

Open Spaces

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Within Somerset Council open spaces are:

- Play areas
- Parks
- Verges
- Roundabouts
- Playing fields
- Grass in and around HRA sites
- School grass

Those in red are the areas that the Regs and Ops service have a responsibility for. The others are picked up by the highways team or schools team.

Impact from Devolution since Vesting

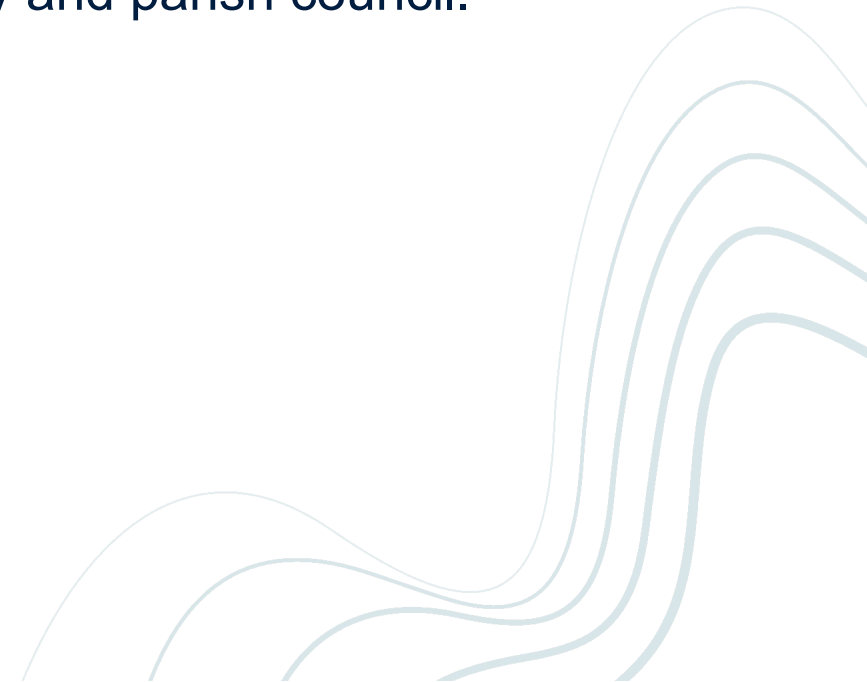
This committee is familiar with the direction towards local devolution for Somerset Council.

By June 2025 it is expected that operational (Open Space) services will have been devolved to tranche 1 Parish, Town and City Councils.

In turn this have reduced the headcount within our operational teams. This is through natural wastages as well as TUPE transfer of staff to those town city and parish council.



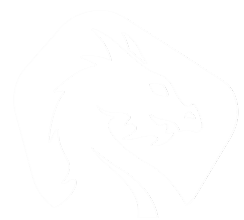
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What is devolution?

Different for each parish council, could be a combination of any of the following:

- Play area's
- Community space – park, Recreational space
- Street cleansing services
- Toilets
- Grounds maintenance
- Tree maintenance
- Fly tip collection



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What's next?

Task list for 2025 and beyond

- Continue with the next phase of Devolution and assess the impact on our services.
- Bring consistency across the whole of Somerset, aligning grass schedules, tree work and cleansing, making this information available online as much as possible
- Make some assumptions about the next phase of devolution: likely to not include cleansing? Smaller?
- Look at Depot usage, reach and impact (see map slide)
- Strengthen services in open spaces
- Insourcing the former MDC area from June 2025.

