

Report of the Leader and Executive – Items for Decision

Executive Member: Cllr Bill Revans – Leader of the Council and Lead Member for Governance and Communications

Division and Local Member: All

Lead Officers: Duncan Sharkey – Chief Executive and Alyn Jones – Executive Director for Strategy, Workforce and Localities

Author: Scott Wooldridge – Head of Governance and Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer and Mike Bryant – Service Manager - Democratic Services

Contact Details: democraticservicesteam@somerset.gov.uk / 01823 357628

1. Summary

- 1.1** This report sets out the Leader’s and Executive’s recommendations to Council arising from their consideration of reports at the Executive meeting on 10 May 2023 (the Executive also met on 7 June 2023 and 10 July 2023, but no decisions requiring Full Council approval were considered at these meetings).

Note: The references in this report to Paper A relate to the relevant report considered by the Executive containing specific recommendations for Full Council to consider and are appended to this report for reference.

- 1.2 Paper A (Street Naming and Numbering Policy adoption)** was considered at the Executive meeting on 10 May 2023. The Executive endorsed Paper A and agreed for this to be reported to Full Council to consider and approve.

The report requests the adoption of a new Street Naming & Numbering (SNN) Policy for Somerset Council.

Street Naming is a statutory function of the new authority as the body which is now responsible for functions that would be within the remit of district councils operating in a two-tier local government system. In order to

operate a Street Naming and Numbering system the Council must choose which of the relevant legislation it wishes to adopt. It is not possible to operate an SNN policy without first resolving which legislation will be adopted. There are advertising requirements in accordance with Schedule 14 Local Government Act 1972 that must be adhered to before the resolution to adopt is made.

The report specifically recommends that the Council adopt Sections 17-19 (inclusive) Public Health Act 1925. (Noting that the parts of s64 and s65 Town Improvement Clauses Act 1847 which relate to street naming provisions will then cease to apply. The parts of s64 and 65 Town Improvement Clauses Act 1847 that relate to street numbering are adopted and remain in force. Section 21 Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907 will not apply).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Street Naming and Numbering Policy adoption** – see Paper A and its appendices that the Executive considered and endorsed at its meeting in May 2023.

The Council is recommended to adopt the legislation Sections 17-19 (inclusive) Public Health Act 1925 (Option A in the Executive report of 10 May 2023) and the proposed Street Naming and Numbering Policy (Paper A, Appendix A) to enable and support the operation of the Street Naming and Numbering Service.

3. Options considered and consultation undertaken

- 3.1** Options considered and details of consultation undertaken in respect of the recommendations set out above are set out in the reports and appendices within Paper A.

4. Implications

- 4.1** Financial, legal, Human Resources, equalities, human rights and risk implications in respect of the recommendations set out in this report are detailed within Paper A.

It is essential that consideration is given to the legal obligations and in particular to the need to exercise the equality duty under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to the impacts based on sufficient evidence appropriately analysed.

The duties placed on public bodies do not prevent difficult decisions being made such as, reorganisations and service reductions, nor does it stop decisions which may affect one group more than another. What the duties do is require consideration of all of the information, including the potential impacts and mitigations, to ensure a fully informed decision is made.

5. Background Papers

5.1 These are set out within Papers A and its appendices.