

## **Business Plan for Somerset County Council 2021 - 2023**

Cabinet Member: Cllr David Fothergill, Leader of the Council

Division and Local Member: All

Lead Officer: Pat Flaherty – Chief Executive

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### **1. Summary/link to the Corporate Plan**

- 1.1.** This report summarises the proposed business plan (See appendix A) which details the strategic ambitions of the authority for the next 2 years. This plan aims to give residents, businesses, and communities a transparent view of the strategic direction of the organisation and provides a focal point from which all further strategic planning can grow.
- 1.2.** The plan details the context of the plan, the five overarching outcomes that the plan aims to achieve and the key priorities that will deliver those outcomes. Each key priority is given more detail to describe how the council will focus its efforts in achieving those priorities. Finally, the plan describes how the plan will be delivered and how delivery will be evidenced.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 Council is recommended to formally adopt the Business Plan in appendix A as the Business Plan for Somerset County Council until 2023**

### **3 Background**

- 3.1** The business plan states what the County Council will aim to achieve with partners and communities to deliver the County Vision. It performs the function of strategic direction for the authority at a step below, and in more detail than the County Council Vision, and above the individual service plans for each service within the organisation. This provides a 'golden thread' from each of the services up to the County Vision and demonstrates the cross-cutting work and focus of the authority.
- 3.2** This business plan builds on the work of the previous plan approved in 2018 but with a refreshed look at the key priorities for the County Council, cognisant of the changes that have occurred over that time.

- 3.3 The plan will provide a clear view to residents, businesses and partners, including through the refresh of the business plan website.
- 3.4 How the organisation will work towards the outcomes of the plan is described, and the performance reporting arrangements detailed in the plan will provide the mechanism to track progress against the business plan.

## 4. Implications

- 4.1 Financial: There are no direct financial implications to this document, the plan itself does not deliver projects, programmes or activities. However the ambitions within are subject to any changes to budget and funding which might affect the level of delivery in the service plans which sit underneath the business plan.
- 4.2 Legal: There are no legal implications to this recommendation being accepted, this business plan provides strategic direction only, however there may be future decisions in the delivery of this plan that themselves have legal implications and will need to follow the relevant processes
- 4.3 Risk: There are no specific risks to be linked to JCAD however failure to deliver the plan could cause reputational harm. This will be managed through consistent performance reporting and corrective management actions as outlined in the plan.
- 4.4 Impact Assessment: The Equalities Manager has confirmed that no Equalities Impact Assessment is necessary for the Business Plan.

The projects, programmes and activities referred to in the Business Plan will be (or have been) subject to appropriate impact assessments on an individual basis.

## 5. Background papers

- 5.1 Appendix A – Somerset County Council Business Plan 2021 - 2023