

**Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Scrutiny Committee - Communities on Wednesday, 13 December 2023**

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
----------------	-------	----------

**Part A – Items considered in public**

<b>A2</b>	Minutes from the Previous Meeting	Resolved that the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee – Communities held on 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.
<b>A5</b>	Community Services Budget Monitoring Update	<p>The committee received a presentation from Chris Hall, Executive Director of Community Services, and Paul Matravers, Lead Specialist – Finance, on the current budget position, the overspend in the overall council budget and the particular challenges of bringing the previous councils into one unitary budget. A discussion followed.</p> <p>The committee thanked the officers for the report and noted it.</p>
<b>A6</b>	Glastonbury Festival Scrutiny Report	<p>The committee received a report that covered the statutory functions the council operates at Glastonbury Festival: Licensing, Food Safety, Structural Safety, Nuisance Prevention. They explained the fee of £32,350 that was charged to Glastonbury Festival for operating these services, and broke down some of the costs involved. Public Health, Civil Contingencies, Highways and Environmental Health are also involved. Overall the festival in 2023 was well run and majority of recommendations made were implemented. The recommendations are for continuous improvement and there were two particular areas: developing further measures to address noise, and crowd</p>

**Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Scrutiny Committee - Communities on Wednesday, 13 December 2023**

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
		<p>distribution and communication for crowd flows.</p> <p>The chair summed up the key points of the discussion around the cost to the council and how much of it can be recouped, and requested further feedback from discussions with the festival. As 2024 will be the first year the festival is handled entirely by the Unitary Authority, it's important that this report returns next year.</p>
<b>A7</b>	2023 Rough Sleeping Initiative Overview	<p>The committee received a presentation from Christopher Brown, Service Director for Housing, providing the context of demand and supply pressures and statistics around people are risk of homelessness and rough sleeping. They detailed the prevention approach, and looked at the impact of rough sleeping and the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP), and how the new Somerset Housing and Rough Sleeping Strategy is being developed. The request to the councillors was to know what information the committee needed from the team as the strategy was being developed?</p> <p>The committee noted the report and a discussion followed.</p> <p>The team offered to do a members briefing including the strategic work that the team is doing so that members can be more aware.</p>

**Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Scrutiny Committee - Communities on Wednesday, 13 December 2023**

<b>Agenda Item No</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>A8</b>	2023-24 HRA Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report - Month 6 (Qtr2)	<p>The committee received a presentation from Christian Evans, Head of Business Partnering, and Kerry Prisco, Management Accounting and Reporting Lead, detailing the forecast overspend and how it will be financed.</p> <p>The committee discussed the report and noted it.</p>