

Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the Scrutiny Committee - Corporate and Resources on Monday, 30 September 2024

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
Part A – Items considered in public		
A1	Apologies for Absence	<p>Apologies for absence were received from the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Henry Hobhouse (no substitute) • Councillor Andy Soughton (substituted by Cllr Dawn Johnson) • Councillor Diogo Rodrigues (substituted by Cllr Mandy Chilcott) • Councillor Lucy Trimnell (substituted by Cllr Rosemary Woods) and • Councillor Brian Smedley (substituted by Cllr Leigh Redman). <p>Councillor Philip Ham joined the meeting remotely.</p>
A2	Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest received.
A3	Minutes from the Previous Meeting	<p>Having been proposed by Cllr Filmer and seconded by Cllr Redman, it was resolved that the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee - Corporate and Resources held on 28 August 2024 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the following amendment being made to Minute 43 – Recommendation 4:</p> <p>Minute 43 - Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) Policy Recommendation 4 – amended to read – “The Committee requested that officers incorporate the feedback provided is incorporated as part of the report going forward, including potentially tightening of some of the language before it is approved”.</p>
A4	Public Question Time	There were no members of the public registered to speak.
A5	2024/25 General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring Report - Month 4	<p>The Committee noted the report and recommendations for Executive:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Notes the Service Directorate Revenue forecast overspend of £8.4m for the year. b) Notes the total Council Revenue forecast overspend of £2.3m.
A6	2023/24 General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring Report - Outturn	The Committee noted the report and recommendations for Executive:-

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		<p>a) Notes the underspend of £1.8m (0.3%) for the 2023/24 financial year which will be added to the General Fund balance.</p> <p>b) Approves the draws and contributions to earmarked reserves set out in appendix 11.</p> <p>c) Approves to release £0.7m of available earmarked reserves funding to the General Fund balance.</p> <p>d) Agrees to continue to receive monthly budget monitoring reports in 2024/25 which sets out the forecast outturn for the year with details of any mitigations and actions being taken to address any forecast variances.</p> <p>e) To note that the Collection Fund outturn position is still being finalised. Any over/underspend will be funded from/contributed to reserves. Any material changes to the reserve position will be noted in a future report.</p> <p>f) Approve the amendment to the Flexible Capital Receipts Strategy to include the Adult Social Care transformation programme, My Life, My Future (section 34/appendix 12).</p>
A7	2023/24 General Fund Capital Budget Monitoring Report - Outturn	<p>The Committee noted the report and recommendations for Executive:-</p> <p>a) Notes the capital outturn position for the financial year 2023/24 of £117.8m.</p> <p>b) Approves the slippage of £196.890m from 2023/24 into 2024/25 and beyond whilst a further review of the capital programme takes places during 2024/25.</p> <p>c) Approves the removal of the underspend.</p> <p>d) Approves the changes to the capital programme approvals, as detailed in Section 26 of this report.</p>
A8	2023/24 Housing Revenue Account Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report - Outturn	<p>The Committee noted the report and recommendations for Executive:-</p> <p>a) Note the reported Housing Revenue Account Budget underspend of £810k in 2023/24 to be transferred to Unearmarked Reserves.</p> <p>b) Note the reported HRA Unearmarked Reserves Balance of £12.859m as at 31 March 2024.</p> <p>c) Note the Capital Outturn position.</p> <p>d) Approve a virement of £1m to provide match funding for energy efficiency works from net</p>

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		capital budget returns. e) Approve the proposed reductions to the Capital Programme of net £0.171m for underspends on schemes where budget is no longer required, and the continuation of £57.317m approved budget rolled forward for the 2024/25 Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme (as per Appendix B).
A9	Forward Plan 2024/25	The Committee discussed and noted the Committee’s forward work plan for future meetings.