

Report of Executive Decisions

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This report is submitted for information and summarises decisions taken by the District Executive and Portfolio Holders since the last meeting of Council in November 2016. The decisions are set out in the attached Appendix.

Members are invited to ask any questions of the Portfolio Holders.

Background Papers

All Published

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Appendix

Portfolio	Subject	Decision	Taken By	Date
Strategy & Policy	Consent for disposal of eight properties in Horton by Yarlington Housing Group	The Portfolio Holder for Strategy and Policy has agreed to advise Yarlington Housing Group that, SSDC does not support their proposed disposal of eight properties in Horton.	Portfolio Holder	11/11/16 Executive Bulletin No. 695
Strategy & Policy	Consent for disposal of four properties in Donyatt by Yarlington Housing Group	The Portfolio Holder for Strategy and Policy has agreed to advise Yarlington Housing Group that SSDC supports their proposed disposal of four properties (26, 30, 33 & 34 Donyatt Hill) in Donyatt. The Portfolio Holder also notes the implications of this decision for numbers 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 31 & 32 Donyatt Hill when they also become vacant.	Portfolio Holder	18/11/16 Executive Bulletin No. 696
Strategy & Policy	Consent for disposal of a property in Castle Cary by Yarlington Housing Group	The Portfolio Holder for Strategy and Policy has agreed to advise Yarlington Housing Group that, SSDC does not support their proposed disposal of number 2, Moore Villas, Victoria Park, Castle Cary.	Portfolio Holder	25/11/16 Executive Bulletin No. 697
Strategy & Policy	Affordable Housing Development Programme: Bought not Built Property, Chard	The Portfolio Holder for Strategy and Policy has agreed the allocation of up to £37,000 grant subsidy to Magna Housing to acquire and renovate a specific house in Chard.	Portfolio Holder	25/11/16 Executive Bulletin No. 697
Housing, Leisure & Culture	Proposed Private Sector Leasing and Lettings Service	The Portfolio Holder for Housing, Leisure, Culture & Wellbeing has agreed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Approve the introduction of the proposed Private Sector Leasing and General Lettings Services. b. Approve the proposed Private Sector Leasing Scheme (PSL) Policy for implementation no later than 1st April 2017. c. Authorise the Assistant Director (Health and Well Being) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to amend changes to the PSL Scheme Policy. 	Portfolio Holder	25/11/16 Executive Bulletin No. 697

Portfolio	Subject	Decision	Taken By	Date
Leisure & Culture Strategy & Policy	County-wide Homeless Strategy	The Portfolio Holders for Leisure & Culture and Strategy & Policy have agreed:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To validate the existing Homelessness Strategy for a further year, up to December 2017. 2. That officers work to prepare a new Homelessness Strategy beginning December 2017, in partnership with the other four Somerset Housing Authorities if possible. 	Portfolio Holder	16/12/16 Executive Bulletin No. 700
Health, Housing, Leisure & Culture	Direct Hostel Provision, Move On Accommodation and Support	District Executive: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. approved funding of £160,000 per annum is added to the Medium Term Financial Plan in 2017/18 for two years as an unavoidable budget pressure to fund Stonham, to provide services to assist single adults who are in need of accommodation, to prevent homelessness; 2. noted that there is a risk of £80,000 per annum associated with the structure of eligible/ineligible costs in relation to Housing Benefit that will be added as a Risk to Balances; 3. approved in principle £35,000 funding in 2017/18 for Yeovil4Family, to provide a floating support service for vulnerable individuals at risk of homelessness to be funded from a carry forward from 2016/17 (which will be subject to District Executive approval in June 2017); 4. noted the outcomes of the funding from SSDC in 2016/17 as well as further outcomes achieved as a result of funding allocated from Somerset Positive Lives partnership. 	District Executive	05/01/17
Finance & Legal Services	Council Tax Support Scheme for 2017/18	District Executive agreed to recommend to Council: <ol 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 Requirements relating to pensioners; d. that proposal 2 be approved; 	District Executive	05/01/17

Portfolio	Subject	Decision	Taken By	Date
		<p>e. that proposals 1, 3 and 4 be rejected;</p> <p>f. that the hardship scheme budget be set at £30,000 for the 2017/18 financial year;</p> <p>g. to consider the Equalities Impact Assessment at Appendix 1 in approving (d);</p> <p>h. to consider the public consultation responses in the Equalities Impact Assessment & Scrutiny Task and Finish Group report in approving (d) & (e);</p> <p>i. to consider the interaction of Universal Credit and Tax Credits with the CTS scheme in approving (d);</p> <p>j. to note the recommendations of the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group attached at Appendix 3;</p> <p>k. to note the scheme has been amended to reflect changes to the Prescribed Requirements;</p> <p>l. that the 2017/18 Council Tax Support Scheme is adopted;</p> <p>m. to note that the proposed Council Tax Support Scheme has been reflected within the overall Council Tax Base.</p>		
Strategic Planning (Place Making)	Strategic Commercial Land and Property Project	<p>District Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. approved the proposed project to develop a Commercial Land and Property Strategy and fund up to £102,000 of the project from general fund balances. 2. noted that a report outlining the way forward and the Strategic Commercial Land and Property Project findings would be reported to District Executive (and later inform the revised Asset Land and Property Management Strategy 2014-2017) in July 2017. 	District Executive	05/01/17
Leader, (Strategy & Policy)	Policy for Awarding Private Sector Housing Grants/Loans and other Financial Assistance	<p>District Executive agreed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. adopt the Policy for Awarding Private Sector Housing Grants/Loans and other Financial Assistance in Appendix 1 concerning the provision of financial assistance for private sector housing and associated matters, including disabled facilities grants as the future policy of the Council; 2. confirm that the allocation and method of funding for the various elements agreed with the Joint Commissioning Board of the Somerset Clinical 	District Executive	05/01/17

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		Commissioning Group outlined in sections 2.1.1 to 2.1.6 is agreed subject to available funding.		
Finance & Legal Services	Medium Term Financial Plan and Capital Programme Update 2017/18	District Executive: a. noted the current position and timetable for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Capital Programme; b. approved in principle the savings & additional income outlined in Appendix A; c. approved in principle the additional budget pressures outlined in Appendix B; d. noted the impact and position of general fund balances as outlined in paragraphs 29 and 30; e. approved the internal borrowing policy document and the setting up of an internal borrowing reserve of £1m as detailed in Appendix C; f. noted that all capital bids are being deferred pending an update to the Annual Action Plan within the approved Council Plan; g. noted the current status of funding for Disabled Facilities Grants and that a guarantee has been sought from SCC to enable grant applications to continue to be assessed and approved.	District Executive	05/01/17
Strategic Planning (Place Making)	South Somerset Economic Development Monitoring Report (December 2016)	District Executive agreed to: a. note and consider the Economic Development Monitoring Report (Appendix A); and b. delegate responsibility to the Assistant Director for Economy in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning to make any final minor text amendments which may be necessary to enable the Economic Development Monitoring Report to be published.	District Executive	05/01/17
Property, ICT and Climate Change	Disposal of the former Stables at Churchfield, Wincanton (Confidential)	That the District Executive agreed to defer the decision to dispose of the former stable building, courtyard and garden at Churchfield, Wincanton for up to 12 months.	District Executive	05/01/17

Portfolio	Subject	Decision	Taken By	Date
Health, Housing, Leisure & Culture	Potential Acquisition of a property by Portreeves or Corporation Almshouses (Confidential)	<p>That the Area South Committee, acting as trustees for the Portreeves or Corporation Almshouses, agreed to, subject to any appropriate consent or approvals required from the Charity Commission,</p> <p>a) Approve the principle of acquisition of a two bedroomed property in Yeovil.</p> <p>b) Approve the principle of undertaking any necessary repair works prior to allocation of the dwelling</p> <p>c) Approve expenditure from the Trust's consolidated funds to cover the reasonable costs of an independent qualified surveyor.</p> <p>d) Delegate to the Chair of the Committee, subject to the formal advice from the independent qualified surveyor, approval of the negotiated price.</p> <p>e) Approve the principle of entering into a management agreement for this property with a partner Housing Association.</p> <p>f) Delegate to the Chair of the Committee conclusion of appropriate terms within this agreement.</p> <p>g) Resolve to set the occupation charge for this property.</p>	Area South Committee	04/01/17
Strategy and Policy	Consent for disposal of two properties in Marston Magna by Yarlington Housing Group	The Portfolio Holder for Strategy & Policy has agreed to withhold agreement to the proposed disposal of numbers 17 & 18, Townsend, Marston Magna, by Yarlington Housing Group (YHG). Whilst there is no objection to the principle of disposal of these properties in this location, it is the failure of YHG to guarantee that the proceeds of the sale are re-invested locally which is the key reason for withholding our consent to dispose.	Portfolio Holder	06/01/17 Executive Bulletin