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## FULL COUNCIL SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

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**Wednesday, 22 May 2024**

Item No.	Title
1	Election of Chair of the Council
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Councillor Bill Revans proposed, which was duly seconded by Councillor John Hunt, that Councillor Mike Best be elected to Chair of Council for the remainder of the municipal year.</p>
2	Election of Vice Chair of the Council
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Councillor Mike Best proposed, which was duly seconded by Councillor David Fothergill, that Councillor Lee Baker be elected to Vice Chair of Council for the remainder of the municipal year.</p>
8	Octagon Theatre - Addition to Capital Programme
	<p>DECISION</p> <p>Councillor Federica Smith-Roberts proposed the recommendations which were seconded by Councillor Andy Soughton.</p> <p>Having been duly proposed and seconded, the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to add the revised Octagon project to the Council Capital Programme, on the proviso that a build contract was not awarded and build work did</p>

	not commence until a devolution deal had been finalised with Yeovil Town Council.
9	First year review of the Council's Constitution
	<p><b>DECISION</b></p> <p>Councillor Ross Henley proposed the recommendations which were seconded by Councillor Tim Kerley.</p> <p>Having been duly proposed and seconded, the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Agree the proposed changes to Part B – Public Participation as shown in Paper A and the tracked changes in Appendix 1 of Paper A</li> <li>ii. Agree the proposed changes to Part C – Council Procedural Rules as shown in Paper B and the tracked changes in Appendix 1 of Paper B</li> <li>iii. Agree the proposed changes to Part D4-Licensing and Regulatory Committee Terms of Reference, Part D5 – Licensing sub-committee hearing procedure and specific delegations for the Licensing Functions as shown in Paper C and the tracked changes in Appendices 2, 5 and 7 of Paper C</li> <li>iv. Agree the proposed changes to Part D8 – Planning Committees Terms of Reference as shown in Paper D and the tracked changes in Appendices 4,5, 7 and 8 of Paper D. Note the further review work that Constitution and Governance Committee will undertake during 2024/25 as set out in Paper D.</li> <li>v. Agree the proposed changes to Part I2 – Officer Scheme of Delegation as shown in Paper E and the tracked changes in Appendices 1 and 2 of Paper E</li> <li>vi. Agree the proposed changes to Part I7 – Financial Regulations as shown in Appendix 1 of Paper F.</li> </ul>
10	Appointments to Committees, Internal and Outside Boards and Panels and Calendar of Meetings
	<p><b>DECISION</b></p> <p>Councillor Liz Leyshon proposed the recommendations which were seconded by Councillor David Fothergill.</p> <p>Having been duly proposed and seconded, the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to:-</p>

	<p>Paper A</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Note the political balance of the Council and agree the proposed allocation of committee places as set out in this report and its appendices;</li> <li>2) Agree the terms of reference, size and quorum arrangements for all committees as set out in the Council’s Constitution, this report and its appendices;</li> <li>3) Continue to endorse the recommendation of the political group leaders and agree to continue to set aside the political balance rules for the Standards Committee and the four area-based Planning Committees and instead allocate places for those committees on the basis set out in Appendix 3;</li> <li>4) Approve the political group leaders’ nominations for the appointment of Chairs, Vice-Chairs, members and co-opted members to the Council’s committee and joint committees as set out in the Appointments Schedule (see Appendix 3);</li> <li>5) Delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the appropriate political group leader, to make in-year changes to committee and joint committee appointments (excluding the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs) in accordance with the allocation of places to political groups by the Council and the wishes of the relevant political group leader.</li> </ol> <p>Paper B</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6) Agree the appointment of members to internal, partnership and outside bodies for 2024/25 until the next Annual General Meeting, as set out in Appendix 1.</li> <li>7) Delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the political group leaders, to make in-year changes to internal, partnership and outside bodies appointments in accordance with the wishes of the relevant political group leader.</li> </ol> <p>Paper C</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8) Approve the proposed calendar of meetings for Somerset Council from 22 May 2024 (set out in Appendix 1).</li> <li>9) Delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to finalise and make any changes to the proposed meeting dates, times, meeting arrangements and meeting venues in consultation with the Chairs of the relevant committees.</li> </ol>
11	Somerset Council Redundancies Requiring Full Council Approval
	DECISION

	<p>Councillor Bill Revans proposed the recommendations which were seconded by Councillor Liz Leyshon.</p> <p>Having been duly proposed and seconded, the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1 Approve the redundancy costs for 49 posts as set out in Appendix A, as Full Council approval was required for costs that exceed £100,000.</li> <li>2.2 Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to agree the final date of dismissal and the final redundancy packages, noting that such settlements would not exceed contractual redundancy pay or the payment required under statute to the Local Government Pension Scheme/NHS Pension Scheme.</li> <li>2.3 Approve the dismissal and redundancy costs of the Executive Director Corporate and Resources (Section 151 Officer) by reason of redundancy (voluntary) as per the recommendation of the Special Members Panel.</li> <li>2.4 Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to agree the final date of dismissal and the final redundancy package of the Executive Director Corporate and Resources (Section 151 Officer), noting that such settlement would not exceed contractual redundancy pay or the payment required under statute to the Local Government Pension Scheme</li> </ol>
12	Scrutiny Review
	<p><b>DECISION</b></p> <p>Councillor Bob Filmer proposed the recommendations which were second by Councillor Leigh Redman.</p> <p>Having been duly proposed and seconded, the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve that:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The current structure of 5 scrutiny committees to remain in place, with a further scrutiny review to be conducted by the scrutiny chairs in late 2024/early 2025 following any potential service restructure.</li> <li>2) The scrutiny manager was tasked with preparing a revised and improved scrutiny report template, which enabled clearer and more concise presentation of reports, a standard consistency of reports across all 5 scrutiny committees, a clearer link between committee recommendations onto the Executive/Executive</li> </ol>

Member(s) and ensuring service areas clearly demonstrated where scrutiny was able to add value.

- 3) That all 5 scrutiny committees adopted a consistent approach to dealing with information only items, in order that agendas were kept clear for items with specific recommendations and the opportunity for the committees to add value. This information also to include details of any delegated decisions the scrutiny chair had been consulted on.
- 4) To bolster the links between all 5 scrutiny committees and the Executive by ensuring clear communication between the parties and encourage increased opportunities for committee chairs to update the Executive on areas of focus and present any recommendations/proposals the committee have agreed. Also for the Democratic Services team to establish a central record of all formal scrutiny recommendations and the responses to them.
- 5) The scrutiny manager to liaise with the 5 Group Leaders in advance of the AGM Council meeting (May 2024) in order to provide detailed attendance information on each of the Committee's membership, to ensure committee membership and substitutes reflected maximum engagement and consistency.
- 6) The scrutiny manager to liaise with the 5 Group Leaders to ensure a consistent, timely and wherever possible consistent approach to scrutiny substitutes.
- 7) Elected committee membership to remain as 13 individual members.
- 8) To continue with the monthly meetings of the 5 Scrutiny Chairs, Vice Chairs and scrutiny manager.
- 9) To continue with the model of an Executive Director aligned to each Committee as the lead service officer and to encourage continued attendance from all relevant Executive Members.
- 10) To support the continuation of a dedicated scrutiny resource from the Democratic Services team, to allow for more effective and efficient scrutiny and increase scrutiny opportunities, whilst ensuring resilience within the officer cohort.