

# Somerset County Council

## County Council

– 16 May 2018

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### Report of the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet – Items for Decision

Cabinet Member: Cllr D Fothergill – Leader of the Council

Division and Local Member: All

Lead Officer: Scott Wooldridge, Monitoring Officer and Strategic Manager – Governance and Risk

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## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the Leader of the Council's and the Cabinet's recommendations to Council. The Leader of Council is recommending the approval of the Vision to Council following its consideration at Cabinet and County Council meetings in November 2017 and subsequent consultation with partners and stakeholders (see Paper A). In addition, the Cabinet is recommending approval to the Capital Investment Programme for Schools, following consideration at its meeting on 2 May 2018 (see Paper B).
- 1.2 Paper A (Vision for Somerset) follows Cabinet's and County Council's consideration and support to the Vision in November 2017. That endorsement followed its consideration by the Scrutiny Committee Policies and Place on 31 October 2017.
- 1.3 Paper B (2018/19 Capital Investment Programme – Schools Programme) follows on from the Capital Investment Programme 2018/19 which was considered by the Scrutiny Committee Policies for Adults and Health on 24 January 2018, the Scrutiny Committee for Children and Families on 26 January 2018 and the Scrutiny Committee for Policies and Places on 30 January 2018. That programme was then considered and approved at the Cabinet meeting on 12 February and then the County Council meeting 21 February 2018.
- 1.4 Paper B provides an update on the Capital Investment Programme 2018/19 and future years to ensure the full extent of the Schools and Early Years building programme is understood and Lead Commissioners can enter contracts to deliver school places in advance of the approval of the future years full Capital Investment Programmes.

## 2.0 Recommendations

2.1 **Vision for Somerset** – see Paper A that the Leader of the Council is recommending to County Council for approval.

**The Council is recommended to:**

1. **Endorse and note that the newly drafted Vision:**
  - (i) **Can only be delivered along with partners across the public, private and voluntary sector.**
  - (ii) **Is a long term aspiration with a timescale for delivery over more than one Administration term.**
  - (iii) **Will form the basis for all decisions and impact assessments across the Council.**
2. **Endorse the approach that a wider Vision for Somerset be pursued with key partners and stakeholders through the Health and Wellbeing Board and its “Improving Lives” strategy**

2.2 **2018/19 Capital Investment Programme – Schools Programme** - see Paper B that Cabinet considered and endorsed at its meeting on 2 May 2018.

**The Council is recommended to approve a commitment to fund the full Capital Investment Programme requirement for the Schools and Early Years 2018/19 starts of £109,372,000 shown in table 1 of Paper B, noting the capital resources set out in section 2 of the report.**

## 3. Options considered and consultation undertaken

3.1 Options considered and details of consultation undertaken in respect of the recommendations set out above are set out in the reports and appendices within Papers A and B.

## 4. Implications

4.1 Financial, legal, Human Resources, equalities, human rights and risk implications in respect of the recommendations set out in this report are detailed within Papers A and B.

It is essential that consideration is given to the legal obligations and in particular to the need to exercise the equality duty under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to the impacts based on sufficient evidence appropriately analysed.

The duties placed on public bodies do not prevent difficult decisions being made such as, reorganisations and service reductions, nor does it stop decisions which may affect one group more than another. What the duties do is require consideration of all of the information, including the potential impacts and mitigations, to ensure a fully informed decision is made.

## **5. Background Papers**

5.1 These are set out within Papers A and B and their appendices.