

South Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the District Executive on Thursday 8 January 2015

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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Part A – Items considered in public

<p>A6</p>	<p>Notification of an Urgent Executive Decision - The Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) interim funding</p>	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive agreed to note that, according to the provision of Section 3-47 (4) of the Constitution, the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. agreed to a contribution of £43,750 as part of a £2.7million total package of funding for the 2015-16 financial year for the Somerset Rivers Authority. 2. Agreed to nominate Councillor Jo Roundell Greene as Deputy Representative for SSDC on the Somerset Rivers Authority. <p>Reason: To note the urgent decision to contribute £43,750 towards the interim funding required by the Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA), as identified in paragraph 3. This funding will come from the Flooding Reserve set up by District Executive in February 2014.</p>
<p>A7</p>	<p>Notification of an Urgent Executive Decision - Acquisition of the Former Millers Garage Site, Crewkerne</p>	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive agreed to note that the Chief Executive in conjunction with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council approved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Officers to attend the Symonds and Sampson auction on 28 November 2014 in Sherborne to bid on the Millers Garage Site, Crewkerne. 2. Officers to bid up to a maximum value of £275,000, this being the maximum value as set out in the District Valuer's report on the Site and taking into account that planning permission has not yet been

South Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the District Executive on Thursday 8 January 2015

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
		<p>Reason: sought for such use and detailed access arrangements have not yet been agreed. To note the urgent decision taken under Section 3 – 47 (4) of the Council’s Constitution – whereby the Chief Executive and the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council agreed to the purchase of 22A East Street, Crewkerne, known as the former Millers Garage site (“the Site”).</p>
A8	Setting the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2015/16	<p>RESOLVED: That the District Executive recommend to Council:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. that personal allowances and premiums are uprated in line with those for Housing Benefit; b. that non-dependent deductions are uprated in line with the annual percentage increase in Council Tax; c. that the non-dependent income bands are increased by the same percentage as those in the Prescribed Scheme; d. that the hardship scheme budget be set at £30,000 for the 2015/16 financial year; e. that the remaining measures introduced from 1 April 2013 remain unchanged; f. that the 2015/16 Council Tax Reduction Scheme attached at Appendix A is adopted g. to note the scheme has been amended to reflect changes to the CTRS Prescribed Requirements.

South Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the District Executive on Thursday 8 January 2015

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
		<p>Reason: To recommend the proposed amendments to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for the 2015/16 financial year to Full Council for approval.</p>
<p>A9</p>	<p>Council Tax - Discretionary Reduction in Liability Policy</p>	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive recommend to Full Council to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. that the proposed Council Tax Discretionary Reduction in Liability Policy be adopted; b. that decisions on groups of applicants be delegated to District Executive; c. that decisions on individual applications be delegated to the Assistant Director (Finance and Corporate Services) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Spatial Planning. <p>Reason: To recommend the proposed Council Tax Discretionary Reduction in Liability Policy to Full Council for approval.</p>
<p>A10</p>	<p>Medium Term Financial Plan and Capital Programme Update</p>	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Note the current position and timetable for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Capital Programme; b. Approve in principle the savings and additional income outlined in

South Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the District Executive on Thursday 8 January 2015

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
		<p align="right">Appendix A.</p> <p>c. Approve in principle the additional budget pressures outlined in Appendix B.</p> <p>d. Approve in principle that the Capital Bids outlined in Appendix C are added to the Capital Programme in 2015/16.</p> <p>Reason: To note the current position on the Medium Term Financial Plan (Revenue Budgets for 2015/16 to 2019/20) and the Capital Programme.</p>
A11	Report of Scrutiny Task and Finish Group - Somerset Local Authorities Civil Contingency Partnership	<p>RESOLVED: That the District Executive supported the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group recommendations to actively support the review and re-launch of the Somerset Local Authorities Civil Contingencies Partnership as outlined in the Debrief Report and that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding at the current 2014/15 levels continues for one additional year to allow the review planned by Somerset County Council to be completed as stated by August 2015 and that: - Clarification is sought from Somerset County Council at the earliest possible opportunity as to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o the anticipated timescale for the review and re-launch as described in the debrief document The Review process, in particular, who is conducting the review? Is the review

South Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the District Executive on Thursday 8 January 2015

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
		<p>sufficiently prioritised and adequately resourced? Such is the significance of this piece of work, members ask the Executive to consider offering some resource to assist with conducting the review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is the scope of the review, in detail, and how can partners influence the scope and be actively involved in the review process? - Members recommend that the review considers the governance arrangements within the partnership. At the very least an annual report should be considered by each authority providing an opportunity for elected members to agree on shared aims, objectives and priorities and to consider performance over a preceding period. This is the minimum to ensure meaningful accountability within the partnership. - Any re-launch of the partnership should clearly state what each partner can expect in return for their funding contributions, something similar to the SLA model considered by members during this review could be a useful template? <p>Reason: To present the findings of the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group established to consider the role and function of the Somerset Local Authorities Civil Contingencies Partnership (SLACCP).</p>

South Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the District Executive on Thursday 8 January 2015

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A12	Increasing Management Capacity at Yeovil Crematorium	<p>RESOLVED: That:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. subject to satisfactory consultation responses being received District Executive approved the implementation of new management arrangements for Yeovil Crematorium; b. responsibility is delegated to the Assistant Director – Communities in consultation with the Chair of the Area South Committee to carry out consultation with the Members of the Joint Burial Committee; c. responsibility be delegated to the Assistant Director – Communities in consultation with the Chair of the Area South Committee to develop a management agreement with Yeovil Without PC; d. responsibility be delegated to the Assistant Director – Environment in consultation with the Chair of the Area South Committee to oversee the implementation of any new management arrangements. <p>Reason: To agree the introduction of new management arrangements for Yeovil Crematorium.</p>
A13	Upgrade to the ICT Helpdesk System	<p>RESOLVED: That the District Executive:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. approved the upgrade to the ICT Helpdesk System; b. agreed that the Capital costs of £37,400 be found from the ICT Capital Reserve and that the ongoing revenue costs of £5,700 are added to the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2015/16 as an additional budget requirement.

South Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the District Executive on Thursday 8 January 2015

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
		<p>Reason: To agree an essential upgrade to the ICT Helpdesk System.</p>
<p>A14</p>	<p>Commercial Property Disposals - Winsham Allotments and Band Hut</p>	<p>RESOLVED: That the District Executive noted the verbal report from the Assistant Director (Legal and Corporate Services) on the conclusion of the property disposal.</p> <p>Reason: The verbal report is provided for Members information.</p>
<p>A15</p>	<p>Final Recommendation of the Community Governance Review of Lopen Parish Council</p>	<p>RESOLVED: That the District Executive recommended that Council:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. note the results of the consultation agree to publish them; 2. agree that the final recommendation be: "To accept the majority vote from the people of Lopen to agree to increase the number of Parish Councillors to seven"; 3. agree to draw up a Reorganisation Order to give effect to this recommendation; 4. agree to contact the statutory agencies to effect the requested alteration to increase the number of Parish Councillors to seven. <p>Reason: To agree the outcome of the final public consultation (Community Governance Review) which has taken place in the parish of Lopen on the proposal to increase the number of Parish Councillors from five to</p>

South Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the District Executive on Thursday 8 January 2015

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
		seven (under the provisions of Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007).
A16	Monthly Performance Snapshot	<p>RESOLVED: That the District Executive noted the monthly performance snapshot data.</p> <p>Reason: The report is provided for Members information.</p>
A17	District Executive Forward Plan	<p>RESOLVED: That the District Executive approved the updated Executive Forward Plan for publication as attached at Appendix A with the following amendments;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. approved the updated Executive Forward Plan for publication as attached at Appendix A with the following additions:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Grants Awarded during 2013/14 – March 2015 • Loan to Kingsdon Parish Council – March 2015 • Adoption of the South Somerset Local Plan – March 2015 2. Noted the contents of the Consultation Database as shown at Appendix B. <p>Reason: The Forward Plan is a statutory document.</p>

South Somerset Council – Decisions taken by the District Executive on Thursday 8 January 2015

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
A1		
A2		