

Appendix A - Summary of proposed roles and functions for Joint Area Committees (Phase 1)

Note: SCC councillors will have observer status only (ie non-voting) on matters which affect SSDC budgets and development control matters. Final resolutions and training are required prior to any formal delegation of planning powers to either group of councillors.

Proposed role of the JACs in relation to County Council business

- Discuss any matter of interest to the area
- Form working groups / panels
- Foster close working relationships with town and parish councils
- Bringing local views to bear on policy development / plans and strategic decision making and provide opportunities for public participation, working in collaboration with external agencies
- Monitor service delivery and performance of County Council / South Somerset District Council services in that area including monitoring local impact of services / budgets retained at the centre
- Submit to relevant executive ideas for improvements to services or innovative ways of working
- Formal consultee to the formulation of policies covering more than a single JAC area and relevant to that particular council
- Refer to the relevant executive matters impacting on more than one JAC
- Be responsible for local area aspects of the Sustainable Community Strategy
- To consider and make recommendations to the councils on how models of neighbourhood management and engagement can be developed to feed into JACs.
- To consider and make recommendations to the councils on the JAC's involvement in guiding / influencing officers when they are making delegated decisions.

Proposed role of the JAC in relation to District Council business

SSDC will delegate all Council and Executive functions currently delegated to Area Committees to the Joint Area Committees, *although* the voting rights of individual county councillors are subject to further resolution, agreement and training.

Extract of Executive functions currently delegated to Area Committees from current SSDC standing orders:-

- Determine planning applications within its area subject to guidelines in respect of referrals to the Regulation Committee.
- Discuss any matter of interest to the area.
- Oversee and monitor the operation of services in their area.
- Oversee capital schemes to include budgetary control in cases where this has been delegated by the District Executive.
- Manage local regeneration projects within financial limits agreed by District Executive.
- Prepare Area Development Plans.
- Make nominations to serve on outside bodies.
- Form working groups and panels subject to budgetary constraints and notification to the District Executive.
- Approve sales of land up to the value of £10,000.
- Play an enabling role by taking opportunities to provide services and benefits for the people of the area in collaboration with external agencies.
- Foster a close working relationship with Town and Parish Councils in the area.

- Consult and consider the views of the public on area priorities and provide opportunities for public participation, working in collaboration with external agencies.
- Submit to the District Executive ideas for improvements to services or innovative ways of working which may be of interest or benefit to other Areas.
- Contribute towards the formulation of district-wide policies.
- Be responsible for the local area aspects of the Sustainable Community Strategy