
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

Monday, 5 August 2024
(Published on Tuesday, 6 August 2024)

Item No.	Title
6	Somerset Cultural Strategy
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Following consideration of the officer report, appendices and discussion, the Executive resolved:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">To provide a delegation to the Lead Member for Communities, Housing and Culture to make any necessary minor alterations and to adopt the Cultural Strategy once the EIA has been completed to the satisfaction of our Equalities team. Noting that any resultant changes that are not considered to be minor will require a further report to be brought back to the Executive.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the report.</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the report.</p>
7	Bridgwater Tidal Barrier Collaboration Agreement
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Following consideration of the officer report, appendices and discussion, the Executive agreed entering into the proposed Partnership Agreement with the Environment Agency including a commitment to provide up to £13.7m partnership funding, to support the delivery of the Bridgwater Tidal Barrier and associated improvements to downstream banks.</p>

	<p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the report.</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the report.</p>
8	<p>Somerset Council Improvement and Transformation Programme – August Update</p>
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Following consideration of the officer report, appendices and discussion, the Executive noted the report.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the report.</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the report.</p>
9	<p>2024/25 Housing Revenue Account Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report - Outturn</p>
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Following consideration of the officer report, appendices and discussion the Executive resolved to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Note the reported Housing Revenue Account Budget underspend of £810k in 2023/24 to be transferred to Unearmarked Reserves. b. Note the reported HRA Unearmarked Reserves Balance of £12.859m as at 31 March 2024. c. Note the Capital Outturn position. d. Approve a virement of £1m to provide match funding for energy efficiency works from net 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) <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the report.</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the report.</p>
10	<p>Disposal of Non-Operational Assets</p>

	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Following consideration of the officer report, appendices, and discussion, the Executive agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To authorise the Service Director Strategic Asset Management, in consultation with the interim Head of Legal Services, and the Lead Member for Economic Development, Planning and Assets to execute the disposal of the surplus non-operational assets as set out in paragraphs 30.1 to 30.22 c. To note that disposal of some of these surplus non-operational assets will result in a loss of future income to the Council and to approve the net income loss as a consequential pressure on the budget within Strategic Asset Management, to be funded by appropriate financial adjustments in budget monitoring and the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP). d. Financial details are contained in Confidential Appendix A. e. That Appendix A is to be regarded as exempt information and to be treated in confidence, as the case for the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing that information. <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the report.</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the report.</p>
11	Capita 5 Councils Contract covering Revs, Bens and Land Charges
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Having been duly proposed and seconded, the Executive aged:</p> <p>To pass a resolution under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 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 of disclosure of exempt information, within the meaning of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Reason: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</p> <p>Following consideration of the officer report, appendices and discussion, the Executive agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To exit the current outsourcing agreement with Capita at

	<p>the end of the current contract in September 2025, and to in-source all the remaining services. The activity will be subsumed within the existing teams.</p> <p>d. That the lead officer will give the appropriate notice to the provider in September 2024 in accordance with the agreed contract terms.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the report.</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the report.</p>
12	South West Heritage Trust Core Contract renewal.
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Following consideration of the officer report, appendices, and discussion, the Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. noted the heritage activities carried out by the Trust during the reporting period 1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024. e. approved that the Council shall renew its contractual arrangements with the Trust upon same terms save for those set out below and publish an associated Voluntary Ex-Ante Transparency (VEAT) Notice to mitigate risks of legal challenge. Trust New key terms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Contract value to be £1,500,000 per annum agreement to deliver statutory services. ii. No contract indexation uplift will be applied. iii. Agreement for the length of the contract to be until 2044, in line with the majority of leases, with the lease on Taunton Castle being the last of twelve leases to expire in 2056. Reserving the current ability to end contractual arrangements every 5 years. iv. A contract review to take place every five years to assess and adjust where necessary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Service Performance b. Suitability of the arrangement c. Service delivery scope d. Core contract value e. Or to bring the arrangement to an end. e. delegated authority to the Executive Director, Community Services to finalise terms and complete the renewed Grant Agreement contract as approved and upon the expiry of the VEAT Notice save unless the Council receives a meritorious challenge whereupon the matter shall be subject to further report to the Council. f. delegated authority to Executive Director, Community Services and the Strategic Service Director, Asset Management, to enter into negotiations to align relevant

	<p>property lease agreements dates, and where appropriate, ensure all terms and conditions are in line with Somerset Council standard clauses</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the report.</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the report.</p>
13	<p>A38 Bridgwater Northern Corridor- Dunball Junction Delivery Contract Award and Reallocation of Funds within LUF Programme.</p>
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Following consideration of the officer report, appendices, and discussion, the Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Approved the award of the contract for Dunball Roundabout Improvement scheme to the supplier identified in the attached Appendix A (confidential information), following a competitive tender process. Total contract value of £6,626,216.00. f. Approved the re-scoping of Cannon/Cross Rifles scheme. f. Consented to delegate to the Service Director for Infrastructure and Transport, the decision to apportion the funding within the Levelling Up Fund pot to deliver the Dunball and re-scoped Cannon/Cross Rifles schemes. g. Consented to delegate to the Service Director for Infrastructure and Transport, the decision to deliver the A38MRN project through the Dunball delivery contract, subject to funding approval. h. Agreed 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 confidential 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. <p>All recommendations are contingent upon a favourable outcome from DfT regarding the PAR submitted. No contracts will be signed unless and until approval is received from DfT to amend the scope of the Cannon/Cross Rifles scheme.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the report.</p> <p>REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the report.</p>