

South Somerset District Council
Decisions taken by the District Executive on Thursday 17 February 2022

Agenda Item No	Agenda item	Decision
5.	Annual Action Plan 2022/23	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive recommend that Full Council agree to adopt the Annual Action Plan for 2022-2023 comprising of the revised Areas of Focus and Priority Projects.</p> <p>Reason: To recommend the adoption of the Annual Action Plan 2022-2023.</p>
6.	Decarbonisation programme phase 2 proposals	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive recommend that Full Council agree to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. approve the programme of decarbonisation works recommended in this report. b. approve an increase to the capital budget of £2,760,000 to be funded from borrowing. c. approve an increase to the council's revenue budget of £53,960 per annum to fund the financing costs arising from the borrowing required. <p>Reason: To agree the second phase of decarbonisation works to council owned properties as a significant contribution towards the council's commitment to achieving carbon neutrality.</p>

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7.	Options to refurbish Yeovil Crematorium	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive recommend that Full Council:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. agree to increase the Capital Budget by £800k, as part of the Capital Programme to give the overall project a maximum budget of £5.721m. b. note that approval has been given for the originally approved construction project to proceed provided that the contract sum is within the revised budget. <p>Reason: To update members on the refurbishment of Yeovil Crematorium and request an increase of £800,000 to the project budget.</p>
8.	Octagon Theatre Finance Report	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive recommends that Full Council approves:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. an increase in the capital budget of £6m, to be funded by prudential borrowing, to bring the total budget for the project to £29.01m; b. an increase in the revenue budget of circa £0.680m per annum for the financing costs (MRP £0.289m, Interest £0.392m) arising from the increased borrowing needs. An

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		<p>initial assessment is that the financing costs may be covered from Year 6 by ticket levies and operating income, however further analysis is needed to be carried out as interest rates are expected to rise at Final Business Case stage;</p> <p>c. the project team to incur expenditure of £1.2m from the capital budget to progress to the next gateway decision stage (the Final Business Case incorporating RIBA stage 3 designs and costings).</p> <p>Reason: To provide an overview of the current budget position and the revised costs of delivering the Octagon redevelopment project arising from the recent RIBA stage 2 design and costings and to seek approval for an increase to the current capital budget of £6m to reflect the revised costs of the redevelopment.</p>
9.	Financing the Yeovil Refresh	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive recommends that the Chief Executive agrees to vire £850k from the Lump Sum Payments to County budget to fund other projects within the overall Public Realm programme as set out in paragraph 13, and as permitted under the Council’s Financial Procedure Regulations.</p>

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		<p>That District Executive recommends to Council to approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. an increase in the Yeovil Refresh capital budget of £1.059m to bring the total project total to £21.838m; b. an increase in the Yeovil Refresh revenue budget of £0.606m to bring the total budget to £1.994m (in total over the length of the delivery period). This is proposed to be funded from the Regeneration Fund Reserve; c. an increase to the council's overall revenue budget of £0.044m (capital financing costs of borrowing £1.059m is £0.025m for interest costs and £0.019m for MRP) to fund the increased borrowing costs likely to be incurred by the project if the ring-fenced assets do not sell during 2022/23; d. the creation of an earmarked reserve of £4.784m to pay for the possible pay back of the Future High Streets Funding grant received to-date. <p>Reason: To update Members on the Yeovil Refresh budget requirements to enable the completion and delivery of a series of Refresh projects in 2022 and 2023, and, to approve an increase in the Refresh budget to enable delivery of the projects.</p>
10.	Wincanton Regeneration Finance	

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	Report	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive recommends that Full Council approves:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. a change in project scope from that agreed by council at its meeting in October 2019: as detailed in Table 2 of this report. b. the re-profiling and revision of the Wincanton Regeneration budget that will result in an overall programme budget of £2,392,236: which represents a reduction of £3,280,764 compared to the current approved budget. <p>Reason: To agree to change the scope of the Wincanton Regeneration Project from that originally agreed by Council and as a consequence re-profile the budget to align with the priority projects that have been identified as both achievable and affordable within the last year of the programme.</p>
11.	Ensuring sufficient staffing capacity during 2022/23	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive recommends that Full Council:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. approve the requests to increase the staffing budget by £2,465,810 as set out in paragraph 11 and Appendix One; b. approve the increase in the LGR Reserve of £1m as set out in paragraphs 12 to 14, and its funding from the MTFP Support

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		<p>Fund reserve;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. delete the post of Director of Commercial Services and Income Generation from the staffing establishment budget as proposed in paragraphs 15 to 19; d. approve further changes to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) as set out in paragraphs 19 and 20; e. note the line management arrangements for SLT for 2022/23 as set out in Appendix Two; f. note the Portfolio Holder responsibilities and associated SLT leads for 2022/23 as set out in Appendix Three; g. authorise the Monitoring Officer to make such changes to the Constitution as are necessary to reflect their decision. <p>Reason: To agree increases to the staffing budget for 2022/23, the creation of a contingency in the LGR reserve for funding extra capacity if required, and changes to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT).</p>
12.	2022/23 Budget Report	<p>RESOLVED: That District Executive recommends that Full Council approves:-</p> <p align="center">Increases to the revenue and capital budgets</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. revenue budget increases of £2.108m as set out in the Budget Report in Table Five. b. new capital projects and increases on existing approved capital budgets of £21.521m as set out in the Budget Report in Table Twelve. c. the creation of a corporate capital contingency within the capital programme, included within the increase reported above in (b), of £4m to be allocated by District Executive on approved projects within the capital programme via a written report from the relevant senior officer. <p>Use of reserves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. the use of £6.144m earmarked reserves to fund the revenue and capital budgets as described in the Budget Report in Section Five. e. an increase of £1m to the LGR Reserve, funded from the MTFP Support Fund reserve, to finance potential capacity issues as described in a separate report on this District Executive’s agenda entitled “Ensuring sufficient staffing

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		<p>capacity during 2022/23”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> f. transfer £0.350m from the MTFP Support Fund to the Treasury Management Reserve to support the funding of any increase in interest rates in 2022/23 should they rise above the rates assumed in this Budget Report. g. create a reserve in 2023/24 of £4.8m for the Yeovil Refresh capital project, funded from the MTFP Support Fund reserve, should there be a requirement in that year to pay back the money received to-date from the Future High Streets Fund (FHSF). h. transfer £2m from the Commercial Investments Risk Reserve to the MTFP Support Fund reserve to assist the 2023/24 position of the new Somerset Council in order to help fund potentially adverse local government finance reforms and the Yeovil Refresh reserve (see recommendation g above). <p>2022/23 Revenue Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. SSDC’s revenue budget requirement (Net Budget) of £19,714,320 for 2022/23 as set out in Table One of the

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		<p align="center">Budget Report.</p> <p align="center">2021/22 to 2023/24 Capital Programme</p> <p>j. SSDC’s capital programme for 2021/22 to 2023/24 of £116.469m as set out in Table Eleven in the Budget Report and the consequential increase in SSDC’s financing charges revenue budget of circa £1.272m per annum.</p> <p align="center">Council Tax</p> <p>k. an assumption that there will be an increase in the 2022/23 Band D Council Tax of 2.82% representing a Band D Council Tax (excluding preceptors) of £182.11.</p> <p align="center">Chief Finance Officer’s Statement</p> <p>l. note the advice given by the statutory S151 Officer on the robustness of the estimates, the adequacy of reserves, and the key financial risks arising from these budget proposals.</p> <p align="center">Treasury Management Strategy</p> <p>m the 2022/23 Investment and Treasury Management Strategy.</p> <p>n. the proposed borrowing and investment limits included in the</p>

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		<p align="center">Treasury Management Strategy.</p> <p>o. the prudential and investment indicators.</p> <p>p. the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy statement.</p> <p>District Executive is also recommended to propose that the Assets and Finance Protocol, as agreed by LGR Joint Committee on 4th February 2022, is approved and adopted by Full Council.</p> <p>Reason: To propose to Full Council on 28th February on the 2022/23 the revenue and capital budgets and the 2022/23 Treasury Management Strategy.</p>
13.	District Executive Forward Plan	<p>RESOLVED: That the District Executive recommend that the Chief Executive:-</p> <p>1. approve the updated Executive Forward Plan for publication as attached at Appendix A, with the following amendments;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid Recovery and Renewal Strategy – April 22 • Equalities Progress Report – May 22 • Planning Re-imagined – Changes to the Scheme of Delegation to increase the efficiency of the Planning

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		<p align="right">Service – April 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Application Validation Requirements; Revised Validation Checklist – April 22 • Planning - Discretionary fees for Pre-application advice and associated services – April 22 <p>2. noted the contents of the Consultation Database as shown at Appendix B.</p> <p>Reason: The Forward Plan is a statutory document.</p>
1.		
2.		