Month 8 - Agenda Item 6**

The Committee agreed to consider this item before Item 5 – Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20.

The Committee considered this report which outlined the projected revenue outturn for 2018/19. For the first time in this financial year, an underspend of



£0.921m is projected. This projection is based upon actual spending to the end of November 2018 (month 8) and compares to the available budget of £317.882m.

The main change between the month 7 and month 8 projections is that a revised approach to the calculation of the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) has been applied, taking advantage of new and more flexible regulations.

In a verbal update, the Committee were informed that a refund of around £1m is due to be received from central government. This refund relates to business rates and it is proposed to put this towards general funds once received.

Members asked for further explanation of the MRP and whether this would result in further debt payments needed to be made. It was clarified that all of the Council's debt is on a fixed term basis. The Council needs to put aside enough funds each year in order to meet the debt payment once due. This is usually over a long period with some debt not due until the 2050's. Changes in legislation has allowed the Council to change how this is done. The total sum paid over the period will be the same but this method will allow us to make some savings for a short period.

Members questioned whether the underspend could be used to support services such as the winter gritting programme. The Interim Finance director clarified that there is no specific plan for the underspent funds yet because it is still projected at this stage. The Council must yet go through the winter period and any winter pressures could alter this sum. However, my proposal for this fund would be to use this to continue to put the Council on a sustainable financial footing. We need to set balanced budgets and are still under considerable financial pressure. My recommendation would be to put this in the general fund rather than towards specific services as part of a long-term plan for resilience.

It was clarified that the business rates refund was a one-off sum to be received in 2018/19.

The Committee agreed that it needed to consider the Council's business plan alongside the financial plan. The Committee were informed that the business plan already exists and is available on the intranet but it is currently being refreshed. The refreshed plan will be shared with the Committee in due course.

The Committee noted the report.

161 **Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee Work Programme - Agenda Item 7**

Following debate, the Committee requested the following changes to the work programme:

- Add the refreshed SCC Business Plan to work programme as soon as is appropriate

- Member information sheet regarding CDS programme to be provided to Members as soon as sufficient information is available.
- Hinkley Point C update to include use of funding through the SCF and Chief Executive of SCF to be invited to co-present the report.
- Revenue Budget Monitoring Reports to be added to the work programme for each meeting until further notice.
- Add 05 April 2019 meeting to the work programme.

Concern was expressed over the scrutiny of the overspend in Children's Services and it was confirmed that the Scrutiny for Policies, Children & Families Committee will be receiving regular updates at their meetings.

It was clarified that the new Investment Strategy will not be finalised until July so the Committee will have the opportunity to scrutinise the draft form at its June meeting.

162 **Any other urgent items of business** - Agenda Item 8

There were no other items of business.

**(The meeting ended at 3.35 pm)**

**CHAIRMAN**

## Month 9 Revenue Budget Monitoring

Lead Officer: Peter Lewis Director of Finance

Author: Peter Lewis, Director of Finance

Contact Details: 01823 359028

Cabinet Member: Mandy Chilcott, Cabinet Member for Resources

Division and Local Member: All

### 1. Summary

- 1.1. In the month 8 report, Cabinet learned that an underspend, of just under £1m, was being projected for the first time in 2018/19. This quarter 3 report, based upon actual spending to the end of December 2018, now shows a continuation of that trend, with an underspend of £1.067m being projected. This is a 0.3% variance on a revenue budget of £317.882m
- 1.2. In addition to this projected underspend, opportunity has been taken to make a further contribution to reserves and to release some pressure on the need to use Capital Receipts Flexibilities to support the revenue budget. Both of these adjustments will further improve the resilience of the Council and the robustness of the accounts.
- 1.3. In addition to the strong grip on the revenue budget and the consistent delivery of planned savings, the most significant improvements to the revenue account between month 8 and month 9 are the introduction to the monitoring projection of the refund of the Government levy money (£1.031m mentioned in the month 8 report), a range of favourable service forecasts totalling £1.646m (as detailed later in the report) and the release of nearly £0.800m from the contingency. With regard to the latter, it is judged that only £2.000m needs to remain in the contingency for the rest of the financial year to underwrite unexpected financial challenges.

### 2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1. The Committee is asked to comment on the projected revenue outturn for 2018/19, whether there are any suggestions for additional management actions or alternative options that they would like to recommend to the Cabinet.
- 2.2. The Committee is asked to consider any issues or information they would like to be addressed or included in future reports.

### 3. Background

- 3.1. The Cabinet report at Appendix A shows that there is a projected underspend of £1.067m, compared to the recently reported projected overspend.
- 3.2. The Cabinet report at Appendix A provides further detail on the budget monitoring for comment by Scrutiny Members

#### **4. Consultations undertaken**

4.1. See Appendix A

#### **5. Implications**

5.1. There are significant financial implications and these are identified throughout the report in Appendix A.

5.2. There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

#### **6. Background papers**

6.1. Month 9 Budget Monitoring Report to Cabinet 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

**Note** For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author

## 2018/19 Revenue Budget Monitoring – Quarter 3

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr Mandy Chilcott – Cabinet Member for Resources  
 Division and Local Member(s): All  
 Lead Officer: Peter Lewis – Interim Director of Finance  
 Author: Leah Green – Finance Manager MTFP – Corporate  
 Finance Contact Details: [PJLewis@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:PJLewis@somerset.gov.uk) Tel: 01823 359028

	<b>Seen by:</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>
	County Solicitor	Honor Clarke	28/01/19
	Monitoring Officer	Scott Wooldridge	28/01/19
	Corporate Finance	Peter Lewis	28/01/19
	Human Resources	Chris Squire	28/01/19
	Senior Manager	Peter Lewis	28/01/19
	Local Member(s)	All	
	Cabinet Member	Mandy Chilcott	28/01/19
	Opposition Spokesperson	Liz Leyshon	28/01/19
	Relevant Scrutiny Chairman	Anna Groskop	Sent 24/01/19
<b>Forward Plan Reference:</b>	<b>FP/18/11/08</b>		
<b>Summary:</b>	<p>In the month 8 report, Cabinet learned that an underspend, of just under £1m, was being projected for the first time in 2018/19. This quarter 3 report, based upon actual spending to the end of December 2018, now shows a continuation of that trend, with an underspend of £1.067m being projected. This is a 0.3% variance on a revenue budget of £317.882m.</p> <p>In addition to this projected underspend, opportunity has been taken to make a further contribution to reserves and to release some pressure on the need to use Capital Receipts Flexibilities to support the revenue budget. Both of these adjustments will further improve the resilience of the Council and the robustness of the accounts.</p> <p>In addition to the strong grip on the revenue budget and the consistent delivery of planned savings, the most significant improvements to the revenue account between month 8 and month 9 are the introduction to the monitoring projection of the refund of the Government levy money (£1.031m mentioned in the month 8 report), a range of favourable service forecasts totalling £1.646m (as detailed later in the report) and the release of nearly £0.800m from the contingency. With regard to the latter, it is judged that only £2.000m needs to remain in the contingency for the rest of the financial year to underwrite unexpected financial challenges.</p> <p>This quarterly report also sets out a projection of the reserves</p>		

	<p>as at the end of 2018/19. It is encouraging that it is anticipated that the General Fund reserve will reach of total of £11.637m, plus any residual underspend, at the year end, when in September it was thought that it would only reach £7.796m. This improvement is significant in terms of the standing of the Council and for its resilience to deal with the challenges that the Spending Review 2019 (SR2019) and the Fair Funding Review (FFR) might bring for 2020/21.</p> <p>At this relatively late stage of the year, it is planned to now use £1.362m of the corporate contingency total of £3.382m for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £0.442m to compensate Corporate and Support Services for reduced overhead recovery from Support Services for Education (SSE) services;</li> <li>• £0.140m to support the Local Assistance Scheme programme costs within Adult Social Care, and;</li> <li>• £0.800m contribution to the General Fund to support future resilience.</li> </ul>
<b>Recommendations:</b>	<p><b>Cabinet is recommended to: -</b></p> <p>Note 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 Medium Term Financial Plan savings.</p> <p>Approve one-off use of £1.362m from the corporate contingency as set out above in the summary section and in paragraphs 3.20 and 3.44.</p> <p>Note the plans to improve the Councils financial resilience by increasing the General Fund balance from £7.796m to £11.637m.</p>
<b>Reasons for Recommendations:</b>	<p>Robust budget monitoring information is an essential ingredient of a well-run Council, and that information must be used to inform decisions about actions required to address any budget variances.</p>
<b>Links to Priorities and Impact on Service Plans:</b>	<p>The Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) sets the funding for the County Vision and the use of those funds is then monitored, via this report, throughout the year to ensure delivery of Council objectives and actions within the resources available.</p>
<b>Consultations and co-production undertaken:</b>	<p>Information and explanations have been sought from directors on individual aspects of this report and their comments are contained in the report.</p>
<b>Financial Implications:</b>	<p>The financial implications are identified throughout the report.</p>
<b>Legal Implications:</b>	<p>There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.</p>
<b>HR Implications:</b>	<p>There are no HR implications arising directly from this report.</p>

<b>Risk Implications:</b>	<p>The availability and use of reserves and the revenue contingency is critical in being able to manage peaks in demand and costs incurred. This report recognises the need for adequate reserves and contingencies and aims to adopt a reasonable approach to maintaining both.</p> <p>The Council's corporate risk register recognises the risk to containing our spend within budget.</p> <p>Whilst the overspends in specific demand led service budgets seems to be more stable than in recent months, e.g. Children's Services external placements, these service areas remain volatile and the outlook could alter relatively quickly. The risk of overspends continues to be mitigated through detailed budget review and challenge sessions which are generating an improved understanding of the budget and hence actions which are delivering improved control of expenditure within the service.</p> <p>The main risk on the register relating to financial management is ORG0043. This risk is reassessed on a monthly basis to determine if the likely of the risks set out in the register can be reduced. Given the assessment in this report, it is felt that the likelihood score may reduce following consideration and approval of the budget for 2019/20 in February 2019.</p>					
	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Risk Score</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Other Implications (including due regard implications):</b>	Any remedial actions being taken to manage budgets within resources will have due regard to the legal, HR and equalities issues, as necessary.					
<b>Scrutiny comments / recommendation (if any):</b>	This report will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee for Policies and Place on 6 March 2019					

## 1. Background

- 1.1. The Council is continuing in its journey to tighten control of its revenue budget; it has eliminated the overspend that was projected earlier in the year; is seeking to reduce the potential for future overspends by demonstrating a strong financial grip throughout the organisation; and has partially restored some of its significantly depleted reserves. Overall, the Council's resilience is much improved since the Cabinet made its budget resolutions in September 2018.
- 1.2. Robust monitoring of the revenue budget and particularly of the proposals for change agreed in both February and September 2018 have significantly aided the improvements described in this report. In December the Council received the provisional Financial Settlement for 2019/20, as did all other local authorities. This included an additional one-off payment from Government for 2018/19, £1.031m, for the re-distribution of an excess business rate levy, intended to cover safety net needs under the current funding regime.

- 1.3.** A forecast underspend of £1.067m is now projected, as shown in Appendix A of this report and described in the paragraphs below. This reflects the continued focus by services on managing budgets. Whilst an encouraging position, it is important to recognise that there are significant financial challenges faced by the Council beyond the current year, meaning it is essential to also focus on securing the Council's long term financial resilience through holding adequate reserves and contingencies.

## **2 Reserves**

- 2.1.** The Council holds reserves in two forms: the General Fund to mitigate against unforeseen spends or major unexpected events, and earmarked reserves for specific purposes and to mitigate against future known or predicted liabilities.

- 2.2.** The paragraphs below explain the forecast balances at the end of 2018/19 which confirms the improving position, although reserves still remain relatively low for a Council of the size of Somerset.

### **2.3. General Fund**

- 2.3.1.** The movements to the General Fund during 2018/19 are a combination of planned contributions budgeted for in the 2018/19 Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP); additional contributions during 2018/19 to improve the financial stability of the Council funded from additional one-off funding (eg MHCLG Levy Grant); release of contingency budget no longer required due to the savings approved by Cabinet in September 2018; the subsequent rebase of underpressure budgets; and in-year contributions to reduce the impact to the Council of a number of the authority's negative (deficit) earmarked reserves.
- 2.3.2.** The Council has budgeted, as part of its MTFP(2019-22), to contribute an additional £2.000m to the General Fund and repay an additional £2.989m of deficit reserves during 2019/20 to further strengthen the Councils financial resilience.
- 2.3.3.** The predicted General Fund position at the end of March 2019 and for 2019/20 is shown in the tables:



General Fund	Value £m
Balance brought forward 2018/19	12.892
<b>In Year Transfers (2018/19):</b>	
Base Budget contribution 2018/19	2.000
Additional revenue contributions (Mnt8)	1.000
One-off levy grant	1.031
Contingency contribution	0.800
Negate the impact of deficit earmarked reserves	-6.086
Current Balance	11.637
Estimated in year underspend to be transferred to General Fund	1.067
<b>Balance at March 2019</b>	<b>12.704</b>
<b>In Year Transfers (2019/20):</b>	
Base Budget contribution 2019/20	2.000
Planned contribution to reduce impact of deficit reserves on General Fund	2.989
<b>Balance at 31 March 2020</b>	<b>17.693</b>

## 2.4. Earmarked Reserves

2.4.1. Across all earmarked reserves the Council is predicting a balance of £13.535m by the end of the year, an improvement of £10.714m during 2018/19, mainly due to £7.055m of 2017/18 being moved from a negative earmarked reserve to be set against the General Fund reserve.

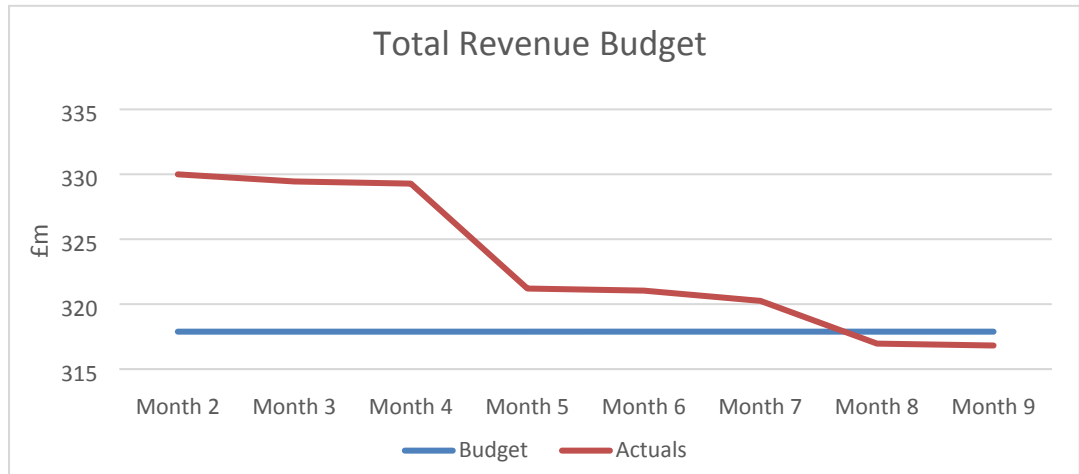
2.4.2 Within this balance there are a number of reserves held on behalf of other organisations such as Somerset Rivers Authority and the Local Enterprise Partnership, and others where use is controlled by statute, such as Public Health; Dedicated Schools Grant, Early Years, High Needs & De-delegated services; and the Insurance Fund. These are forecast to total £19.621m as at 31 March 2019, meaning the Council effectively is forecasting a negative balance on its useable earmarked reserves of £6.086m at 31 March 2019. This is a significant improvement (£10.430m) on the balance at 1 April 2018 (negative £16.516m), made possible by the utilisation of one-off funding and service underspends during 2018/19. The MTFP contains provision for repayment of some of the negative balances.

2.4.3. The following table shows the in-year movements:

<b>Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>Value £m</b>
<b>Balance of ALL Earmarked Reserves brought forward 2018/19</b>	<b>2.821</b>
LESS: Balance of negative/held on behalf of others Earmarked Reserves brought forward 2018/19	19.337
Balance of Earmarked Reserves available for the authority to utilise - as at 1 April 2018	-16.516
<b>In Year Movements (2018/19):</b>	
In-year movement of Earmarked Reserves available for the authority to utilise	10.430
In-year movement of negative/held on behalf of others Earmarked Reserves	0.284
<b>Total in-year movement of ALL Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>10.714</b>
Balance of Earmarked Reserves available for the authority to utilise - as at 31 March 2019	-6.086
Balance of negative/held on behalf of others Earmarked Reserves as at 31 March 2019	19.621
<b>Balance of ALL Earmarked Reserves as at 31 March 2019</b>	<b>13.535</b>

### 3. Summary Forecast 2018/19 – Revenue Budgets

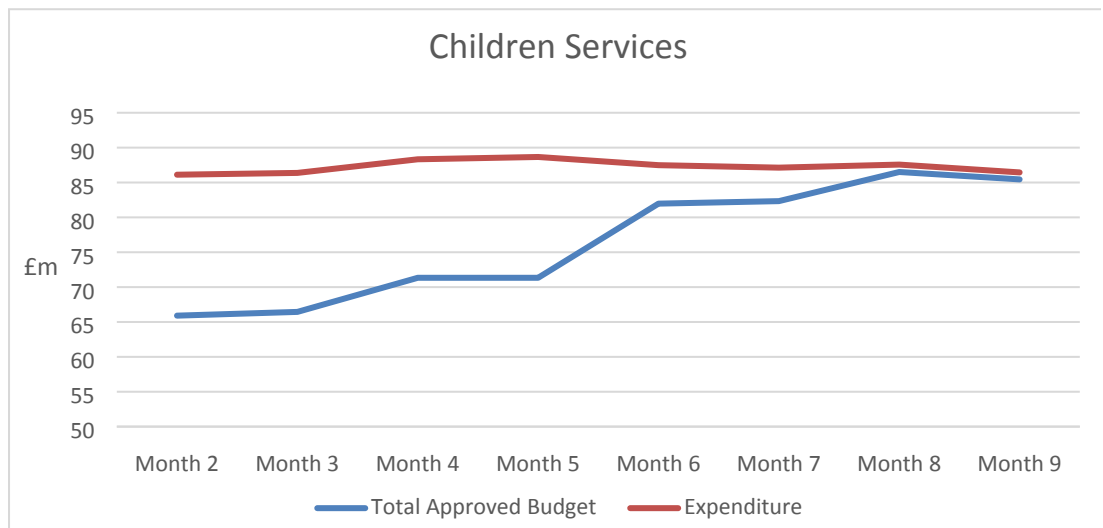
- 3.1. Services have continued their tight grip on financial management of services during month 9 and whilst the overall forecast favourable variance has only changed marginally since month 8, up to a favourable variance of £1.067m compared to £0.921m previously, additional contributions to reserves have been made that improve the Council's overall financial resilience. The graph below shows the track of projected over and underspends throughout 2018/19. While the overall budget did not change in month 6, there were significant movements within that budget following the Cabinet resolutions on the proposals for change at month 6 (September).



**3.2.** The paragraphs below set out the key service variances and explanations.

**3.3. Children’s Services** (Net budget £85.447m, £1.000m projected overspend, a favourable movement of £0.062m since month 8).

The chart below shows the Children’s Services budget variance trend for 2018/19, illustrating the impact of the budget rebasing during the year. This was designed to match budget more realistically to the level of spending need, thereby making budget management more realistic. It also shows that the Children’s services spend forecasts have remained relatively stable across the year despite ongoing increasing demands and this reflects the considerable effort by the service to focus on spend control and management actions to mitigate additional increases in spend. It should be noted that these service budgets remain high risk due to the nature and volatility of spend and significant management action continues to mitigate any increases in costs.



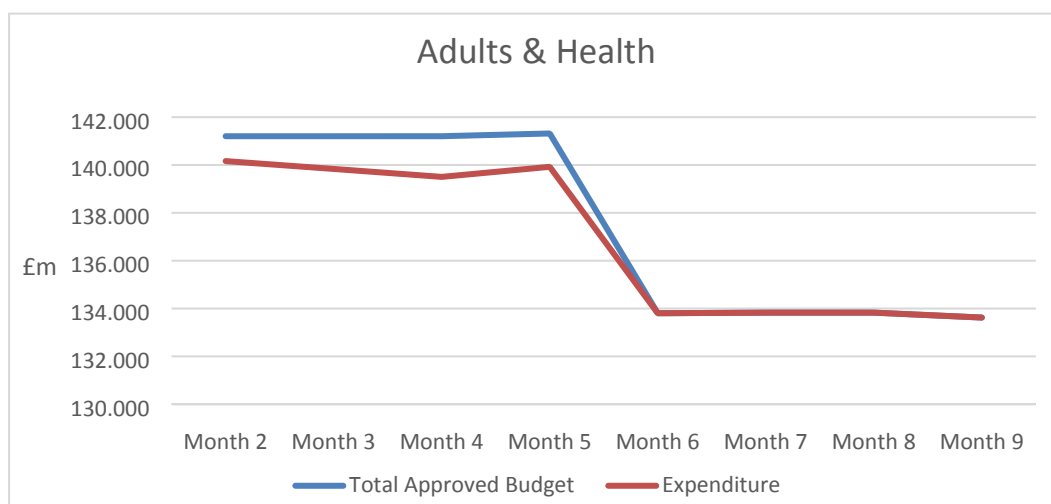
**3.4. Children and Families Operations: overspend £1.602m: movement; adverse £0.062m**

The projected cost of Occupational Therapy equipment purchased via the Integrated Community Equipment Service (ICES) has now been confirmed resulting in a pressure of £0.062m. Equipment prescription is based on assessed need and follows a robust governance process; clinical decision-making panel, senior manager approval and presentation to an advanced

authoriser group for final approval to order. Joint funding and charitable funding options are always considered to mitigate the impact on the Council's budget.

- 3.5. There are some other minor variances from the previous month and the most volatile area of spend for the service, Placements has seen a significant stabilisation of costs with the forecast moving by £0.010m this month. This budget line remains high risk and significant management action continues to mitigate any increases in cost in this area.
- 3.6. **Children and Learning Central Commissioning: underspend £0.602m, movement; favourable £0.124m**
- Most areas within the service line have not seen a significant change in forecast from the previous month, with continued pressures remaining in Transport that are being off-set mainly by vacancy savings.
- 3.7. The West Somerset Opportunities Area (WSOA) grant supports a 3-year programme funded by the DfE to tackle low social mobility and improving opportunities for young people across West Somerset. Although the funding is committed in full to deliver a number of projects, a review of the project delivery plan and receipt of additional funding in the financial year has resulted in an underspend now being reported in 2018/19 of £0.771m, assuming that an additional £0.725m will be allocated to Somerset in February 2019 as suggested by the Department for Education (DfE). The balance of this grant will be requested to be carried forwards as part of outturn and is now being placed in an earmarked reserve in line with the decision made by the Cabinet Member for Children and Families on the 24 January 2018 to allocate all current and future grant funding to deliver the WSOA plan. The underspend is shown as a favourable variance and is reversed out in Planned Use of Earmarked Reserves column in the Headline Summary Table in Appendix A.
- 3.8. Additional Special Educational Needs (SEN) routes due to increasing SEN numbers and the retendering of Home to School routes has increased the projected expenditure on school transport by £0.058m.
- 3.9. There have been vacancy savings across the service totalling £0.103m and further minor efficiencies across all services totalling £0.079m.
- 3.10. The delivery of MTFP savings has progressed since Q2 with £1.195m more now shown as on track or delivered. A number of savings remain undelivered in 2018/19 and the savings will either be delivered in 2019/20 where non-delivery in 2018/19 is due to delayed implementation or the non-delivery of these unachievable savings have been factored into the 2019/20 budget.
- 3.11. **Adult Services including Learning Disabilities** (*Net budget £133.623m, £0.000m projected on budget, no movement since month 8*).

The chart below shows the ASC budget variance trend for 2018/19, illustrating how the service has been managing within budget throughout the year to date. The reduction in the budget in month 6 reflects the rebasing of the Council's budget undertaken in September, following the decisions of the Cabinet required to address the projected overspend.



**3.12. Adults and Health Operations: underspend £0.000: no movement**

The forecast for the year across all Adults services is a balanced position against a budget of £133.623m. This is the same as has been reported in previous months, although there have been changes across each of the services

**3.13.** In terms of the overall position, there are pressures of £4.454m against the Learning Disabilities Purchasing budget and £0.572m against Mental Health, which are offset by an underspend in Adult Social Care (£5.050m). There have been small changes since month 8 and the explanations are set out in the paragraphs below.

**3.14.** There have been increases in variation within Learning Disabilities Purchased (adverse £0.158m) and Mental Health (adverse £0.015m), offset by decreases within Commissioning (favourable £0.091m), Adult Social Care (favourable £0.042m) and increased income from the pooled budget (favourable £0.040m). Explanations are set out in the paragraphs below.

**3.15.** There has been one main change to affect the Learning Disabilities Purchased budget since the previous report. A new residential placement costing £3,000 per week has led to an increase in projection. Despite new placements such as this one there has been a drop in the growth of Learning Disabilities spend during 2018/19. The Council is projecting an increase of just £0.490m between 2017/18 and 2018/19. This compares to growth figures of £1.600m in 2017/18 and £4.700m in 2016/17.

**3.16.** The increased underspend within Adult Social Care is as a result of increased income as opposed to decreased activity. Spend on purchased care has increased by a small amount since month 8 (adverse £0.078m) but this has been offset by an increase in anticipated income against staffing.

**3.17.** The increase against the Mental Health budget is due to a number of new placements that although they are having a relatively small effect on this year, the full year effect will increase costs during 2019/20. Mental Health spend has seen growth this year, particularly in Residential placements, and this is a trend that the service will need to be aware of going into the new financial year.

- 3.18.** A spending plan has been developed with the Clinical Commissioning Group for the additional £2.500m winter funding announced by the government in October 2018. This money will be fully spent on additional services aimed at reducing delayed transfers of care, however given the timescales involved it is requested that any slippage in 2018/19 be put into a ring-fenced reserve that can be used to continue funding these services during 2019/20. This would be combined with the additional £2.500m announced in the Autumn Statement for 2019/20.
- 3.19.** The majority of MTFP savings will be achieved in full and are marked as green or blue (complete). The only exception to this is the compulsory unpaid leave saving where £0.005m has been achieved through voluntary unpaid leave, leaving £0.073m outstanding to be managed through the overall budget position.
- 3.20.** Adults Services request that £0.140m be drawn down from the earmarked contingency that funds the Local Assistance Scheme programme costs as indicated earlier in the year.
- 3.21.** A review of the positive impacts of the transformation work on costs and projected demand across ASC means that the service is now in a position to reduce the balance on the Learning Disabilities equalisation reserve by a further £2.500m.

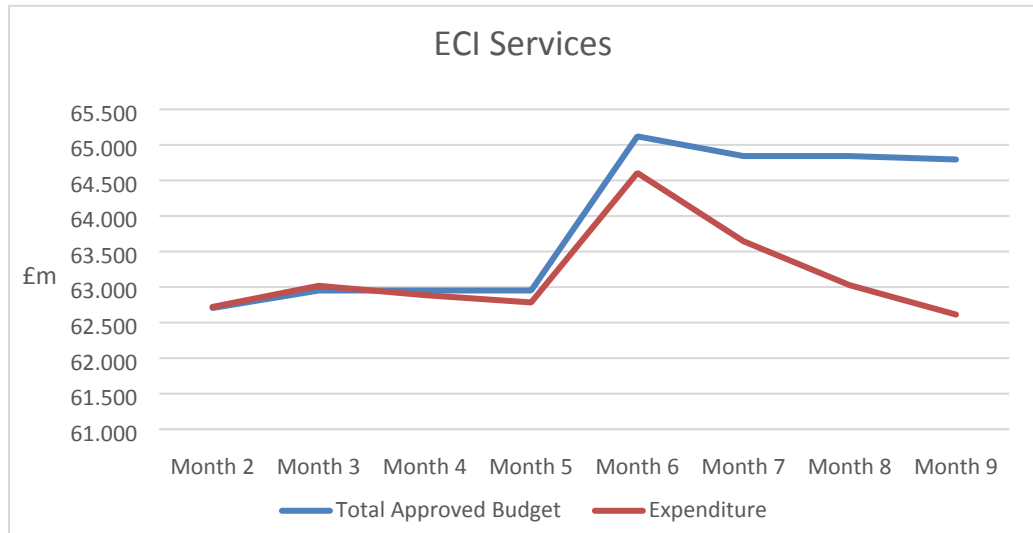
**3.22. Public Health:** *(Net budget £0.961m, £0.580m projected underspend, a favourable movement of £0.080m since month 8)*

**3.23. Public Health: underspend £0.580m, movement; favourable £0.080m**

The Public Health budget is made up of two elements. The ring-fenced Public Health Grant (£20.723m), which is projected to be fully spent, and £0.961m of Somerset County Council funding. Following a review of all spend there is a further £0.080m underspend, released from the Somerset County Council element of the funding, which can be used to assist with the overall Council position.

**3.24. Economic and Community Infrastructure Services (ECI):** *(Net budget £64.795m, £2.182m projected underspend, a favourable movement of £0.365m since month 8)*

The chart below shows the ECI budget variance trend for 2018/19, illustrating how the service has been increasing its forecast favourable variance over several months.



**3.25. Economic and Community Infrastructure Services: underspend £2.182m, movement; favourable £0.365m**

ECI Services are forecasting an underspend of £2.182m which is 3.37% of the net budget. The service has continued to closely monitor their budgets and ensure all expenditure is justified. In addition, waste tonnages, concessionary fares claims and an increase in traffic regulation order cost recovery has resulted in an overall underspend position. This position also includes the £0.085m pressure for unpaid leave against which ECI have made a saving of £0.006m.

**3.26.** The favourable movement of £0.365m from month 8 is due to several factors. Waste tonnages remain low and the forecast assumes these tonnage trends will continue for the rest of the financial year (£0.075m favourable movement). Property Services have a favourable movement (£0.070m), this is due to Repairs & Maintenance works that can now be capitalised and reduced Facilities Management costs. Traffic Management cost recovery continues to increase, especially around Traffic Regulation Order income (£0.197m favourable movement). Highway Lighting energy cost estimates have reduced increasing the highways underspend (£0.052m favourable movement). Transporting Somerset's underspend has reduced (£0.039m adverse movement) due to an increase in the public bus contract forecasts along with other small movements within the service.

**3.27.** There are still several factors that may change forecasts in quarter 4, including winter and any emergency costs, any upturn in waste volumes and concessionary fares. For example, last year's late and severe weather conditions resulted in additional costs of over £0.500m in Highways.

**3.28. Use of Capital Receipts Flexibility in Economic and Community Infrastructure Services**

The overall ECI Services position assumes that capital receipts flexibilities will be used for the following transformational activities totalling £0.772m:

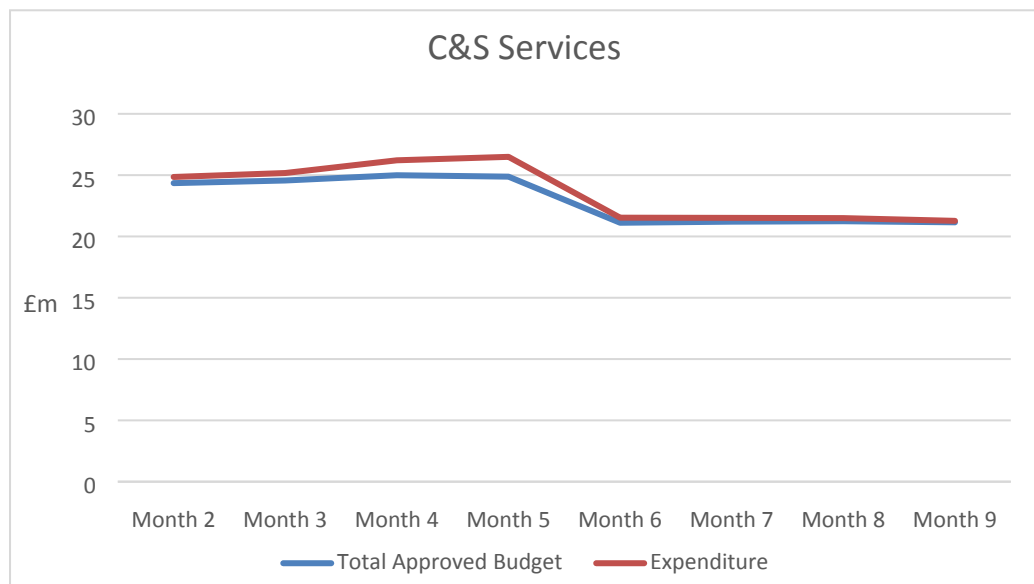
- Economic Development £0.201m for project management, grant management and technical assurance for the Connecting Devon and Somerset Broadband project;

- Libraries £0.277m for costs of transformational work;
- Registration £0.030m to make the service more accessible electronically and to reduce administrative activity in the future;
- Property £0.206m for a number of development projects across the Council's estate, and;
- Commissioning £0.058m for staff undertaking transformational activities.

**3.29.** All the ECI MTFP 1 and MTFP 2 savings will be achieved in full and are categorised as green (on track) or blue (delivered) except for the unpaid leave saving where £0.006m has been achieved through voluntary unpaid leave, leaving £0.079m outstanding (Red), to be managed through the overall budget position.

**3.30.** **Corporate and Support Services (C&SS):** (Net budget £21.153m, £0.121m projected overspend, a favourable movement of £0.134m since month 8)

The chart below shows how the C&SS budget variance trend has moved during for 2018/19, illustrating how the service has managed to control its spend within budget budget over recent months.



**3.31.** Corporate and Support Services: overspend £0.121m, movement; favourable £0.134m

Corporate and Support Services are forecasting an overspend of £0.121m which is 0.57% of the net budget. The overspend position is due to a number of factors such as unachievable cross cutting MTFP savings, Partnership Governance costs and the £0.091m pressure for unpaid leave against which Corporate and Support Services have made a saving of £0.024m.



**3.32.** The favourable movement of £0.134m from month 8 is due to staff vacancies within Customers and Communities (£0.035m favourable movement), which is in the main caused by the Customer Contact Team struggling to recruit. There is also an underspend against an approved carry forward from 2017/18 for community invest to save projects (£0.083m favourable movement). In addition, there are further reductions in spend within ICT (£0.021m favourable movement).

**3.33. Use of Capital Receipts Flexibility in Corporate and Support Services**

The overall Corporate and Support Services position assumes that capital receipts flexibilities will be used for the following transformational activities totalling £2.486m:

- ICT £1.241m for a few projects to upgrade SCC's systems and networks, to improve efficiency and support the Technology and People Programme;
- Business Change £1.081m for their work to support a number of transformation projects across the Council as part of the Core Council Programme;
- Corporate Affairs £0.154m to fund a number of transformational roles within Customers and Communities, and;
- Community Governance £0.010m to partially fund the cabinet member for Education and Transformation and for ICT Transformation within Community Governance.

**3.34.** All the Corporate and Support Services MTFP 1 and MTFP 2 savings are being achieved and categorised as green (on track) or blue (delivered) with the exception of seven savings that aren't fully/partially achievable totalling £0.449m which include £0.067 of the £0.091m unpaid leave saving. £0.327m of these unachievable savings have been factored into the 2019/20 budget.

**3.35. Non-Service** (*Net budget £11.903m, £1.796m projected overspend, an adverse movement of £0.026 since month 8*).

**Non-Service Items: overspend £1.796m, movement; adverse £0.026m**

**3.36.** The forecast position for Non-Service is an overspend of £1.796m. This is an adverse movement of £0.260m from last month's projection and the variances are explained as follows:

**3.37. Investment Income: underspend £0.170m, movement; favourable £0.220m**

Due to a better than expected return on investment (0.93% compared to 0.80% assumed in month 8), the Council is anticipating additional income of £0.220m.

The Council invests funds earmarked for specific purposes i.e. section 106 (income paid to the Council from developers) and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). The interest earned on these balances is contributed to the specific reserves it relates to, for 2018/19 this is anticipated to be £0.537m.

**3.38. Pension Deficit Charges: underspend £0.847m, movement; favourable £0.847m**

Following a revision to the allocation of the pension deficit recharge to the service, schools are now receiving a more proportionate share of the charge which is funded by their Dedicated Schools Grant resulting in a reduction in the pressure on the Council's budget.

**3.39. Use of Reserves: overspend £2.531m, movement; adverse £1.031m**

As mentioned in month 8 report, as part of the provisional Financial Settlement, the MHCLG allocated a one-off payment for business rates safety net levy of £1.031m to the Council in 2018/19. The variance shown here is the effect of utilising this one off funding to support the general fund. The income being received is seen in the Updated Business Rates Receipts line in the headline table (Appendix A) and has a net nil affect on the Council's overall position. This is a "technical" adverse movement, as the spend against this line is greater than the budget, but the increase in reserves is "favourable".

**3.40. Central Redundancies: overspend £0.220m, movement; no change**

Based on the average figure for redundancies so far this year, and before any redeployment of staff who may be at risk the Council are forecasting an overspend of £0.220m on this budget. This figure does not yet include any decisions that are made in this financial year for the 2019/20 budget, and the individual amounts of redundancy payments due will depend on the individuals leaving the organisation.

**3.41. Discontinued Services: overspend £0.065m, movement; adverse £0.065m**

Discontinued services costs are where the Council is no longer the provider of a function but where there are legacy costs remaining from prior years. This includes pension costs in relation to those functions and there is an inflationary increase is now projected to exceed the reducing cost of individuals concerned by £0.065m.

**3.42. Trading Units**

Trading Units have a net nil budget. Any underspend is described as a surplus and any overspend as a deficit on the trading account.

**3.43. Support Services for Education: surplus £0.294m, movement; favourable £0.016m**

Vacancy savings within Business Services have resulted in an increased surplus.

**3.44. The Support Services for Education (SSE) overhead recovery contribution to support services is £0.442 less than previously forecast causing a pressure within the budget. A proportion of the trading income that SSE receive is allocated to SCC support services to cover the cost of overheads. The overhead contribution is dependent on the trading activity levels achieved. This pressure of £0.442m has been offset by a contingency release in 2018/19 and any pressure associated with variances in trading activity levels**

for 2019/20 will need to be addressed.

**3.45. Dillington House: overspend £0.488m, movement; adverse £0.210m**

Income levels across the main areas of activity are now forecast to come in below the levels budgeted. This is due to significant reductions from weddings arising from the post of Wedding Co-ordinator being vacant during the last year, adult education course attendance being down due to a degree of duplication/repetition in the programme and a decline in take up from existing customers, and as yet no diversification of the programme offer or widening of the customer base. Conference bookings from SCC have decreased by over £0.060m in the last year due to the wider Financial Imperative. Additional income has been secured from other areas such as a wider social events programme and conferences bookings by external organisations. This is not sufficient to offset the reductions elsewhere.

**3.46.** Unfortunately, the impact from developments taking place as part of the revised business plan will not be seen until next financial year, e.g. enabling customers to book Bed and Breakfast accommodation on line through external booking agencies and increasing exposure through wedding fairs, refresh of the education programme, etc. These are deep rooted issues which will take more time to address.

**3.47.** A business case setting out options for the improvement of revenue streams for Dillington House is in preparation. This case will need to consider all options to ensure that this discretionary venture is not a continuing strain on the Council's revenue budget.

**4. Delivery Progress of 2018/19 MTFP Proposals**

**4.1.** In September 2018, the Council approved a further £12.790m of savings proposals to the 2018/19 revenue budget. This section of the report provides an update of the progress towards delivery of the proposals as well as the original £13.418m of savings agreed in February 2018. These savings now have four different status' showing the level of risk around delivery.

Please see Appendix B for a breakdown of savings for each service.

**4.2. Savings**

The different savings status' are as follows:

- Red (controlled): This means that although the saving has been identified as being at risk of delivery, there are plans in place which means either the saving has been acknowledged as undeliverable and this is therefore a pressure or it will be replaced by a different saving.
- Red (uncontrolled): This means the saving has been identified as being at risk of delivery and plans to replace the saving have not yet been agreed via the change control process.
- Green: The saving is on track for delivery.
- Blue: The saving has been delivered.

96% of the MTFP1 & 2 savings have been classified as having a green, blue or red (controlled) status, meaning service directors are confident that these savings will be delivered or in the case of the blue savings, they have already been delivered. This leaves 4% of savings which are 'at risk' of being delivered and mitigations are being developed.

## **5. Capital Receipts Flexibilities**

**5.1.** Since 2016 the Government has allowed local authorities to use capital receipts to fund transformation projects and consequences that would otherwise have counted against revenue funding. The Council will continue to use this flexibility and details are set out elsewhere in this report. For 2018/19 It is anticipated that approximately £9.6m of expenditure will qualify as transformational against capital receipts funding and it is expected there will be approximately £10.8m of receipts received to support this level of expenditure.

**5.2.** During the autumn months, in preparation for the 2019/20 budget and MTFP, further work was undertaken in regard of ongoing commitments against capital receipts funding. The use of capital receipts is now reported through the Financial Imperative Team monthly. Each initiative will have business cases to back the transformational activity and the positive impact on the revenue budget. The proposed future use of capital receipts flexibility will be approved at Full Council in February 2019. The council also proposes creating an Invest To Save reserve to capture proposals that might not meet the full statutory definition under the directive but still benefits the council's transformation.

**5.3** The Capital Receipts Flexibility requests have been reduced by a targeted £1.500m since month 8, to reduce pressure on the availability of capital receipts. As part of drawing the accounts to a close, there will be a review of business cases and some may be funded from revenue sources.

## **6. Aged Debt Analysis**

**6.1.** The overall debt position shows a total gross debt of £12.833m, of which £1.540m (12.00%) is over 90 days old. This continues the improvement throughout the year, where the figure was over 35% at the start of the year, and 23.09% when last reported to Cabinet. Previous areas where debt has been difficult to collect promptly have improved – the outstanding debt over 90 days with the NHS is significantly reduced from the previous year when it was consistently over £1m, and developer debts over 90 days are down by 90% since the early summer.

**6.2.** Detailed debt information is reported to Audit Committee on a quarterly basis. In addition, a current SWAP audit is being finalised to review our debt collection procedures, and it will inform a review and update of the current Income Code of Practice.

**6.3.** Members are reminded that over the last 3 years, the Council has collected 99% of all the debt raised on our Accounts Receivable system.

Service	Not o'due	0-30 Days	1-3 Mths	3-12 Mths	12+ Mths	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adults and Health - Commissioning	0.000	0.000	0.437	0.004	0.000	0.441
Adults and Health - Operations	0.069	3.406	1.324	0.717	0.311	5.827
Business Development	0.015	0.830	1.634	0.009	0.037	2.524
Customers & Communities	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001
Children & Family - Operations	0.004	0.159	0.047	0.011	0.004	0.225
ECI - Commissioning	0.001	0.007	0.005	0.004	0.003	0.020
ECI - Operations	0.656	0.970	0.419	0.253	0.116	2.414
School & Early Years	0.032	0.024	0.012	0.003	0.003	0.074
Finance & Performance	0.004	0.098	0.090	0.004	0.006	0.202
Children & Learning - Commissioning	0.199	0.081	0.106	0.011	0.003	0.400
LD Operations	0.008	0.001	0.000	0.010	0.023	0.042
Support Services for Education	0.005	0.306	0.306	0.001	0.000	0.618
Public Health	0.000	0.004	0.002	0.007	0.000	0.013
Voluntary Unpaid Leave	0.032	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.032
<b>Total (£m)</b>	<b>1.025</b>	<b>5.886</b>	<b>4.382</b>	<b>1.033</b>	<b>0.507</b>	<b>12.833</b>
<b>Total (%)</b>	<b>7.99%</b>	<b>45.87%</b>	<b>34.15%</b>	<b>8.05%</b>	<b>3.95%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## Aged Debt – Service Commentary

### 6.4. Adults and Health: £6.310m

The amount of debt relating to Adults and Health has increased since quarter two but of particular concern is the increase in debt over 30 days old. There are several large invoices outstanding with other local authorities and the Clinical Commissioning Group. It is a top priority to bring down the overall Adults debt over 30 days old, but particularly those debts that is with partner agencies.

### 6.5. Children and Learning: £1.318m

The majority of the increase relates to invoices raised to the Clinical Commissioning Group for contributions towards costs of children in specialist provision with therapeutic and health related support. It is expected that settlement will be imminent.

Debts over 90 days are relatively low and represent only 3% of the total amount owed. The majority have repayment plans in place.

Invoices for services delivered to schools and academies through SSTEP

have recently been raised increasing the level of debt significantly when compared to quarter 2. These are expected to be settled within the agreed timescales set for debt recovery.

**6.6. Corporate and Support Services: £2.759m**

C&SS has a total of £0.056m debt over 90 days old. The majority of these relate to Property Services and are being chased by the service or are being dealt with by the Legal Debt Recovery team.

**6.7. Economic and Community Infrastructure: £2.433m**

ECI has a total of £0.376m debt over 90 days old. The largest single category over 90 days old is in relation to New Roads and Street Works Act charges (£0.131m), which is a reduction of 38.8% since Quarter 2. The service has recently written in detail to the most persistent offender with supporting evidence for payment.

Other categories of debt over 90 days old include a small number of remaining developer debts (£0.088m), a variety of transport debts, including County Ticket (£0.028m), and some outstanding payments for services such as Scientific Services (£0.042m).

**6.8. Public Health: £0.013m**

Public Health have outstanding debt over 30 days old of £9k, all of which is being managed through the Councils agreed debt procedures.

**7. The Core Council Programme (CCP)**

**7.1. Financial Imperative Programme (FIP)**

The financial imperative remains the primary focus of the Core Council Programme and resources continue to be prioritised to support, co-ordinate and monitor the activity required to drive through the delivery of financial savings. In terms of tracking the delivery of savings, 96% of the £12.81m of additional in-year savings approved by Cabinet in September 2018 (MTFP2) have either been delivered or are on track for delivery by 1 April 2019. In addition, 100% of the adjusted original 18/19 MTFP1 savings approved by Full Council in February 2018, amounting to £9.92m, are delivered or are on track to be delivered by 1 April. The approach has enabled the delivery of a balanced budget for 2019/20 with the identification and development of a further £15.4m of savings proposals for 2019/20 as part of the 2019-22 Medium Term Financial Plan.

**7.2. Other Programmes and Projects**

The following Core Council Programmes and Projects continue to be monitored, unless otherwise stated, with progress reported and aligned to the Financial Imperative activity.

- **Modernising Adult Social Care – The Adult's Transformation**

Programme has been reviewed and refreshed and will focus delivery of transformation around four themes to continue to promote independence for the residents of Somerset. These are: Promoting Independence; Learning Disability; Integration, and Technology.

- **Family Support Services** – planning continues to ensure the safe transfer of the Public Health Nursing (PHN) service into Somerset County Council as of the 1 April 2019.
- **Libraries Service Review** – the future of Somerset Libraries Services was decided by Cabinet on 5 November 2018. Workforce redevelopment and the delivery of new service models continues.
- **Improving Children’s Services** – Core Council Board (SLT 12/12/18) have agreed to split the remaining SEND Intervention activities between service-led inspection readiness and service transformation. The latter will form part of a rescoped Children’s Transformation Programme that is currently being mobilised to continue the improvement journey towards an Ofsted rating of ‘Good’, whilst linking to Financial Imperative activities and the PeopleToo initiatives.
- **Technology & People Programme (TAP)- Closed out of CCP**  
The Technology and People (TAP) Programme closed in November 2018 having succeeded in laying the foundations for ongoing technology and people transformation. 3,300 SCC staff have been upgraded to Windows 10 within a 12-month period enabling significant potential productivity improvement through reduced log in times alone. The number of unlicensed, out of date and unsupported business applications reduced from over 2,500 to just 380, significantly reducing costs and improving security.

**7.3.** Services are now expected to continue to explore and adopt new ways of working that will streamline processes and reduce cost, duplication and inefficiency to create a leaner, more flexible workforce. This has been, and will continue to be, an enabler for service savings that have supported the MTFP process. Further development of the Council-wide Technology Champion community and the Change & Adoption approach will help facilitate efficiencies across the Organisation going forward.

**7.4. Evolution of the Core Council Programme**  
The next evolution of the Core Council Programme during quarter 4 will consider the transformation and dependencies between new strategic priorities, the continued financial imperative work and what would need to be considered in relation to the organisation’s design principles.

## **8. Background papers**

- 8.1.** Cabinet – 12 Sept 2018 – Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19 Month 4  
Cabinet – 19 Dec 2018 – Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19 Month 7  
Cabinet – 23 Jan 2019 – Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19 Month 8  
Cabinet – 19 Dec 2018 – Medium Term Financial Plan Strategy Report

**Note:**

For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author(s):

**Adults and Health:** Lizzie Watkin, 01823 355212, [EWatkin@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:EWatkin@somerset.gov.uk)

**Children and Learning:** Lizzie Watkin, 01823 355212, [EWatkin@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:EWatkin@somerset.gov.uk)

**Economic & Community Infrastructure:** Sarah Rose, 01823 355643,  
[serose@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:serose@somerset.gov.uk)

**Support Services & Non-Service:** Sarah Rose, 01823 355643,  
[serose@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:serose@somerset.gov.uk)

**Financial Planning:** Leah Green, 01823 359785, [LXGreen@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:LXGreen@somerset.gov.uk)

Compiled by: Leah Green, 01823 359785, [LXGreen@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:LXGreen@somerset.gov.uk)



## Appendix A – Revenue Budget Monitoring Month 9 – Headline Summary Table

Service	Original Base Budget	Budget Movements	Total Budget Approvals	Negative (+) Variances	Positive (-) Variances	Planned Use of Earmarked Reserves	Planned Use of Capital Receipts Flexibility	Net Variance Under (-) / Overspend		Previous Cabinet Report *	Movement from Previous Report
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	%	£m	£m
Adults and Health	141.284	-7.661	133.623	8.043	-9.509	4.000	-2.534	<b>0.000</b>	0.00%	0.000	0.000
Children and Families - Operations	46.279	14.589	60.868	3.369	-1.669	0.000	-0.097	<b>1.602</b>	2.63%	1.540	0.062
Children and Learning - Commissioning	19.750	4.829	24.579	0.723	-1.826	0.574	-0.073	<b>-0.602</b>	-2.45%	-0.478	-0.124
Public Health (SCC funding)	1.026	-0.065	0.961	0.000	-0.580	0.000	0.000	<b>-0.580</b>	60.35%	-0.500	-0.080
ECI Services	66.745	-1.950	64.795	4.937	-5.295	-1.053	-0.772	<b>-2.182</b>	-3.37%	-1.817	-0.365
<b>Key Services Spending</b>	<b>275.084</b>	<b>9.742</b>	<b>284.826</b>	<b>17.072</b>	<b>-18.879</b>	<b>3.521</b>	<b>-3.476</b>	<b>-1.762</b>	<b>-0.62%</b>	<b>-1.255</b>	<b>-0.507</b>
Corporate and Support Services	20.106	1.047	21.153	4.602	-3.266	1.269	-2.486	<b>0.121</b>	0.57%	0.255	-0.134
Non-Service Items (Inc Debt Charges)	22.692	-10.789	11.903	2.947	-1.688	0.537	0.000	<b>1.796</b>	15.09%	1.770	0.026
Trading Units	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.700	-0.506	-0.194	0.000	<b>0.000</b>	0.00%	0.000	0.000
<b>Support Services and Corporate Spending</b>	<b>42.798</b>	<b>-9.742</b>	<b>33.056</b>	<b>8.249</b>	<b>-5.460</b>	<b>1.612</b>	<b>-2.486</b>	<b>1.917</b>	<b>5.80%</b>	<b>2.025</b>	<b>-0.108</b>
Updated Business Rates Receipts	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.338	-3.060	0.000	0.000	<b>-2.722</b>	0.00%	-1.691	-1.031
Technical Adjustment (Capital Receipts Flexibilities)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.500	<b>1.500</b>	0.00%	0.000	1.500
<b>SCC Total Spending</b>	<b>317.882</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>317.882</b>	<b>25.659</b>	<b>-27.399</b>	<b>5.133</b>	<b>-4.462</b>	<b>-1.067</b>	<b>-0.34%</b>	<b>-0.921</b>	<b>0.146</b>

Original Base Budget = Budget set by the Council on 21 February 2018

Budget Movements = Transfers between services, not affecting the total budget for 2018/19

Total Budget Approvals = Revised budget after movements

Positive variance = One that improves the projected outturn position

Negative variance = One that deteriorates the projected outturn position.

**Appendix B: Savings Month 9 Quarter 3 (2018/19)**

Service	Value of Approved Saving MTFP 1 & 2	Red (controlled)	Red (uncontrolled)	Green (on track)	Blue (delivered)
Adults and Health	7,034,000		73,300	432,700	6,528,000
Adults and Health - Commissioning	20,000				20,000
Public Health	107,000			107,000	
<b>Adults and Health</b>	<b>7,161,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>73,300</b>	<b>539,700</b>	<b>6,548,000</b>
Children and Families - Operations	1,692,400	125,400	256,000	887,000	424,000
Children and Learning - Commissioning Central	3,614,100	887,000	509,500	1,701,100	516,500
<b>Children's</b>	<b>5,306,500</b>	<b>1,012,400</b>	<b>765,500</b>	<b>2,588,100</b>	<b>940,500</b>
ECI Other Services	5,145,700		79,400	2,875,500	2,190,800
<b>Economic and Community Infrastructure</b>	<b>5,145,700</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>79,400</b>	<b>2,875,500</b>	<b>2,190,800</b>
<b>Key Service Spending</b>	<b>17,613,200</b>	<b>1,012,400</b>	<b>918,200</b>	<b>6,003,300</b>	<b>9,679,300</b>
Corporate and Support Services	4,922,400	1,751,728	121,800	325,172	2,723,700
<b>Corporate and Support Services</b>	<b>4,922,400</b>	<b>1,751,728</b>	<b>121,800</b>	<b>325,172</b>	<b>2,723,700</b>
<b>Total Services</b>	<b>22,535,600</b>	<b>2,764,128</b>	<b>1,040,000</b>	<b>6,328,472</b>	<b>12,403,000</b>
<b>Non-Service</b>	<b>3,696,000</b>				<b>3,696,000</b>
<b>Total Non-Service</b>	<b>3,696,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,696,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,231,600</b>	<b>2,764,128</b>	<b>1,040,000</b>	<b>6,328,472</b>	<b>16,099,000</b>
<b>Percentage</b>		<b>11%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>61%</b>

Somerset County Council  
Scrutiny for Polices and Place Committee

– 6 March 2019

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Social Value Policy Statement Refresh

Lead Officer: Paula Hewitt / Lead Director for ECI and Director for Commissioning

Author: Vikki Hearn / Strategic Manager, Commissioning Development

Contact Details: [vhearn@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:vhearn@somerset.gov.uk) / 07976692057

Cabinet Member: Cllr David Fothergill – Leader of the Council

Division and Local Member: All

## 1. Summary

- 1.1. The Social Value Policy Statement, which outlines how the Council will embed social value and demonstrates Somerset County Council's commitment to delivering social value benefits through our commissioning and procurement arrangements, requires a refresh.

The policy set out our agreed Social Value priorities and helps commissioners to identify social value opportunities through commissioning and procurement activity. Included in the background section is a link to the current Social Value Policy statement for comparison.

- 1.2. The Somerset County Council Business Plan states that to address Somerset's challenges we will demonstrate Social Value and Value for Money in all that we do.

## 2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1. It is a legal requirement (The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012) for Somerset County Council to have regard to economic, social and environmental well-being in connection with public services contracts; and for connected purposes. The Act requires Local Authorities to consider how the services they commission and procure which are expected to cost more than the thresholds provided for in the Public Contracts Regulations might improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area.
- 2.2. SCC goes further than the legal minimum and expects social value to be considered as part of the commissioning process every time we buy something (procurement) because we see one of our key roles as helping to ensure value for money (including social value) across whole systems. The Social Value Policy Statement is our public commitment to this and was last updated in 2016. Whilst no major changes are required, and only a few additions are recommended, it is important that we regularly review this document and our commitment. Scrutiny are therefore asked to endorse the revised Social Value Policy Statement.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. Somerset County Council has had a Social Value Policy Statement in place since 2014. This was refreshed in June 2016. The statement outlines our agreed definition of Social Value, how we intend to embed Social Value and our agreed Social Value priorities.
- 3.2. Guidance for commissioners and procurement staff to accompany the statement was produced in 2017 and this will be refreshed once Cabinet agreement has been acquired.

## 4. Consultations undertaken

- 4.1. The Strategic Commissioning Group (SCG) have contributed to the suggested changes contained within the refreshed document and are happy with retained priorities, as they remain relevant to the organisation. Our Equalities Officer has also been consulted as part of this. He requested the inclusion of disabled people in the first priority, recognising that they are an historically under-employed group. He is satisfied that the policy embraces the principles of the equality legislation
- 4.2. SCG have been asked to share the document with their teams to ensure there are no wider issues, or opportunities that we have not yet explored as part of this refresh. SCG membership covers the following areas of the organisation:
- Children's Commissioning
  - Adults and Health Commissioning
  - Public Health
  - Economies, communities and Infrastructure (ECI) Commissioning
  - Commercial and Procurement
  - Insurance
  - Legal
  - Finance
  - Business Change
  - ICT
  - Corporate Affairs and Customer and Communities

## 5. Implications

- 5.1. There are no financial or equalities implications resulting directly from this policy statement. There may be implications and cost savings opportunities on an individual commissioning level as social value requirements and possibilities are explored.
- 5.2. Under the provisions of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 (the Act) Somerset County Council is required to consider how the economic, social and environmental well-being of the county might be improved through the procurement of services. This policy statement sets out the Council's aims in this regard. In particular it seeks to:
- set out a definition of Social Value
  - set out the social value priorities for Somerset based on our vision and business plan objectives
  - describe how Social Value will work in practice

To help commissioners to meet these obligations and the commitments contained within the Social Value Policy Statement the Social Values Guidance for commissioners and procurement staff will also be refreshed.

## 6. Background papers

- 6.1. The current Social Value Policy Statement has been used as the basis for this refresh. This can be accessed [here](#).
- 6.2. The refreshed policy statement is attached.



Social Value Policy  
Statement refreshed \

**Note** For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author

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### Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee Work Programme

Agenda item	Meeting Date	Lead Officer
	<b>06 March 2019</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report		Elizabeth Watkin
Leisure Services Update		Jon Doyle
Social Value Policy Statement Refresh		Vikki Hearn/Paula Hewitt
	<b>05 April 2019</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report		Elizabeth Watkin
Connecting Devon and Somerset Programme Update		Katriona Lovelock
Scrutiny Task & Finish Group Protocol		Jamie Jackson
	<b>22 May 2019</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report		Elizabeth Watkin
Hinkley Point C Update		Andy Coupe/Paul Hickson
West Somerset Opportunities Area		Mel Roberts/Julia Ridge
	<b>19 June 2019</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report		Elizabeth Watkin
Rights of Way		Peter Hobley/Andrew Turner/Alyn Jones
SCC's Capital Investment Strategy		Peter Lewis/Elizabeth Watkin
	<b>10 July 2019</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report		Elizabeth Watkin
Property Disposal and County Farms Update		Claire Lovett/Paula Hewitt
	<b>18 September 2019</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report		Elizabeth Watkin
	<b>09 October 2019</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report		Elizabeth Watkin
	<b>04 November 2019</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report		Elizabeth Watkin
	<b>11 December 2019</b>	
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report		Elizabeth Watkin
Temporary Labour Contract Update		

**Note:** Members of the Scrutiny Committee and all other Members of Somerset County Council are invited to contribute items for inclusion in the work programme. Please contact Jamie Jackson, Service Manager Scrutiny, who will assist you in submitting your item. [jajackson@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:jajackson@somerset.gov.uk) 01823 359040

**To add:**

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## Somerset County Council Forward Plan of proposed Key Decisions

The County Council is required to set out details of planned key decisions at least 28 calendar days before they are due to be taken. This forward plan sets out key decisions to be taken at Cabinet meetings as well as individual key decisions to be taken by either the Leader, a Cabinet Member or an Officer. The very latest details can always be found on our website at:

<http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=134&RD=0&FD=1&bcr=1>

Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 defines a key decision as an executive decision which is likely:

- (a) to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the relevant local authority.

The Council has decided that the relevant threshold at or above which the decision is significant will be £500,000 for capital / revenue expenditure or savings. Money delegated to schools as part of the Scheme of Financial Management of Schools exercise is exempt from these thresholds once it is delegated to the school.

Cabinet meetings are held in public at County Hall unless Cabinet resolve for all or part of the meeting to be held in private in order to consider exempt information/confidential business. The Forward Plan will show where this is intended. Agendas and reports for Cabinet meetings are also published on the Council's website at least five clear working days before the meeting date.

Individual key decisions that are shown in the plan as being proposed to be taken "not before" a date will be taken within a month of that date, with the requirement that a report setting out the proposed decision will be published on the Council's website at least five working days before the date of decision. Any representations received will be considered by the decision maker at the decision meeting.

In addition to key decisions, the forward plan shown below lists other business that is scheduled to be considered at a Cabinet meeting during the period of the Plan, which will also include reports for information. The monthly printed plan is updated on an ad hoc basis during each month. *Where possible the County Council will attempt to keep to the dates shown in the Plan. It is quite likely, however, that some items will need to be rescheduled and new items added as new circumstances come to light.* Please ensure therefore that you refer to the most up to date plan.

For general enquiries about the Forward Plan:

- You can view it on the County Council web site at <http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=134&RD=0&FD=1&bcr=1>
- You can arrange to inspect it at County Hall (in Taunton).
- Alternatively, copies can be obtained from Scott Wooldridge or Michael Bryant in the Democratic Services Team by telephoning (01823) 357628 or 359500.

To view the Forward Plan on the website you will need a copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader available free from [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)  
Please note that it could take up to 2 minutes to download this PDF document depending on your Internet connection speed.

To make representations about proposed decisions:

Please contact the officer identified against the relevant decision in the Forward Plan to find out more information or about how your representations can be made and considered by the decision maker.

The Agenda and Papers for Cabinet meetings can be found on the County Council's website at:  
<http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=134&Year=0>

Weekly version of plan published on 1 February 2019

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<b>FP/19/01/07</b> First published: 22 January 2019	20 Feb 2019 Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care	Issue: Adult Social Care Fees and Charges 2019-20 Decision: Cabinet Member to agree the Adult Social Care Fees and Charges for 2019-20 including provider fee levels	Adult Social Care Fees and Charges 2019-20 Appendix A		Tim Baverstock, Strategic Commissioning Manager - Strategic Commissioning
<b>FP/18/12/08</b> First published: 18 December 2018	Not before 25th Feb 2019 Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Issue: Decision to extend contracts for Pathway to Independence (P2i) service for young people in Somerset Decision:	P2i Contract Extension Key Decision Feb19 150219		Rowina Clift-Shanley, Senior Programme Manager , Business Change
<b>FP/18/10/03</b> First published: 23 October 2018	Not before 11th Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Education and Council Transformation	Issue: A change to the protocol for schools converting to a sponsored academy retaining any surplus revenue balances, and the charging for academy conversions by the authority Decision: To consider the report			Ken Rushton, Service Manager - School Finance Tel: 01823356911

Weekly version of plan published on 1 February 2019

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<p><b>FP/18/11/11</b> First published: 21 November 2018</p>	<p>Not before 11th Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care</p>	<p>Issue: Decision to conclude the establishment of an Open Framework Agreement for Reablement Providers in Somerset Decision: To award an open framework that will ensure continued and new supply of reablement care across the county, mirroring the current arrangement for homecare. This follows interim contractual arrangements that were put in place following the unsuccessful</p>			<p>Tim Baverstock, Strategic Commissioning Manager - Strategic Commissioning</p>
<p><b>FP/19/01/02</b> First published: 3 January 2019</p>	<p>Not before 11th Mar 2019 Interim Finance Director</p>	<p>Issue: Acceptance of European Regional Development Funding for the Heart of the South West Inward Investment Project Decision: Approval for Somerset County Council (SCC), in its capacity as the accountable body for the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership, to accept £1,181,308 of European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) for the Heart of the South West Inward Investment Project and to enter into an associated funding agreement with the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)</p>			<p>Paul Hickson, Strategic Manager - Economy and Planning Tel: 07977 400838</p>

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<p><b>FP/18/12/09</b> First published: 20 December 2018</p>	<p>Not before 11th Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>Issue: Disposal of part of the Six Acres Day Centre site, Taunton Decision: Disposal of part of the Six Acres Day Centre site, Taunton</p>			<p>Charlie Field, Estates Manager, Corporate Property Tel: 01823355325</p>
<p><b>FP/18/11/10</b> First published: 20 November 2018</p>	<p>11 Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Community Infrastructure, Economic and Community Infrastruture Commissioning Director</p>	<p>Issue: Decision to approve revisions to the Connecting Devon and Somerset phase 2 deployment contracts Decision: To approve revisions to the Connecting Devon and Somerset phase 2 deployment contracts</p>			<p>Nathaniel Lucas, Senior Economic Development Officer Tel: 01823359210</p>
<p><b>To apporve the appointment of a preferred contractor to proceed with a 7 classroom expansion for September 2020</b> First published: 12 February 2019</p>	<p>Not before 11th Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Education and Council Transformation</p>	<p>Issue: Proposed Expansion of Willowdown Primary Academy, Bridgwater from 210 to 420 places Decision:</p>			<p>Elizabeth Smith, Service Manager – Schools Commissioning Tel: 01823 356260</p>
<p><b>FP/18/11/01</b> First published: 13 November 2018</p>	<p>11 Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport</p>	<p>Issue: Decision to extend the contract for Parking Enforcement and Related Services Decision: To extend the existing contract until June 2022 with apprirate break clauses</p>			<p>Steve Deakin, Parking Services Manager, Parking Services, Community and Traded Services Tel: 01823355137</p>

Weekly version of plan published on 1 February 2019

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<b>FP/19/01/12</b> First published: 5 February 2019	Not before 11th Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing	Issue: Adoption of the Somerset Air Quality Statement Decision: To agree the adoption of the statement			Stewart Brock, Public Health Specialist, Public Health Tel: 01823357235
<b>FP/10/01/11</b> First published: 5 February 2019	Not before 11th Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Education and Council Transformation	Issue: Bridgwater College Academy Expansion - Funding Decision: To agree funding as required			Elizabeth Smith, Service Manager – Schools Commissioning Tel: 01823 356260
<b>FP/18/06/08</b> First published: 19 June 2018	Not before 11th Mar 2019 Director of Commissioning and Lead Commissioner for Economic Community Infrastructure	Issue: To approve the appointment of a supplier to deliver the Wiveliscombe Enterprise Centre and Wells Technology Enterprise Centre Decision: To approve the appointment of a supplier	Key Decision Wells and Wiveliscombe		Nathaniel Lucas, Senior Economic Development Officer Tel: 01823359210
<b>FP/18/11/09</b> First published: 20 November 2018	Not before 11th Mar 2019 Director of Children's Services	Issue: Framework for the delivery of Food Produce to SCC properties Decision: Decision to award contract(s) to the successful supplier(s) following a competitive procurement exercise			Simon Clifford, Customers & Communities Director Tel: 01823359166

Weekly version of plan published on 1 February 2019

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<b>FP/19/01/09</b> First published: 29 January 2019	11 Feb 2019 Director of Adult Social Services	Issue: Award of contracts for care and support services within Extra Care Housing (ECH) Schemes in Somerset Decision: Decision to approve award of contract for care and support services to Extra Care Housing Schemes in Somerset			Steve Veevers, Strategic Commissioning Manager Tel: 01823359155
<b>FP/19/01/06</b> First published: 22 January 2019	11 Mar 2019 Cabinet	Issue: Proposal for merger of existing Children's Safeguarding Board Executive Arrangements with the Children's Trust Board Decision: Cabinet is asked to agree the merger of the two executive bodies to fulfil the new arrangements to safeguard children under the revised legislation (Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018) from October 2018			Caroline Dowson, SSCB Business Manager
<b>FP/19/01/13</b> First published: 5 February 2019	11 Mar 2019 Cabinet	Issue: Social Value Policy Statement Refresh Decision: To agree a refreshed Social Value Policy Statement to guide the social value priorities of the council			Vikki Hearn, Strategic Manager - Commissioning Development
<b>FP/19/02/04</b> First published: 21 February 2019	11 Mar 2019 Cabinet	Issue: Month 10 Revenue Budget Monitoring Decision: To consider this report			Interim Finance Director

Weekly version of plan published on 1 February 2019

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<p><b>FP/18/07/05</b> First published: 17 July 2018</p>	<p>11 Mar 2019 Cabinet</p>	<p>Issue: Equality Objectives 2019 - 2023 and Equality Commitment Decision: Asking Cabinet to agree a new set of Equality Objectives for 2019 - 2023 and the new Equality Commitment</p>			<p>Tom Rutland Tel: 01823 359221</p>
<p><b>FP/19/01/10</b> First published: 29 January 2019</p>	<p>11 Mar 2019 Cabinet</p>	<p>Issue: Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Enhanced Programme of Flood Risk Management Works and the SRA Memorandum and Understanding of Constitution Decision: As SCC is the accountable body for the SRA the Cabinet is asked to approve the allocation of funds raised through an additional notional amount of Council Tax, for use by the SRA in 2019-20. The Cabinet is also asked to agree forward funding of SRA works in advance of recouping costs from a Heart of the SW Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Deal allocation. Also review the 2019/20 MOU and approve for signing by the Cabinet Member for Resources and Economic Development</p>			<p>David Mitchell, Technical Lead: Projects and Studies, Transport Policy Tel: 01823356789</p>
<p><b>FP/18/12/04</b> First published: 10 December 2018</p>	<p>11 Mar 2019 Cabinet</p>	<p>Issue: Award of Contract Bridgwater Special School Decision: To consider the report</p>			<p>Phil Curd, Service Manager: Specialist Provision and School Transport Tel: 01823 355165</p>



Weekly version of plan published on 1 February 2019

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<b>FP/19/02/06</b> First published:	26 Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Issue: The School Building Condition Programme Decision: The Cabinet Member authorises appropriate officers under delegation to commission and deliver the School Building Condition programme within the allocation of capital funds for 2019/20 as approved by full Council on the 21 February 2019			Paula Hewitt, Director of Commissioning for Economic and Community Infrastructure Tel: 01823 359011
<b>FP/19/02/06</b> First published:	26 Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Education and Council Transformation, Director of Commissioning and Lead Commissioner for Economic Community Infrastructure	Issue: Creation of a new Academy in Somerset Decision: Chilton Trinity			Elizabeth Smith, Service Manager – Schools Commissioning Tel: 01823 356260
<b>FP/18/12/01</b> First published: 4 December 2018	Not before 13th Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Education and Council Transformation, Director of Commissioning and Lead Commissioner for Economic Community Infrastructure	Issue: Creation of New Academies in Somerset Decision: Brent Knoll Church of England Primary School; Charlton Horethorne Church of England Primary School; North Cadbury C of E Primary School; Pawlett Primary School			Elizabeth Smith, Service Manager – Schools Commissioning Tel: 01823 356260

Weekly version of plan published on 1 February 2019

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<b>FP/18/03/04</b> First published: 12 March 2018	Not before 13th Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	Issue: Procurement for the construction of traffic signals improvements at the Rowbarton junction in Taunton Decision: To commence the process to secure a contractor to deliver the scheme to improve the traffic signals at Rowbarton junction in Taunton			Sunita Mills, Service Commissioning Manager Tel: 01823 359763
<b>FP/18/02/08</b> First published: 13 February 2018	Not before 18th Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	Issue: Taunton Transport Strategy Decision: To agree to adopt the joint (with TDBC) Taunton Transport Strategy			Lucy Bath Tel: 01823 359465
<b>FP/19/02/03</b> First published: 19 February 2019	Not before 21st Mar 2019 Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Issue: Early Years Block - Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) 2019/20 Decision: The base rate for EYSFF for 2019/20 for 3 and 4 year olds as £3.96 per child hour. The hourly rate for funded 2 year olds to remain the same as 18/19 at £5.04 per child per hour			Alison Jeffery
<b>FP/19/02/01</b> First published: 12 February 2019	1 Apr 2019 Cabinet Member for Resources	Issue: Disposal of Two County Farms - Spring / Summer 2019 Decision: Authority to conclude negotiations for the disposal of two surplus farms and lands including those disposals to be conducted via a public auction as appropriate			Charlie Field, Estates Manager, Corporate Property Tel: 01823355325

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FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
<p><b>FP/18/12/05</b> First published: 10 December 2018</p>	<p>1 May 2019 Cabinet</p>	<p>Issue: The Somerset Children and Young Peoples Plan 2019-2022 Decision: The Children and Young Peoples Plan 2019-2022 is a multi-agency partnership vision for all children, young people and thier families to be happy, healthy and well-prepared for adulthood.</p>			<p>Philippa Granthier, Assistant Director - Commissioning and Performance, Children's Services Commissioning Tel: 01823 359054</p>
<p><b>FP/18/04/06</b> First published: 30 April 2018</p>	<p>Not before 3rd Jun 2019 Director of Commissioning and Lead Commissioner for Economic Community Infrastructure</p>	<p>Issue: Procurement of the HotSW Growth Hub Service Decision: To undertake the procurement of a Business Support Service (Growth Hub) on behalf of the HotSW LEP</p>			<p>Melanie Roberts, Service Manager - Economic Policy Tel: 01823359209</p>

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