

Somerset Council

Full Council
- 26 July 2023



Report of the Leader of the Council - Somerset Board Arrangements

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

Division and Local Member: All

Lead Officer: Professor Trudi Grant - Executive Director Public and Population Health

Author: Louise Woolway - Service Director for Public Health

Contact Details: lou.woolway@somerset.gov.uk

1. Summary

- 1.1 Full Council in May approved the arrangements for the Somerset Board which included the terms of reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Integrated Care Partnership who are aligned as committees in common through the Somerset Board.
- 1.2 As the Somerset Board continues to develop, membership of the Board is being reviewed and updated accordingly. Two additional board members are proposed at this stage:
 - Further Education Representative
 - Director of Strategy - Integrated Care Board
- 1.3 Under current arrangements a change to membership needs approval from Full Council. To develop the Board at pace, a request to Full Council is being made to grant delegated authority to the Leader of the Somerset Council to make decisions on Board membership without the need to wait for a meeting of the Full Council.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That Full Council approves the inclusion of a Further Education representative and the Director of Strategy for the Integrated Care Board as a member of the Somerset Board**

- 2.2 **That Full Council approves the delegation of authority to the Leader of the Somerset Council to make decisions on Board membership without the need to wait for a meeting of the Full Council.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Somerset Board came into existence following approval at the Full Council meeting and the Integrated Care Board in May 2023.
- 3.2 An introductory workshop was held for Board members in June 2023.
- 3.3 As it is a new Board it is important to review membership as the Board develops to ensure it can achieve its vision:

“The Somerset Board will provide strategic leadership to improve the health, care and wellbeing of the residents of Somerset leading the health and wellbeing agenda, deciding its strategic direction, and holding key organisations, agencies, and sectors to account to ensure the health and wellbeing, including a focus on improving the health and care of the local population is maximised. The Somerset Board will identify and unify to tackle some of the significant challenges facing the county over the medium and longer term.”

- 3.4 To this end two additional Board members have been proposed, including a representative from the Further Education Sector in Somerset and the Director of Strategy for the Integrated Care Board.
- 3.5 As the Board develops and embeds membership may need to change. The aim will be to maintain the focus on balancing the number of Board members with the ability of the Board to function effectively.
- 3.6 Through delegated authority to the Leader of the Council, membership of the Board can be approved without the need to wait for the next meeting of Full Council. This will help to progress the development of the Board in a timely way, ensuring we have the right perspectives contributing to the conversations.

4. Implications

- 4.1 The delegated approach to membership approval would allow for a faster approval process and would mean that Full Council would not need to deal with individual or repeated requests for membership changes as the Board develops.

5. Background Papers

Previous Full Council report