

Somerset County Council
Constitution and Governance Committee
– 21 November 2022

Elections Act 2022

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1. Summary

1.1. The Elections Act 2022 received royal assent on 28 April 2022.

The first election planned to be held within the Somerset Council area will be the Taunton Town Council elections on 4 May 2023.

The Elections and Electoral Registration Team is undergoing considerable change. This is especially the case in Somerset where the change is greater due to Local Government Reorganisation.

Appendix One highlights the impacts on the Team due to the introduction of the Elections Act 2022.

2. Recommendations

2.1. That the Committee notes the update on the Elections Act 2022 as attached in Appendix One.

3. Background

3.1. The Elections Act 2022 received royal assent on 28 April 2022. It contains a wide range of proposals to make “new provision for and amend existing electoral law to ensure that UK elections remain secure, fair, modern, inclusive and transparent.

3.2. For clarity, the changes apply to:

- UK Parliamentary elections in Great Britain.
- Police and Crime Commissioner elections in England and Wales.
- English local government polls.

4. Background papers

4.1. Further information can be found online on The Electoral Commission website or the Legislation.gov.uk website.