

Notice of Meeting of

## **FULL COUNCIL**

**Wednesday, 5 March 2025 at 12.00 pm**

### **The County Room - Somerset County Cricket Club**

All Somerset Council Members are requested to attend.

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For further information about the meeting, including how to join the meeting virtually, please contact Democratic Services: [democratic@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:democratic@somerset.gov.uk)

All members of the public are welcome to attend our meetings and ask questions or make a statement **by giving advance notice** in writing or by e-mail to the Monitoring Officer at email: [democratic@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:democratic@somerset.gov.uk) by **5pm on Thursday, 27 February 2025**.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A: Access to Information.

The meeting will be webcast and an audio recording made.

Issued by the Proper Officer on Tuesday, 25 February 2025



# AGENDA

**Full Council - 12.00 pm Wednesday, 5 March 2025**

**Public Guidance Notes contained in Agenda Annexe (Pages 7 - 8)**

**Click here to join the online meeting (Pages 9 - 10)**

**1 Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence.

**2 Minutes from the Previous Meeting (Pages 11 - 40)**

To approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

**3 Declarations of Interest (Pages 41 - 42)**

To receive and note any declarations of interests in respect of any matters included on the agenda for consideration at this meeting.

(The other registrable interests of Councillors of Somerset Council, arising from membership of City, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes: [City, Town & Parish Twin Hatters - Somerset Councillors 2023](#) )

**4 Public Question Time**

The Chair to advise the Committee of any items on which members of the public have requested to speak and advise those members of the public present of the details of the Council's public participation scheme.

For those members of the public who have submitted any questions or statements, please note, a three minute time limit applies to each speaker and you will be asked to speak before Councillors debate the issue.

We are now live webcasting most of our committee meetings and you are welcome to view and listen to the discussion. The link to each webcast will be available on the meeting webpage, please see details under 'click here to join online meeting'.

**5 Chair's Announcements (Pages 43 - 44)**

To receive and note the Chair's Announcements including events detailed on the Chair's Information Sheet.

## Reports for Decision

- 6 **Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Revenue Budget for 2025-26, Capital Budget for 2025-26 to 2029-30, Medium Term Financial Plan Update and 30-Year Business Plan Update** (Pages 45 - 90)

To consider the recommendations from the Leader and Executive.

- 7 **Section 25 Report - Section 151 Officer Report on the Robustness of the Budget Estimates and the Adequacy of Reserves** (Pages 91 - 176)

To consider the Section 25 Statement.

- 8 **Revenue and Capital Budget and Council Tax 2025-26 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2025-26 - 2029-30** (Pages 177 - 710)

To consider the recommendations from the Leader and Executive.

- 9 **Regional Devolution Proposals** (Pages 711 - 724)

To consider the recommendations from the Leader and Executive.

- 10 **Somerset Council Redundancies Requiring Full Council Approval** (Pages 725 - 732)

Recommendations from the Chief Executive.

- 11 **Member Scheme of Allowances** (Pages 733 - 764)

To consider the recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel.

## Reports for Information

- 12 **Summary of key decisions taken since the last Full Council meeting** (Pages 765 - 768)

To consider and note the report of the Leader and Executive.

### 13 **Questions from Councillors to the Executive**

Councillors are required to give notice of any such question in writing to the Monitoring Officer no later than 5pm providing three clear working days' notice before the meeting, in order to be guaranteed a written response. For this meeting the deadline is 5pm on Thursday 27 February 2025.

Details of any questions received will be circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting and made available at the meeting and on the Council's website.

Any question received after 5pm on 27 February 2025 and no later than 9am 5 March 2025 may only receive a verbal response at the meeting or the Chair may direct them to the appropriate committee or the next meeting of the Council.

Questions may be asked without notice and councillors are limited to one minute to put their question. Supplementary questions can only be asked with the consent of the Chair. The Chair will determine the number of questions asked without notice and the total time allocated for this item.

Councillors are reminded of the opportunities outside of the Council meeting to raise matters directly with the Leader of the Council, Executive Lead Members or Directors. In addition, Councillors can raise questions at meetings of the Executive.