
FULL COUNCIL SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

Wednesday, 12 February 2025

Item No.	Title
4	Council Organisation Structure
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Councillor Theo Butt Philip proposed that the Council accept the recommendations. This was seconded by Councillor Bill Revans.</p> <p>The proposal was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To endorse the proposed organisational structure as set out in the report and its appendices, ahead of the decision by the Head of Paid Service. 2. To note that where any proposed changes to service delivery, as a result of the organisation structure proposals, would impact on existing approved service standards, Executive have delegated authority to the relevant Service Director to revise the service standards and also complete a review of any impacted plans and policies (in consultation with their Executive Lead Member) before the end of May 2025. These were set out in Appendix B of the report.
5	Housing Revenue Account Rent Setting and Fees and Charges 2025-26
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Councillor Federica Smith-Roberts proposed the Council accepted the recommendations in the report. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Mandy Chilcott.</p>

	<p>The proposal was carried unanimously.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That Full Council approve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rent Setting for 2025/26 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. An increase of 2.7% on Dwelling Rents for 2025/26 in line with the Governments Rent Standard. b. An increase of 2.7% for Sheltered and Extra Care housing rents in line with the dwelling rents increase. c. An increase of 2.7% for Shared Ownership properties. d. An increase of 2.7% on affordable rental tenures, with the rent being reviewed at relet based on 80% of open market rent capped at the LHA rate. 2. Fees and Charges for 2025/26 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Service Charges for 2025/26 as shown in Appendix A of the report for Homes in Sedgemoor and Appendix B of the report for the In-House Service. b. An increase of 2.7% for garage rents in the North. c. A freeze on garage rents in the West. d. An increase of 1.7% on temporary accommodation daily rates. e. An increase of 1.7% for Meeting Hall hourly rental rates. f. An increase of 1.7% for Guest Room charges. g. To discontinue the lifeline subsidy from 1 April 2025 for all new tenants (whereas existing tenants will still benefit from this protection). 3. To note that the Revenue Budget for 2025/26, Capital Budget for 2025/26 to 2029/30, MTFP and 30-Year Business Plan Update will be presented to a later Executive / Full Council in February 2025.
6	Interim External Auditor's Annual Report for 2023-24
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Councillor Mike Hewitson proposed that the Council accept the recommendations in the report. Councillor Liz Leyshon seconded this proposal.</p> <p>The proposal was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the two Statutory Recommendations in the Auditor's Report and 2. Endorse the management responses and proposed actions set out in the report to Council.
7	Somerset Council Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Councillor Bill Revans proposed that the recommendation set out in the report be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Mandy Chilcott.</p> <p>The proposal was carried unanimously.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>To agree that the former Somerset County Council's Covert Surveillance (RIPA) Policy attached to the Report be re-adopted as amended, as the RIPA Policy for Somerset Council.</p>