

Somerset County Council

County Council

- 23 February 2022

Report of the Leader and Cabinet – Items for Information

Cabinet Member: Cllr David Fothergill – Leader of the Council

Division and Local Member: All

Lead Officer: Scott Wooldridge - Strategic Manager – Governance & Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer

Author: Mike Bryant – Service Manager, Democratic Services and Michelle Brooks – Senior Democratic Services Officer

Contact Details: 01823 357628

1. Summary

- 1.1. This report covers key decisions taken by the Leader, Cabinet Members and officers between 13 November 2021 and 11 February 2022, together with the items of business discussed at the Cabinet meetings on 15 December 2021, 19 January 2022 and 15 February 2022.

The Leader and Cabinet Members may also wish to raise other issues at the County Council meeting.

2. Details of decisions

- 2.1. Agenda and papers for the Cabinet meetings held on 15 December 2021, 19 January 2022 and 15 February 2022 are published within the Cabinet webpages on the Council's website. Individual Leader, Cabinet Member and Officer key decision records and related reports are also published within the Cabinet webpages on the Council's website.

LEADER OF COUNCIL – *Cllr David Fothergill*

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Levelling Up Fund Grant Acceptance and Award of Initial Contract	7 February 2022 by the Leader of the Council	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: The Council was successful in bidding for just over £10m under round 1 of the levelling up fund, for investment in transport infrastructure to unlock growth on the Bridgwater A38 Northern Corridor running from M5 Junction 23 to the Canon/ Cross-Rifles Junction.</p> <p>This decision enabled Somerset County Council to enter a funding agreement (via a Memorandum of Understanding) with DfT by their deadline of 7th February 2022 in order that initial grant payments can be claimed this financial year, and also enabled the Council to award an initial contract for pre-construction design work on the Dunball junction element of the works.</p> <p>The recommendations specifically authorised: the signing of the MoU, the award of a pre-construction contract (valued at £722,032) for the Dunball Junction Improvements; and delegated authority to the Lead Director for Economic and Community Infrastructure to take further decisions as necessary within allocated budgets to progress the A38 Bridgwater Northern Corridor programme.</p> <p>Note – Special Urgency was used to progress this decision.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

RESOURCES – Cllr Mandy Chilcott

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Disposal of the Portway Centre, Wells	26 November 2021 by Cabinet Member for Resources	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: The Council is committed to the reduction of its property and land portfolio where practicable to reduce costs and to achieve capital receipts. This decision specifically enabled the disposal of SCC's interest in the surplus asset known as the Portway Centre in Wells, with property sold to Wells City Council, who will use the space for local community events and groups.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
iAero Centre Leonardo Lease Arrangements	14 January 2022 by Cabinet Member for Resources	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This decision was necessary to enable Somerset County Council to seek to conclude lease arrangements with Leonardo for part of the iAero Centre and to maximise the local economic benefits of both Leonardo's presence in Somerset.</p> <p>Specifically, this decision authorised Somerset County Council (SCC) to enter into a lease agreement with Leonardo UK Ltd for part of the iAero Centre, Yeovil in line with the final draft heads of terms, providing that SCC Legal has confirmed that the terms of the lease are acceptable to SCC. Delegation was authorised to the Lead Director Economic and Community Infrastructure and Director of Commissioning to approve any minor amendments to the final Heads of Terms that may result once the proposed Underlease has been drafted and reviewed by Leonardo UK Ltd.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
Award for the	7 February 2022 by	SUMMARY OF DECISION: This decision looked to authorise the award of contract for

RESOURCES – Cllr Mandy Chilcott

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Provision of Somerset County Council Cleaning Contract	the Director for Economic and Community Infrastructure Commissioning	<p>provision of Somerset County Council (SCC) corporate cleaning from 1 August 2022 to replace the four-year contract that expires on 31 July 2022. The contract will continue to provide SCC with access to cleaning services for a variety of buildings including County Hall, Libraries and Family Centres.</p> <p>The Director for Economic and Community Infrastructure Commissioning approved the award of the contract to the supplier set out in confidential Appendix Aii.</p>
Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23	14 February 2022 by Cabinet	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This report requested that the Cabinet endorse and recommend for approval by full Council the Treasury Borrowing Strategy, the Treasury Investment Strategy and adopt the Prudential Treasury indicators. In addition, the Cabinet noted the Treasury Management Practices attached as an appendix to the report.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
Utility Contracts: Recommendation CCS	14 February 2022 by Cabinet	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This decision saw Cabinet approve Somerset County Council (SCC) entering a longer-term energy trading strategy with Crown Commercial Services (CCS) under the terms of the Customer Access Agreement entered into between SCC and CCS on 20 September 2021, purchasing energy for the Council's corporate estate, maintained schools and highways lighting. It also saw the Cabinet approve the purchasing of electricity on tariffs that exclude fossil fuels, in line with the Climate Emergency Strategy.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

RESOURCES – Cllr Mandy Chilcott

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Somerset County Council Social Value Policy	14 February 2022 by Cabinet	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: Social Value is a process whereby organisations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis in terms of generating benefits not only to the organisation, but also to society and the economy, whilst minimising damage to the environment.</p> <p>This report builds upon the Councils existing social value policy statement approved by Cabinet in March 2019 and saw the Cabinet approve a new Social Value Policy for the Council. This policy is in accordance with the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 and having now been approved will be imbedded into SCC commissioning and procurement processes and reviewed annually.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE – Cllr David Hall

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Decision to accept UK Community Renewal Funding	9 December 2021 by Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Community Infrastructure	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: The UK Government has provided £220 million of funding through the UK Community Renewal Fund to support pilot programmes and test new approaches to support local economic growth, prior to the introduction of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This Fund invests in projects that cover one or more of the investment priorities of skills, community and place, local business, and supporting people into employment. Somerset County Council, as the Lead Authority, has been awarded £3,639,018 of funding to pass to partners to deliver 8 projects. This decision was taken to accept the funding and sign the Grant Funding Agreement.</p> <p>This decision specifically saw the Deputy Chief Executive, Lead Director for Economic and Community Infrastructure & Director of Commissioning and Director of Finance & Governance agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- accept the UK Community Renewal Funding and sign the Grant Funding Agreement- cash flow the total value of the grant to allow regular grant payment to be made to project delivery partners- make advance payments, to delivery partners, for localised grant schemes to ensure expediency of processing grants to individuals and/or businesses- delegate authority to the Strategic Commissioning Manager – Economy and Planning, to approve, and sign, the sub-funding agreements with delivery partners. <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
Kier Settlement	23 December 2021 by Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Community	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: SWP (Somerset Waste Partnership) and Kier have been disputing a number of costs in relation to the collection contract which was terminated on 27 March 2020. A commercial settlement has been reached between SWP and Kier, which will result in full and final settlement of the issues. The outcome of the settlement is commercially confidential. The settlement agreement precludes further action over the matter and protects SCC against risks. As a result, Kier have agreed to</p>

	Infrastructure	<p>pay SCC a sum in settlement of the matter.</p> <p>This decision specifically approved a commercially confidential settlement agreement with Kier Recycling CIC.</p> <p>Note – Special Urgency procedures were used to progress this decision.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p>
Award of contract for the supply of library shelf-ready physical books for Adults and Children	31 January 2022 by Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Community Infrastructure	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This decision enabled SCC to award a contract for the supply of library shelf-ready physical books for Adults and Children.</p> <p>Specifically, this decision approved:</p> <p>Council and the four Libraries West Authorities for whom SCC processes invoices, to a maximum value of £999,999 per annum for up to 5 years. (Over 5 years the maximum potential value for all Authorities is £4,999,999.)</p> <p>3. the anticipated annual spend for Somerset County Council Library Service for physical books for children in an annual range between £102,704 to £130,000. (Over 5 years the anticipated spend is in a range from £513,520 to £650,000).</p> <p>4. the anticipated annual spend for Somerset County Council Library Service for physical books for adults in an annual range between £241,684 to £280,000. (Over 5 years the anticipated spend is in a range from £1,208,420 to £1,400,000.)</p> <p>5. the delegation of the purchase of resources and the management of this process to council officers with responsibility for managing physical stock budgets (Service Manager: Development) and endorses day to day officer decision making to flex expenditure between purchases for children and adults within the scope of the overall library stock budget.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p>

		REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.
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ADULT SOCIAL CARE – *Cllr David Huxtable*

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Decision to award a contract for the Personalised Budget Brokerage, Advice and Support Service	15 November 2021 by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: The County Council has a statutory duty to consider requests for direct payments to social care clients who wish to receive their personal budgets in this way. The Children and Families Act also conferred the rights of those with an Educational Health and Care plan to receive the monies via a direct payment. A support service for people is crucial to the success of Direct Payments, as well as ensuring that Social Workers are not diverted from their care and support planning work by having to assist with the financial and administrative paperwork.</p> <p>Somerset County Council’s current contract for this support service expires on 31st March 2022. This decision confirmed the successful award of a contract to provide these services, following a rigorous open tender exercise and endorsed the procurement process and approved the contract award and recommendations detailed in Appendix B (Confidential Tender Evaluation Report) for the provision of a Direct Payment and Personal Health Budget support service.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

CUSTOMERS AND COMMUNITIES – Cllr Christine Lawrence

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
No individual decisions	n/a	n/a

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH – Cllr Clare Paul

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Annual Report of the Director of Public Health	15 December 2021 by Cabinet	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: The production of an annual report is a statutory obligation for Directors of Public Health. It is an opportunity for the DPH (Director of Public Health) to give an independent view of health and wellbeing priorities in the county.</p> <p>Specifically, this decision received agreement from Cabinet to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Support and promote continued vigilance of COVID-19 in the local population and the importance of testing and vaccination, including against 'flu'.2. Commit to the improvement of digital access in education for all children and young people in Somerset.3. Support the ongoing efforts to nurture and strengthen children and young people's mental health.4. Acknowledge and endorse the recommendations in the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health. <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p>

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH – Cllr Clare Paul

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
		REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH – Cllr Clare Paul

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Public Health Nursing Services award of contract for safeguarding training, supervision and support	5 January 2022 by Public Health Director	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This report sought to recommend the award of the contract for the re-commissioning of the Public Health Nursing Safeguarding Service. This specialist service provides safeguarding training, supervision, and advice to the Public Health Nursing Service (PHNS) workforce to ensure they can fulfil their statutory duties in relation to safeguarding children and adults to the highest standard. The current contract expires 31st March 2022 and this decision approved the award of a contract for 3 years commencing on 1st April 2022 with an option to extend for a further 2-years to the preferred supplier.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
Admission Arrangements for Voluntary Controlled and Community Schools for 2023/24	14 February 2022 by Cabinet	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: Admission Authorities are required by the School Admissions Code and associated legislation to determine their admission arrangements annually and Cabinet, acting as the Admission Authority for all Somerset Voluntary Controlled and Community schools is required to fulfil this function in relation to the 2023/24 admission arrangements.</p> <p>This decision specifically saw the Cabinet approve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The determination of the Admission Arrangements for all Voluntary Controlled and Community Schools for 2023/24 as set out in this report.2. A change to the catchment and designated transport area for St Bartholomew's CofE Primary School to encompass the current Misterton First School catchment area and designated transport area. <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report</p>

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH – Cllr Clare Paul

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Creation of New Academies in Somerset	12 January 2022 by Cabinet Member for Education and Public Health, Director of Commissioning and Lead Commissioner for Economic Community Infrastructure	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This is a technical decision whereby The Secretary of State for Education has directed via an Academy Order, the conversion to Academy Status of five schools, with the below agreed:</p> <p>a) authorisation for the County Council to enter into a Commercial Transfer Agreement relating to the transfer of the staff, assets and contracts of the following schools to the Trust:</p> <p>St Gildas Catholic Primary School Voluntary Aided 01/03/2022 Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Primary School Voluntary Aided 01/03/2022 St Joseph and St Teresa Catholic Primary School Voluntary Aided 01/03/2022 St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Bridgwater Voluntary Aided 01/03/2022 St Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School, Burnham on Sea Voluntary Aided 01/03/2022</p> <p>b) the approval of the statutory transfer of the freehold interest in part of the St Joseph and St Teresa Catholic Primary School site to the Clifton Diocese and also grant of a 125-year leasehold interest for the playing field at the site to The Dunstan Catholic Educational Trust</p> <p>c) the approval of the grant of a 125-year leasehold interest for the playing field at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Bridgwater to The Dunstan Catholic Educational Trust</p> <p>d) the approval of the surrender of the existing sublease held by Somerset County Council of the playing fields situated at St Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School, Burnham on Sea</p>

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH – Cllr Clare Paul

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
		<p>e) Somerset County Council has no transferable interest in the premises at St Gildas Catholic Primary School (as set out in the attached officer report).</p> <p>f) Somerset County Council has no transferable interest in the premises at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Primary School</p> <p>g) authorisation of the appropriate officers under delegation to undertake all necessary actions to give effect to the above and any supporting documentation that maybe required to give effect to the same</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report</p>

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – Cllr Frances Nicholson

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Somerset Family Support Services contract award	23 December 2021 by Cabinet Member for Children and Families	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This decision saw Somerset County Council seek to contract with a provider to run an early help service for families with complex needs. Following the procurement process and delivered a winning bid from a proposed successful provider. The new contract was approved and will run for 60 months (3 years with two options to extend for one year each) with an annual cost of £120,000 and a total contract cost of £600,000. The contract was offered as four geographical 'lots', enabling a provider to bid for one or more district areas of Somerset</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

Household Support Fund December 2021	23 December 2021 by Cabinet Member for Children and Families	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: On the 6 October 2021 the Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) wrote to Local Authorities to announce the Household Support Fund grant (HSF) to support those most in need through the coming winter. The sum allocated to Somerset is £3,820,415.56. The funding will be provided as a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003. The purpose of the grant is to support households in need with the cost of food, energy, water bills and other essentials between 6 October 2021 and 31 March 2022. This is a new grant and not linked to previous Local Support Grant or other Covid-related schemes.</p> <p>This decision gave authority for SCC to accept the HSF grant of £3,820,415.56 to be used in line with the published guidance to meet the needs of vulnerable households in Somerset as detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The allocation of up to £1,100,000 of the grant to schools and colleges to fund vouchers to meet the needs of children and young people on free school meals for holiday periods up to and including Easter 2022.• The allocation of £400,000 to ensure eligible individuals and families supported by SCC Children's Services can meet the cost of household essentials.• The allocation of up to £1.7m to be distributed via community partnerships led and co-ordinated by the five Somerset Citizens Advice to meet essential needs of vulnerable households.• The allocation of £80,000 as a contribution to Somerset Community Foundation Surviving Winter grant programme to support households in fuel poverty.• The allocation of £100,000 to meet the needs of households supported through the Safe Warm Somerset helpline.• The reservation of £440,415 unallocated to provide flexibility and responsive distribution as the programme is delivered through the funded period.
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		<p>Note – Special Urgency was used to progress this decision.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

COUNCIL TRANSFORMATION – Cllr Faye Purbrick

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Device Refresh Project	19 November 2021 by Cabinet Member for Transformation and Local Government Reform	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: Many Council issued devices are now out of warranty, coming to the end of their economic life and incompatible with the latest version of Windows, there is a requirement to procure replacements for these devices prior to Local Government reorganisation in the County.</p> <p>This decision specifically sought agreement for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Noting the outcome of the “Lot 6 NHS Shared Business Services ‘Digital Workplace Hardware’ – SBS1044” tender process and approved the award to the preferred supplier, as set out in Appendix 1; 2) Delegating authority to the Director of HR/OD to (i) (in consultation with the County Solicitor) finalise the terms of the preferred supplier’s tender. (ii) enter into the contract with the preferred supplier on behalf of the Council. <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

Selection of Preferred Partner in Relation to Future Business Support System	19 January 2022 by Cabinet	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: Somerset County Council's current contract for SAP software licences and support, governed by a Software Licence and Maintenance Agreement, ended on 31 March 2021. The Council subsequently took up the option to extend the contract under the initial term of the Agreement for the full two years allowable. The current arrangement expires on 31 March 2023 and a new solution needs to be procured and implemented in the next 14 months.</p> <p>This decision considered the business case, detailing the options available for the future system, the approach taken to considering the system that best meets requirements and the most appropriate way forward.</p> <p>Specifically, this decision agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The appointment of the preferred SI (Service Integrator) partner in accordance with the confidential business case (appendix one of the report), as the SI to initially undertake the discovery stage of the ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) as per the cost detailed in the business case;b) That an updated report will be brought to Cabinet in March 2022 detailing the outcomes of the discovery stage (including the impact on other application projects) and considering detailed costs and next steps, and the procurement of licences;c) That officers will apprise the LGR (Local Government Reorganisation) Programme Board of the project proposals and will seek the formal engagement of the District Councils of Sedgemoor, Mendip, Somerset West & Taunton and South Somerset in the discovery stage to inform the feasibility, analysis and design;d) To ensure full involvement with the with the District Councils occurs on this most critical of decisions, in consultation with the Senior Leadership and Political Leadership Teams through the LGR Programme Governance arrangements;e) That a full exploration of a fall-back position of SAP takes place;f) That the risks of this decision be fully considered as part of Somerset County Council's risk register and as part of the Local Government Reorganisation Risks;g) The case for appendix one to be regarded as exempt information and to be treated in confidence.
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		<p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
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HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT – Cllr John Woodman

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Decision to Award the Traffic Signal & Ancillary Equipment Maintenance Contract	13 December 2021 by Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: The current Traffic Signals and Ancillary Equipment contract with Siemens is due to expire on the on the 31st March 2022. The current contract covers the maintenance of over 380 Traffic Signals and Ancillary Equipment across the whole of Somerset.</p> <p>Following a procurement exercise which involved working with Legal and Procurement teams this decision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Authorised SCC to enter into a term service contract for the maintenance of Traffic Signal and Ancillary Equipment across Somerset with the supply identified within Appendix A of the report.2. Agreed that the case for exempt information for Appendix A to be treated in confidence, as public disclosure of the commercially sensitive data contained within would prejudice the Council's position in ensuring competitiveness of future tender processes, with the County Council reserves the right to not proceed with the award of a contract should new information come to light during the standstill period and/or before entering into a contract. In this instance, it is recommended that the ECI Operations Director and the Director of Finance be given joint delegated authority to take any necessary action in relation to the conclusion of the contract to protect the Council interests - this could include a decision not to enter a contract and go back out to market. <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT – Cllr John Woodman

Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Decision relating to the Fleet Maintenance Contract	3 February 2022 by the ECI Operations Director	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: The current Fleet Maintenance Contract is due to end 31st March 2022, with no further extension options available through the current contract. Both parties have agreed to enter into a new 2-year call off contract subject to final decision making. The current Fleet Maintenance contract covers provision for all SCC owned Fleet with the exception of gritters which fall under the winter maintenance Contract and this decision approved the award of a new 2-year call-off contract to Milestone for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2024, through the existing framework for fleet maintenance and body repair services dated 1 April 2018. This enabled the current arrangements to continue, also agreed to a variation to the price review provisions in the call-off terms and conditions so that that a rate of 5% shall apply both on commencement of the call off contract and again on the first anniversary of the call off contract.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

CROSS CUTTING – All		
Item	Date of Meeting	Summary of Decision
Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Month 7	15 December 2021 by Cabinet	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This report is produced monthly to ensure that the Council continues to maintain tight financial control over its budget.</p> <p>Month 7 reported an overall forecast outturn position of a £1.3m favourable variance after taking into account all service expenditure and contingencies against a net budget of £357.4m which represents a variance of 0.36%.</p> <p>Cabinet received a verbal update on the MTFP and Financial Settlement. Furthermore, noted the overall forecast underspend of £1.3m and the key risks, future issues and opportunities detailed in the report which will be closely monitored and updated throughout the year and that all of the £10.8m Covid- 19 Emergency Fund is expected to be fully spent within the year.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

<p>Crewkerne and Ilminster Conditioning programme</p>	<p>7 January 2022 by Cabinet Member for Education and Public Health, Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: On 17th March 2021, a key decision was made to move schools in Crewkerne and Ilminster from the existing three-tier structure to two tiers. The schools affected by this change have a range of outstanding maintenance needs which require addressing. The County Council agreed funding of £5.1m to improve the condition of school buildings in Crewkerne and Ilminster within the allocation of capital funds for 2021/22, as approved by Full Council on the 17th February 2021. Approval is now required to enable officers to procure and deliver this programme of condition improvement works.</p> <p>This decision specifically authorised:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that within the allocation of capital funds for 2021/22 as approved by Full Council on 17th February 2021, the Cabinet member for Education and the appropriate officers in the Corporate Property function, under delegation to agree projects for inclusion in the Crewkerne & Ilminster schools condition programme based on prioritisation of need; to commission and deliver the agreed projects for the programme and (in consultation with relevant officers from the Commercial and Procurement function) to decide on the most appropriate means of procurement in each case; 2. the appropriate officers in the Corporate Property function, in consultation with relevant officers from the Commercial and Procurement function under delegation to competitively procure all contracts relating to the capital projects in accordance with the Authority's Contract Procedure Rules and public procurement law; 3. that the Lead Director – ECI/Director of Commissioning, the Head of Corporate Property, Strategic Manager – Estates, and the Corporate Surveyor within their respective authorities as set out in the scheme of delegation, and in consultation with the Head of Legal Services, to appoint consultants, place orders, and award contracts where the values of the contracts can be delivered within the overall programme
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		<p>budget approval of £5.1m as approved by the County Council on the 17th February 2021.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
<p>Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – month 8</p>	<p>19 January 2022 by Cabinet</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This report is produced monthly to ensure that the Council continues to maintain tight financial control over its budget. Month 8 report a projected outturn position of £356.2m against a net budget of £357.3m. This gave a £1.1m favourable variance which represents a variance of 0.3%.</p> <p>Specifically, Cabinet noted the overall forecast underspend of £1.1m and the key risks, future issues and opportunities detailed in the report to be closely monitored and updated throughout the year. Furthermore, approved the use of £1.4m Covid-19 Emergency Fund for use against additional pressures in Children’s Services relating to the pandemic.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

<p>Medium Term Financial Plan – 2022/23 Budget Update</p>	<p>19 January 2022 by Cabinet</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This report set out details of the draft Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2022/23 together with Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) projections for 2023/24 and 2024/25. This built upon the update to Cabinet on the 20th October 2021 which set out the 2022/23 Medium Term Strategy and Plan.</p> <p>This decision specifically saw Cabinet: approve the draft 2022/23 Revenue Budget and Capital Scheme proposals as the basis for consulting all three Scrutiny Committees in January / February; agree to receive the final budget proposals at its February meeting, including the comments and feedback from Scrutiny; approve two all member budget briefings sessions to ensure full member engagement and understanding of the budget prior to its consideration at Council; and approve the schools block funding as outlined in Appendix 4 of the report.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
<p>Somerset Waste Partnership Draft Business Plan 2022 – 2027, Draft 2022/23 Budget</p>	<p>19 January 2022 by Cabinet</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This report sought a decision from the Cabinet on the Somerset Waste Partnership’s Draft Business Plan 2022-2027. The plan provided a framework within which the Somerset Waste Board (SWB) could make decisions and steer the delivery of waste partnership services, sought the approval of the draft budget for 2022/23 with the draft Business Plan and draft 2022/23 budget approved for consultation with partners by Somerset Waste Board in December 2021.</p> <p>The Cabinet approved the Somerset Waste Partnership’s Draft Business Plan 2022-27 and the Somerset Waste Partnership’s Draft Disposal Budget.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>

Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – month 9	14 February 2022 by Cabinet	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This report is produced monthly to ensure that the Council continues to maintain tight financial control over its budget. The report specifically highlighted that after taking into account all service expenditure and contingencies the projected outturn position is £356.4m against a net budget of £357.5m. This gives a £1.1m favourable variance which represents a variance of 0.3%. Overall, there has been no movement since the month eight position.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 – Revenue and Capital Proposals	14 February 2022 by Cabinet	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: This budget report set out the spending plans for next year which will be the final budget for Somerset County Council. It specifically highlighted areas of priority to support residents across Somerset as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £18.092m increased spending in Adults Services • £12.317m increased spending in Children’s Services • £2.530m increased spending in Economic and Community Infrastructure Services • Council tax rise of 1.99% with a further 1% adults social care precept <p>The budget also contained detail of the significant capital investment of £48.4m in schools, roads, climate change and other projects across the county as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £24.2m allocated to road schemes in 2022/23 • A further £8.3m for schools • £1.0m for Small Improvement Member Schemes • £2.6m for Children’s Placements • £1.9m to support Climate Change (decarbonisation schemes and electric fleet vehicles)

		<p>Preparation for the 2022/23 budget were reported to Cabinet in October 2021 and January 2022 and highlighted the continued impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, preparations for Local Government Reorganisation, and Government changes to social care. The report included the Revenue and Capital Budgets, levels of Council Tax and other supporting documents as part of the statutory requirements to set a balanced budget for 2022/23.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
<p>Decision to Award Contracts – Community Equipment and Wheelchair Services</p>	<p>14 February 2022 by Cabinet</p>	<p>SUMMARY OF DECISION: The aim of the community equipment and wheelchair services is to enable Adults, Children, Young People and/or their Carers to have access to a range of equipment, amongst which is the ceiling track hoist service, wheelchair and postural seating services, issued in accordance with assessed needs.</p> <p>This decision saw the Cabinet approve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The award of contract for the Community Equipment and Wheelchair Service in Somerset to Bidder A. From 1st of August 2022 for a period of 5 years with an optional 24-month extension as detailed in Appendix A – Confidential Tender Evaluation Report 2. Agrees the case for applying the exempt information provision as set out in the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A and therefore to treat the attached Appendix A in confidence, as it contains commercially sensitive information, and as the case for the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing that information. 3. Subject to the approval of recommendation 2 above, agree to exclude the press and public from the meeting where there is any discussion at the meeting regarding exempt or confidential information. Exclusion of the Press and Public To consider passing a resolution under Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 to exclude the press and public from the meeting on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood

		<p>of disclosure of exempt information, within the meaning of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972: Reason: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). 4.</p> <p>Authorises the Director of Adult Social Care to sign the contract with the preferred supplier on behalf of the authority and to determine in due course whether to utilise the optional 24-month extension.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.</p> <p>REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.</p>
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