

## 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.

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- 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.