

## County Vision

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Author:

Contact Details:

Cabinet Member: Cllr David Fothergill

Division and Local Member: All Cllrs

### 1. Summary

- 1.1. Members of the Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee are asked for their input into the draft County Vision 2018-21. The presentation to be tabled at the meeting will start to describe the key principles and ambitions the vision presents and will then give the opportunity to reflect the thoughts and consideration of scrutiny members. The same opportunity will be given to the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sectors and then to a meeting of strategic partners to build a consensus and agreement on a jointly supported vision across Somerset.

### 2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1. Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee are asked to reflect on and enhance the draft County Vision. Amendments will be taken into consideration and where appropriate will be accepted.

### 3. Background

- 3.1. The new Administration wishes to update the existing County Plan for Somerset County Council. The timeline for this update encompasses the quadrennium although in common with previous plans many of the initiatives and approaches are on a far longer timeline.
- 3.2. In previous Administrations, a detailed County Plan has been approved giving direction and strategic guidance to officers and politicians. It was felt that in some ways the County Plan process was trying to provide a detailed reference point for all the Council's services and with that scope had only a limited success.
- 3.3. The new approach for 2018-21 is to present a Vision instead of a Plan setting high level principles and direction of travel but flexible enough to adapt and change according to national government as well as local pressures and opportunities.
- 3.4. The accompanying presentation is in draft form and will flex and change according to input from a variety of audiences, forming a true consensus approach not just for Somerset County Council (SCC) but for the whole of Somerset and in some areas beyond our own boundaries.

### 4. Consultations undertaken

- 4.1. The Vision has been taken to the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise

(VSCE) quarterly forum and will be on the agenda for the VCSE's own high level strategic group meeting in November. It will also be the subject of a strategic partners conference to be held early next calendar year.

**4.2.** The finalised Vision will be taken to Full Council in February 2018.

## **5. Implications**

**5.1.** As a strategic Vision, the implications are significant across all SCC teams. The Vision will provide the necessary direction for key and non-key decisions and will be reflected across the Council's own planning and performance framework and our work with partners.

## **6. Background papers**

**6.1.** <http://www.somersetcountyplan.org.uk/>

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