

# Heart of the South West Joint Committee

**Friday 24 June 2022**

**11.30 am John Meikle Room, The Deane House,  
Taunton**

To: The Members of the Heart of the South West Joint Committee

## **Nominated Members**

Cllr John Hart	Leader - Devon County Council
Cllr Bill Revans	Leader - Somerset County Council
Cllr Tudor Evans	Leader - Plymouth City Council
Cllr Steve Darling	Leader - Torbay Council
Cllr Philip Bialyk	Leader - Exeter City Council
Cllr Bob Deed	Leader - Mid Devon District Council
Cllr Judy Pearce	Leader - South Hams District Council
Cllr Ken James	Leader - Torridge District Council
Cllr Neil Jory	Leader - West Devon Borough Council
Cllr Val Keitch	Leader - South Somerset District Council
Cllr Frederica Smith-Roberts	Leader - Somerset West & Taunton Council
Cllr Andrea Davis	Deputy Chairman - Exmoor National Park Authority
Cllr Gordon Hook	Leader – Teignbridge District Council
Cllr Duncan McGinty	Leader – Sedgemoor District Council
Cllr David Worden	Leader – North Devon District Council
Ms Pamela Woods	Chairman – Dartmoor National Park Authority
Cllr Ros Wyke	Leader – Mendip District Council
Cllr Paul Arnott	Leader – East Devon District Council

## **Nominated Substitute Members**

Cllr Paul Hayward	East Devon District Council
Cllr Rachel Sutton	Exeter City Council
Cllr Peter Smith	Plymouth City Council
Cllr Marcus Kravis	Somerset West & Taunton Council
Cllr Malcolm Prowse	North Devon District Council
Cllr Lois Samuel	West Devon District Council
Cllr John Clark	South Somerset District Council
Cllr Alistair Dewhirst	Teignbridge District Council
Cllr Gill Slocombe	Sedgemoor District Council
Cllr Claire Hodson	Torridge District Council
Andrew Cooper	Secretary of State Appointee - Dartmoor National Park Authority
Cllr Hilary Bastone	South Hams District Council
Robin Milton	Exmoor National Park Authority
Cllr Luke Taylor	Mid Devon District Council
Cllr Darren Cowell	Torbay Council
Cllr Liz Leyshon	Somerset County Council
Cllr Liz Leyshon	Mendip District Council

Cllr James McInnes	Devon County Council
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### Non-voting Members

Karl Tucker	Chairman - Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership
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Issued By Scott Wooldridge, Head of Governance and Democratic Services – 16 June 2022

For further information about the meeting, please contact Mike Bryant, Democratic Services, Somerset County Council [democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk) or 01823 357628

Guidance about procedures at the meeting follows the printed agenda.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

This agenda and the attached reports and background papers are available on request prior to the meeting in large print, Braille, audio tape & disc and can be translated into different languages. They can also be accessed via the council's website on [www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers)



**RNID typetalk**

## **AGENDA**

Item Heart of the South West Joint Committee - 11.30 am Friday 24 June 2022

1 **Apologies for Absence**

To be reported and recorded.

2 **Election of Chair**

To elect a Chair for the municipal year.

3 **Election of Vice Chair**

To elect a Vice Chair for the municipal year.

4 **Declarations of Interest**

Any new Declarations of Interest are to be reported and recorded.

5 **Minutes of the October 2021 Meeting (to follow)**

To agree the minutes as a correct record.

6 **Membership and Meeting Dates for 2022/23**

To receive the report.

7 **HotSW Budget Outturn 2021 and Proposals for 2022/23 (Pages 5 - 10)**

To consider this report.

8 **Any other business**

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## **Heart of the South West Joint Committee Budget 2021/22 outturn and draft budget for 2022/23**

Lead Officer: Patrick Flaherty, Chief Executive, Somerset County Council  
Author: Scott Wooldridge, Monitoring Officer, Somerset County Council  
Contact Details: 01823 357628

### **1. Summary**

- 1.1.** This report provides an update for the Constituent Authorities on the outturn of the Joint Committee's pooled budget for 2021/22 and proposals for the 2022/23 budget.

### **2. Recommendations**

**2.1. It is recommended that:**

**(a) the outturn for 2021/22 is received and in particular the residual budget available for 2022/23 (see section 4.4);**

**(b) the Joint Committee agrees to extend Somerset County Council's role as the Administering Authority until the next Annual General Meeting in June 2023 (see 4.5.4) ; and**

**(c) the revised draft 2021/22 Budget is endorsed (see section 4.5).**

### **3. Reasons for recommendations**

- 3.1** It is essential that the Joint Committee remains fit for purpose, represents a sustainable way of working into the future; and delivers value for the resources committed to it by the Constituent Authorities. To that end it is important that the Committee reviews its funding allocations, support arrangements and proposed future funding commitments and makes any appropriate adjustments in order to support the delivery of its priorities.

## 4. Background

4.1 The Joint Committee has previously agreed its focus into the following areas:

- Strategic policy development
- Influencing Government / key agencies to achieve direct intervention, support, funding and powers
- Designing and delivering strategic HotSW responses to 'Government' offers
- Designing and delivering public sector reform where this will deliver improved productivity, eg in health and education
- Delivering at scale –(beyond what individual councils can achieve)
- Oversight of the Delivery Plan – working with the HotSW LEP to ensure delivery of the HotSW Productivity Strategy.

4.2 In January 2021, the Committee reviewed and approved a series of funding allocations and a proposed budget for 2021/22, within the envelope of budget contributions from Constituent Authorities and carry over funding from previous financial years.

4.3 Officers maintain a regular review of budget allocations and funding commitments to ensure that the budget is used efficiently and to recommend any appropriate adjustments as a result of changing circumstances or other external factors e.g. Government policy changes, Levelling Up, Covid 19 pandemic, etc.

### 4.4 Joint Committee 2021/22 Budget Outturn

4.4.1 The Joint Committee remains completely reliant on the Constituent Authorities for its budget and there are no obvious sources of additional funding to support running costs or delivery of its work programme. Joint Committee members' costs and expenses are funded and administered by each respective Constituent Authority.

The outturn position for the 2021/22 Joint Committee budget is as follows:

	£
<b>Income</b>	
Carry-over from 2020/21	(£50,996)
2020/21 Contributions	
County Council x2	(£42,000)
Unitaries x 2	(£16,000)
Districts / National Park Authorities x 14	(£39,200)

Total contributions	(£97,200)
Total 2020/21 budget (including carry over)	(£148,196)
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Administering Authority and meeting support	£28,273
Plymouth City Council (PMO support)	£20,000
Somerset West & Taunton (HEROG support)	£10,658
Housing Task Force support	£ 16,359
Devolution projects & lobbying	£ 0
2021/22 Residual Budget unallocated	(£72,906)

#### 4.5 Joint Committee 2022/23 Draft Budget

**4.5.1** Each year the Joint Committee needs to consider and approve a draft budget. The Joint Committee budget covers the costs of running the Committee and funding priority projects within its work programme.

**4.5.2** There are significant variables in 2022/23 and 2023/24 for the Joint Committee in terms of the Government's Levelling Up and Devolution proposals and opportunities for the Heart of the South West Constituent Authorities, Local Enterprise Partnership Integration and Devon's County Deal arrangements. At this stage it is therefore proposed that no additional contributions for 2022/23 are sought from Constituent Authorities and instead any funding allocations are funded initially from the £ 72,906 carry over funding from 2021/22.

**4.5.3** The proposed funding allocations for 2022/23 are as follows:

	£
<b>Projected Income</b>	
Carry-over from 2021/22	(£72,906)
2022/23 Contributions	
County Council x2	(£0)
Unitaries x 2	(£0)

Districts / National Park Authorities x 15	(£0)
Total contributions	(£0)
Total 2022/23 budget (including carry over)	(£72,906)
<b>Forecast Expenditure</b>	
<u>Allocated funding</u>	
Administering Authority and meeting support	£15,000 (based on support for just two meetings)
2022/23 Residual Budget unallocated (assuming recommended funding allocations are approved)	(£57,906)

- 4.5.4** The above draft budget projection assumes that partners continue to provide most of the staffing resource support in kind. In September 2019 the Joint Committee reappointed Somerset County Council as the Administering Authority to the Joint Committee and allocated specific funding allocated for that role. The Joint Committee needs to agree its Administering Authority for 2022/23 and it is proposed that Somerset County Council continues in this role until the Annual General Meeting in June 2023.
- 4.5.5** At this stage there is a lot of uncertainty regarding the scope and scale of activity requiring funding in and beyond 2022/23 and whilst the above assumptions may appear prudent there is a risk that the ambitions of the Joint Committee may subsequently require additional funding to be made available from constituent authorities and / or other sources.
- 4.5.6** The assumptions set out above would leave a residual unallocated budget of £57,906 to be allocated in due course to specific projects that the Joint Committee wants to support or alternatively to carry over into 2023/24 as a contingency / reserve.

## **5. Equalities Implications**

- 5.1** There are no equalities implications associated with the recommendations.

## **6. Other Implications**



- 6.1** Legal:  
The review of the role and functions of the Joint Committee have taken account of the legal framework within which the Joint Committee operates.
- 6.2** Financial:  
As stated in the report.
- 6.3** HR  
As stated in the report.
- 6.4** Risk  
The key risk to the Constituent Authorities is potentially the need for additional partner contributions during 2021/22 and/or future years in order to the delivery of the Committee's ambitions and plans.
- 6.5** Other Implications: Health and Well-being; Health and Safety; Sustainability; Community Safety; Privacy  
No implications.

## **7. Background papers**

- 7.1** Heart of the South West Joint Committee Governance Arrangements – 27 September 2019 and Budget Update report in October 2020

Heart of the South West Joint Committee Budget Update 2020/21 and draft budget for 2021/22

Heart of the South West Constitution

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

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