

# Public Document Pack

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**Date:** Monday, 8 April 2024

**To all Members of the Council**

Dear Sir or Madam

**Summons to attend the Council Meeting – Tuesday, 16 April 2024 at 6.00 pm  
New Council Chamber**

You are requested to attend the Meeting of the Council to be held at 6.00 pm on Tuesday, 16 April 2024.

**Please Note** that any member of the press and public may listen in to proceedings at this meeting via the weblink below –

<https://youtube.com/live/bBrv5kmQAeM>

The agenda is set out below.

Yours faithfully

Assistant Director Legal & Governance and Monitoring Officer

**This document and associated papers may be made available in a different format on request.**

## Agenda

### 1. **Public Participation, petitions, and deputations (Standing Orders 2 (vi) and 17)**

The Council will hear any person who wishes to address it in accordance with the Standing Orders. The Chairperson will select the order of the matters to be heard.

Each person will be limited to a period of five minutes for public participation and deputations and three minutes for petitions. This section of the meeting must not exceed 30 minutes and discussion must not refer to a current planning application.

The Council will also receive questions from the public and provide answers thereto, subject to the Chairperson being satisfied that the questions are relevant to the business of the meeting.

Requests must be submitted in writing to the Assistant Director Legal & Governance and Monitoring Officer, or to the officer mentioned at the top of this agenda letter, by noon on the day before the meeting and the request must detail the subject matter of the address.

### 2. **Apologies for absence**

### 3. **Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (Standing Order 37)**

A Member must declare any disclosable pecuniary interest where it relates to any matter being considered at the meeting. A declaration of a disclosable pecuniary interest should indicate the interest and the agenda item to which it relates. A Member is not permitted to participate in this agenda item by law and should immediately leave the meeting before the start of any debate.

If the Member leaves the meeting in respect of a declaration, he or she should ensure that the Chairperson is aware of this before he or she leaves to enable their exit from the meeting to be recorded in the minutes in accordance with Standing Order 37.

### 4. **Minutes (Pages 7 - 18)**

20 February 2024, to approve as a correct record (attached)

### 5. **Chairperson's announcements**

### 6. **Adult Social Services and Housing Commissioning Intentions 2024/25 (Pages 19 - 50)**

Report of Councillor Whitfield (attached)

### 7. **Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan update and progress report (Pages 51 - 92)**

Report of Councillor Waite (attached)

- 8. Corporate Parenting Report (Pages 93 - 100)**  
Report of Councillor Gibbons (attached)
- 9. Petitions to be presented by Members (Standing Order No. 16)**  
These have to be received by the Assistant Director Legal & Governance and Monitoring Officer by 12.00 noon on the day of the meeting.
- 10. Motions by Members (Standing Order No. 14) (Pages 101 - 102)**  
(1) Deliberative Democracy Motion – Councillor Charles (attached)
- 11. Question Time (Standing Order No.18)**  
Questions must relate to issues relevant to the work of the Executive, the Planning and Regulatory Committee, Employment, Licensing, Audit or Standards Sub-Committee.  
  
Members are requested to supply the Democratic Services Officer with a note of each question at, or just after, the meeting. A summary note of each question will be included in an appendix to the minutes.
- 12. Matters referred from previous meeting**  
None.
- 13. Leader's announcements**
- 14. Chief Executive's announcements**
- 15. Forward Plan dated 2 April 2024 (Pages 103 - 120)**  
(attached)
- 16. Policy and Scrutiny Panel Report (Pages 121 - 130)**  
Report of Councillors Bridger, Crockford-Hawley, Thomas, Thornton and Tristram (attached)
- 17. Reports and matters referred from the Executive - dated 27 March 2024**  
None.
- 18. Reports and matters referred from the Policy/Overview and Scrutiny Panels other than those dealt with elsewhere on this agenda**  
None.
- 19. Reports and matters referred from the other Committees other than those dealt with elsewhere on this agenda**

None.

**20. Reports on joint arrangements and external organisations and questions relating thereto**

**(1) Avon Fire Authority**

**(2) Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel**

**(3) West of England Combined Authority Joint Scrutiny Committee**

**21. Urgent business permitted by the Local Government Act 1972 (if any)**

For a matter to be considered as an urgent item, the following question must be addressed: "What harm to the public interest would flow from leaving it until the next meeting?" If harm can be demonstrated, then it is open to the Chairperson to rule that it be considered as urgent. Otherwise the matter cannot be considered urgent within the statutory provisions.

**Exempt Items**

Should the Council wish to consider a matter as an Exempt Item, the following resolution should be passed -

"(1) That the press, public, and officers not required by the Members, the Chief Executive or the Director, to remain during the exempt session, be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the ground that its consideration will involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972."

**Mobile phones and other mobile devices**

All persons attending the meeting are requested to ensure that these devices are switched to silent mode. The chairperson may approve an exception to this request in special circumstances.

**Filming and recording of meetings**

The proceedings of this meeting may be recorded for broadcasting purposes.

Anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings may do so unless the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting or there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chairperson. Any filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible from a single fixed position without the use of any additional lighting, focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard to the wishes of any members of the public present who may not wish to be filmed. As a matter of courtesy, anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chairperson or the Assistant Director Legal & Governance and Monitoring Officer's representative before the start of the meeting so that all those present may be made aware that it is happening.

Members of the public may also use Facebook and Twitter or other forms of social media to report on proceedings at this meeting.

### **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

#### **On hearing the alarm – (a continuous two tone siren)**

Leave the room by the nearest exit door. Ensure that windows are closed.

Last person out to close the door.

**Do not** stop to collect personal belongings.

**Do not** use the lifts.

**Follow** the green and white exit signs and make your way to the assembly point.

**Do not** re-enter the building until authorised to do so by the Fire Authority.

**Go to Assembly Point C – Outside the offices formerly occupied by Stephen & Co**

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## **Minutes**

of the Meeting of

## **The Council**

**Tuesday, 20 February 2024**

New Council Chamber

Meeting Commenced: 6.00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 8.01 pm

### **Councillors:**

Wendy Griggs (Chairperson)  
Peter Crew (Vice-Chairperson)

Marc Aplin  
Nigel Ashton  
Mike Bell  
Mike Bird  
Christopher Blades  
Steve Bridger  
Peter Bryant  
Peter Burden  
Mark Canniford  
Annabelle Chard  
Caritas Charles  
James Clayton  
Jemma Coles  
John Crockford-Hawley  
Ciaran Cronnelly  
Thomas Daw  
Catherine Gibbons  
Jenna Ho Marris  
Clare Hunt  
Patrick Keating  
Sue Mason  
Hugh Malyan  
Stuart McQuillan  
Tom Nicholson  
Ian Parker  
Robert Payne  
Marcia Pepperall  
Bridget Petty  
Lisa Pilgrim  
Terry Porter  
Michael Pryke  
Luke Smith  
Timothy Snaden

Mike Solomon  
Dan Thomas  
Helen Thornton  
Joe Tristram  
Annemieke Waite  
Roger Whitfield  
Martin Williams

**Apologies:** Councillors: Ashley Cartman, Oliver Ellis, Nicola Holland, David Shopland and Hannah Young.

**Absent:** Councillors: Andy Cole and Stuart Davies.

**Officers in attendance:** Jo Walker (Chief Executive), Nicholas Brain (Assistant Director Legal & Governance and Monitoring Officer), Claire Shiels (Director Children's Services), Amy Webb (Director of Corporate Services), Philippa Penney (Head of Democratic and Electoral Services) and Vanessa Andrews (Marketing and Communications Manager).

**Partaking via Microsoft Teams:**

Councillors: Richard Tucker

Officers: Mel Watts (Head of Finance), Bethany Swann (Young Director)

**COU Chairperson's Welcome**  
**129**

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting which was being livestreamed and would be available to view within 48 hours on the North Somerset Council website.

She reminded members that only those present in the Chamber would be able to vote but any members joining on Teams would be able to take part in the debate.

**COU Public Participation: John Martell - resident - use of motorcycles in bus**  
**130 lanes in North Somerset area**

John Martell addressed members on the use of motorcycles in bus lanes. Mr Martell asked for support in allowing motorcyclists to ride in bus lanes in North Somerset. He outlined his previous experience as a biker for nearly 60 years. The main focus was on A370 to Bristol which included a number of bus lanes, most notably the Long Ashton bypass. Bristol City Council already allowed motorcycle use of bus gates and bus lanes throughout the city and gave encouragement to do so. Allowing such use would enhance road safety and be better for the environment.

**COU Public Participation: Steve Voller - resident - Banwell bypass scheme**  
**131**

Steve Voller addressed members on the Banwell bypass scheme. He was speaking as the organiser of the Build Our Bypass scheme and was pleased to confirm that preparatory work had been seen to be underway. He gave heartfelt thanks to both present and past councillors who had supported the scheme for many years. The scheme would make a tremendous difference to Banwell in terms of reduced noise, pollution, safety, and atmosphere.



The Chairperson thanked Mr Voller for such a positive address.

**COU 132 Public Participation: Debbie Apted - resident - public consultation on introduction of three-weekly residual waste collections**

Debbie Apted addressed members on the public consultation on the introduction of three-weekly residual waste collections. As well as a resident, she was also the community lead for Plastic-free Weston-super-Mare which had over 200 members. Since the campaign's inception, awareness had been raised considerably and it was recognised that significant money could be saved rather than literally throwing money away. She gave examples of collaboration and suggestions for education for the community and undertook to share these with Councillor Waite.

**COU 133 Public Participation: Michelle Michael - business owner and resident - premises adjoining the Premier Inn and going along onto Oxford Street which are under the ownership of the Council**

Michelle Michael addressed members on the premises adjoining the Premier Inn and going along into Oxford Street which was under the ownership of the council. As well as a resident, she was speaking as Director of the Grand Pier and of collective family businesses relying on tourism. She spoke of a specific business which closed in 2017 due to fire issues and had recently transferred to the council along with others. This building was in a terrible condition and in highlighting this she also represented the interests of others in the surrounding areas whose properties had fallen into similar disrepair. These premises were an eyesore and was in a prime location on the seafront. She asked for immediate action to be taken and for short term and long-term plans for demolition and clearance.

**COU 134 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (Standing Order 37)**

None declared.

**COU 135 Minutes**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting of 9 January 2024 be approved as a correct record.

Councillor Burden stated his concern that the second part of the resolution relating to the Regional Flood and Coast Defence Committee had not been resolved. It was confirmed that the letter had been written to the Environment Agency. No reply had been received to date and an undertaking was given that this matter would be discussed at the next Council meeting.

**COU 136 Chairperson's announcements**

The Chairperson announced the news of the recent death of former Councillor David Jolley. Also, that of Ann Shopland, the wife of Councillor David Shopland.

She thanked councillors and officers for the extensive briefings and information sharing regarding the budget, enabling all to be fully informed for this meeting

tonight.

Councillor Crockford-Hawley was given the opportunity to talk of the birthday of this council. It would have been formed for half a century by the time council next met, first as Woodspring, then North West Somerset Council, and now North Somerset Council.

**COU13 7 Reports and matters referred from the Executive - dated 7 February 2024  
EXE84 Medium Term Financial Plan 2024-2028 (MTFP) (Agenda Item 6 (1))  
and Revenue Budget Update 2024/25 and Council Tax Setting 2024-25  
(Agenda Item 7)**

With the agreement of the Chairperson, Councillor Bell presented the Executive finance references and council tax setting reports en bloc, that is: Revenue Budget 2024/25, Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2024-28, Treasury Management Strategy 2024/25, and Capital Strategy 2024-28, together with the Council Tax Setting resolution 2024/25. Members were reminded that a named vote would be required on the budget decision and that an update report had been published containing the precept demand from outside bodies not available at the time of the publication of the original report.

In presenting the Executive references and the reports, Councillor Bell acknowledged that it had been a difficult year to reach a balanced budget given the inflationary pressures on costs, continued increase in demand on resources and services, in-year mitigation pressures, together with the poor local government grant settlement. He was therefore pleased to be able to present a balanced budget that continued to support our core services for the community and delivered long term investments. It did not, however, shirk the difficult choices that had to be made.

The MTFP set out £6million of savings, efficiencies, and increased income for 2024/25, and a further £26million in future years. This gave an overall saving of £50million in five years. Councillor Bell thanked all staff for their hard work and dedication in helping to achieve these ambitious savings and efficiencies. He gave particular thanks to the finance officer team in overcoming the genuine difficulties in reaching this outcome.

Councillor Bell acknowledged the difficult decisions contained within these proposals that would impact at a time when many are already experiencing financial difficulty. The examples given were not things that the council would choose to do but were unavoidable given the challenges faced.

Councillor Bell voiced determination in making sure that the council did not follow the course of others leading into bankruptcy and would continue to lobby the government on the need for financial reform. Without that change, local services would suffer, and local authorities would disappear completely.

Councillor Bell highlighted some of the positive work including investment in schools, in highways and pavement maintenance, continuation of delivering high performing waste and recycling, leisure centres, and tackling inequality and anti-social behaviour. The council would work with town and parish councils and continue to tackle housing inequality, local environment and climate change, provision of family hubs, and social care. Councillor Bell also

highlighted improvements to bus services, the A38, Birnbeck Pier, and levelling up for Weston-super-Mare.

In discussing the Executive references and council report, members expressed support for the budget and financial strategy but also noted areas of concern regarding the impact to council services including housing, transport, medical care, children's centres, and libraries. There was agreement that this was a particularly difficult time for local government, and a call for all councillors to continue to lobby for change and to challenge their political leaders.

Members expressed concerns for future year savings whilst giving general support the budget. There was discussion of the option of bringing services such as home to school transport back in house, and the use of this as a comparator when looking to outsource.

Councillor Bridger highlighted the Safety Valve agreement and the funding that this would bring over the next five years which was a great achievement.

In discussing support for those who genuinely could not pay their council tax it was agreed that there would be a clear commitment in the budget for this. The government was to extend the support fund and there was also a call for a national council tax support system to mitigate dependency on where people lived.

Councillor Bell also confirmed that it was necessary to use reserves to balance the budget this year and was confident that this would set the council on an even keel for next year.

It was noted that Standing Order 22A required a named vote to be taken on the budget decision

**Motion:** moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Gibbons it was

**Resolved:** that Council:

1. Approved the 2024/25 net revenue budget for North Somerset Council services of **£217.647m**; and the Council Tax Requirement of £225.159m, being the value including town and parish council precepts, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
2. Approved the directorate gross income and expenditure budget allocations as detailed in the body of the report and as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
3. Approved the directorate gross income and expenditure budget allocations as detailed in the body of the report and as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
  - a. Which provides for an **average Band D** council tax charge in respect of North Somerset Council services for 2024/25 of £1,707.65 plus special expenses, where such charges apply, giving an overall charge of **£1,708.50**

- b. And provides for other major preceptors being, the Avon Fire Authority, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Avon and Somerset and the town and parish councils
4. Approved the refreshed Pay Policy for 2024/25 in accordance with the details set out in Appendix 5 of the report.

### **COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION**

#### **The Council resolves as follows:**

1. It be noted that on 31st January 2024 the Council calculated the Council Tax Base for 2024/25:
  - a) for the whole Council area as 81,014.7 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")] and ,
  - b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Appendix B.
2. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2024/25 (excluding Parish precepts and Special Levies) is **£139,155,623**
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2024/25 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:

a	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils ( <i>Gross Expenditure</i> )	457,538,852
b	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act ( <i>Gross Income</i> )	310,871,589
c	Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act). ( <i>North Somerset Council Tax Requirement, inc. special expenses, town and parish precepts and special levies</i> )	146,667,263

d	Being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts). <i>(Band D Council Tax for North Somerset Council including an average of special expenses and town and parish precepts)</i>	1,800.73
e	Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Appendix C) <i>(Area related expenditure, i.e. town and parish precepts and special expenses)</i>	Precepts 7,511,639.89 Spec Exp 69,410.00 7,581,049.89
f	Being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precepts relates. <i>(The Band "D" amount for North Somerset Council excluding "area" related expenditure, i.e. special expenses and town and parish council precepts)</i>	1,707.65
g	The amount of Special Expenses (expressed in Band D)	0.85
h	The total Relevant Basic Amount for North Somerset Council	1,708.50

#### 4. Precepting Authorities

To note that the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area, as shown in the table below

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Police & Crime Commissioner	186.13	217.16	248.18	279.20	341.24	403.29	465.33	558.40
Fire Authority	56.95	66.45	75.94	85.43	104.41	123.40	142.38	170.86

- That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table on the following page, as the amounts of Council Tax for 2024/25 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.
- The Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2024/25 is not determined to be excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992

## **Named Vote as required under Standing Order 22A**

**For the Motion (42):** Mark Aplin, Nigel Ashton, Mike Bell, Mike Bird, Chris Blades, Steve Bridger, Peter Bryant, Peter Burden, Mark Canniford, Annabel Chard, Caritas Charles, James Clayton, Jemma Coles, Peter Crew, John Crockford-Hawley, Ciaran Cronnelly, Thomas Daw, Catherine Gibbons, Wendy Griggs, Jenna Ho Marris, Clare Hunt, Patrick Keating, Hugh Malyan, Sue Mason, Stuart McQuillan, Tom Nicholson, Ian Parker, Robert Payne, Marcia Pepperall, Bridget Petty, Lisa Pilgrim, Terry Porter, Michael Pryke, Luke Smith, Timothy Snaden, Mike Solomon, Dan Thomas, Helen Thornton, Joe Tristram, Annemieke Waite, Roger Whitfield, Martin Williams

**Against the Motion (0):**

**Abstentions (0):**

### **COU 138 Reports and Matters referred from the Executive, 7 February 2024 EXE86 Treasury Management Strategy 2024-25 (Agenda Item 08) (Agenda item 6(2))**

Councillor Bell presented the reference from the Executive.

All finance items were discussed together en bloc (see minute no. COU 137 above).

**Motion:** moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Council Gibbons it was

**Resolved:** that the Council

- i. Approved the Treasury Management Strategy for 2024/25, as described throughout the report and shown in Appendix 1 of the report,
- ii. Approved the Prudential Indicators for 2024/25, as shown in Appendix 2 of the report
- iii. Approved the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2024/25, as shown in Section 3.5 of the report.

### **COU 139 Reports and matters referred from the Executive, 7 February 2024, EXE87 Capital Strategy 2024-28 and Capital Budget 2024-25 (Agenda item 6(3))**

Councillor Bell presented the reference from the Executive.

All finance items were discussed together en bloc (see minute no. COU137 above)

**Motion:** moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Gibbons it was

**Resolved:** that the Council

- a. approved the capital strategy for 2024 to 2028 as detailed throughout the

report

- b. approved an increase in the capital programme of £9.789m for a new range of investment proposals as detailed in section 3.5 and Appendix 3 of the report, subject to confirmation of grant funding allocations
2. noted the additional borrowing impact within the capital programme of £2.6m for the period 2024 to 2028 as detailed in section 3.4 and Appendix 4 of the report, which will increase the council's overall borrowing requirement to £114.6m over the period
3. approved the amendments to the capital budget for 2023/24 as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report
4. delegated the approval for the detailed highways programme to the Assistant Director for Neighbourhoods and Transport in consultation with the Executive Member for Transport and Highways.

**COU 140 Corporate Plan 2024-2028**

Councillor Bell presented the Corporate Plan which had been developed through comprehensive engagement with staff, members, and residents. He brought attention to the four headline ambitions and gave particular thanks to officers for their work in supporting community and budget engagement.

There would be ongoing monitoring of the Corporate Plan as a living document offering a good framework for engagement.

**Motion:** moved by Councillor Bell and seconded by Councillor Gibbons

**Resolved:** that the Council approved the Corporate Plan for the period 2024 to 2028 as recommended by the Executive

**COU 141 Award of Support Services Contract 1**

The Chairperson referred to exempt appendices accompanying the report and reminded members that discussion of any matters contained within would be held in private session at the end of the meeting.

Councillor Bell presented the report noting that the existing contract was due to expire. There were drivers as to the mitigation of cost pressures and delivery of better outcomes for service users and the council. The process to date had been comprehensive including, market comparison, value for money, alternative delivery models including in-house, and shared service with another authority. The value was likely to be in the range of £35million to £65million pounds depending on the contract duration and inflationary uplifts.

**Motion:** moved by Councillor Bell and seconded by Councillor Bridger

**Resolved:** that the Council

1. approved the appointment in principle of the Preferred Bidder for the provision of the Revenues, Benefits, Welfare, Exchequer and Civil Enforcement Administration services contract and
2. delegated the final decision for the contract award to the Executive Member for Corporate Services, in consultation with the Project Board (Chaired by the Director of Corporate Services), subject to the following:
  - Finalising the contract documentation for execution, and
  - Ensuring the costs and savings are within the financial envelope.

**COU 142 Commissioning Plan for the procurement of an operator for the Tropicana**

Councillor Solomon presented the report. Whilst the Tropicana was currently run by North Somerset staff, local authorities were increasingly moving away from this model of delivery. The council had great ambition for the future of the Tropicana as a cultural place to go with a prime position on the sea front.

Members discussed the preferred option of procuring an operator on the basis of a long full repair lease of fifteen years or more, and consideration of a specialist advisor for an entertainment partner.

**Motion:** moved by Councillor Solomon and seconded by Councillor Bell

**Resolved:** that the Council approved the Commissioning Plan for the procurement of an operator for the Tropicana as set out in sections 3.10 to 3.29 of the report

**COU 143 Corporate Parenting Report**

Councillor Gibbons presented the report which addressed engagement with and listening to children in care and care experienced young people. The full Bright Spots report had been sent to all councillors. There had been well attended engagement sessions and conversations with young people providing helpful feedback about language and how documents are written with proposed changes welcomed across the board. There was also an ambition to reinvigorate the Youth Parliament.

Bethany Swann, Young Director, joined the meeting remotely. She thanked those who had attended the latest Corporate Parenting Panel and the support for developing life skills and aspirations for young people across North Somerset. She encouraged all members to get in touch with any opportunities for making the work of the council more accessible for young people.

**Motion:** moved by Councillor Gibbons and seconded by Councillor Bell

**Resolved:** that the Council:

- Continues its commitment to the role of corporate parent to our children in care and care experienced young people, and
- Considers how the voices and experiences of children in care and care leavers are considered when making all key decisions



**COU 144 Petitions to be presented by Members (Standing Order No. 16)**

None.

**COU 145 Motions by Members (Standing Order No. 14)**

None.

**COU 146 Question Time (Standing Order No.18)**

Oral questions were directed to members concerned and the summary notes and topics involved are contained in Appendix 1.

**COU 147 Matters referred from previous meeting**

None.

**COU 148 Leader's announcements**

None.

**COU 149 Chief Executive's announcements**

None.

**COU 150 Forward Plan dated 1 February 2024**

The Leader presented the Forward Plan

**Resolved:** that the Forward Plan be noted.

**COU 151 Policy and Scrutiny Panel Report**

None.

**COU 152 Reports and matters referred from the Policy/Overview and Scrutiny Panels other than those dealt with elsewhere on this agenda**

None.

**COU 153 Reports and matters referred from the other Committees other than those dealt with elsewhere on this agenda**

None.

**COU 154 Reports on joint arrangements and external organisations and questions relating thereto**

**(1) Avon Fire Authority**

Councillor Payne provided an oral update to the meeting. The Fire Authority had met yesterday to agree a budget, increasing the precept to 2.99% which

was the maximum permitted. Fuller detail would be referred to next month's meeting. The authority was looking at ways to defer the inevitable cuts in funding and remained frustrated with the central government funding model.

**(2) Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel**

Councillor Crew presented the report, observing that events had subsequently overtaken the report. There was discussion of the process for the voted increase in the precept, and also of the definition of the police now being at full strength. The new CCTV system was now fully operational.

**(3) West of England Combined Authority (WECA) Joint Scrutiny Committee**

Councillor Ashton informed members that there had not been a recent meeting, the previous two being inquorate and then cancelled. He was not aware of any future meeting dates but undertook to pursue this with WECA.

**COU 155 Urgent business permitted by the Local Government Act 1972 (if any)**

None.

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Chairperson

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**North Somerset Council  
Council Meeting 20 February 2024  
Question Time (Agenda Item 12)**

**Question 1**

**From Councillor Smith**

**To the Leader - Councillor Mike Bell**

**Clevedon Seafront**

Councillor Smith asked the following question:

“I wrote to the leader around two weeks ago due to the AECOM Review stating that at Clevedon Seafront “...vehicles running over the [mini roundabout] is common and there is the potential for head on collisions...” I believe that due to the limited space, this breaches Section 188 of the Highway Code whereas, a T junction, as suggested is supported by sections 160, 200, 206 and 211. Additionally, the AECOM Review states that 84% residents dislike the feature, our own highways team have admitted it is a pointless feature serving no benefit to 80% - 90% of road users and the RAC has said that due to the limited space a T Junction may be simpler and cheaper. I believe that the simpler the road, the safer it is. Will the leader support me and stop this lacklustre idea?”

Councillor Bell thanked Councillor Smith for his question and responded that he was always in favour of stopping lacklustre ideas. An officer had already responded to this question and the Executive Member was considering the issue in advance of the Executive meeting next month.

**Question 2**

**From Councillor Robert Payne**

**To Executive Member for Spatial Planning, Placemaking and Economy –  
Councillor Mark Canniford**

**Occupancy rates to shop units on the south of Waterloo Street**

Councillor Payne asked the following question:

“Looking around Weston town centre, it is quite evident that there is quite a high occupancy rate of the retail units, particularly when you consider comparable towns, which is something we can be really pleased about. But one obvious exception to this: the shop units along the south side of Waterloo Street from number 2 to number 14, where of the nine units, only two are occupied. My understanding is that these are all owned by the same landlord who appears to be charging excessively high rents. Do you think there’s anything the council can do to engage with this landlord to try and bring these units back into useful occupation?”

Councillor Canniford thanked Councillor Payne for his question and replied that as the Council didn’t actually own these properties, it was difficult to intervene.

However, he had already asked for confirmation that the landlord was paying the appropriate business rates as this may be the only enforcement intervention that the council could make. In North Somerset, we could generally be pleased with our occupancy rates compared to other areas.

### **Question 3**

**From Councillor Thornton**

**To Executive Member for Highways and Transport - Councillor Hannah Young**

#### **Use of motorcycles in bus lanes in the North Somerset area**

Councillor Thornton asked the following question:

“Can I ask if serious consideration can be given to our public speaker John Martell’s request for motor cyclists to be able to use bus lanes throughout North Somerset as they do in the Bristol City Council area?”

Councillor Bell thanked Councillor Thornton on behalf of Councillor Young for her question and responded that he completely agreed and had already initiated a review as a result.

### **Question 4**

**From Councillor Charles**

**To the Leader - Councillor Mike Bell**

#### **Monthly communications update with geographical relevance**

Councillor Charles asked if the executive member would consider providing members with a monthly comms update allowing us to know the geographical relevance and location of press releases.

Councillor Bell thanked Councillor Charles for his request and agreed that it would be helpful to be provided to all councillors who could then choose to unsubscribe if they did not want to receive it. He encouraged all members to contact the comms team with any additional local comms suggestions that they may have.

### **Question 5**

**From Councillor Pryke**

**To the Leader – Councillor Mike Bell**

#### **Backbench engagement with the work of the council**

Councillor Pryke asked Councillor Bell to consider the involvement of backbench members in the work of the council in matters such as car parking charges to gauge opinion other than solely as part of the public consultation.

Councillor Bell thanked Councillor Pryke for his question and replied that he would ignore the political points but was happy to pick up on engagement with members. This was one of the themes that had formed part of the recent peer challenge with

the recommendation that a group should be established to look at just that. He took the opportunity to underline that engagement was a two-way relationship and that this was directly related to attendance.

## **Question 6**

**From Councillor Williams  
To the Leader – Councillor Mike Bell**

### **Weston-super-Mare floral clock**

Councillor Williams asked the executive member to clarify the recent communications that stated the council had no prior knowledge of the work to the floral clock as he had seen two emails to the contrary.

Councillor Bell thanked Councillor Williams for his question and responded that he couldn't comment directly on the comms as the information had been provided by officers in response to the question asked by the executive member. It was unfortunate that this had been raised directly at Council as a political point where it would have been more helpful to have worked together for agreement before the event.

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## North Somerset Council

### Report to the Full Council

**Date of Meeting: 16th April 2024**

**Subject of Report: Adult Social Services and Housing Commissioning Intentions 2024/25**

**Town or Parish: All**

**Officer/Member Presenting: Cllr Roger Whitfield Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Safer Communities**

**Key Decision: N/A**

#### **Reason:**

Not an Executive decision.

#### **Recommendations**

The purpose of this report is to set out the planned Adult Social Services and Housing commissioning priorities for the next 18 months and, where necessary, to seek approval to commence specific procurement activities or to extend contracts beyond their original term, specifically:

- a) To agree the Adult Social Care and Housing commissioning intentions for the next 18 months.
- b) To approve the commencement of activities listed in Appendices A & B, delegating to the Director for Adult Social Care, approval to determine the relevant procurement or commissioning routes, and the award of any contract, in consultation with the relevant Executive Member(s).
- c) To approve activity listed in Appendices A & B the extension of any contracts that have already reached the term under the original permission to commence a procurement.

#### **1. Summary of Report**

The purpose of this report is to set out the planned Adult Social Services and Housing commissioning intentions and priorities for the coming 18 months and, where necessary, to seek approval to commence specific procurement activities or to extend contracts beyond their original term.

The commissioning intentions set out within this document are intended to support the delivery of the Adults Social Services and Housing priorities, whilst supporting commissioning intentions as part of the new Adult Social Services Commissioning Strategy 2024 -2031. It will ensure that the available resources are used most

effectively, to enable the residents of North Somerset to live as independently as possible, exercising choice and control whilst being assured that where support is commissioned on their behalf, that it is of a quality and standard that they would expect. The commissioning team are focused upon a cross directorate approach which is person centred and outcome focused whilst supporting the delivery of the directorates savings targets as part of the Council's Savings Plan.

## **2. Policy**

This commissioning intentions report supports the Corporate Plan ambitions, specifically:

- Our communities are caring, health and safe, where people help each other to live well.
- Our council delivers consistently good services and value for money to support our community.

The Corporate Plan acknowledges that within adults and communities the recognition that the council wants to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents, and that we will work with our NHS system, partners and voluntary, community and social enterprise sector partners to enable people to stay well, safe, and independent at home for longer.

We must commission a range of services across adult social care that prevent and / or delay people from needing to rely on statutory services for as long as possible. Details of how we will achieve this will reflect a move to offering better outcomes, that improve and maintain the confidence and therefore, wellbeing of individuals requiring services. We also intend to focus on support for informal carers to maintain their caring role, as well as the use of Technology Enabled Care (TEC), in delaying the need for large packages of care and placements into care homes.

The services in this commissioning plan are key to the commitments in respect of Adult Social Services and Housing priorities for 2024/25.

Our commitments and priorities include:

- Work with people who have care and support needs and their carers, so they remain safe, supported and well.
- Work with our NHS system partners to enable people to stay well, safe, and independent at home for longer.
- Enable communities to develop personal and community resilience, and a proactive approach to their health and wellbeing.
- Enable people to maximise their independence, through a focus on empowering communities, information and advice, early intervention and technology enabled care.
- Ensure more good quality, energy efficient, affordable homes are available for residents to rent or buy through partnership working.
- Strengthen our collaboration and co-production with town and parish councils, the voluntary and the community sector to ensure we work together for the benefits of our residents.
- Achieve a positive outcome under the Care Quality Commission inspection framework, evidencing our strengths and development plans.
- Get better at how we communicate, inform, consult, engage and co-produce with our communities.
- Support a sustainable financial future for the council through innovation and transformation.



- Make the best use of our assets and other resources to deliver value for money.
- Strengthen our strategic partnerships to get the best for North Somerset, our residents, and communities.

This report also supports aspects of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, particularly in respect of:

- Prevention: prevent people from becoming unwell or experiencing poor health and wellbeing.
- Early intervention: support people to identify and manage health and wellbeing problems as early as possible.
- Thriving communities: focus on the wider factors and influences on health, and work with partners to support communities to thrive.

Additionally, this report supports the Prevention of Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

The commissioning plan will increasingly reflect our joint ambitions with North Somerset's two NHS locality partnerships.

### **3. Details**

The 2024/25 commissioning intentions, identified in appendices A and B are designed to improve the coordination of our approach to demand management and to support the best use of resources in recognition of improving outcomes and addressing budgetary pressures.

The key strategic drivers for the directorate include:

- Care Act 2014
- Housing Act 1996
- Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996
- Homeless Reduction Act 2017
- Accelerating Reform Fund
- Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund
- Better Care Fund
- Homeless Prevention Grant
- Health and Social Care Integration and the BNSSG Sustainable Transformation Plan
- Discharge to Assess
- Adult Social Care and Housing Commissioning Strategy 2024 - 2031
- The Corporate Plan 2024 - 2028
- North Somerset Housing Strategy 2022 – 2027
- Prevention Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019 -2024
- Strategic Housing Services Enforcement Policy 2018
- Home Choice Policy 2023
- North Somerset Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021 – 2024
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Council Savings Plan

Any commissioning undertaken is supported by the Procurement Team.

The Contracts and Commissioning team is focused on developing an approach that is evidenced and needs led, person centred, strength-based and outcome focused. There is a desire to maximise the level of co-production that can be incorporated in the commissioning process to ensure that the services commissioned optimise outcomes for the person receiving the support, the Council, partners, and the providers of those services. Commissioning is informed through evidence (both locally and nationally), best practice initiatives and local need, and undertaken in line with the Institute of Public Care commissioning cycle.

Individual pieces of work will be brought to the Executive for further consideration where this is appropriate, for example where service design is proposed as part of the commissioning process and new models of service delivery are proposed, but this is not necessarily reflected in the information in the Appendices as these may only be identified once commissioning projects commence.

An update on progress against plans will be provided to the ASHH Executive Members every 6 months, including where any conflict for resourcing of activity during the year has resulted in revised plans.

Each approval includes delegation of further decisions in the process to the Director. Further decisions include the authority to agree the outcome of the commissioning activity to determine the detail of the services to be procured, the procurement route and the award of any contract. Decisions to award contracts will be taken in consultation with the relevant Executive Member(s).

#### **4. Consultation**

Ensuring effective ongoing consultation and engagement is fundamental to the commissioning process and is embedded into each commissioning priority and re-procurement process.

The commissioning intentions for 2024/25 have been developed in consultation with Adult Social Services Director, Assistant Director for Commissioning, Partnerships and Housing Solutions, and relevant Heads of Services, as well as the Procurement Team.

In addition, extensive consultation has been undertaken with the development of the Adult Social Care and Housing Commissioning Strategy which is fundamental to the annual commissioning intentions report. This has included, where appropriate, wider consultation across the wider BNSSG system and Integrated Locality Care Partnerships.

Furthermore, wider consultation and co-production of services is beginning to be developed with individuals in receipt of services, and their carers / families to ensure that services which are being commissioned, are appropriate, outcome focused and of the quality and standard we would expect.

The Adult Services and Housing Policy and Scrutiny Panel were consulted on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

Members requested that the six-month update be used to monitor progress on the items marked 'ongoing' on the actions list, this relates to the Commissioning Strategy Action Plan, as opposed to this specific report. It was acknowledged that actions marked 'ongoing' were

usually a positive achievement in adult social care as these showed sustainability of services.

The Panel endorsed the recommendations to Council set out in the report.

## **5. Financial Implications**

In consultation with the Principal Accountant for Adult Social Services, there are no direct financial implications from this report. Each of the individual procurement activities or contract extensions will need to be considered within the available revenue and capital budgets for the activity.

### **Costs**

The costs associated for each individual contract are detailed in Appendices A and B

### **Funding**

N/A

## **6. Legal Powers and Implications**

The services considered in this commissioning intentions report meet our statutory requirements and as such are covered by the:

- Care Act 2014
- The Health and Care Act 2022
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Mental Health Act 1983, as amended in 2009
- The Housing Act 1996
- The Homeless Reduction Act 2017
- The Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996
- and, where appropriate, the Children's and Families Act 2014.

Local Authorities cannot provide these services themselves as the legislation requires them to be provided independent of the Local Authority or NHS Providers.

In addition, the Corporate Procurement Policy is adhered to, alongside the Contract Standing Order Rules. Consideration has also been given to the newly implemented Provider Selection Regime for the procurement of health care services and the implementation of the Procurement Act 2023, which takes effect from autumn 2024. The appendices differentiate between those contracts awarded under the current Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and those where the new procurement regulations will apply.

## **7. Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

Responding to the Climate Emergency is a council-wide commitment. The environmental implications of the commissioning of these services will be considered as part of the procurement process in accordance with the Council's Procurement Strategy 2021-2025 and Social Value procurement guidance. In February 2019 the council declared a Climate Emergency and an Ecological Emergency in November 2020 and pledged to provide the leadership to enable North Somerset to become carbon neutral by 2030. All opportunities to inform and work with service providers to tackle the climate emergency, reduce carbon

emissions, build adaptation and resilience to the local impacts of a changing climate and to restore nature should be taken. The provision of locally accessible services is essential to supporting the take up of low carbon active travel such as walking and cycling.

A thorough risk assessment will be completed by the Procurement and Contracts and Commissioning Teams, the results of which will be detailed in any procurement plan and built into the tender process to ensure that any implications are fully covered.

## **8. Risk Management**

An overall risk rating of LOW has been determined, applying the principles of the corporate risk scoring matrix.

This has been achieved by considering that the impact of any delays in delivering the commissioning intentions could be considered medium / high due to the impact of our statutory duties in respect of our duty of care and risks to vulnerable residents. However, the perceived likelihood of significant delays in these commissioning intentions would be considered rare.

This is mitigated by bringing together all the identified commissioning intentions and priorities into a single place which creates an opportunity to ensure that we maximise our efficiency as commissioners and look for opportunities to align priorities across the directorate and reducing duplication.

Further mitigation is supported as a thorough risk assessment will also be completed by the Procurement and Contracts and Commissioning Teams, against each individual activity, the results of which will be detailed in any procurement plan and will be monitored and mitigated throughout the procurement process and subsequent contract monitoring.

## **9. Equality Implications**

Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment? Yes

For each commissioning priority an equality impact assessment will be undertaken at the stage of planning & procuring / developing services. Equality implications then continue to be considered within the monitoring and review of services.

To ensure that equalities issues and implications have been fully considered as part of each of the commissioning activities, the equalities impact assessments are reviewed by the relevant Head of Service, and where required, guidance and support is sought from the council's equalities officer before procurement commences.

## **10. Corporate Implications**

There are no known corporate implications, however, where a commissioning activity is likely to cross over into another Directorate, appropriate consultation will be undertaken. This has already been reflected in the development of the various strategies which have been key to the commissioning intentions outlined in this report.

## **11. Options Considered**

The nature of most of our activity within Adult Social Care and Housing is statutory and therefore an options appraisal will be undertaken as part of any commissioning activity to inform best practice and value, and most appropriate provision to achieve the desired

service outcome. Where appropriate this will include Voluntary Community Social and Faith Enterprises, the wider BNSSG system and Integrated Locality Care Partnerships.

**Author:**

Teresa Stanley  
Head of Strategy and Commissioning

**Owner:**

Gerald Hunt, Assistant Director for Commissioning, Partnerships and Housing

**Appendices:**

ASC Commissioning and Procurement Plan Appendix A (New Activity)  
ASC Commissioning and Procurement Plan Appendix B (Existing or previously agreed Activity)

**Background Papers:**

ASS Commissioning Intentions plan 2023/24 agreed at the Executive meeting June 2023  
EXE 9.

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

Project/Contract	Description	Current Contract End date	Estimated Contract Value (whole term value)	Commissioning Route	Commissioning Manager	Approval to proceed with the activity required?
Specialised Care and Support Spot Framework Contract with 4 Lots	<p>Specialist care and support provision in respect of Autism, Learning Disabilities, Sensory Impairment, Acquired Brain Injury, Transitions and Mental Health. These are divided into 4 specialists 'Lots':</p> <p><b>Lot 1: Supported Living</b> Supports individuals with a tenancy who have access to night support or core support, or have more than 105 per week one to one hours.</p> <p><b>Lot 2: Individualised Framework</b> Supports Individuals with smaller packages that are less than 105 hours one to one per week.</p> <p><b>Lot 3: Adult Building Based Day Services</b> Supports individuals who attend a building-based type day service.</p> <p><b>Lot 4: Complex Health and Behaviour Framework</b></p>	31/03/2025	<p>£109,710,816 (4-year + 2-year term)</p> <p>This is broken down to:</p> <p>£84,566,730</p> <p>£16,229,196</p> <p>£5,445,090</p> <p>£3,469,800</p>	Tender under the new Procurement Act 2023.	Michelle Pankow, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

	Supports individuals who are CHC Health funded with complex health needs or those individuals that have complex behaviour and need a specialist provider.					
Domiciliary Care and Support Framework	<p>This contract is for the provision of care and support to children, young people and adults.</p> <p>The Council is committed to commissioning high-quality personal care and support services for people who are assessed as being in need of a service to enable them to remain living in their own home.</p> <p>The ethos of the Service is quality of life for all Clients. It is a framework model that is open to all providers who deliver a variety of care and support provision.</p>	31/03/2025	£20,709,108 (4-year + 2-year term)	Tender under the new Procurement Act 2023.	Elizabeth Longdon, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

Reablement	Reablement Service aims are to enable individuals to remain living in their own home and community, for as long as possible whilst maintaining their optimum level of independence. It provides personalised, time limited support, with the aim of avoiding or delaying the need for long term care provision and facilitates hospital discharge.	04/09/2024	£3,626,748 This is the amount for both reablement and also rapid response and wellness (see below). The two services are not differentiated by finance reporting. (Based on 3 year re-commission)	TBC pending decision under Provider Selection Regime (Health Care Services Procurement Rules)	Elizabeth Longdon, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes
Rapid Response and Wellness Service	This service is seen as a key service in the development of the Integrated Care Partnerships Aging Well programme. It looks at reactionary care to the residents of North Somerset. The service impacts across a number of key areas with a desire by the Integrated Care Board for further development of the service including an expansion of the falls pathway, short term reactionary care and support, reactive telehealth monitoring, welfare calls and observations	04/09/2024	See above	TBC pending decision under Provider Selection Regime (Health Care Services Procurement Rules)	Elizabeth Longdon, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes



Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

	supporting both NSC duty and Sirona.					
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Page 33	Emergency Accommodation Framework	This framework provides emergency accommodation to people who have approached the Homeless Prevention Team and who are assessed as being owed a duty by the Authority to provide interim accommodation whilst further investigations are made	14/10/24	£2,500,000 (5-year term)	Extension of existing framework for 18 months, under the same terms and conditions to give time to review the requirements before going out to retender under the new Procurement Act 2023.	Alison Smith, Home Choice, and Lettings Team Manager	Yes
	Home Lifts (Supply, Repair & Maintenance)	Lot 1 - Supply and Installation of seated stair lifts (straight, curved and compact) This contract supports the delivery of the Disabled Facilities Grants, a mandatory grant, introduced by the Housing Grants Construction and Regeneration Act 1996. Good practice guidance encourages Local Authorities to use procured contracts to secure value for money, and	31/5/2025	£1,315,000	Original contract included 2-year option to extend.	Claire Baxter, Housing Improvements and Adaptations Team Manager	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

	help streamline and speed up service delivery. Funded by the DFG element of the Better Care Fund.					
Strawberry Gardens, Extra Care Housing	Provision of on-site care within Strawberry Gardens extra care housing scheme. To enable residents to remain as independent as possible within their own home. The care provider will also respond to emergency calls required by individuals.	27/10/2024	£1,208,984	Original contract included 3-year option to extend	Michelle Pankow, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes
Community Meals	Contract to supply food to be cooked in our own locations and delivered to vulnerable individuals in North Somerset	30/06/2025	£680,000	TBC, following review of future requirements.	Elaine Insley, Community Meals Team Manager / Teresa Stanley, Head of Strategy and Commissioning	No, market research currently underway
Young Adults Respite Service	2 bedded respite service providing 24 hour staffed care provision. The service is modelled on supported living service provision rather than the traditional residential care model. This service is offered to adults, particularly 25 years+, and for those young people	01/06/2024	£568,476	3-year Direct Award under the 'light touch' regime of Public Contracts Regulations 2015.	Rob Hepworth, Accommodation Change Manager	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

	who previously enjoyed short breaks at Pizey Avenue.					
Park Home Insulation Scheme	<p>Green Homes Grant (HUG2) A successful consortium bid secured HUG2 funding from BEIS for the retrofit of 500 traditional build properties and 45 park homes across the consortium area. Bristol City Leap are delivering the scheme for the traditional build and NS are delivering the scheme for park homes.</p> <p>This supports the corporate plan vision to create a greener NS, supports the actions in the Climate emergency Action Plan and contributes to the commitment to become carbon neutral by 2030.</p>	31/3/25	£480,000	Led by Bristol City Council	Claire Baxter, Housing Improvements and Adaptations Team Manager	Yes, should further funding become available would look to extend the current arrangements
Handy Person Contract	<p>The contract has 6 components that support qualifying individuals: A general <b>Handy Person Service</b> <b>Home from Hospital Service</b> providing minor adaptations / alterations to the home environment.</p>	31/01/2025	£460,000	Original contract included 2-year option to extend	Michelle Pankow, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

	<p><b>Quoted Works Service</b> providing minor adaptations and works to the home environment under £1000, to support people to remain independent.</p> <p><b>Urgent Works Service</b> <b>Warm Home Advice and Money Scheme Service</b> <b>Childrens Support Service</b></p>					
Home Lifts (Supply, Repair & Maintenance)	<p>Lot 3 Supply and Installation of Vertical Through Floor Lift This contract supports the delivery of the Disabled Facilities Grants, a mandatory grant, introduced by the Housing Grants Construction and Regeneration Act 1996. Good practice guidance encourages Local Authorities to use procured contracts to secure value for money, and help streamline and speed up service delivery. Funded by the DFG element of the Better Care Fund.</p>	31/5/2025	£450,000	Original contract included 2-year option to extend	Claire Baxter, Housing Improvements and Adaptations Team Manager	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

Voluntary Sector Grants	North Somerset Council has historically provided grant funding to a number of organisations. The provision of a grant has been given where there is a clear link between the Council's supporting people agenda and where activities support the strategic aims and objectives of the Council.	31/03/2024	£853,432	1-year direct award of grant funding.	Estelle Radcliffe Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes
Single E-Learning Platform	<p>For North Somerset Council to provide an e-learning platform which will be accessed by all local care providers, domiciliary and care homes, to provide a consistent approach to learning and development; This will provide NSC greater insight into the quality and content of training being received by our carers.</p> <p>The platform will be funded via innovation grant funding.</p> <p>This will also be linked into the development of the North Somerset Care Academy, which will identify and support Adult Social Care as a career choice.</p>	N/A	£117,000	Up to 3 years. Tender under Contract Standing Orders.(Services)	Lee Derbidge, Learning and Development Officer	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

Mental Health Accommodation Solution	This service will be providing 3 flats and support to people with long term mental health to return to general housing following discharge from residential care settings / hospital; the service will support the tenants to manage the property and develop the skills required for independent living, with support being stepped down as the individual develops their independence	N/A	£82,500	1-year direct award, by exception, under Contracts Standing Orders.(Light Touch)	Rob Hepworth, Accommodation Change Manger	Yes
North Somerset Online Directory (NSOD) delivery through Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS)	VANS would work closely with North Somerset Council to agree on the key information that would be required on NSOD; ANS will work with North Somerset Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprises (VCSE) to become active members of NSOD and to keep information up to date, to inform individuals of the variety of support and services available with their local communities.	N/A	£40,000	1-year direct award of grant funding	Estelle Radcliffe, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

Specialist Housing Needs Assessment	An assessment to be undertaken by HousingLIN to identify future need for specialist and supported housing over the next 10 + years within North Somerset, for people under the age of 65.	N/A	£24,750	Short term, Direct Award via exception under Contract Standing Orders	Rob Hepworth Accommodation Change Manager	Yes
Harvard Support Services Move-on Service	This contract will be providing core support into a 3 bedroomed property for existing tenants of Harvard and Folley House. This will enable individuals the opportunity to move into more independent living, which in turn will free up accommodation for more complex supported living. This will then be encompassed under Lot 1 of The Specialised Care and Support Spot Framework Contract (details above)	31/03/2025	£9,124	1-year direct award under Contract Standing Orders.	Michelle Pankow, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2023/24  
(New)

UKCIL PA Register	Contract to provide a personal assistant recruitment register, to support direct payment users, in effectively recruiting Pas to deliver their care.	01/12/2024	£3,000	Annual Direct Award	Sue Kelly, Connecting Lives Manager	Yes
Vyond	Cloud based subscription tool that allows the creation of engaging and eye-catching information videos and bitesize learning. This tool supports the delivery of training and information to providers and paid carers	14/08/2024	£518.17	Annual subscription Direct Award	Lee Derbidge, Learning and Development Officer	Yes



Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2024/25  
(Existing or previously agreed activity)

<b>Project/Contract</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Contract Expiry Date</b>	<b>Estimated Contract Value (whole term value)</b>	<b>Commissioning Route</b>	<b>Commissioning Manager</b>	<b>Approval to proceed with the activity required?</b>
Support to Live at Home Woodspring Contract	Provision of home care for Clients living in the Integrated Care Partnership Area of Woodspring. This is the Lead Provider Woodspring Contract and will be supported by the Support to Live at Home Flexible Framework Agreement	30/06/2024	£20,000.000	Tender completed; new contract due to commence July 2024 for up to 7 years	Elizabeth Longdon, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	N/A already approved at Full Council Jan 2023 Contract Awarded Jan 2024
Bathing Contract Framework	<p>Contract for the delivery of bathing adaptations as part of the Disabled Facilities grant. This contract supports the delivery of the Disabled Facilities Grants, a mandatory grant, introduced by the Housing Grants Construction and Regeneration Act 1996.</p> <p>Good practice guidance encourages Local Authorities to use procured contracts to secure value for money, and help streamline and speed up service delivery.</p>	31/03/2024	£3,800,000	2-year out of contract extension, under Contracts Standing Orders (Works)	Claire Baxter, Housing Improvements and Adaptations Team Manager	N/A Directors Decision signed 12/02/2024

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2024/25  
(Existing or previously agreed activity)

Blocked Booked Beds	<p>North Somerset has several block-booked beds to ensure a maintained and cost-effective care home bed capacity in North Somerset.</p> <p>Current provision is 77 block beds across 5 care homes covering nursing and residential care.</p> <p>The block-booked beds are recommissioned for 6 months at a time.</p>	Rolling 6-month contracts	<p>12-month total cost of 38 beds £2,226,610</p> <p>Additional 12 months of 39 beds with Sycamore Lodge £1,966,521</p>	<p>Direct award to 4 Homes (total 38 beds), in the local area as no cross-border interest.</p> <p>Direct award to Sycamore Lodge for 39 beds, local provision; no cross-border interest.</p>	Estelle Radcliffe, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes
Contract Novation – Extra Care Housing Lakeside Court	<p>Provision of on-site care within Lakeside Court extra care housing scheme. To enable residents to remain as independent as possible within their own home. The care provider will also respond to emergency calls required by individuals.</p> <p>Contract Novation from Home Life Carers Limited to Agincare Limited</p>	31/10/2026	£2,177,710	4 years with option to extend for a further 3 years	Michelle Pankow Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2024/25  
(Existing or previously agreed activity)

Domestic Abuse Services	The current domestic abuse services provide specialist support for adults (and where applicable, their children) who have experienced or are experiencing domestic abuse.	31/03/2024	£1,800,000	2-year permitted extension to current contract	Michelle Pankow Contracts and Commissioning Officer.	Yes
Pathways to Adulthood / Pizey Avenue Scheme	Joint commissioned provision with Children's Social Care providing short-term respite breaks, and support to prepare young people on their pathway to adulthood	31/03/2024	£1,249,226	2-year direct award, under Regulation 32 of the Public Contracts Regulation 2015.	Teresa Stanley (Adults) Alison Stone (Childrens) Heads of Strategy and Commissioning	N/A as decision signed by Directors of Adults and Children's Services on 31/01/2024
Support to Live at Home Woodspring Flexible Framework Agreement	Provision of home care for Clients living in the Integrated Care Partnership Area of Woodspring. This flexible framework is to support the Lead Provider Woodspring Contract and we will be looking to approve two to three providers	30/06/2024	£5,000,000	Tender under the new Procurement Act 2023.	Elizabeth Longdon, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	N/A already approved at Full Council Jan 2023
Community Meals	Contract to supply food to be cooked in our own locations and delivered to vulnerable individuals in North Somerset	30/09/2024	£850,000	Up to 9 months permitted extension to current contract	Elaine Insley, Community Meals Team Manager / Teresa Stanley, Head of Service Development	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2024/25  
(Existing or previously agreed activity)

<p>Advocacy</p>	<p>Recommission of Statutory Advocacy Services for Adults. This service is a statutory duty under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and is funded as one element of the Local Reform and Community Voices Grant received by the Council.</p> <p>The provider will supply the following statutory advocacy services: Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) Independent Mental Health Advocates (IMHA) NHS Complaints Advocates (IHCA) Independent Advocacy (ICCA)</p> <p>The new contract will also include the following areas which are currently purchased outside the main contract.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litigation Friend.</li> <li>• 39A referrals.</li> </ul>	<p>30/06/2024</p>	<p>£600,000</p>	<p>Tender in progress, award expected in March 2024. Open tender under the 'light touch' regime of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.</p>	<p>Michelle Pankow Contracts and Commissioning Officer</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2024/25  
(Existing or previously agreed activity)

Wellness and Active Lifestyles	This contract provides activities that promotes good health, wellbeing, and engagement for people with dementia. The service is delivered across 5 days from Tamar Court.	31/03/2024	£184,600	1-year Direct Award under the exception to Contract Standing Orders (light touch).	Elizabeth Longdon, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes
Healthwatch	Local Authorities have a duty to ensure that an effective local Healthwatch is operating in their area, delivering the activities set out in the legislation. A jointly commissioned service across BNSSG for the provision of the provider to feedback to local authorities to understand the needs, experiences and concerns of people who use health and social care services and to speak out on their behalf.	30/09/2024	£166,200	Tender jointly across BNSSG with Bristol Leading Out to tender 06/02/2024	Estelle Radcliffe, Contracts and Commissioning Officer	Yes
Accelerating Reform Fund	Funding from the Department of Health and Social Care to support innovation in social care. The aim of the funding is to support the growth of services that make person centred care a reality, support unpaid carers to live healthy and fulfilling lives and respond to rising demand and the changing needs of the local population.	N/A	£100,000 (from initial £300,000 across BNSSG)  £28,488 2023/24  £87,005 2024/25	One off DHSC grant funding	Teresa Stanley, Head of Strategy and Commissioning	Yes

Adult Social Services Commissioning Plan 2024/25  
(Existing or previously agreed activity)

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	<p>Partnership working with South Glos and Bristol to combine resources where appropriate and share learning.</p> <p>North Somerset main focus with this funding will be in respect of utilising technology to support unpaid carers with virtual respite and day care, and to promote the local Home Share scheme.</p>					
International Recruitment	The grant will be used to support social care employers undertake best practice overseas recruitment to reduce the incidence of poor practice; to support the orientation and wellbeing of social care workers from overseas, and to increase retention of these workers within the social care workforce.	N/A	£60,000	One off grant	Poppy Carson, Proud to Care Lead	Yes
Be Proud to Care Website	Joint commissioned provision across BNSSG and the ICB for the 'Be Proud to Care' campaign, to promote the value of working in social care and increase new entrants to jobs in social care.	12/2023	£254	3 years Direct Award under Contract Standing Orders.	Poppy Carson, Proud to Care Project Lead	Yes

# Minutes

of the Meeting of

## The Executive

**Wednesday, 21 June 2023**

New Council Chamber - Town Hall

Meeting Commenced: 2.00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 3.17 pm

### Councillors:

Mike Bell (Chairperson)

Catherine Gibbons (Vice-Chairperson)

Mark Canniford

James Clayton

Jenna Ho Marris

Mike Solomon

Annemieke Waite

Hannah Young

**Apologies:** Councillor: Roger Whitfield.

**Also in attendance:** Councillor Mike Bird.

**Officers in attendance:** Jo Walker (Chief Executive), Amy Webb (Director of Corporate Services), Nicholas Brain (Assistant Director Legal & Governance and Monitoring Officer), Sheila Smith (Director of Children's Services), Gerald Hunt (Principal Head of Commissioning, Partnerships and Housing Solutions), Sally Varley (Head of Strategic Place Planning, Capital Programmes & School Organisation), Mike Riggall (Information and ICT Security Manager).

### Partaking via Microsoft Teams:

Councillors: Steve Bridger, Peter Burden, Nicola Holland, Sue Mason, Ian Parker

Officers: Gemma Dando (Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods and Transport), Mel Watts (Finance Manager), Darren Coffin-Smith (Head of Highway and Parking Operations), Deborah Porter (Deputy Head of Communications), Lucy Shomali (Director of Place), Cris Fletcher (Senior Sustainable Travel and Road Safety), Peter King (Senior Project Manager), Simon Bunn (Flood Risk Manager) and Hazel Brinton (Committee Services Manager)

### EXE Chairperson's Welcome

1

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Executive in the New Council Chamber since the local elections.

Some councillors and officers would be joining the meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams.

The meeting was also being streamed live on the internet.

Councillor Bell noted that June was Pride Month, and the Executive was pleased to see the Pride flag in the Council Chamber. The council supported all its communities and stood with them in promoting acceptance and equality.

**EXE 2 Addresses by Members of the Public (ESO 6)**

None received.

**EXE 3 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (Standing Order 37)**

**EXE 4 Minutes 8 February 2023**

**Resolved:** that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

**EXE 5 Non-Executive Councillors' Addresses**

None.

**EXE 6 Matters referred to the Executive and not dealt with elsewhere on this agenda**

None.

**EXE 7 West of England Sub-Region: items not dealt with elsewhere on this agenda**

None.

**EXE 8 Forward Plan dated 1 June 2023**

**Resolved:** that the Forward Plan be noted.

**EXE 9 Adult Social Services Commissioning Intentions Strategy 2023 /2024**

On behalf of Councillor Whitfield, Councillor Bell introduced the report and explained the background in that current contracts were expiring either this year or next. He added that a number of commissioning routes were being used to deliver value for money and good outcomes.

**Resolved:** that the Executive

a) Agreed the Adult Social Care commissioning priorities for the year 2023-2024.

b) Approved the commencement of activities listed in Appendices A & B of the report, delegating to the Director for Adult Social Care, approval to determine the relevant procurement routes, and the award of any contract, in consultation with the relevant Executive Member(s).



c) Approved the activity listed in Appendices A & B of the report; the extension of any contracts that have already reached the term under the original permission; the commencement of a procurement.

**Reasons for the decision:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**EXE 10      Recommissioning of the BNSSG Integrated Sexual Health Service**

Councillor Ho Marris introduced the report and explained the background to the Integrated Care System set up in 2022 to join up health and care needs. She said that the existing contract was due to expire in 2025. The commissioned services were wide ranging and access to good sexual health services promoted gender and health equality and improved social outcomes.

She confirmed that climate change and environmental implications of the recommissioning plan would be assessed.

**Resolved:** that the Executive

- a) Agreed to the recommissioning of the North Somerset elements of the BNSSG Integrated Sexual Health Service for up to a 10-year term.
- b) Agreed to join Bristol City Council's procurement process (in collaboration with the NHS BNSSG Integrated Care Board, South Gloucestershire Council, and Bath and North East Somerset (BANES) Council).
- c) Delegated the contract award from the Executive to the Director of Public Health (to comply with Bristol City Council's procurement process).
- d) Agreed to anonymise the winning bidders' details on the Council website when the Director award decision was published (to comply with Bristol City Council's procurement process).
- e) Agreed to follow Bristol City Council's Procurement Plan - no separate NSC specific Procurement Plan will be produced by the Strategic Procurement Service for approval.

**Reasons for the decision:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**EXE 11 Contract award for cyclical and reactive maintenance term contract (highways)**

Councillor Young presented the report and explained the council's legal duty to maintain the highways network. A full business case and pricing submission had been received from North Somerset Environment Company (NSEC) and which had undergone a detailed evaluation. The award of the contract to NSEC offered the council the best strategic fit and opportunity to allow for changes in priorities during the life of the contract. She explained that it was essential the contract be awarded in June 2023 to allow sufficient time for contract mobilisation.

A query on the use of the existing depot was answered by officers.

**Resolved:** that the Executive agreed to direct award the contract for the highway services cyclical and reactive maintenance to North Somerset Environment Company (NSEC) using the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (regulation 12) exemption for an initial term of 7 years, with an option to extend for a further 7 years.

**Reasons for the decision:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the report.

**EXE 12 Contract Ward of Support to Live at Home One Weston Lead Provider Contract**

Councillor Bell introduced the report on behalf of Councillor Whitfield noting that it was a re-contracting of an existing service. The bids put forward had been through a stringent evaluation process. The winning bid came out best on all evaluation criteria. Councillor Bell noted that Access Your Care Limited only operated in North Somerset and was pleased to see a locally home-grown company being able to bid for contracts.

**Resolved:** that the Executive approved the award of the Support to Live at Home One Weston Lead Provider contract to Access Your Care Limited for circa £2,172,642 per annum (circa 1700 hours per week) for an initial term of three years with an optional extension of four years in two-year increments.

**Reasons for the decision:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the report.

**EXE 13 Adoption of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy following public consultation (February-March 2023)**

Councillor Waite introduced the report. North Somerset was the second most at risk of flooding so the requirement for a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) was both a statutory requirement and a top priority for the council. The

LFRRMS had been updated to maintain the technical and statutory content whilst making it more readable and the Action Plan was in accordance with all national objectives. The draft strategy had been the subject of extensive consultation and engagement

**Resolved:** that the Executive agreed to adopt the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy following public consultation; and to delegate any necessary minor amendments to style and content post adoption to the flood risk team to ensure the document was kept up to date with proposed legislation changes and action plan progress.

**Reasons for the decision:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**EXE  
14**     **Electric Vehicle Strategy**

Councillor Young presented the report and noted that the Strategy was based on the work carried out by the previous Executive Member for Highways and Transport, members, officers and industry experts.

The Strategy would support the council's objective of becoming carbon neutral by 2030 given that 43% of emissions in the district came from transport. Electric vehicles would therefore play an important role alongside the Active Travel Strategy in achieving this objective. North Somerset faced challenges in providing sufficient electric vehicle charging if the provision of infrastructure was left to the private sector as full coverage across communities would not be achieved. The approach had been developed to allow the council to bid for central government funds and which would support the proposed concessionary funding model.

Members debated the report and highlighted the issues of providing new substations; the challenges faced when providing on street charging facilities including the need for home charging and following public consultation, that whilst public facilities should be provided, these should not be installed on pavements. Councillor Young responded that access issues would be taken seriously during implementation but noted that for many households, home charging was not currently an option.

**Resolved:** that the Executive agreed to adopt the North Somerset Electric Vehicle Strategy.

**Reasons for the decision:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the report and discussed above

**EXE 15 Approval of Commissioning Plan for delivering an expansion to the buildings at Clevedon School to meet local place needs**

Councillor Gibbons introduced the report noting that the funding for the expansion was being sourced from a Basic Need allocation grant which supported the capital requirement for providing the right number of physical school places. In this instance, a deficit of building provision in Clevedon required expansion of the current site.

Councillor Gibbons noted that the school wished to use the funding opportunity to create a Dance and Drama block which could be used by the public outside of school hours. She added that other options beyond the expansion of Clevedon School had been considered.

**Resolved:** that the Executive

- a) Approved the commissioning plan for delivering an expansion to the buildings at Clevedon School to meet local place needs and
- b) Agreed that the capital programme project for Clevedon School KCS217 be re-based to align with the funding sources as detailed in the report

**Reasons for the decision:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**EXE 16 Budget Monitoring Report for the 2022/23 financial year**

Councillor Bell presented the report drawing members attention to a modest underspend of £0.418m for the 2022-23 financial year which would be transferred into the council's General Reserve fund.

He noted this was to the credit of officers at a time of huge pressures on services and costs. He added that the underspend masked variation in the detail with continuing challenges around Children's Services specifically around Looked After Children and children with disabilities and Home to School transport where there were significant cost pressures. He thanked the Adult Services team in particular for effectively managing its budget.

The Director of Corporate Services and s151 officer endorsed Councillor Bell's comments and added that she was supportive of adding the underspend to general reserves. She noted the ongoing inflationary pressures on the council's budget.

**Resolved:** that the Executive

1. Noted the revenue and capital budget out-turn positions for 2022/23 as detailed within the report and the associated transfer of the underspend of £0.418m into the council's general revenue reserve as at 31 March 2023,
2. Noted the transfers to / from earmarked revenue and capital reserves as set out

in Appendix 4 of the report

3. Approved the amendments to the revenue budget that were reflected within the budget as detailed in Appendix 1A of the report

4. Approved the amendments to the capital programme as detailed in Appendix 7 of the report.

**Reasons for the decision:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**EXE 17 Report on Outside Bodies Appointments (Executive)**

Councillor Bell introduced the report noting that there were a couple of vacancies still to be filled.

The Assistant Director Legal and Governance added that in light of difficulties caused for the North Somerset Internal Drainage Board (NSIDB) requiring nominations before the council's first Executive meeting in an election year, he proposed that membership of the NSIDB would continue from the previous administration until the first Executive meeting of a new administration was held where the appointments to the drainage board were made.

**Resolved:** that the Executive

- a) Determined the appointment of members on Outside Bodies as per the circulated report
- b) Agreed that any final nominations afterwards be confirmed by the Leader and Deputy Leader
- c) Agreed that the terms of office for the council's nominations to the North Somerset Internal Drainage Board would continue until the first post-election meeting of the Executive in an election year

**Reasons for the decision:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the report and discussed above.

**EXE 18 Oral reports of Executive Councillors**

Councillor Bell congratulated the Chief Executive on her nomination for Chief Executive of the Year at the Municipal Journal awards and noted her contribution to the council. He added that the nomination also reflected the great work of the officer team that she led.

He also thanked the Executive members for their energy and enthusiasm that they had shown for their role and especially for those new members who had dealt with issues and reports from the outset.

Councillor Gibbons reminded members that it was Refugee Week with a number of events being held.

**EXE 19 Urgent business permitted by the Local Government Act 1972 (if any)**

None.

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Chairperson

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## North Somerset Council

### Report to Council

**Date of Meeting: 16 April 2024**

**Subject of Report: Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan update and progress report**

**Town or Parish: All**

**Officer/Member Presenting: Annemieke Waite, Executive Member for Climate, Waste and Sustainability**

**Key Decision: N/A**

### Recommendations

1. Support the adoption of the Climate Adaptation Strategy.
2. Support the development of the Net Zero Pathway.
3. Note the progress on existing projects to tackle climate change, which are also summarised in this report.

#### 1. Summary of report

This report provides an update on progress against the actions in the council's Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan. The report provides an overview of the Climate Adaptation Strategy and requests Full Council to support the adoption of this strategy. The report also outlines the development of the Net Zero Pathway for the council's emissions and requests Full Council support for its further development.

#### 2. Policy

In 2019 NSC declared a climate emergency and the ambition of becoming a Net Zero council and area by 2030. In November 2022, Full Council adopted a refreshed Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) that identifies priority areas aimed at decarbonisation:

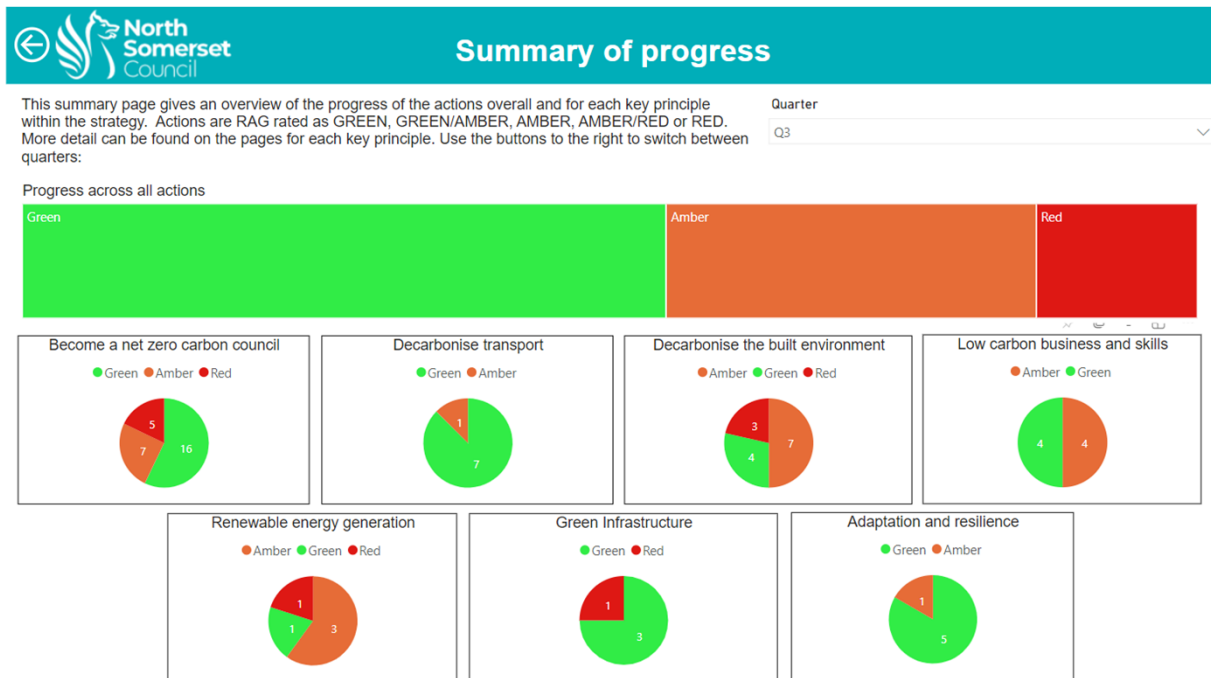
- Become a net zero carbon council
- Decarbonise transport
- Decarbonise the built environment
- Low carbon business and skills
- Renewable energy generation
- Resources and waste
- Adaptation and resilience
- Replenish our carbon stores.

### 3. Details

#### 3.1. Progress against the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP).

Progress on the CEAP is monitored on a quarterly basis and is part of the corporate performance framework. The progress against actions is publicly available and can be found on the council website<sup>1</sup>. Figure 3 provides an overview of current progress across all eight priorities of the CEAP.

Figure 1. Summary of progress.



Whilst the overall progress against actions in the CEAP is on track, it is evident that there are areas of concerns around the council's own estate and fleet, the built environment and renewable energy generation. These are further described below.

The CEAP progress report to Full Council on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 provided an update on the council's own and the North Somerset area's annual emissions and indicated a lack of progress against the 2030 net zero target<sup>2</sup>. It is a priority for the council to address the risks and areas of concern in order to continue to make progress towards the 2030 target.

#### 3.2. Projects and provision update

##### 1. Become a net zero carbon council

###### Carbon Literacy

The carbon literacy numbers are improving, in particular, following the success of Carbon Literacy Action Day (CLAD) on 4<sup>th</sup> December. Almost 200 individuals from 80 businesses attended the event and received their accreditations. The event was acknowledged by the Carbon Literacy Project and NSC was awarded a CLAD Catalyst award and attracted positive media engagement.

<sup>1</sup> [Our plans to tackle climate change | North Somerset Council \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/our-plans-to-tackle-climate-change/)

<sup>2</sup> [Committee Report NSC \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://www.moderngov.co.uk/committees/committees-reports/committee-reports/)



### *Own Estate*

- The delivery of the Salix Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) for the Campus building is on track. The successful implementation of the project will reduce the council's emissions by 120 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) per year.
- Salix PSDS application for Hutton Moor has been successful. The project secured £2.3m and will reduce the council's footprint by 300 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per year. £129k was secured through Sports England for Solar PV at Hutton Moor. The PV system is estimated to save 28.17 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per year.
- The accommodation strategy will support the delivery of the hybrid working to incorporate energy savings within council buildings.
- An Energy Manager has been appointed and started at NSC in January. This will allow the council to develop energy management plans for its own assets, support with emissions reduction, and develop proposals for renewables.
- An Energy Strategy is being developed for the council's energy use reduction and generation of renewable energy. The strategy will form a part of the Net Zero Pathway.
- Climate Impact Assessment for the council's decision-making process has been developed and is undergoing internal consultation.

### *Own Fleet*

- The introduction of 3-weekly residual waste collection is being consulted on for potential implementation in 2024/25. The reduction in journeys made by NSEC fleet will reduce emissions from their Scope 1.
- The EV salary sacrifice scheme uptake is seeing a gradual increase.
- £306k was secured through the Libraries Improvement Fund for a new EV library outreach vehicle to replace the existing mobile library.

### *Behaviour change and engagement*

- WECA led climate engagement campaign is being developed in partnership with the four West of England UAs. The campaign is based on the segmentation work available through Britain Talks Climate Toolkit<sup>3</sup>.
- The segmentation of North Somerset based on the Britain Talks Climate Toolkit has been completed.

### **Areas for improvement:**

- Limited progress has been made on reviewing staff travel. To mitigate the gaps the Accommodation Strategy will be looking at ways to reduce staff commuting and increase the roll out of EV charging points to increase use of EV pool cars.

## **2. Transport**

- £15m Zero Emissions Bus Regional Areas funding was secured through First Bus and Department for Transport to deliver electric buses for X1 and X4 bus services. Progress against delivery of the Bus Service Improvement Plan
- Positive progress made on delivery of the Pier to Pier Way, expected to be complete by end May.
- Construction phase for liveable neighbourhoods in Weston-super-Mare Central has been agreed.
- Electric Vehicle charging strategy has been adopted.

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<sup>3</sup> [Britain Talks Climate: a toolkit for engaging the British public on climate change - Climate Outreach](#)

### **3. Built environment**

- Bright Green Homes scheme is being delivered to support the decarbonisation of the 87 low income, off-gas properties.
- The partnership funding bid to Innovate UK with Bristol City Council was successful for £3.5m. The programme is being delivered and will allow to develop the Local Area Energy Plans for the WoE region.
- Thermal Imaging Cameras project launched in partnership with libraries. The project has 155 reservations for the service that is now fully booked until next autumn.

#### **Areas for improvement:**

- Work delayed on targeting Private Rented Sector for home improvement.
- Development of the regional domestic retrofit strategy is delayed.
- Overall delays in progress on energy efficiency improvements of the NS housing stock.
- Green skills, particularly in relation to retrofit upskilling.

To unlock opportunities for mitigating the gaps, council will work with relevant partners on the West of England level to develop a domestic retrofit strategy that will incorporate development of green skills, engagement, supply chain and financing options.

### **4. Business and skills**

- UKSPF funded Net Zero Business grants programme. The first round has seen 8 local organisations receive a grant to help decarbonise their buildings which when all completed will save 50 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e each year. Some outcomes of the grant so far include Squarebird who installed mechanical ventilation to improve temperature regulation in their offices, Bradley's Juices who had Solar PV installed and Mendip Activity Centre who upgraded their insulation and had Solar PV installed. The second round of the grant has commenced with successful applicants receiving a free carbon survey from Future Leap. The second round of the capital grants will open for applicants in a few months.
- The SME's Net Zero Support Guide and a dedicated business support page have been developed and is available online<sup>4</sup>.
- The partnership funding bid to Innovate UK with WECA was successful for £600k to deliver the Local Industrial Decarbonisation Plan for the Avonmouth Cluster.

### **5. Natural Environment**

- £140k through Avon Climate Tree Fund continues to support the increase of tree canopies in the region.
- The Biodiversity Net Gain business case has been developed and is pending the legislation confirmation from the central government.
- Working alongside the Long Ashton Nature Community and Environment (LANCE) Trust and a team of around 150 volunteers, the Natural Environment team planted almost 2km of diverse hedgerow last week at Bridge Farm, Long Ashton.

### **6. Renewables**

- Solar Together Round 2 has been successful with NS's highest number of registrations in the West of England. The Solar PV installations are taking place over the next months with 1487 planned across WoE. 54 installations to date in NS with 449 planned.

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<sup>4</sup> [Net zero business support | North Somerset Council \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/net-zero-business-support/)

- The new Energy Manager is reviewing previous work to assess the potential for renewables on NSC buildings and land and will prepare recommendations on investments.

#### **Areas for improvement:**

- Opportunities for council owned renewables need to be identified as well as projects to support community energy. The emerging energy strategy will consider investment options to progress the generation of renewables in the region.

### **3.2. Climate adaptation strategy**

Following the initial work that we detailed in our [previous report](#) to the council, we have made progress towards completing a draft of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy. The development of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy follows the UK government's Climate Change Act 2008<sup>5</sup>, which created a framework for building the UK's ability to adapt to climate change, including:

- A UK-wide climate change risk assessment that must take place every five years.
- A national adaptation programme must be in place and reviewed every five years to address the most pressing climate change risks to the UK.

Adaptation has been identified as a key action in NSC's Climate Emergency Action Plan.

Climate change adaptation refers to the process of adjusting our ways of living to cope with the current or expected impacts of climate change<sup>6</sup>.

In North Somerset, we are already experiencing and are expecting to see more impacts of climate change including:

- Warmer and drier summers likely to break temperature records<sup>7</sup>
- Wetter and warmer winters
- More extreme weather events including devastating flooding<sup>8</sup>
- Sea level rise

The purpose of climate change adaptation is to help ensure that we can respond to and build resilience to the impacts of climate change.

The North Somerset Adaptation Strategy considers:

- Climate projections
- Flood risks
- Heat Vulnerability
- Economic Impacts

The strategy includes the assessment of the key climate-related risks for North Somerset in line with the Third National Adaptation Framework<sup>9</sup> and UK Climate Risk Assessment<sup>10</sup>, as

<sup>5</sup> [Climate Change Act 2008 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://legislation.gov.uk)

<sup>6</sup> [IPCC AR6 WGII Annex-II.pdf](#)

<sup>7</sup> [Record breaking 2022 indicative of future UK climate - Met Office](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Climate change insights, health and well-being, UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)

<sup>9</sup> [The Third National Adaptation Programme \(NAP3\) and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

<sup>10</sup> [UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

well as a detailed action plan. Whilst developing the adaptation strategy, several themes were identified, and the actions have been organised around these ideas:

### 1. Governance

The theme sets out actions for North Somerset Council to deliver and monitor the Climate Adaptation Strategy, as well as setting out policies to support adaptation implementation. The section underlines the importance of council’s partnership working and engagement.

### 2. Infrastructure, Transport and Assets

The actions include adaptation measures to improve the local highways network, to reduce the region’s vulnerability to flooding and overheating, and set out commitments to improve vulnerability of transport and own assets.

### 3. Natural Environment

The principle includes set of actions the council can deliver or act as an enabler to, to support nature recovery, reduce flood and heat risks through delivery of council’s Green Infrastructure Strategy.

### 4. Health, Communities and the Built Environment

The theme is exploring actions the council could take or enable that can support wider outcomes of North Somerset Residents including climate justice, improving health and wellbeing and adapting the housing stock.

### 5. Business and Industry

Actions include understanding the evidence behind business and industry vulnerabilities to climate change, as well as, setting out initiatives to engage local businesses in adapting to climate change impacts.

The draft adaptation strategy is in Appendix 1.

## 3.3. Net Zero Pathway

Work is progressing well on a Net Zero Pathway, which will map out the council’s emissions and use this intelligence to create a prioritised programme of actions to bring us to Net Zero. It is anticipated that the work will conclude in the Spring.

The section below sets out emissions and progress to date.

The Council aspires to reach net zero for at least Scopes 1 and 2 at an earlier date than 2030 if possible. Good progress has been made over the years since 2018/2019 (Table 2), however the pace of reduction is slow.

**Table 2. Emissions associated with Council’s activities.**

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Change since base year
<b>Scope 1</b>						
Own buildings	1,158	1,044	1,182	1,210	894	-23%
Own transport	2,018	2,083	1,958	1,974	1,673	-17%

	Leased buildings	1,408	1,164	710	1,188	1,147	-19%
	<b>Total Scope 1</b>	<b>4,584</b>	<b>4,291</b>	<b>3,850</b>	<b>4,372</b>	<b>3,714</b>	<b>-19%</b>
	<b>Scope 2 (Purchased Electricity)</b>						
Scope 2	Own buildings	1,429	1,314	1,025	1,051	952	-33%
	Leased buildings	758	705	265	422	514	-32%
	Streetlights, traffic control, other buildings, miscellaneous	2,001	1,791	1,064	733	608	-70%
	Owned electric vehicles	22	22	14	20	20	-8%
	<b>Total Scope 2</b>	<b>4,209</b>	<b>3,831</b>	<b>2,368</b>	<b>2,226</b>	<b>2,095</b>	<b>-50%</b>
	<b>Total Scope 1 and 2</b>	<b>8,793</b>	<b>8,122</b>	<b>6,218</b>	<b>6,598</b>	<b>5,809</b>	<b>-34%</b>
	<b>Scope 3</b>						
Scope 3	Buildings	4,214	4,283	3,802	3,835	3,058	-27%
	Transmission & distribution	288	260	176	155	151	-47%
	Business travel	138	162	150	225	217	57%
	Outsourced activities	770	768	673	770	990	29%
	Employee commuting	733	699	174	421	556	-24%
	Water	57	53	34	15	13	-78%
	<b>Total Scope 3</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>6,226</b>	<b>5,009</b>	<b>5,421</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>-20%</b>
	<b>Total Gross Emissions</b>	<b>14,993</b>	<b>14,348</b>	<b>11,227</b>	<b>12,019</b>	<b>10,794</b>	<b>-28%</b>

Based on the Greenhouse Gas protocol<sup>11</sup> and recommendations provided by Committee for Climate Change in the progress report to UK Parliament, officers are pursuing a series of actions to help put in place the right leadership and actions to accelerate delivery. Net Zero Pathway will seek to quantify and address the most significant sources of the council's emissions and to prioritise the most effective actions and resources within the Climate Emergency Action plan to address them. Each workstream and action will be assessed as to their level of impact on the reduction in emissions. The pathway will allow a more robust monitoring of progress and provide opportunities for the Council to take action and prioritise decisions.

The Net Zero Pathway will consider the measurable actions the council can take to reduce its Scope 1 and 2, and will suggest options for Scope 3 reduction in line with the 2030 target.

The key principles of the pathways will include:

<sup>11</sup> [ghg-protocol-revised.pdf \(ghgprotocol.org\)](https://ghgprotocol.org/)

- Asset prioritising in line with the Strategic Asset Management Plan and Planned and Preventative Maintenance Programme.
- Energy Strategy
- Alignment of funding
- Reduction in mileage for the council's own fleet
- Electrification of the council's own fleet
- Reduction in staff business travel and commuting (and/or reduction in emissions created by that travel)
- Carbon offsetting.

The pathway will assign ownership to multiple services across NSC to maximise the external funding opportunities and rationalise energy use.

#### **4. Consultation**

The report was developed in consultation with the Climate Emergency Project Officer group.

#### **5. Financial implications**

The recommendations of this report do not in themselves have direct financial implications. The Action Plan includes a section on financial considerations and existing and potential funding support for initiatives.

To deliver net zero carbon and to transition to a low emissions area, additional funding will be required. Where this requires funding from council budgets, proposals will be subject to normal financial governance and decision-making, including the preparation of costed business cases. The business cases will also need to consider the potential costs of inactivity on climate change, including lost revenue and impact to life.

#### **6. Legal powers and implications**

The recommendations of this report do not, in themselves, have legal implications. As initiatives within the Action Plan are further developed, there may be legal implications for the council. These will be considered through formal governance arrangements and decisions as required by the council's constitution.

#### **7. Climate Change and environmental implications**

The aim of this report is to address the Climate Emergency and deliver a net zero council and area by 2030.

#### **8. Risk Management**

The Climate Emergency is recognised as a key corporate risk which the Strategy and Action Plan will help to address. There are risks associated with the Climate Emergency in terms of extreme weather and sea level rise as well as risks which reduce the Council's ability to meet the net zero target by 2030 target. These include:

Risk	Inherent risk score	Residual likelihood	Residual impact	Residual Risk score	Comments
Inability to meet the NSC's area Net Zero Target	HIGH	5	5	HIGH	The progress against targets to achieve the net zero target for NSC's area by 2030 is off track. The re-confirmation of target and further acceleration of delivery is required. The progress relies on position of central government and funding availability.

## 9. Equality implications

No specific Equality Impact Assessment has been completed for this progress update, however a number of national- and international studies (IPCC<sup>12</sup>) point to the impacts of climate change falling most heavily on the most disadvantaged members of society.

Individual projects will be subject to EIAs as required.

## 10. Corporate implications

The climate emergency is a cross-cutting issue and a corporate priority; all services will be required to assist in delivery of the Strategy and Action Plan.

Directorate Action Plans for the Climate Emergency are in place across all services.

## 11. Options Considered

Not to adopt the climate adaptation strategy – rejected, as evidence suggests increased temperatures will continue causing adverse impacts to NS areas.

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### Appendices:

Appendix 1. DRAFT Climate Adaptation Strategy.

### Background Papers:

Climate Emergency Action Plan [n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/31208 Climate Emergency Action Plan ACC.pdf](https://n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/31208_Climat_Emergency_Action_Plan_ACC.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> [Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability | Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability \(ipcc.ch\)](https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/)

## **Appendix 1. Draft Climate Adaptation Strategy.**

### **Introduction**

In 2019 North Somerset Council declared a climate emergency with the aim to become a carbon neutral council and area by 2030. The same year the council adopted a Climate Emergency Strategy<sup>13</sup> followed by a refreshed Climate Emergency Action Plan<sup>14</sup> in November 2022. Climate change adaptation has been identified as one of the key priorities as part of the council's response to tackle climate change.

The development of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy follows the UK government's Climate Change Act 2008<sup>15</sup>, which created a framework for building the UK's ability to adapt to climate change, including:

- A UK-wide climate change risk assessment that must take place every five years.
- A national adaptation programme which must be in place and reviewed every five years to address the most pressing climate change risks to the UK.

The strategy includes the assessment of the key climate-related risks for North Somerset in line with the Third National Adaptation Framework<sup>16</sup> and UK Climate Risk Assessment<sup>17</sup>, as well as a detailed action plan with the following key principles:

#### **1. Governance**

The theme sets out actions for North Somerset Council to deliver and monitor the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, as well as setting out policies that could be implemented to support climate adaptation implementation. The section underlines the importance of council's partnership working and engagement.

#### **2. Infrastructure, Transport and Assets**

The actions include climate change adaptation measures to improve the local highways network including strategic active travel routes, to reduce the region's vulnerability to flooding and overheating, and set out commitments to improve vulnerability of transport and own assets.

#### **3. Natural Environment**

The principle includes set of actions the council can deliver or act as an enabler to, to support nature recovery, reduce flood and heat risks through the delivery of the Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy.

#### **4. Health, Communities and the Built Environment**

The theme explores actions the council could take or enable that can support wider outcomes for North Somerset Residents including climate justice,

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<sup>13</sup> [North Somerset climate emergency strategy 2019.pdf \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>14</sup> [North Somerset Council Climate Emergency Action Plan \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>15</sup> [Climate Change Act 2008 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>16</sup> [The Third National Adaptation Programme \(NAP3\) and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>17</sup> [UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)



improving health and wellbeing and embedding climate change adaptations into the housing stock.

## **5. Business and Industry**

Actions include understanding the evidence behind business and industry vulnerabilities to climate change, as well as, setting out initiatives to engage local businesses in adapting to climate change impacts.

The climate change adaptation strategy takes in consideration the data available through the North Somerset Joint strategic needs assessment<sup>18</sup> and supports with council's strategic vision by aligning with:

- North Somerset Council Corporate Plan
- Climate Emergency Action Plan
- Health and Wellbeing strategy<sup>19</sup>
- Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Local Plan<sup>20</sup>
- Waste Management Strategy

### **What is climate change adaptation?**

Climate change adaptation refers to the process of adjusting our lifestyles and practices to cope with the current or expected impacts of climate change<sup>21</sup>.

In North Somerset, current and projected impacts of climate change include:

- Warmer and drier summers likely to break temperature records<sup>22</sup>
- Wetter and warmer winters
- More extreme weather events, including devastating flooding<sup>23</sup>
- Sea level rise

Adapting to climate change adaptation aims to enhance our resilience to the impacts of climate change.

### **Why we need climate change adaptation?**

North Somerset Council has emphasised climate change adaptation as a critical component of its Climate Emergency Action Plan. The plan highlights expected challenges such as more frequent floods, higher temperatures, extreme weather, water scarcity, and deteriorating air quality.

North Somerset Council's response to the climate emergency addresses not only the need to reduce emissions but also to prepare our communities and businesses for the realities of a changing climate. Successful climate change adaptation works alongside climate change mitigation to minimise the future effects of climate change while managing current ones and leveraging any potential benefits. Without taking

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<sup>18</sup> [Joint strategic needs assessment - overview | North Somerset Council \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/joint-strategic-needs-assessment-overview/)

<sup>19</sup> [Health and wellbeing strategy 2021-24 | North Somerset Council \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing-strategy-2021-24/)

<sup>20</sup> [Our Local Plan | North Somerset Council \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/our-local-plan/)

<sup>21</sup> [IPCC AR6 WGII Annex-II.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wgii/annex-ii/)

<sup>22</sup> [Record breaking 2022 indicative of future UK climate - Met Office](https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/news/record-breaking-2022-indicative-of-future-uk-climate)

<sup>23</sup> [Climate change insights, health and well-being, UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/climate-change-insights-health-and-well-being-uk)

steps towards adaptation, the financial burdens of climate change will increasingly fall on households, businesses, and government.<sup>24</sup>

## National and Global Context

Across the last few decades, there has been increasing recognition of climate change impacts at both national and global levels, compelling governments and international bodies to act. This recognition has been formalized through a series of agreements, policies, and frameworks designed to address and mitigate the effects of climate change. Key international work in the past decade includes:

- **Paris Agreement 2015.** The climate change summit in Paris saw a landmark agreement being made between nearly 200 countries which agreed to cut emissions to attempt to limit the rise in global temperatures to less than 2°C. The deal united all the world's nations in a single agreement on tackling climate change for the first time in history.
- **The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report 2018.** The report focused on the projected impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways. This aimed to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty.
- **IPCC report 2021.** The IPCC published a subsequent report indicating that we are due to reach 1.5 degrees by 2040 revealing that climate change is happening faster than we expected and it is going to affect the whole world.

The UK has been proactive in addressing climate change through a series of legislative and policy measures that emphasize the need for both mitigation and adaptation. The **Climate Change Act 2008** saw the UK government set its own, legally binding, target for cutting emissions and tackling the climate crisis. Including through the National Adaptation Programme and Climate Risk Assessment as mentioned before. Since 2019, **over two thirds of local authorities have set a net zero target**, and across the country, the lexicon of the climate crisis is embedded in people's everyday lives.

Since the updated targets of the 2021 IPCC report, we have seen record breaking temperatures, catastrophic weather events and 2023's average temperature proved to be 1.5 degrees above the baseline temperature<sup>25</sup>. Although this will have been influenced by the El Nino<sup>26</sup> that increases the temperatures in the Pacific Ocean and has direct impact on global weather. This situation highlights the complex link between international climate change policies, global temperature patterns and the actions we take locally.

In addition, there is strong evidence of direct links between climate impacts and public health<sup>27</sup>. Extreme weather events will create additional pressure on local

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<sup>24</sup> [The Third National Adaptation Programme \(NAP3\) and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/100000/the-third-national-adaptation-programme-nap3-and-the-fourth-strategy-for-climate-adaptation-reporting.pdf).

<sup>25</sup> [World's first year-long breach of key 1.5C warming limit - BBC News](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-60000000)

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/learn-about/weather/oceans/el-nino>

<sup>27</sup> [Main Climate Change and Public Health Indicators: scoping review \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/100000/main-climate-change-and-public-health-indicators-scoping-review.pdf)

health services including increase in hospital admissions and mental health care<sup>28</sup>. The Climate Change Committee's Climate risks assessment<sup>29</sup> estimated some of the economic and social impacts of extreme weather events in the last 10 years as seen in Table 3.

Table 3. CCC's examples from extreme weather events in the UK.

	Economic Damages	Deaths	Other environmental impacts
Summer Heatwaves	£770 million- total estimated productivity loss in 2010 heatwave	2500+ heat-related deaths were recorded during the summer of 2020 in England: the highest number since 2003	Localised fish die-offs due to de-oxygenation of streams and rivers during the 2018 heatwave
Flooding	£1.6 billion – overall cost of the 2015-16 winter floods	10-15 deaths recorded as a direct result of flooding in 2007	30% increase in topsoil degradation during winter 2015/16 floods in a sample of Scottish catchments
Drought	Economic costs of the 2012 drought were estimated at £1655 million in revenues and £96 million in profit	None recorded due to drought in the last 10 years	A net reduction in carbon uptake of ecosystems was observed during the 2018 drought across Europe
Wildfire	£32 million – agriculture sector losses from wildfire in 2020	No Direct deaths caused by wildfire in the last 10 years	174,000 tonnes of carbon estimated to have been lost from the Flow Country wildfire in Scotland 2019 <sup>30</sup>

Recent report from UK Health Security Agency<sup>31</sup> further outlines the health impacts of climate change on UK population, indicating increase of mortality in the absence of adaptation measures. Figure 1 demonstrates UK heat and cold deaths for all ages at baseline (2007 to 2018) and projected for 2030s, 2050s and 2070s (based on bias corrected UKCP18 data). The bars represent the mean across the 12 climate model realisations and the error bars are minimum and maximum ranges of the scenarios. Population growth and ageing are included.

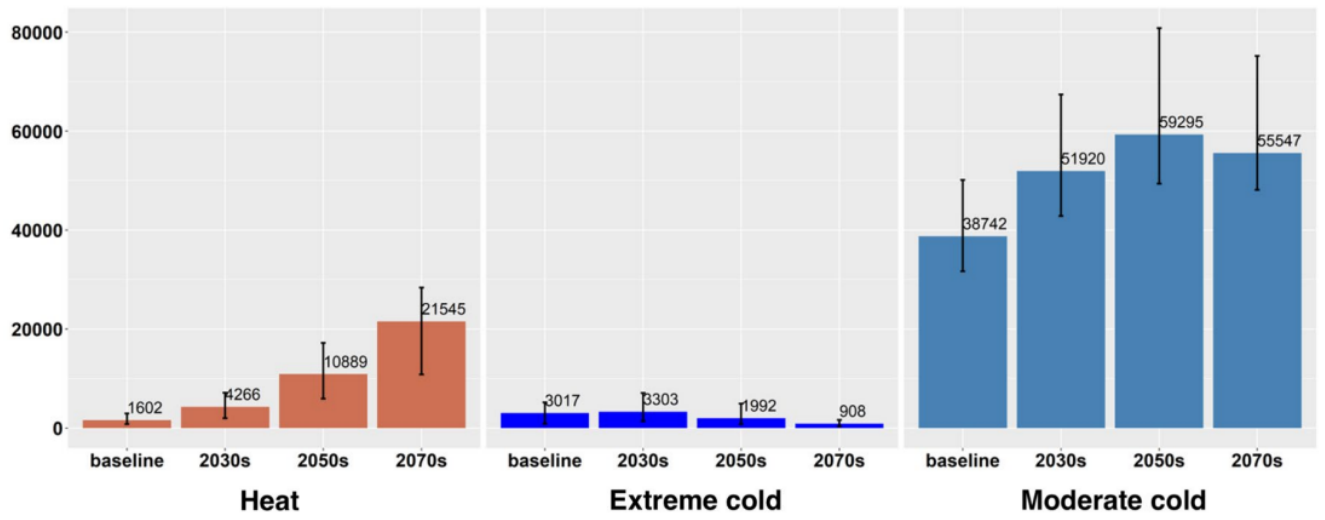
Figure 1. Annual temperature related death in UK.

<sup>28</sup> [A method for monetising the mental health costs of flooding \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk).

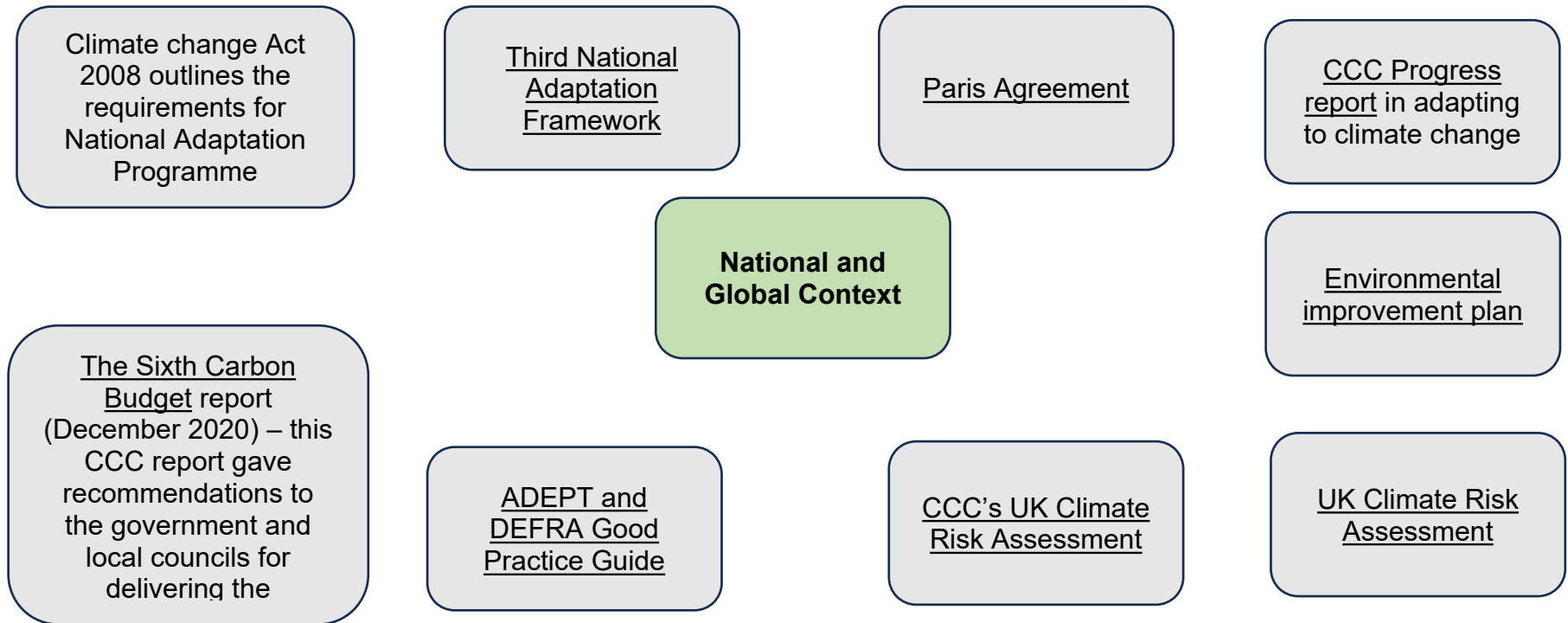
<sup>29</sup> [Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk - Climate Change Committee \(theccc.org.uk\)](https://theccc.org.uk)

<sup>30</sup> The Third UK Climate Change Risk Assessment Technical Report

<sup>31</sup> [Climate change: health effects in the UK - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)



**Figure 1. National and global context.**



## Climate Projections

The UK government's current Environmental Improvement Plan<sup>32</sup> states that "while we aim to limit global warming to 1.5°C, evidence shows that we must be prepared for warming up to 4°C". The Climate Change Committee advice is to plan for 2°C of global warming and assess the risks for 4°C of global warming by 2100.

The climate projections continue to intensify. Whilst the projections depend on global actions aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the current trends for the South West of England from 2018 UK Climate Projections<sup>33</sup> predict a significant increase in temperatures in the second half of the century and are shown in the table below. The temperature projections shown below are calculated using the Representative Concentration Pathways (RCP) which are a calculation of a greenhouse gas concentration trajectory which the IPCC adopted and uses for their climate modelling and research.

Table 1. Temperature increases for South West.

	2050s RCP2.6 (50th percentile)	2050s RCP6.0 (50th percentile)	2080s RCP2.6 (50th percentile)	2080s RCP6.0 (50th percentile)
Mean Annual Temperature	up to +2°C	Between +2°C and +4°C	up to +2°C	up to +3°C
Mean Winter Temperature	up to +1°C	up to +2°C	up to +2°C	up to +3°C
Mean Summer Temperature	up to +2°C	Between +2°C and +4°C	Between +2°C and +3°C	up to +4°C

The Climate Impact tool<sup>34</sup> provides the data for several factors for 2°C and 4°C scenarios in England based on the UK Climate Risk Indicators<sup>35</sup>, as seen in table below.

Table 2. England National Data.

Climate Impact	Effect of climate change	Present Day	By 2050 (+2C) scenario	By 2100 (+2C) scenario	By 2100 (+4C) scenario
Summer mean daily max temp	Warmer	20.4°C	+2.4°C	+3.7°C	+ 6.6°C
Summer mean rainfall	Drier	206 mm	-56 mm	- 66 mm	- 91 mm
Winter mean daily max temp	Warmer	7.5°C	1.5°C	2.1°C	3.4°C
Winter mean rainfall	Wetter	240 mm	+24 mm	+38 mm	+58 mm
Sea level rise (1981-2000 baseline)	Higher	+0.1 m	+0.4 m	+0.8 m	+1.2m

<sup>32</sup> [Environmental Improvement Plan \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/671112/eip-2021-01-20.pdf)

<sup>33</sup> [UK Climate Projections \(UKCP\) - Met Office](https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/ukcp)

<sup>34</sup> [Climate impacts tool: guidance for Environment Agency staff \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/671112/eip-2021-01-20.pdf)

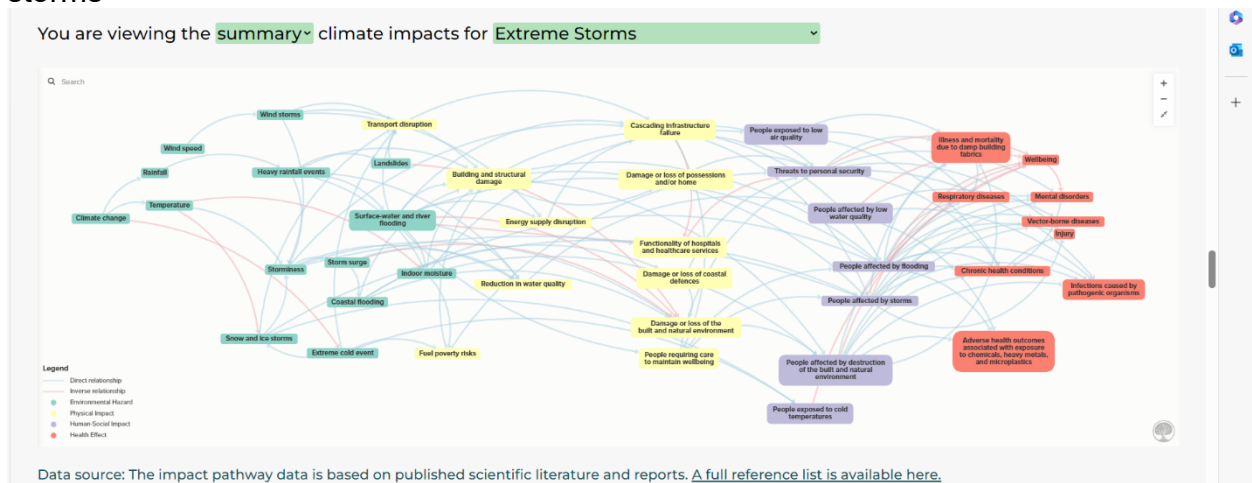
<sup>35</sup> [Climate Risk Indicators \(uk-cri.org\)](https://www.uk-cri.org/)

Hot days – chance of reaching 40°C	Hotter more often	Once a century	Once every 20 years	Once every 3-15 years	Once every 3-15 years
Peak rainfall intensity (1981-2000 baseline)	Heavier		+45%		+50%
Peak river flow (1981-2000 baseline)	More extreme		+35%		+127%
Low river flow (1981-2000 baseline)	More extreme		-60%		-85%

### Impacts for North Somerset

The effects of climate change will vary across the UK as each area is defined by a distinct blend of geography, climate, and human infrastructure that responds uniquely with the changing environmental conditions. Recognising this, the University of Exeter's European Centre for Human Health has teamed up with Cornwall Council, The Alan Turing Institute, and Then Try This to develop the Local Climate Adaptation Tool (LCAT). This tool uses scientific research to predict changes in local climates, identify potential health and community impacts, pinpoint who may be most at risk, and suggest effective ways to adapt. With the insights provided by the LCAT, we can gain a clearer picture of how climate change could specifically affect North Somerset. This includes understanding the health risks, social issues, and physical damage that various climate events could cause in the area as well as understanding how these impacts are all connected. The figure below includes a summary of the climate impacts for extreme storms in North Somerset.

Figure 2. Local Climate Adaptation Tool summary of climate impacts for extreme storms



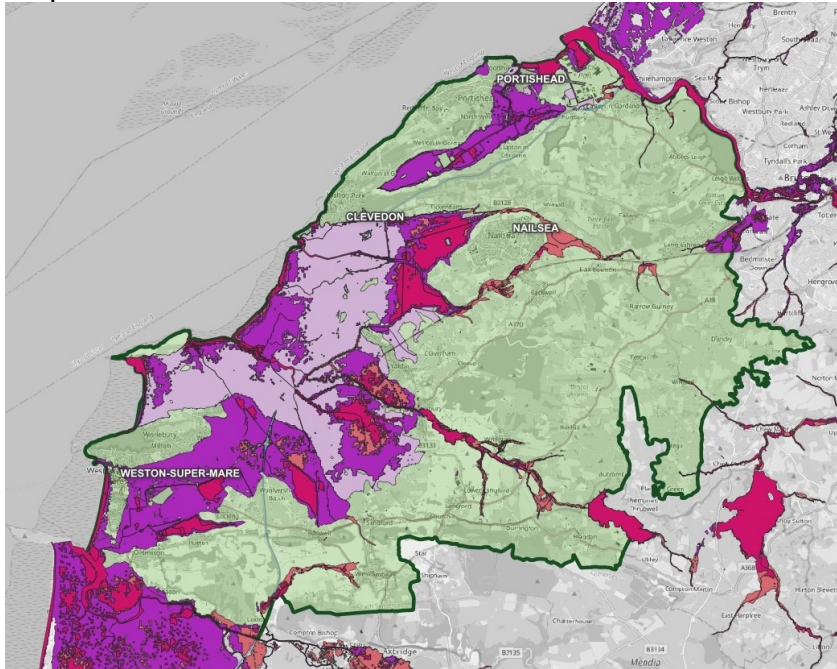
### Flood Risk

The sea level rise will have significant impacts for prosperity, health and wellbeing of North Somerset population. 4,300 properties in the region are at medium risk of flooding (between 1% and 3.3% chance of happening each year, also known as a 1



in 100-year event)<sup>36</sup>. Without flood defences in place, approximately a quarter of the area of North Somerset is at risk of flooding. Whilst the tidal flood defence network across the area is well-developed, sea level rise will still increase the risk of flooding. By 2080, without improvements to flood defences, as many as 63,000 properties could be at risk<sup>37</sup>. Map 1 below shows the potential flooding in North Somerset linked to extreme storm events by 2100 including sea level rise and taking account of flood defences.

Map 1. Flood risk in North Somerset.



### Heat Vulnerability

The increase in global temperatures forecast rising temperatures in North Somerset, that could lead to extreme weather events such a heat waves. The Map 3 demonstrates areas in North Somerset where social vulnerability and exposure to heat coincide. The data is based on the Emergency Planning Tool methodology<sup>38</sup> that takes in account age and health, income, mobility, crime as well as physical environment and housing characteristics.

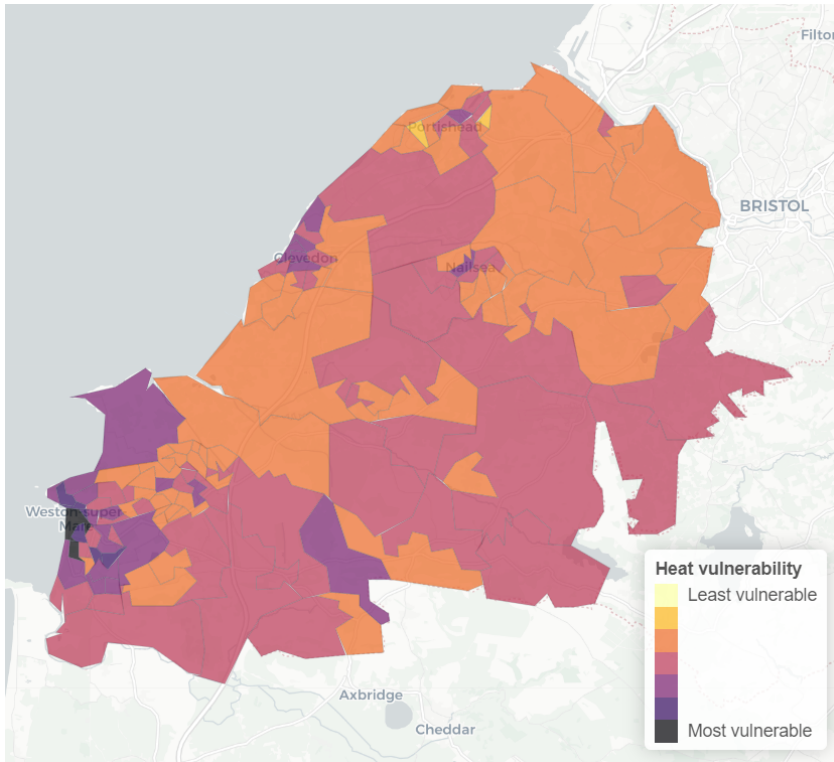
Map 3. Social and heat vulnerabilities in North Somerset.

<sup>36</sup> [Local Flood Risk Management Strategy | North Somerset Council \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/local-flood-risk-management-strategy/)

<sup>37</sup> [Learn more about this area's flood risk - Check your long term flood risk - GOV.UK \(check-long-term-flood-risk.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk-service)

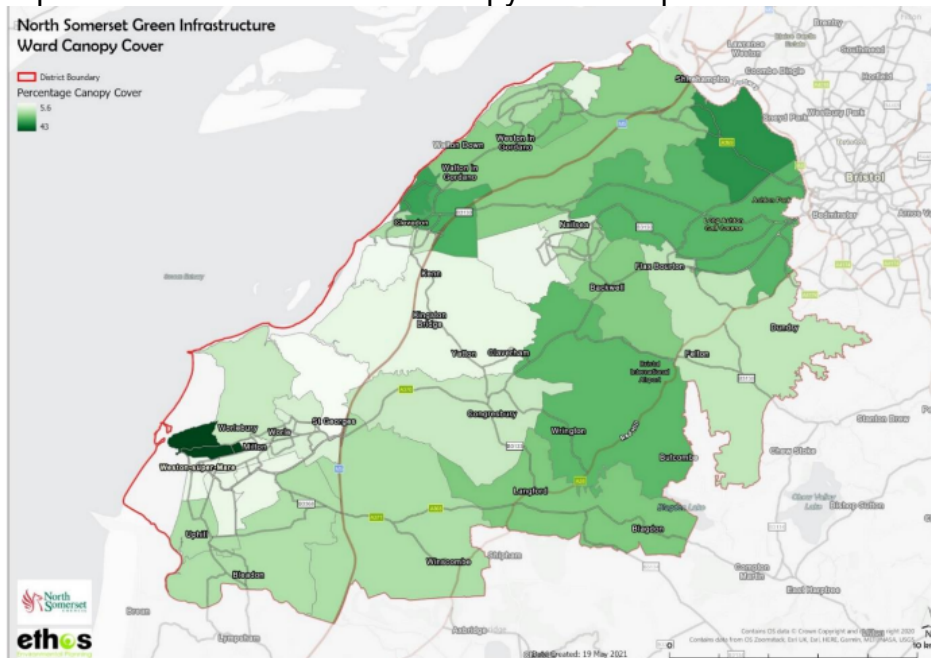
<sup>38</sup> [Emergency Planning Tool \(shinyapps.io\)](https://shinyapps.io/emergency-planning-tool/)





There are several factors that can increase heat vulnerability that includes housing characteristics and green spaces. North Somerset Council’s Green infrastructure strategy<sup>39</sup> explores current tree canopy cover (Map 4) and sets measures towards increasing the green infrastructure assets.

Map 4. North Somerset Ward canopy cover map.



## Local context

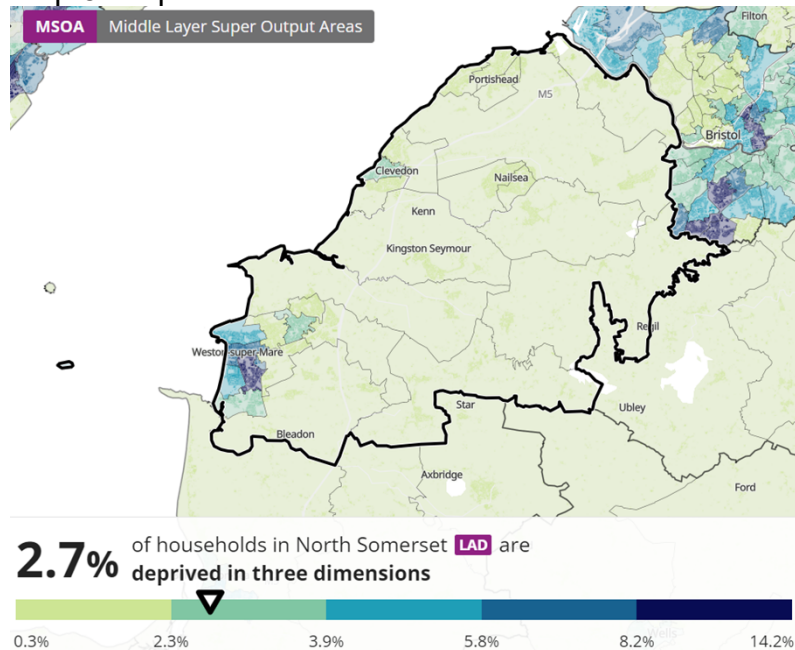
*Who will be affected the most?*

<sup>39</sup> [Green Infrastructure Strategy | North Somerset Council \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/green-infrastructure-strategy/)

Based on the climate projections and vulnerability maps, it is evident that certain wards in North Somerset will be affected by the impacts of climate change more than others.

North Somerset has an aging population and local areas facing significant health and socio-economic deprivation (Map 5). This means that large numbers of our residents are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and at the same time many will not have the resources to be able to prepare.

Map 5. Deprived households in three dimensions<sup>40</sup>.



As can be seen from the maps above, this challenge is further exacerbated by the fact that the impacts of climate change for North Somerset are likely to be most severe in those wards that are the most deprived.

The mapping above shows that a large proportion of these challenges are consistent across wards affected by climate change, increasing the issue of inequalities.

The consequences of no further action to support climate change adaptation will further increase the persistent inequalities gap in the region and create further challenges for disadvantaged communities and people with protected characteristics.

## Climate Risk Assessment

The strategy includes the assessment of the key climate-related risks for North Somerset in line with the Third National Adaptation Framework<sup>41</sup> and UK Climate Risk Assessment<sup>42</sup>. As part of the strategy development, several internal and external workshops were held to identify and assess the risks in North Somerset. The urgency score definitions can be seen in Table 4.

Table 4. Urgency scores definition.

Category	Definition
More Action Needed	New, stronger or different Government action, whether policies, implementation activities or enabling environment for climate

<sup>40</sup> [Household deprivation - Census Maps, ONS](#)

<sup>41</sup> [The Third National Adaptation Programme \(NAP3\) and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>42</sup> [UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

	<p>change adaptation, over and above those already planned, are beneficial in the next five years to reduce climate risks or take advantage of opportunities. This will include different responses according to the nature of the risks and the type of climate change adaptation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addressing current and near-term risks or opportunities with low and no-regret options (implementing activities or building capacity).</li> <li>• Integrating climate change adaptation in near-term decisions with a long life-time or lock-in. Early adaptation for decisions with long lead-times or where early planning is needed as part of adaptive management.</li> </ul>
Further Investigation	<p>On the basis of available information, it is not known if more action is needed or not. More evidence is urgently needed to fill significant gaps or reduce the uncertainty in the current level of understanding in order to assess the need for additional action. Note: The category of 'Research Priority' in CCRA2 has been replaced with 'Further investigation' in CCRA3. This is because of some confusion following CCRA2 that 'Research Priority' only denoted that more research was needed, when in fact the urgency is to establish the extent to which further climate change adaptation is required.</p>
Sustain Current Action,	<p>Current or planned levels of activity are appropriate, but continued implementation of these policies or plans is needed to ensure that the risk or opportunity continues to be managed in the future.</p>
Watching Brief	<p>The evidence in these areas should be kept under review, with continuous monitoring of risk levels and climate change adaptation activity (or the potential for opportunities and climate change adaptation) so that further action can be taken if necessary.</p>

Based on the Local Partnerships climate risk tool<sup>43</sup> and internal consultation workshops, the risks and opportunities in North Somerset associated with climate change have been outlined in Table 5. The urgency score has been determined through internal consultation workshops based on data availability, local knowledge and level of investment in place. The risks and opportunities below are specific to North Somerset, however, fall in line with the UK wide climate risk assessment.

Table 5. Climate Risk Assessment for North Somerset.

Risk or Opportunity	Risk ID	Description	Urgency score
Infrastructure			
Risk	I01	Risks to infrastructure networks (water, energy, transport, ICT) from cascading failures	More Action Needed
Risk	I02	Risks to infrastructure services from river, surface water and groundwater flooding	More Action Needed
Risk	I03	Risks to infrastructure services from coastal flooding and erosion	Further Investigation
Risk	I04	Risks to bridges and pipelines from flooding and erosion	Further Investigation

<sup>43</sup> [Climate adaptation toolkit and risk generator \(localpartnerships.gov.uk\)](https://localpartnerships.gov.uk)

Risk	I05	Risks to transport networks from slope and embankment failure from water saturation	More Action Needed
Risk	I07	Risks to subterranean and surface infrastructure from subsidence	Further Investigation
Risk	I08	Risks to public water supplies from reduced water availability	More Action Needed
Risk	I10	Risks to energy supplies from high and low temperatures, high winds, lightning	Further Investigation
Risk	I11	Risks to offshore infrastructure from storms and high waves	Sustain Current Action, Watching Brief
Risk	I12	Risks to transport from high and low temperatures, high winds, lightning	More Action Needed
Risk	I13	Risks to digital connectivity from high and low temperatures, high winds, lightning	Further Investigation
<b>Natural Environment</b>			
Risk	N01	Risks to terrestrial species and habitats from changing climatic conditions and extreme events, including temperature change, water scarcity, wildfire, flooding, wind, and altered hydrology (including water scarcity, flooding and saline intrusion).	More Action Needed
Risk	N02	Risks to terrestrial species and habitats from pests, pathogens and invasive species	More Action Needed
Opportunity	N03	Opportunities from new species colonisations in terrestrial habitats	Further Investigation
Risk	N04	Risk to soils from changing climatic conditions, including seasonal aridity and wetness.	More Action Needed
Risk	N05	Risks and opportunities for natural carbon stores, carbon storage from changing climatic conditions, including temperature change and water scarcity	More Action Needed
Risk	N06	Risks to agricultural and forestry productivity from extreme events and changing climatic conditions (including temperature change, water scarcity, wildfire, flooding, coastal erosion, wind and saline intrusion).	More Action Needed
Risk	N07	Risks to agriculture from pests, pathogens and invasive species	More Action Needed
Risk	N08	Risks to forestry from pests, pathogens and invasive species	More Action Needed
Opportunity	N09	Opportunities for agricultural and forestry productivity from new/alternative species becoming suitable.	Further Investigation
Risk	N10	Risks to aquifers and agricultural land from sea level rise, saltwater intrusion	Further Investigation

Risk	N11	Risks to freshwater species and habitats from changing climatic conditions and extreme events, including higher water temperatures, flooding, water scarcity and phenological shifts.	More Action Needed
Risk	N12	Risks to freshwater species and habitats from pests, pathogens and invasive species	More Action Needed
Opportunity	N13	Opportunities to freshwater species and habitats from new species colonisations	Sustain Current Action, Watching Brief
Risk	N14	Risks for marine species, habitats and fisheries from changing climatic conditions, including ocean acidification and higher water temperatures.	More Action Needed
Opportunity	N15	Opportunities to marine species, habitats and fisheries from changing climatic conditions	Further Investigation
Risk	N16	Risks to marine species and habitats from pests, pathogens and invasive species	More Action Needed
Risk	N17	Risks to coastal species and habitats due to coastal flooding, erosion and climate factors.	More Action Needed
<b>Health, Communities and Built Environment</b>			
Risk	H01	Risks to health and wellbeing from high temperatures	More Action Needed
Opportunity	H02	Opportunities for health and wellbeing from higher temperatures	Further Investigation
Risk	H03	Risks to people, communities and buildings from flooding	More Action Needed
Risk	H04	Risks to the viability of coastal communities from sea level rise	More Action Needed
Risk & Opportunity	H06	Risks and opportunities from summer and winter household energy demand	More Action Needed
Risk	H07	Risks to health and wellbeing from changes in air quality	Further Investigation
Risk	H08	Risks to health from vector-borne disease	More Action Needed
Risk	H09	Risks to food safety and food security	Further Investigation
Risk	H10	Risks to water quality and household water supplies	Further Investigation
Risk	H11	Risks to cultural heritage	More Action Needed
Risk	H12	Risks to health and social care delivery	More Action Needed
Risk	H13	Risks to education and prison services	More Action Needed
<b>Business and industry</b>			
Risk	B1	Risks to businesses from flooding	More Action Needed

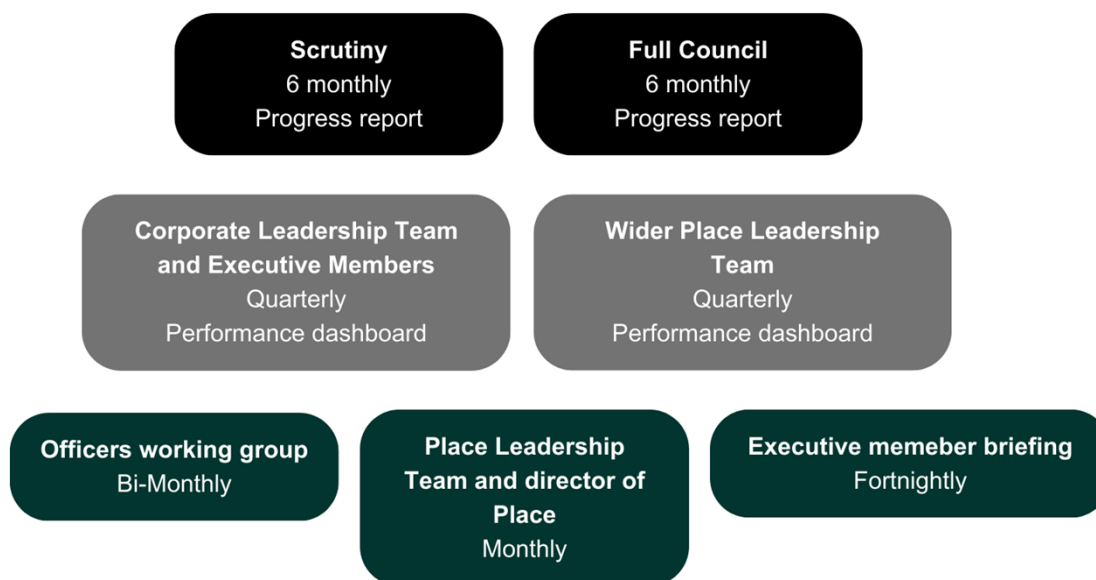


Risk	B2	Risks to businesses and infrastructure from coastal change from erosion, flooding and extreme weather events	More Action Needed
Risk	B3	Risks to business from water scarcity	Further Investigation
Risk	B4	Risks to finance, investment and insurance including access to capital for businesses	Sustain Current Action, Watching Brief
Risk	B5	Risks to business from reduced employee productivity due to infrastructure disruption and higher temperatures in working environments	Further Investigation
Risk	B6	Risks to business from disruption to supply chains and distribution networks	More Action Needed
Opportunity	B7	Opportunities for business from changes in demand for goods and services	Further Investigation

### North Somerset Climate Adaptation Action Plan 2024-2029

The action plan was developed based on a number of factors, including the evidence-based approach, national policy, internal workshops with technical and specialist teams. The action plan will be monitored by North Somerset Council through the Climate Emergency Governance Structure (Figure 2) in place and will be reported to the full council on a six-monthly basis. The performance against actions will be publicly available through data dashboard on council website<sup>44</sup>.

Figure 2. Climate Change Adaptation Governance.



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The strategy includes the assessment of the key climate-related risks for North Somerset in line with the Third National Adaptation Framework<sup>45</sup> and a detailed action plan with the following key principles:

**1. Governance**

The theme sets out actions for North Somerset Council to take to deliver and monitor the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, as well as sets out policies that could be implemented to support climate change adaptation implementation. The section underlines the importance of council's partnership working and engagement.

**2. Infrastructure, Transport and Assets**

The actions include climate change adaptation measures to improve local highways network to reduce region's vulnerability to flooding and overheating; and set out commitments to improve vulnerability of transport and own assets.

**3. Natural Environment**

This includes a set of actions council can deliver or encourage to support nature recovery, reduce flood and heat risks through delivery of council's Green Infrastructure Strategy.

**4. Health, Communities and the Built Environment**

The theme is exploring actions the council could take or enable that can support wider outcomes of North Somerset Residents including climate justice, improving health and wellbeing and embedding climate change adaptations in the housing stock.

**5. Business and Industry**

Actions include understanding the evidence behind business and industry vulnerabilities to climate change, as well as, setting out initiatives to engage local businesses in adapting to climate change impacts.

Actions identified within the five principles will support North Somerset Council to implement support for local residents, businesses, natural environment and infrastructure, and are directly linked to risks associated with climate change. Given limited funding opportunities and internal resources, the action plan identifies potential delivery partners and funding opportunities that could support plan implementation.

The actions priorities are linked to the risk assessment and are identified as Very High (VH), High (H), Medium (M). The action plan timescales identified as short (next 2 years), medium (2-10 years) and long (over 10 years).

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<sup>45</sup> [The Third National Adaptation Programme \(NAP3\) and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

12.

Governance							
Theme	Actions	Delivery lead	Potential partners	Potential funding	Timescales	Priority	Risk N
Resources, training, and capacity building	Set up Climate Change Adaptation working group	Climate Team	Climate and Sustainability partnership	Existing revenue resource	Short	M	N/A
	Integrate climate change adaptation as a key theme at main partnership groups	All	Climate and Sustainability Partnership, North Somerset Together; North Somerset Partnership (NSP), Food Alliance, Cost of Living group.	Existing revenue resource	Short	M	N/A
	Identify and map longer-term decisions and investment opportunities across service areas to align funding to build resilience to climate change	Climate Team	Climate and Sustainability partnership	Existing revenue resource	Medium	H	N/A



Policies, strategies and risk management	Integrate climate change adaptation measures in Local plan through specific policies and supplementary guidance	Planning policy team	N/A	Existing revenue resource	Short	VH	N/A
	Ensure climate change adaptation and resilience-related planning policy is complied with through planning applications process.	Development Management		Existing revenue resource		VH	
	Ensure climate risks assessment is embedded in the corporate risk assessment	Climate Team	N/A	Existing revenue resource	Short	M	N/A
Partnerships and engagement	Work with partners to identify key contacts to share priorities for climate change adaptation	Climate Team	Climate and Sustainability partnership	Existing revenue resource	Short	M	N/A
	Create a climate change adaptation page with resources.	Climate Team	N/A	Existing revenue resource	Short	M	N/A

	Support external organisations with development of climate change risk assessment and adaptation plans	Climate Team	Climate and Sustainability partnership	Existing revenue resource	Medium	VH	N/A
	Establish communication campaigns on climate change adaptation measures including flood awareness, water reduction, wildlife friendly gardens etc.	Climate Team Policy and Partnership team	Climate and Sustainability Partnership; NS Together; NSP Food Forum Wessex Water Economy Team	Existing revenue resource UK Shared Prosperity Fund Quartet Foundation	Short	M	N/A
<b>Infrastructure, Transport and assets</b>							
Highways	Map the local road network to identify vulnerabilities such as flood risks, heat and subsidence. Starting with strategic routes, bus corridors, routes to stations and strategic active travel routes.	Highways & Transport	Internal Draining Boards, Wessex Water, Environment Agency	Existing revenue resource	Medium	VH	I01, I02, I03, I04, I07, I12

	Assess bridges for vulnerabilities especially following extreme weather events	Highways & Transport		Existing revenue resource	Medium	VH	I04, I05, I12
	Assess culverts for vulnerabilities especially following extreme weather events	Highways & Transport		Existing revenue resource	Medium	VH	I04
	Undertake the review of approaches to highways maintenance to ensure they are resilient to future climate	Highways & Transport		Existing revenue resource	Medium	H	I01, I05, I12
	Develop Resilient Highways strategy	Highways & Transport		Existing revenue resource	Short	H	I04, I05
Assets owned by the council	Ensuring our own property is adapted to climate change e.g. improved drainage, flood defences etc	Projects and Property team	N/A	External funding required	Medium	VH	H01, H03, H04, H06,
	Embed climate change adaptation and resilience into the design and planning for new infrastructure	Projects and Property team	N/A	Existing revenue and capital resource	Short	H	H01, H02, H03, H06,

	[new policy out for consultation]						
	Embed climate change adaptation and resilience into the council's capital programme for new assets.	Projects and Property team, Planning Policy team	N/A	Existing revenue and capital resource	Short	VH	B1, B6, H03
	Ensure existing council assets have a vulnerability assessment	Projects and Property team	N/A	Existing revenue resource	Short	VH	H12, H13
	Create an adaptation plan for our existing buildings based on the vulnerability assessment and update SAMP				Short	VH	
Transport	Ensure business continuity through provision of services in extreme weather events and climate change	BSIP / Integrated Transport Unit	WECA / Weston Gateway / First	Existing revenue resource BSIP	Short		I01, I05, I12
	Include climate change adaptation measures into the development of JLTP5	Transport Policy	N/A	Existing revenue resource	Short	VH	I01, I05, I12
	Map active travel routes and PROW	Transport Policy		Existing revenue resource	Short		I01, I05, I12

	and their vulnerabilities						
Natural Environment							
Biodiversity	Introduce Biodiversity supplementary planning document	Planning Policy Team			Short	H	N01, N03, N04, N09,
	Ensure the Biodiversity Net Gain planning policy is complied with through the planning application process	Development Management		Existing revenue resource			N08, N01
	Roll out BNG across the region.	Natural Environment			Medium	VH	N03, N07, N08
	Integrate climate change adaptation principles into the Green Infrastructure Strategy	Natural Environment			Short	VH	N03, N07, N08
	Identify and map less mobile species as a result of climate change	Natural Environment	DEFRA		Long	H	N01, N02, N03, N07, N08, N09
	Support the delivery of West of England's local nature recovery strategy.	Natural Environment			Medium	H	N03, N07, N08

Green infrastructure	Continue to support the number of tree planting initiatives to adapt to extreme heat and reduce flood risks	Natural Environment	Forest of Avon Trust Avon Wildlife Trust	Trees for Climate fund UKSPF Local community funding	Medium	VH	N04, N05, N06, N09,
	Explore peatland restoration in line with the England Peat Action Plan <sup>46</sup>	Natural Environment	West of England Nature Partnership Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership	DEFRA – Lowland Agricultural Peat Water Discovery Project	Short	VH	N04, N05
	Ensure green infrastructure, nature conservation, trees and woodlands planning policy is complied with through the planning application process	Development management		Existing revenue resource		H	N01, N04, N06, N08
Parks and open spaces	Continue with rewilding initiatives to increase tree planting and tall grass management to increase biodiversity, to better adapt to changing climate, and	Natural environment	Local communities	Income from the sale of BNG units from development	Long term	H	N01, N02, N04, N05,

<sup>46</sup> [England Peat Action Plan \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

	to provide shade and cool areas for visitors.						
Flood risk	Collaborate as part of the Severn Estuary Coastal Group and South West Coastal Group on a refresh of the Shoreline Management Plans that seeks to provide greater clarity on existing policy unit and provide a health check on others.	Natural Environment	Severn Estuary Coastal Group South West Coastal Group		Short	VH	N09, N10, N11, N12, N13, N14, N15, N16, N17
	Engage with residents in high risk communities about flood preparedness and raising awareness of the flood warning scheme	Natural Environment	Environment Agency DEFRA	DEFRA	Short	VH	I03, H04
	Ensure that the flood risk, sustainable drainage and rivers, watercourses and springs planning policy is complied with through the planning application process.	Development Management		Existing revenue resource			I02, I03, I04
Health, Communities and Built Environment							

Public Health	Develop climate change adaptation health and wellbeing plans or embed climate change adaptation into the new Health and Wellbeing strategy	Public Health	Health and Wellbeing Board	Existing revenue resource	Short	VH	H01, H02, H03, H04, H07, H08, H12, H13
	Investigate and collate data on population and health in relations to climate risks including air quality, health inequalities, mental health etc. To be used in JSNA.	Public Health Business Intelligence		Existing revenue resource	Short	VH	H01, H03, H04, H07, H08
	Ensure monitoring of health indicators such as air pollution, food safety, invasive species	Public Health	DEFRA?	Existing revenue resource	Long	H	H01, H03, H04, H07, H08
	Update health workplaces programmes with advice around	Public Health		Existing revenue resource	Medium	M	H01, H02, H03,



	working in extreme weather events						H12, H13
	Update communications with different partners and colleagues (eg health visitors, school health teams, VSCE) to be able to adapt protocols in events such as heat waves and cold weather. Including information detailing the relationship between climate impacts and health inequalities.	Public Health		Existing revenue resource	Short	M	H12, H13
Health and Social care	Assess care homes for vulnerability risks of heating and flooding; develop actions plans where required						H01, H03, H04, H12,
	Assess flood risks for residents with home care; develop action plans for capital investments and						H03, H04, H10, H12

	operational procedures where required						
	Embed climate risks in all commissioning processes						, H12, H13
Built Environment	Develop policies to reduce climate risks. Relevant policies: local green space, high quality design, climate change adaptation and resilience, renewable and low carbon energy generation, flood risk, sustainable drainage, green infrastructure, active travel routes	Planning Policy		Existing revenue resource	Short	VH	H04, H03, H11, I03
	Promote energy and water security and flood resistance to social housing providers and private landlords	Housing Adaptations and Improvements Team, Private Rented Housing Team			Medium	H	H03, H04, H06, H10, H11

	Ensure home retrofitting programmes include climate change adaptation measures such as shading, water efficiency, better ventilation etc	Housing Adaptations and Improvements Team	Centre for Sustainable Energy, Bristol City Leap	Connected for warmth	Medium	VH	H03, H04, H06, H10, H11
Just Transition	Ensure policy and plans developed to address climate risk involve those most likely to be affected	Climate Team	N/A		Short	VH	H03, H04
	Focus the flood risk management schemes into the areas most affected by flood risk					VH	H03, H04,
	Identify the most vulnerable groups to climate change in the region	Climate Team Public Health			Short	VH	H07, H12, H13,
	Work with communities in the most vulnerable areas to establish resilience programmes	Climate team			Medium	VH	H01, H03, H06, H07, H09
	Support education and awareness	Communications team	Weston college		Short	VH	H13, H07,

	raising around climate change adaptation to all residents through our communications	Climate team	Schools Further Education providers				H10, H01, H03
Business and Industry							
Business engagement	Communicate key risks of climate change adaptation measures including for flooding, heatwaves, and reducing water and energy use to businesses.	Economy team and Climate Emergency Team	Hive Growth Hub Visit West	UKSPF	Short	H	B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6, B7,
	Ensure there is consistent messaging on climate change adaptation and green transition throughout all business support	Economy team	Hive Growth Hub IBB Economic Steering Group	Existing revenue resource	Short	H	B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6, B7,
	Explore funding opportunities to help businesses build climate change adaptation and resilience measures	Economy team	N/A	UKSPF	Short	H	B1, B2. B6, B7

	Explore funding opportunities to establish local food supply chains which will improve food security	Economy team	Food and Drink Forum Growth Hub WERN	UKSPF	Medium	H	B6, H09
	Work with agencies that are leading on rural and farmers engagement to identify opportunities for land management to improve the resilience of sites	Natural Environment	DEFRA NFU	Existing revenue resource	Short	H	B1, B2, B3
Evidence	Outline the links between climate change opportunities and economic growth in development of economic plan	Economy team	N/A	Existing revenue resource	Short	M	B7
	Build on Eunomia report to identify critical at risk businesses	Economy team	Future Leap	Existing revenue resource		VH	B1, B2, B3, B4, B5
	Ensure climate change adaptation is included in development of the new economic plan	Economy team	Growth Hub Economic Steering Group	Existing revenue resource	Short	H	B4

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## 13. Glossary

**Climate justice** is a term which acknowledges that the impacts of climate change will have disproportionately harmful impacts on more vulnerable groups in society.

**Built environment** refers to the human-made surroundings that provide the setting for human activity, ranging in scale from buildings and parks or green space to neighbourhoods and cities that can often include their supporting infrastructure, such as water supply or energy networks

**Carbon footprint** is the amount of carbon emitted by an individual or organisation in a given period of time, or the amount of carbon emitted during the manufacture of a product.

**Carbon neutral** is a process where there is no net release of CO<sub>2</sub>. Achieving carbon neutrality is often done through carbon offsetting schemes.

**Carbon sink** is any process, activity, or mechanism that absorbs more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere than it releases. Forests, oceans, and soil are the world's largest natural carbon sinks.

**Decarbonisation** is reducing the amount of greenhouse gas emissions that an activity produces, as well as increasing the amount that is being absorbed. Commonly used when referring to buildings and energy.

**Emissions** are any release of gases such as carbon dioxide which cause global warming.

**Global warming** is the steady rise in global average temperature in recent decades, which experts believe is largely caused by human-produced greenhouse gas emissions.

**Greenhouse gases (GHG's)** are gases in the atmosphere, which absorb thermal infra-red radiation emitted by the Earth's surface, the atmosphere and clouds e.g. water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide.

**IPCC** is The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is a scientific body established by the United Nations and the World Meteorological Organisation.

**Just Transition** is defined by The International Labour Organization (ILO)<sup>47</sup> as: "Greening the economy in a way that is as fair and inclusive as possible to everyone concerned, creating decent work opportunities and leaving no one behind."

**Net Zero** is a term used to describe any process where there is no net release of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). Achieving net zero is usually done by reducing emissions as much as feasibly possible, then offsetting the remainder.

**Renewable energy** is energy derived from natural sources that are constantly being replenished, such as wind, sunlight, the flow of moving water, and geothermal heat.

**Retrofit** refers to any improvement work on an existing building to improve its energy efficiency, making them easier to heat, able to retain that heat for longer, and replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy.

*For more information on other commonly used terminology please refer to:*

- [The Climate Dictionary: An everyday guide to climate change](#)
- [Glossary – Climate Change: Vital Signs of the Planet](#)

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<sup>47</sup> [International Labour Organization \(ilo.org\)](https://www.ilo.org)

## 14. Further Information Sources and Tools

### **Tools**

[Climate Just Tool](#)

[Climate Risk Indicators Explorer](#)

[Emergency Planning Tool](#)

[Flood risk checker, GOV.UK](#)

[Flood risk maps for rivers and sea in England](#)

[Local Climate Adaptation Tool](#)

[Sign up for flood warnings](#)

[Tree Equity Score Tool](#)

### **Information sources**

[ADEPT and DEFRA Guidance for local authorities](#)

[Climate ADAPT: summary of UK resources](#)

[Climate Change Projections over land](#)

[Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Guidance, GOV.UK](#)

[Climate Impact Tool: Guidance for Environment Agency Staff](#)

[Environmental Improvement Plan 2023](#)

[Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risks \(Climate Change Committee\)](#)

[Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)](#)

[National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England](#)

[National Framework for Water Resources](#)

[The Third National Adaptation Programme](#)

[UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022](#)



## North Somerset Council

### Report to the Council

**Date of Meeting: 16/04/24**

**Subject of Report: Corporate Parenting**

**Town or Parish: None**

**Officer/Member Presenting: Cllr Catherine Gibbons**

**Key Decision: No**

**Reason:** This is an update and overview regarding Corporate Parenting which focuses on education, training and employment of children in care and care experienced young people.

### Recommendations

To continue our commitment to the role of corporate parent to our children in care and care experienced young people.

To consider the role councillors, in their role as corporate parents, can play in supporting the education, training and employment of children in care and care experienced young people.

### Summary of Report

This report provides information about the statutory duties regarding children in care as well as insights into their experiences of education, training, and employment, including the extent to which they engage in any of these. It sets out some of the challenges that children in care face with learning and achieving and ways in which the Council is currently supporting them to overcome the barriers they face. It includes data on educational outcomes in the last academic year and how this compares to children across the Southwest region. Finally, it sets out opportunities for the Council in its role as Corporate Parent of our children in care to contribute to more successful outcomes for them.

### 1. Legislative and Policy Framework

North Somerset Corporate Parenting Strategy (2023-2026) sets out our commitment as corporate parents. In addition, we are guided by the following legislative and policy frameworks:

- Children Act (1989/2004) Children and Families Act (2014)
- The education of looked after children and previously looked after children (Statutory Guidance 2018)

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2023)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)

This report will focus on Area 3 of our Corporate Parenting Strategy: ‘Working to help our children in care and care experienced young people achieve the best they can in all educational opportunities’. We are committed to championing a culture of high aspirations for all our children in care and care experienced young people, raising educational attainment and removing barriers to learning. This area of our strategy sets out how we deliver on the following 2 corporate parenting principles:

- To ensure children and young people are safe, and to have stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work.
- To prepare children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

## **2. Details**

### **2.1 Background / context**

When a child comes into care, their local authority becomes their ‘Corporate Parent’ and assumes all the responsibilities for their education that their birth parents do. We have specific duties towards the education of children in care, both at officer level and as Corporate Parent. The Corporate Parent role is not allocated to a single individual within the local authority; it is the authority itself that has the parenting role, and responsibilities are shared between Members and Chief Officers.

The Children and Families Act 2014 requires all local authorities in England to appoint at least one person for the purpose of discharging the local authority’s duty to promote the educational achievement of its children in care, wherever they live or are educated. That person is called the Virtual School Head - the ‘Virtual’ nature of the school references the virtual nature of the school roll as each child on the roll of the virtual school is also on the roll of the education setting where they receive their education. The Virtual School ensures that every child in care receives the right support from their own school, monitors progress and intervenes when things don’t go as planned.

The Virtual School head and other officers in the council; including social workers, independent reviewing officers, school admission officers, and Special Educational Needs and Disability officers work together to ensure that except in an emergency, appropriate education provision for a child is arranged at the same time as a care placement is made.

All children in care are entitled to and should have a Personal Education Plan (PEP) which is part of their care plan. This plan is personalised to them and sets out the approach that needs to be taken to meet the child’s identified education needs, raise aspirations and build life chances. These plans enable us to monitor progress and to ensure that everyone involved in that child’s education is delivering what they need to.

Children in care have the same rights to education as all other children so and as corporate parents is our responsibility to make sure that they receive that entitlement which includes:

- Funded childcare from the age of 2 years
- A suitable full-time education in primary (4-11) and secondary education (11-16)
- Post – 16: a minimum of 540 hours per year (around 18 hours per week) of education, employment or training

Children in care have the right to have additional support through the development of a pathway plan – and access to a Personal Advisor who can help and support them into adulthood. The Personal Advisor is employed by the council and supports them through into adulthood.

## **2.2 The challenges for children in care in engaging and achieving in education.**

There is a body of evidence that shows that children in care fare significantly less well in education than their peers and this is why their education has become a matter of statutory responsibility and their experiences monitored by Ofsted. Their childhood experiences that may include neglect or abuse and the associated trauma of that can have an enduring and direct impact on their wellbeing and ability to learn. Some children in care can find it challenging to be in a school environment, however for many others it is a safe space and a constant when other things around them are changing. Children in care can and do thrive in education when there are high levels of understanding, support and acceptance. They also benefit from having an adult who is interested in their education. Over 96% of our children in care in North Somerset have told us that their carer takes an interest in their education.

Children in care and care experienced young people can experience some challenges that can be barriers to them achieving as well as their peers in education. Some of these can include:

- Feeling different from their peers
- Feeling distressed and missing their families and/or friends
- They may have had more difficulty attending school and sometimes have more appointments that their friends which can be in school time which can also mean they miss some classes.
- The impact of their childhood experiences can lead to poorer emotional wellbeing or mental health and higher levels of anxiety and worry or lower levels of confidence or self-esteem.
- Hidden special educational needs and disabilities.
- Gaps in previous learning which require additional support to catch up.
- Difficulties in building new trusting relationships with adults or friends
- Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children may need to learn new language, cultures and differences.
- The adults around them may not understand their previous experiences and their responses so they can be more likely to be suspended or excluded from schools and miss education than their peers.

- If they have experienced changes in carer then they might have to move schools – this disrupts not only their education but their friendship groups which can make education more difficult.
- Care experienced young people can face financial barriers to participation in education, employment and training

### **2.3 How are North Somerset children in care experiencing education in North Somerset?**

The following section provides a summary position for attendance, progress and attainment of children in care in North Somerset.

#### **Attendance (September 2023 – February 2024)**

Attendance of children in care is a high priority for the Virtual School, Social Workers and the Inclusion Service. Focused work to improve attendance recently has resulted an improvement in attendance levels when measured against pre-pandemic levels in 2019. In 2019/20 attendance for children in care was 85.1% and is currently at 89.1%. As children get older, their attendance can deteriorate, and this is the same for North Somerset children where we are particularly concerned about attendance for those in Year 11. This is monitored on a weekly basis to ensure every effort is being made to get children in care into education. Where children cannot access education, a programme of alternative education is provided for them including tutoring on core subjects such as reading, writing and mathematics. All Year 11 children in care are currently accessing education and will sit formal examinations this year.

#### **Educational Outcomes (2022/23)**

##### **Primary school:**

- At the end of primary school (Key stage 2), children take Standardised Ability Tests (SATs) and are judged as to whether they meet expected standards in reading, writing, maths.
- Of the nine children in care who took SATs in 2023, 22% met the expected standard. This compared to 34% of children in care nationally and 33% in the southwest and 59% of all children who took the tests.
- As a result of this gap, all Year 6 children in care have been offered additional tutoring and are supported by the Virtual School Inclusion Officer.

##### **Secondary school:**

- At the end of secondary school (Key stage 4) children sit GCSEs. GCSEs are graded 9 – 1 (high to low). A Grade 4 correlates roughly with an old Grade C. Most children sit eight GCSEs which generates an attainment score (the average of the eight grades) and a progress score (how their GCSEs compare with other children).
- Of the 11 children who sat GCSEs in 2023, the average attainment score was 19.7 compared to a national and regional of 24. In both English and Maths these children did less well. As a result of this, all Year 11 children (18 in 2024) are being offered tutoring through the PEP.

- Where children are unable to sit GCSEs, often as a result of disrupted attendance patterns and the impacts of trauma on their learning, or a Special Educational Need which make the conventional academic pathways unsuitable, vocational alternatives are being delivered to ensure that all children in care finish their secondary education with qualifications.
- The prediction is for the gap to close this summer (2024) for secondary children in care.

### **Post 16 participation in education:**

- Participation rates on education, employment or training are high with 97% of the 72 children in care aged 16 or 17 participating. For those that are not participating, sometimes called 'NEETs' – our Post 16 team, which includes highly experienced EET (Education, Employment, Training) Coaches provide a bespoke 1:1 service. This includes Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) about all post-16 pathways and careers, practical help, and support to apply for college, jobs, apprenticeships. The team provides an in-person service which also includes signposting to other specialist services where appropriate, for example housing, substance advisory services, youth offending services. The team regularly meets with housing officers in the council to ensure that all young people who are in care have access to information advice and guidance about post-16 Pathways. They also regularly meet with social workers and youth offending service.

## **2.4 How are care experienced young people from North Somerset achieving in Employment, Employment and Training?**

We monitor the participation of care experienced young people in education, employment and training aged 19 to 21 years and report on this quarterly. At the end of quarter 3 2023/24 there were 119 care experienced young people aged 19 to 21 years. Of these 54% were in education, employment or training – an increase from the same time last year and just below the England average. The table below shows the type of education, employment and training care experienced young people are participating in.

<b>Activity status</b>	<b>Number of Care Leavers</b>
<b>Young person engaged full time in higher education (i.e. studies beyond A level)</b>	4
<b>Young person engaged full time in education other than higher education</b>	12
<b>Young person engaged full time in an apprenticeship</b>	5
<b>Young person engaged full time in training or employment (not apprenticeship)</b>	20
<b>Young person engaged part time in education other than higher education</b>	13
<b>Young person engaged part time in training or employment (not apprenticeship)</b>	10
	<b>64</b>

## **2.5 Support for care experienced young people.**

Every local authority is required to have a local offer for care experienced young people aged 16 and above. In North Somerset our offer to support care experienced young people in education, employment and training includes:

- Weekly drop-in on a Wednesday for support and advice on education, employment, and training options
- Next Steps Panel - this offers funding for specialist training or equipment to help care leavers access employment.
- An Education, Employment and Training panel, with links to colleges, apprenticeships, and employment opportunities to help young people towards their career aspirations.
- A specialist job coach who can support with careers advice and help supporting young people into education, employment, and training.
- Apprenticeships
- Financial support packages for various aspects of Further Education and Higher Education.
- A celebration of individual achievements in a personal way, for example by taking young people out for a meal to celebrate completing significant qualifications.

## **2.6 Improvement in support for the education, employment and training of children in care and care experienced young people.**

The education of children in care was a focus in the most recent inspection of children's social care by Ofsted in 2023. Although much good feedback was shared, inspectors and the Local Authority officers agreed that this was a priority area to work on. Since the inspection, considerable investment has been made in the Virtual School including new leadership and additional staff to provide the capacity that it required to support children, young people, foster carers, social workers and schools.

High quality Personal Education Plans (Peps) are key to keeping a child front and centre, listening to their wishes and feelings, and ensuring that the right education provision is in place to promote positive outcomes. Due to the barriers in learning that Children in Care face, the Virtual School supports Designated Teachers in schools to prioritise both pastoral care and academic achievement. Although the PEP takes place three times a year, the Virtual School may be more involved with the school or setting to offer ongoing support.

Training has been provided to schools and foster carers to help them to strengthen their respective contributions to children's education. The Council is also rolling out trauma informed practice training across all state funded schools in North Somerset as well as early years settings to embed a culture of understanding and an ability to better respond to children's needs. Every PEP Meeting is now attended by a member of the Virtual School.

## **2.7 How can Corporate Parents actively support Children in Care?**

Support for children in care does not need to stop with statutory duties and neither is support limited to Children's Services and its Lead Member. As Corporate Parents, there

are many opportunities to support children in care and care experienced young people with their educational progress. This might can include:

- Keeping the importance of the education of our care experienced children and young people high on the agenda, regularly scrutinising our work in this area and monitoring improvement programmes
- Offering practical support with core skills in reading, spelling, maths and science
- Providing moral support and building esteem by regularly celebrating success
- Using their voices to promote learning and engagement opportunities within the community.
- Continuing to listen regularly and directly to our children and young people.

Support for our children and young people will need to be provided in a structured way to provide the value, fairness and consistency required to meet the needs of a group with a wide age range of diverse interests, aspirations and talents. Members who want to offer support can contact: Jacqui Scott ([jacqui.scott@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:jacqui.scott@n-somerset.gov.uk)) Head of the Virtual School or Liz Brierley ([liz.brierley@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:liz.brierley@n-somerset.gov.uk)) Head of Corporate Parenting.

### **3. Consultation**

N/A

### **4. Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications associated with this report – it is useful to note that the Virtual School receives grant funding through a number of separate grants. This year, grants have been used to employ an Inclusion Officer who can offer practical support and guidance in schools.

### **5. Legal Powers and Implications**

N/A

### **6. Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

N/A

### **7. Risk Management**

N/A

### **8. Equality Implications**

N/A

### **9. Corporate Implications**

N/A

## **10. Options Considered**

N/A

### **Author:**

Jacqui Scott – Head of Virtual School

Liz Brierly – Interim Head of Corporate Parenting

### **Appendices:**

**N/A**

### **Background Papers:**

N/A



## **Motion to council – Councillor Charles**

### **Citizen Engagement**

#### **This Council Believes**

- 1, We are facing rapidly deteriorating public confidence in the democratic process.
- 2, That our corporate plan values of being “Open” and “Fairer” should be signalled by our willingness to embrace a range of ways for us to engage in a constructive ongoing engagement with the citizens we serve.
- 3, That in the formulation and implementation of policy and service change we can gain insight and lived experience from developing mechanisms that allow us to work alongside citizens in understanding their views and accepting or feeding back on changes recommend by the population of north somerset.
- 4, That involving citizens on an ongoing basis in the work of the council is not a threat to representative democracy but a valued addition to the effectiveness of service delivery.

#### **This Council Notes**

- 1, That a recent Local Government Association perception survey showed trust in local authorities in the areas of service delivery, value for money and listening to residents’ concerns are at an all-time low.
- 2 Recent data from the Office for National Statistics show that only around a third of people feel they have a say in what their government does.
- 3, That across the world governments have increasingly used innovation in democratic engagement by using deliberative democratic practices such as the Citizens Assembly on Abortion in Ireland and in the UK through Assembly North and its work on devolution.
- 4, That in neighbouring Bristol the council has successfully run a petitions scheme that allows citizens to petition for a debate an issue of concern at full council if they successfully reach the threshold of signatures of eligible citizens.

#### **This Council Resolves to**

1. To adopt a right to petition along the lines of the scheme used by Bristol City Council where upon receipt of the specific threshold of eligible citizen signatures a debate on the issue stated shall be called for the next available meeting of full council.
2. Ensure that any acceptance of recommendations made by citizens from the petition or refusal of said recommendations should be communicated widely to the public within North Somerset alongside any timetable for implementation of recommendations.
3. The threshold of signatures shall be 1.5% of eligible voters within north somerset at last census.
4. To instruct the monitoring officer to make the necessary constitutional changes and administrative adjustments to ensure the effective implementation of the scheme.
5. To have scheme in place by the end of 2024 at the latest.

6. To instruct the executive to develop plans for a citizen review of North Somersets Citizen engagement structures using the internal Council Engagement policy as a starting point for discussions. The review shall be conducted using deliberative democratic methodology.
7. To instruct the Executive to have plans in place to run said review in the spring of 2025 at the latest.

# Forward Plan

for the four-month period commencing on

**1<sup>st</sup> May 2024**

published on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024



This Forward Plan gives details of decision items to be presented during the forthcoming four months.

Councillors are invited to review the items and to consider whether any of them should be referred for scrutiny or discussed with the appropriate Executive Member.

## Executive (9)

**Leader of the Council - Councillor Mike Bell:** External liaison including strategic partnerships, Local Enterprise Partnership, North Somerset Partnership, Joint Executive Committee (WECA and North Somerset Council), • Strategic policy/corporate plan development, forward programme and strategic review • Strategic communications • Community engagement and consultation • Finance- Revenue budget including revenues and benefits - capital programme including major projects (Banwell Bypass & MetroWest/Portishead Rail) - Income generation • Corporate services

**Deputy Leader of the Council and executive member for children's services, families and life-long learning – Councillor Catherine Gibbons:** Children and young people's services - Early help and family hubs - Family support - Safeguarding - Children in care - Adoption and fostering services - Care experienced young people - Corporate parenting - Youth offending service • Displaced Foreign Nationals • Cost of living crisis response • Education - Early years settings - Special educational needs and disabilities (education) - School place planning and admissions - Links with local HE and FE institutions - Links with schools and multi academy trusts - Elective home education - Children's licences and permits • Skills - Skills strategy - Careers advice - Community learning

**Executive Member for climate, waste and sustainability – Councillor Annemieke Waite:** • Delivery of Strategic Asset Management Plan including: - Decarbonisation of North Somerset Council assets - Accommodation strategy project delivery - Corporate estate operational management - Strategic asset planning • Green energy • Climate Emergency • Ecological emergency • Marine environment conservation • Flood risk management • Green infrastructure strategy • Environmental services - Recycling and waste minimisation - Waste and street cleansing contracts

**Executive Member for homes and health – Councillor Jenna Ho Marris:** • Green homes • Housing development programme delivery • Affordable housing delivery • Homelessness and rough sleeper support • Housing solutions • Private sector housing • Alliance Homes liaison •

Equalities and diversity • Public health - Health and Wellbeing Board and Strategy - Integrated Care System and Locality Partnerships - Health improvement - Health protection - Health and care services

**Executive Member for highways and transport – Councillor Hannah Young:** • Highways operations - Highway network management - Highway maintenance contracts - Streetlighting • Highway technical services and delivery - Liveable neighbourhood schemes - Active travel schemes - Highway structures • Strategic transport - Transport policy - Transport decarbonisation including BSIP delivery - Public transport - Home to school transport - Bus and rail strategy • Parking strategy including parking operational management

**Executive Member for adult services and stronger communities – Councillor Roger Whitfield:** • Reablement and technology enabled care • Care reforms • Early intervention and prevention • Integrated commissioning • Domiciliary, residential and nursing care • Social work and occupational therapy • Customer services • Town and parish liaison • North Somerset Together • Voluntary sector liaison

**Executive Member for safety in the community – Councillor James Clayton:** • Regulatory services - Trading standards - Food and commercial health and safety - Environmental protection - Licensing • Emergency management • CCTV • Community safety - Night-time economy - Safety of women and girls - PSPOs • Liaison with police and fire services • Resilience Forum • Unauthorised encampments strategy

**Executive Member for spatial planning, placemaking and economy – Councillor Mark Canniford:** • Placemaking delivery • Visitor economy development • Development and commercial programme • Planning policy • Heritage and design • Spatial planning • Building control • Resilient economy - Employment - Local economy • High street and town centre renewal including Sovereign • Birnbeck Pier project • Grove Park, High Street and wayfinding levelling up projects

**Executive Member for culture and leisure – Cllr Mike Solomon:** • Culture strategy and relationships with key partners including Arts Council England and Super Culture • Heritage Action Zones • Weston Hillfort project • Libraries • Community venues • Enabling events • Sports and leisure strategy • Seafronts, parks and lakes operational management and investment, including Marine Lake and Tropicana • Concessions • Crematoria and cemeteries

The items and the final decision taker are indicative. Decision making is subject to the Constitution.

Copies of documents listed can be obtained by contacting the officer named in the attached schedules. Other relevant documents may be submitted to the decision maker and can be requested from the named officer as they become available or may be available on the Council's website [www.n-somerset.gov.uk](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk)

May 2024

1. Council and Executive Items  
(NB No Executive meeting in May)

Meeting Date	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
14/05	Contract award for Banwell bypass design and build contract (new entry)	COU83 Banwell bypass stage 2 gateway decision <a href="https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5290/05%20Full%20Council%20-%20Bypass%20Gateway%20Decision%20stage%202%20FINAL.pdf">https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5290/05%20Full%20Council%20-%20Bypass%20Gateway%20Decision%20stage%202%20FINAL.pdf</a>	Council	No	Informal TCC Panel meeting 22/04/2024	Katie Park 07771947034
14/05	Support Services Partnership 2025 – “Contract 3: ICT” Commissioning and Procurement Plan (new entry)	To be confirmed	Council	No	TCC Scrutiny working group established	Stuart Anstead

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## 2. Executive Member Items and Director Key Decisions

Decision not before	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/ Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
01/05	A38 MRN Scheme <b>Contract 1 works package A</b> – Contract Award of D&B Stage 1 (re-listing and previously listed for September, October 2022, January, March-April, May, August, September, November 2023 and January, February and April 2024 – previously one contract) moved to June 2024	<p>Director Decision: 19/20-DE295 <a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf">https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf</a></p> <p>OBC Commissioning and Procurement Plan – Exec Member Decision DP270 Decision (<a href="http://n-somerset.gov.uk">n-somerset.gov.uk</a>)</p> <p>A38 Major Road Network Scheme Outline Business Case Submission and Local Contribution Funding – Full Council/Exec Member: –<a href="http://COU82-Agenda-for-Council-on-Tuesday-9th-November-2021-6.00-pm-North-Somerset-Council-moderngov.co.uk">COU82 Agenda for Council on Tuesday, 9th November, 2021, 6.00 pm   North Somerset Council (moderngov.co.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="http://DP-22/23-95-signed-n-somerset.gov.uk">DP 22/23 95 signed (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="http://DP-22/23-DP-108-MRN-professional-services-procurement-plan-n-somerset.gov.uk">DP 22/23 DP 108 MRN professional services procurement plan (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>Commissioning &amp; Procurement Plans for the Design &amp; Build Contract of the A38 Major Road Network (MRN) Scheme and associated Professional Services</p> <p>Exec member decision DP423 22/23 Approval of additional local contributions as a consequence of inflationary cost increases. <a href="http://DP423-n-somerset.gov.uk">DP423 (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p>	Director of Place	No	<p>The Place P&amp;SP were consulted at the OBC Submission Decision and Commissioning Plan stage during September/October 2021.</p> <p>An interim written briefing was provided to Place P&amp;SP on 31st May 2022 and a further written briefing was provided on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022. A briefing will then be offered Transport, Climate and Communities P&amp;S Panel following OBC approval from DfT.</p>	Jason Reading, Senior Project Manager, Place Directorate <a href="mailto:Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk">Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>

Decision not before	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
01/05	A38 MRN Scheme <b>Contract 2 works package B</b> – Contract Award of D&B Stage 1 (re-listing and previously listed for September, October 2022, January, March April, May, August and September, November 2023 and January, February and April 2024 – previously one contract) moved to June 2024	<p>Director Decision: 19/20-DE295 <a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf">https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf</a></p> <p>OBC Commissioning and Procurement Plan – Exec Member Decision DP270 <a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk">Decision (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>A38 Major Road Network Scheme Outline Business Case Submission and Local Contribution Funding – Full Council/Exec Member: COU82 <a href="https://www.moderngov.co.uk">Agenda for Council on Tuesday, 9th November, 2021, 6.00 pm   North Somerset Council (moderngov.co.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk">DP 22/23 95 signed (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk">DP 22/23 DP 108 MRN professional services procurement plan (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>Commissioning &amp; Procurement Plans for the Design &amp; Build Contract of the A38 Major Road Network (MRN) Scheme and associated Professional Services</p> <p>Exec member decision DP423 22/23 Approval of additional local contributions as a consequence of inflationary cost increases. <a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk">DP423 (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p>	Director of Place	No	<p>The Place P&amp;SP were consulted at the OBC Submission Decision and Commissioning Plan stage during September/October 2021.</p> <p>An interim written briefing was provided to Place P&amp;SP on 31st May 2022 and a further written briefing was provided on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022. A briefing will then be offered to Transport, Climate and Communities P&amp;SP following OBC approval from DfT.</p>	<p>Jason Reading, Senior Project Manager, Place Directorate <a href="mailto:Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk">Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk</a></p>

Decision not before	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
01/05	A38 MRN Scheme Award of Professional Services Contract (previously listed for September, October 2022, January, March, April, May, August September, November 2023 and January, February, and April 2024) moved to June 2024	<p>Director Decision: 19/20-DE295 <a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf">https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf</a></p> <p>OBC Commissioning and Procurement Plan</p> <p>–Exec Member Decision DP270 Decision (<a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk">n-somerset.gov.uk</a>)</p> <p>A38 Major Road Network Scheme Outline Business Case Submission and Local Contribution Funding</p> <p>–Full Council/Exec Member: COU82 Agenda for Council on Tuesday, 9th November, 2021, 6.00 pm   North Somerset Council (<a href="https://www.moderngov.co.uk">moderngov.co.uk</a>)</p> <p>DP 22/23 95 signed (<a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk">n-somerset.gov.uk</a>)</p> <p>DP 22/23 DP 108 MRN professional services procurement plan (<a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk">n-somerset.gov.uk</a>)</p> <p>Commissioning &amp; Procurement Plans for the Design &amp; Build Contract of the A38 Major Road Network (MRN) Scheme and associated Professional Services</p> <p>Exec member decision DP423 22/23 Approval of additional local contributions as a consequence of inflationary cost increases. DP423 (<a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk">n-somerset.gov.uk</a>)</p>	Director of Place	No	<p>The Place P&amp;SP were consulted at the OBC Submission Decision and Commissioning Plan stage during September/October 2021.</p> <p>An interim written briefing was provided to Place P&amp;SP on 31st May 2022 and a further written briefing was provided on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022. A briefing will then be offered to Transport, Climate and Communities P&amp;SP following OBC approval from DfT.</p>	Jason Reading, Senior Project Manager, Place Directorate <a href="mailto:Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk">Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>



Decision not before	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
01/05	Contract Award Decision for BSIP Real Time Information (RTI) (new entry)	BSIP Commissioning Plan – Report to Full Council 12 July 2022.	Director of Place (key decision)	No	Ongoing engagement and previously briefed in Summer 2023	Contact: Alex Topham <a href="mailto:Alex.Topham@n-somerset.gov.uk">Alex.Topham@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>
01/05	Approval of concept Design for A370 Backwell crossroads signals (moved from April)	Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) - Contract Award of Design and Build Contractor: <a href="https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5141/11%20Bus%20Service%20Improvement%20Plan%20Design%20and%20Build%20Contractor.pdf">https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5141/11%20Bus%20Service%20Improvement%20Plan%20Design%20and%20Build%20Contractor.pdf</a>	Executive Member – Cllr Young	No	Ongoing engagement and previously briefed in Summer 2023	James Padgham <a href="mailto:James.padgham@n-somerset.gov.uk">James.padgham@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>
01/05 Page 113	Approval of concept Design for A369 Rownham Hill / Abbots Leigh Road (moved from April)	Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) - Contract Award of Design and Build Contractor: <a href="https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5141/11%20Bus%20Service%20Improvement%20Plan%20Design%20and%20Build%20Contractor.pdf">https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5141/11%20Bus%20Service%20Improvement%20Plan%20Design%20and%20Build%20Contractor.pdf</a>	Executive Member – Cllr Young	No	Ongoing engagement and previously briefed in Summer 2023	James Padgham <a href="mailto:James.padgham@n-somerset.gov.uk">James.padgham@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>
01/05	Approval of concept Design for Queensway signals / B3440 (moved from April)	Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) - Contract Award of Design and Build Contractor: <a href="https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5141/11%20Bus%20Service%20Improvement%20Plan%20Design%20and%20Build%20Contractor.pdf">https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5141/11%20Bus%20Service%20Improvement%20Plan%20Design%20and%20Build%20Contractor.pdf</a>	Executive Member – Cllr Young	No	Ongoing engagement and previously briefed in Summer 2023	James Padgham <a href="mailto:James.padgham@n-somerset.gov.uk">James.padgham@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>

01/05	Approval of concept Design for Moor Lane / Central Way roundabout (moved from April)	Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) - Contract Award of Design and Build Contractor: <a href="https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5141/11%20Bus%20Service%20Improvement%20Plan%20Design%20and%20Build%20Contractor.pdf">https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s5141/11%20Bus%20Service%20Improvement%20Plan%20Design%20and%20Build%20Contractor.pdf</a>	Executive Member – Cllr Young	No	Ongoing engagement and previously briefed in Summer 2023	James Padgham <a href="mailto:James.padgham@n-somerset.gov.uk">James.padgham@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>
01/05	Updated procurement plan for the design and build of Banwell bypass (new entry)	August 2020 Procurement Plan for the D&B of Banwell bypass <a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-08/DE106%20Procurement%20Plan%20HIF%20Banwell%20Bypass%20signed.pdf">https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-08/DE106%20Procurement%20Plan%20HIF%20Banwell%20Bypass%20signed.pdf</a>	Executive Member – Cllr Bell	No	Informal TCC Panel meeting 22/04/2024	Katie Park 07771947034
01/05	Wraxall and Failand Neighbourhood Plan. Consideration of examiners modifications and approve for referendum (new entry)	Examiners Report and <u>Wraxall and Failand Neighbourhood Development Plan</u>	Executive Member – Cllr Canniford	No	PEP Chairperson consulted 12 December 2023.	Celia Dring <a href="mailto:Celia.dring@n-somerset.gov.uk">Celia.dring@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>  Claire Courtois <a href="mailto:Claire.courtois@n-somerset.gov.uk">Claire.courtois@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>

June 2024

1. Council and Executive Items

(NB No Council meeting scheduled for June. Executive meeting has now been rescheduled to JULY, there is NO June meeting)

Meeting Date	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
19/06	Approval of the School Place Planning Strategy 2024—2027 (meeting now rescheduled to July)	CYPS Policy & Scrutiny Panel Scrutiny Working Group Papers—8 December 2024 CYPS Policy & Scrutiny Panel Scrutiny Working Group Paper—May 2024 Public consultation—link to be provided later	Executive	No	CYPS Policy & Scrutiny Panel— School Organisation Working Group	Contact: Sally Varley (01275 884857)
19/06	Street Lighting Contract Commissioning Plan (meeting now rescheduled to July)	Street Lighting Contract Commissioning Plan	Executive	No	Informal Meeting has been agreed with Chairman Cllr Bridger. Date of Meeting to be confirmed but will be late February.	Mark Cogan <a href="mailto:Mark.cogan@n-somerset.gov.uk">Mark.cogan@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>
19/06	Winterstoke Road Bridge design and Construction services (Reverted to report to April Executive delegating decision to Executive Member)	None	Executive	No	TCC scrutiny engagement February / March 2024	Jason Reading <a href="mailto:Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk">Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>

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## 2. Executive Member Items and Director Key Decisions

Decision not before	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
01/06	Contract Award for the delivery of an expansion to the buildings at Clevedon School to meet local place needs (previously listed for June, September, December 2023, January, and March 2024—now moved to September)	<p>Report to the Children &amp; Young People's Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel            Date of Meeting: 20 October 2022            Subject of Report: Children &amp; Young People's Services—School's Capital Programme—  <a href="#">Committee Report NSC (modern.gov.co.uk)</a></p> <p>Commissioning and Procurement Plan  <a href="#">Approval of Commissioning Plan for delivering an expansion to the buildings at Clevedon School.pdf</a></p>	<p>Director of Place</p> <p>Moved from 21/06/23            Executive to Director Decision</p>	No	<p>Report to the Children &amp; Young People's Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel            Date of Meeting: 20 October 2022            Subject of Report: Children &amp; Young People's Services—School's Capital Programme—  <a href="#">Committee Report NSC (modern.gov.co.uk)</a></p> <p>Reports to CYPS School Organisation Steering Group            Being planned for June 2023</p>	<p>Sally Varley (she/her)            Head of Strategic Place Planning, Capital Programmes and School Organisation/Admissions Service  <a href="mailto:sally.varley@n-somerset.gov.uk">sally.varley@n-somerset.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Jonathan Hughes            Senior Project Manager  <a href="mailto:Jonathan.hughes@n-somerset.gov.uk">Jonathan.hughes@n-somerset.gov.uk</a></p> <p>David Peacock            Senior Project Manager  <a href="mailto:David.peacock@n-somerset.gov.uk">David.peacock@n-somerset.gov.uk</a></p>

Decision not before	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
01/06	A38 MRN Scheme <b>Contract 1 works package A</b> - Contract Award of D&B Stage 1 (re-listing and previously listed for September, October 2022, January, March April, May, August, September, November 2023 and January, February, April, and May 2024 – previously one contract)	<p>Director Decision: 19/20 DE295 <a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf">https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf</a></p> <p>OBC Commissioning and Procurement Plan</p> <p>- Exec Member Decision DP270 <a href="#">Decision (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>A38 Major Road Network Scheme Outline Business Case Submission and Local Contribution Funding</p> <p>- Full Council/Exec Member: COU82 <a href="#">Agenda for Council on Tuesday, 9th November, 2021, 6.00 pm   North Somerset Council (moderngov.co.uk)</a></p> <p>DP 22/23 95 signed (<a href="#">n-somerset.gov.uk</a>)</p> <p>DP 22/23 DP 108 MRN <a href="#">professional services procurement plan (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>Commissioning &amp; Procurement Plans for the Design &amp; Build Contract of the A38 Major Road Network (MRN) Scheme and associated Professional Services</p> <p>Exec member decision DP423 22/23 Approval of additional local contributions as a consequence of inflationary cost increases.</p> <p><a href="#">DP423 (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p>	Director of Place	No	<p>The Place P&amp;SP were consulted at the OBC Submission Decision and Commissioning Plan stage during September/October 2021.</p> <p>An interim written briefing was provided to Place P&amp;SP on 31st May 2022 and a further written briefing was provided on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022. A briefing will then be offered Transport, Climate and Communities P&amp;S Panel following OBC approval from DfT.</p>	Jason Reading, Senior Project Manager, Place Directorate <a href="mailto:Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk">Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>

Decision not before	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
01/06	A38 MRN Scheme <b>Contract 2 works package B</b> - Contract Award of D&B Stage 1 (re-listing and previously listed for September, October 2022, January, March April, May, August and September, November 2023 and January, February, April, and May 2024 – previously one contract)	<p>Director Decision: 19/20 DE295 <a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf">https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf</a></p> <p>OBC Commissioning and Procurement Plan</p> <p>- Exec Member Decision DP270 <a href="#">Decision (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>A38 Major Road Network Scheme Outline Business Case Submission and Local Contribution Funding</p> <p>- Full Council/Exec Member: <a href="#">COU82 Agenda for Council on Tuesday, 9th November, 2021, 6.00 pm   North Somerset Council (moderngov.co.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="#">DP 22/23 95 signed (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="#">DP 22/23 DP 108 MRN professional services procurement plan (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>Commissioning &amp; Procurement Plans for the Design &amp; Build Contract of the A38 Major Road Network (MRN) Scheme and associated Professional Services</p> <p>Exec member decision DP423 22/23 Approval of additional local contributions as a consequence of inflationary cost increases.</p> <p><a href="#">DP423 (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p>	Director of Place	No	<p>The Place P&amp;SP were consulted at the OBC Submission Decision and Commissioning Plan stage during September/October 2021.</p> <p>An interim written briefing was provided to Place P&amp;SP on 31st May 2022 and a further written briefing was provided on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022. A briefing will then be offered to Transport, Climate and Communities P&amp;SP following OBC approval from DfT.</p>	Jason Reading, Senior Project Manager, Place Directorate <a href="mailto:Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk">Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>

Decision not before	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
01/06	A38 MRN Scheme Award of Professional Services Contract (previously listed for September, October 2022, January, March, April, May, August September, November 2023 and January, February, April, and May 2024)	<p>Director Decision: 19/20 DE295 <a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf">https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-05/19-20%20DE%20295.pdf</a></p> <p>OBC Commissioning and Procurement Plan</p> <p>- Exec Member Decision DP270 <a href="#">Decision (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>A38 Major Road Network Scheme Outline Business Case Submission and Local Contribution Funding</p> <p>- Full Council/Exec Member: <a href="#">COU82 Agenda for Council on Tuesday, 9th November, 2021, 6.00 pm   North Somerset Council (moderngov.co.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="#">DP 22/23 95 signed (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="#">DP 22/23 DP 108 MRN professional services procurement plan (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>Commissioning &amp; Procurement Plans for the Design &amp; Build Contract of the A38 Major Road Network (MRN) Scheme and associated Professional Services</p> <p>Exec member decision DP423 22/23 Approval of additional local contributions as a consequence of inflationary cost increases. <a href="#">DP423 (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a></p>	Director of Place	No	<p>The Place P&amp;SP were consulted at the OBC Submission Decision and Commissioning Plan stage during September/October 2021.</p> <p>An interim written briefing was provided to Place P&amp;SP on 31st May 2022 and a further written briefing was provided on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022. A briefing will then be offered to Transport, Climate and Communities P&amp;SP following OBC approval from DfT.</p>	Jason Reading, Senior Project Manager, Place Directorate <a href="mailto:Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk">Jason.reading@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>

July 2024

1. Council and Executive Items

(NB Executive meeting scheduled for July – changed from June)

Meeting Date	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
09/07	NSEC Shareholder update	<a href="https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s4774/18.0%20NSEC%20shareholder%20update%20to%20Council.pdf">https://n-somerset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s4774/18.0%20NSEC%20shareholder%20update%20to%20Council.pdf</a>	Council	No	Item for noting but will be taken to TCC Scrutiny Panel 27/06/2024	Amy Webb <a href="mailto:Amy.Webb@n-somerset.gov.uk">Amy.Webb@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>
09/07	MetroWest Phase 1 – Authorisations to enable project construction (new entry)	Report to Council 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Council	No	Scrutiny-led All-Member briefing to be arranged prior to the Council meeting	Contact: James Willcock <a href="mailto:James.Willcock@n-somerset.gov.uk">James.Willcock@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>
17/07	Approval of the School Place Planning Strategy 2024 – 2027 (moved from rescheduled June meeting)	CYPS Policy & Scrutiny Panel Scrutiny Working Group Papers – 8 December 2024 CYPS Policy & Scrutiny Panel Scrutiny Working Group Paper – May 2024 Public consultation – link to be provided later	Executive	No	CYPS Policy & Scrutiny Panel – School Organisation Working Group	Contact: Sally Varley (01275 884857)
17/07	Street Lighting Contract Commissioning Plan (moved from rescheduled June meeting)	Street Lighting Contract Commissioning Plan	Executive	No	Informal Meeting has been agreed with TCC Chairperson Cllr Bridger. Date of Meeting 4 April.	Mark Cogan <a href="mailto:Mark.cogan@n-somerset.gov.uk">Mark.cogan@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>
17/07	Decision on whether to adopt 1) the new parking management strategy, 2) introduce charges to new car parks/ on-street locations, 3) introduce a new short-stay parking permit	<a href="#">Parking management strategy consultation</a>	Executive	No	PEP Task finish group - 4 meetings: 15/3, 10/4 (others tbc)	Steve Thorne <a href="mailto:Steve.Thorne@n-somerset.gov.uk">Steve.Thorne@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>



Meeting Date	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
17/07	Decision on whether to change to 3-weekly residual waste collections	<a href="#">Public consultation for introducing 3 weekly residual waste collections.pdf</a>	Executive	No	Details to be confirmed	Colin Russell <a href="mailto:Colin.Russell@n-somerset.gov.uk">Colin.Russell@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>
17/07	Q4 Performance Management Update (new entry)	<a href="#">Organisational priorities   North Somerset Council (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a>  <a href="#">Risk Management Strategy (n-somerset.gov.uk)</a>	Executive	No	This is an information item. Quarterly updates to Scrutiny Panels will follow the update to the Executive as per the agreed business planning and risk management framework.	<a href="mailto:Emma.diakou@n-somerset.gov.uk">Emma.diakou@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>  <a href="mailto:Jo.belbin@n-somerset.gov.uk">Jo.belbin@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>

## 2. Executive Member Items and Director Key Decisions

Decision not before	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
01/07						

**August 2024**

**1. Council and Executive Items**

**(NB: NO Council or Executive Meeting scheduled in August)**

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Item/Issue requiring decision</b>	<b>Background Documents for Consideration</b>	<b>Decision Taker</b>	<b>Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part</b>	<b>Policy &amp; Scrutiny Panel Activity &amp; Engagement / Timeline</b>	<b>Contact Officer for Further Details</b>
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## 2. Executive Member Items and Director Key Decisions

Decision not before	Item/Issue requiring decision	Background Documents for Consideration	Decision Taker	Exempt Item? Yes/No/Part	Policy & Scrutiny Panel Activity & Engagement / Timeline	Contact Officer for Further Details
01/08						

## North Somerset Council

### Report to the Council

**Date of Meeting: 16 April 2024**

**Subject of Report: Report from all Policy and Scrutiny Panels**

**Town or Parish: All**

**Officer/Member Presenting: Councillors Steve Bridger, John Crockford-Hawley, Dan Thomas, Helen Thornton, Joe Tristram**

**Key Decision: NO**

### Reason:

No decision being taken.

### Recommendations

That Councillors receive and consider the report from the Chairs of all five Policy and Scrutiny Panels.

#### 1. Summary of Report

This report provides comment from the Chairs of each of the Policy and Scrutiny Panels, highlighting:

- a) key areas and achievements that the Panels have focused on for the current municipal year; and
- b) on-going issues for consideration of each Panel in the 2024-25 municipal year.

#### 2. Policy

The Corporate Plan sets out the Council's vision for: an open, fair, green North Somerset. Policy and Scrutiny Panels have an integral role in the delivery of the Council's aims and priorities by engaging with the development of policy, monitoring performance, and holding decision makers to account.

#### 3. Details

##### 3.1 Adult and Social Housing Policy and Scrutiny Panel (ASH)

This first year has been a period of learning for the panel, we have many new Members, myself included and I've appreciated the collaborative way that we approach ASH meetings. Attendance of Members has been highlighted as an issue elsewhere, but ASH has not experienced this. Member participation has remained consistent despite the complexity of the panel's remit, and potential clashes with other commitments.

I'm grateful to the previous chair Tim Snaden for his support and agreeing to vice-chair the panel, Members new and returning and the Executive Members Roger Whitfield & Jenna Ho Marris who attend and provide useful insight. These meetings would not run without our dedicated officers particularly our democratic services officer Brent Cross who has proved invaluable.

Much of our current work is planning for the forthcoming inquiry day on improving property conditions in the rental sector and assessing preparations for the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection due before the end of 2025.

### **Panel activities 2023-24**

Reports to Panel:

#### **July 23**

Care Quality Commission Assurance  
Carers Strategy Update  
Adult Social Care Year-end Finance Update

#### **November 23**

Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25  
Performance Report  
Housing Strategy Year 1 Review  
Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Plan  
Adult Social Services Commissioning Strategy  
Finance Update (as at month 5)

#### **March 2024**

Alliance Homes update  
Update on CQC inspection preparations  
Report of the ASH KPI working group  
Time to think differently about Adult Social Care  
Update on the management of 'Transitions' between Children's social care and Adult social care  
Adults Social Services and Housing Commissioning Intentions 2024-25  
Finance update

#### **June 2024**

Planned inquiry day on improving property conditions in the private rental sector.

### **3.2 Children and Young People's Policy and Scrutiny Panel (CYPS)**

Overall this has been a period of very fast learning for the CYPS panel. The majority of the panel are newly elected Members, and I'm very grateful to Wendy Griggs my deputy chair who has made her experience as last session's chair available to me. My colleagues on the panel, coming from a wide variety of walks of life are very clear that looking after the best interests of North Somerset's young people is probably the most important role we could have been given.

At the same time as being new we had the additional challenge that both the DCS Sheila Smith and the assistant director for social care were about to leave. For the majority of this time we have had interims in both those roles. These interims were great (Jane Anstis of course has stayed with us) and brought useful experience from elsewhere.

It has also been very useful to us that Catherine Gibbons, while not on the panel has worked closely with us and of course has a great deal of useful experience.

Brent Cross, our democratic services officer, has been invaluable in showing us the ropes and mechanisms of the Council, and letting us know who would be the correct officer to speak with on a particular topic.

Not dismayed by the situation we found ourselves in, and very strongly briefed that we must work hard to get out of the “requires improvement” designation by the DfE we set to with a programme of work shown here:

**Reports to Panel:**

June 23 - Performance Monitoring  
Ofsted Inspection Update  
SEND Improvement Plan and the Safety Valve

October 23 - SEND Self-Assessment  
Adoption West Annual Report  
Children’s Safeguarding Report

February 24 - Q3 Performance Monitoring  
2023/24 MTFP Progress and 2024/25 MTFP Delivery Plan  
Children’s and Young People’s Social Worker Recruitment and Retention

**Working Groups:**

School Organisation Steering Group: 9 June 2023, 8 September 2023, 8 December 2023 and 8 March 2024.

Social Worker Recruitment and Retention working group: 25 October 2023, 27 November 2023 and 11 January 2024.

Home to School Transport, jointly with the TCC Panel: 8 February 2024.

Social Media and Children’s Mental Health: 5 September and 14 December 2023.

LGA trainings have been invaluable to understand our role, especially that we are to provide input on policy as well as scrutinise it, and that we can call officers and commission work on topics that don’t automatically come to us.

We are also learning from other panels and as a result are now planning extra meetings between the three main timetabled ones. These are to be less formal and at venues relevant to the topics under discussion.

I was warned at the outset that there had been a problem with Member attendance and at Nick Brain’s suggestion proposed a slight alteration of the constitution to reduce the number required to be quorate. We have also had better attendance.

We have welcomed our new director Claire Shiels and observed with gratitude the energy and enthusiasm with which she is tackling her role and how well she and her Assistant Directors work together.

As the timetable above shows we have been using working groups to investigate areas of need and then aim to propose policy solutions. I have been impressed by the willing openness of Council Officers to engage with this member-initiated process.

We were very pleased to note the lifting of the “requires improvement” from the SEND part of our service in August 2023, a testament to our predecessors, and a demonstration that real improvement is possible even in the current financial climate.

We are pleased to be partnering the Transport, Climate and Communities panel in our investigation into Home to School Transport, aware both that this is a big overspend for the Council as well as central to the lives of many of our families with SEND children.

With the ongoing school visits programme it is becoming clearer than ever that the CYPS scrutiny has a lot to do in the remaining three years of this session. We hope that as we get to understand the system and the needs of children and families better we will become better at serving them.

### **3.3 Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel (HOSP)**

According to government regulations the role of Local Authority Health Scrutiny is *“to strengthen the voice of local people, ensuring that their needs and experiences are considered an integral part of the commissioning and delivery of health services and that those services are effective and safe. Health scrutiny also has a strategic role in taking an overview of how well integration of health, public health and social care is working - relevant to this might be how well health and wellbeing boards are carrying out their duty to promote integration - and in making recommendations about how it could be improved.”*

This is a very difficult job currently given the challenges faced by Local Government and the NHS, with underfunding of adult social care and NHS services, hospital waiting lists the highest they have ever been, recruitment issues across health and social care services, pharmacies closing, and difficulties for people accessing GP appointments and for new patients accessing NHS dentists.

I'd like to give my thanks to all panel Members, Council, Healthwatch and Health colleagues, our Vice Chair Cllr Ian Parker and our Committee clerks Leo Taylor and Harriet Isherwood.

#### **Panel Activities**

In our three formal meetings in 2023/24 we have considered:

- Integrated Care Strategy
- Update on Weston General Hospital UHBW
- Recommissioning of the BNSSG Integrated Sexual Health Service
- Dental Access for Adults and Children in North Somerset
- Public Oral Health Promotion
- Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Winter Plan
- Better Care Fund Plan 2023-25
- Health Protection update
- Healthwatch Annual Report 2022-23
- Graham Road Surgery and Horizon Health Centre Care Quality Commission Inspections

We have had the first of what will be quarterly joint briefings from the ICB with our colleagues at Bristol and South Glos Councils. The agenda items for this recent meeting included the Dynamic Support Register for people with Autism and/or Learning Disabilities, and the temporary closure of the Riverside facility for young people.

We have also received briefings on:

- Dentistry



- Healthy Weston
- Integrated Care Board / Integrated Care System / Integrated Care Partnership and Locality structures

We have a forthcoming briefing on the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

We also hope to receive briefings in future on:

- Community Diagnostic Unit in Weston
- Neurodiversity services across the BNSSG area
- New Hospital group being formed by UHBW and North Bristol NHS Trusts

**Our ongoing Work Plan also includes:**

- Pharmacy Closure on Bournville
- Weston Hospital Performance Reports
- Healthy Weston Phase 2
- Winter Plans
- Update on Recommissioning of Sexual Health Services
- Updates from Locality Partnerships
- Mental Health Services at Blackberry Hill
- Joint meetings with Bristol and South Glos HOSCs
- Memorandum of Understanding with ICB on what constitutes a substantial variation

**My Priorities as Chair**

We will continue with the priorities of the previous HOSP which were:

- **Priority 1:** Ensuring that North Somerset residents see the benefits of the new Integrated Care System and this is truly collaborative across all partners.
- **Priority 2:** Access to dentist across North Somerset needs to vastly improve and with the Integrated Care System taking on greater responsibility for this locally it offers an opportunity to influence. Working with Bristol and South Gloucestershire Councils via the Joint Health Overview Scrutiny Committee will be important.
- **Priority 3:** Weston General Hospital has made significant improvements in recent months following their latest CQC report. Continue to work closely with the Trust to ensure continued improvement in patient outcomes.
- **Priority 4:** Monitor the Healthy Weston 2 programme and whether this has delivered the benefits envisaged and influence the next stages of the strategy.
- **Priority 5:** Hospital discharge remains a challenge, so work closely with the Adult Services and Housing Policy Scrutiny Panel to provide assurance and scrutiny that steps are being taken to address this.
- **Priority 6:** The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy is relatively new across North Somerset and has the potential to reduce health inequalities across North Somerset, but it will only be effective if all partners fully embrace and commit to it. So engage with the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Board, and use the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel to support this.

As Chair my additional and related priorities are:

- 24/7 A&E at Weston Hospital
- National NHS Workforce plan and how it will be implemented in North Somerset
- NHS Waiting lists
- New Hospital Grouping of UHBW and NBT and impact on services
- Health Inequalities

- Arts and Health – working with Super Culture
- Relocation of Graham Road surgery
- Access to NHS dentists and GP appointments
- Dynamic Support Register
- Young People’s Mental Health services

### **3.4 Placemaking, Economy and Planning Policy and Scrutiny Panel (PEP)**

During the past year formal in-public PEP panel sessions have scrutinised progress of the North Somerset Local Plan (NSLP), UK Shared Prosperity Fund Year 3 Allocation (31 July 23); Placemaking & Development Update, Levelling Up Fund (LUF), Development sites, Infrastructure Development Plan progress (22 Nov 23); Economic Plan, Place Directorate Performance Plan, Draft Tropicana Procurement Plan (6 Mar 24). The Directorate’s financial updates featured on each occasion.

Informal on-line sessions included an all-Member NSLP briefing (27 Sept 23); Parking Policy (14 Nov 23); Parking Charges Proposals (10 Jan 24); Parking Management Strategy (21 Feb 24).

The first of four scheduled in-depth investigations of a District-wide Parking Management Strategy began on 15 March 24.

It’s been pleasing to see a large attendance of councillors at all PEP Panels, both in-person and on-line, and recently elected colleagues are now fully engaged in the scrutinising skills.

Food for thought on three points: (1) We spend time scrutinising the menu set before us and sometimes do so in fairly robust and forensic manner but we seldom invite Executive Members to the pleasures of being scrutinised. (2) Should Members become more active in suggesting items for scrutiny? (3) We are a Policy and Scrutiny panel but are we playing a sufficient role in policy formulation?

My thanks to all colleagues, councillors and officers, for your support, friendliness and forbearance, especially when I forget that I’m no longer a teacher!

### **3.5 Transport, Climate and Communities Policy and Scrutiny Panel (TCC)**

Over the course of the 2023/24 municipal year the Panel has met formally three times, with a further 20 separate informal Panel-led briefings at the time of writing. Additionally, the Panel stands up the following Steering Groups as required:

- Transport and Highways Scrutiny Steering Group
- Waste Scrutiny Steering Group
- Community Safety Steering Group

We also established a small Panel-led scrutiny working group to keep Members updated on progress and opportunities through the 2-year transition to the new set of arrangements following the decision to break up the **Support Services Contract**.

To forward plan scrutiny engagement with upcoming milestone decisions, the Chairman meets frequently with the Director of Place, Director of Corporate Services, Assistant Directors, and holders of the relevant Executive portfolios:

- Leader of the Council

- Highways and transport
- Climate, waste and sustainability
- Safety in the community

In the current municipal year, the Panel has formally considered:

- **Flood Risk in North Somerset** - following concerns raised at full Council in November about a lack of routine maintenance on structures by the Environment Agency. Three representatives from the Environment Agency were invited to attend and answer our questions, and an invitation to the Chairman of the North Somerset Internal Drainage Board was also accepted.
- Clarification/assurance on the funding for the **A38 Major Road Network capital project**.
- A progress report on the **Green Infrastructure Strategy**. We have also asked officers to consider and respond to the Panel's proposal that the Council publish an annual "State of Nature in North Somerset" report.
- An update on the delivery of the **Rights Of Way Improvement Plan**.
- A progress update on the actions of the Projects and Property team with regards the delivery of the ten-year **Strategic Asset Management Plan** programme, with a commitment to rationalising, developing, and maintaining the Council's asset portfolio.
- The performance of the **WESTLink service**. Members' comments were fed into the review of the service.
- Helping to shape the communication and engagement process and timeline around delivery of the **Medium Term Financial Plan** (MTFP) plan for the period 2024 to 2028 and draft **revenue budget** for the 2024/25 financial year.
- Progress reports on the **Climate Emergency Action Plan**.

Additionally, the Panel considered the following matters informally...

- Delivery of the Winterstoke Hundred Academy Extension (now completed) and the on-going Banwell bypass project
- The Review of the Clevedon Public Realm Scheme
- Development of the Corporate Plan and four-year MTFP, with a particular focus on scrutiny of savings plans
- Home to School Transport transformation
- Leisure service contract renewal
- Biodiversity SPD
- Moving traffic enforcement
- Residential EV charging strategy
- ASB Action Plan

On 29 February, the Panel hosted a successful Inquiry Day looking at the council's **weed management policies and practices**, and to help shape policy in this area. Panel Members heard evidence from Council officers, representatives from other local authorities, town and parish councils and local volunteer groups, before an open roundtable discussion around potential areas for improvement in managing weeds. The Panel has presented its findings and recommendations to the Executive for consideration.

We have received very positive feedback on the content and organisation of the Inquiry Day and I am enormously indebted to Tess Skelly, one of our National Graduate Development Programme Trainees for leading on this.

**Priorities for the Panel for 2024/25**

- Revisit the **highways investment programme** and **Integrated Transport Scheme Pipeline**.
- Put in place a more regular cycle of Member engagement around **bus service improvements**.
- Continue to question the **resilience of the highway network** to cost pressures and rapid climate change.
- Press for resource within the Council's Flood Risk team proportionate to the level of risk of flooding events in North Somerset.
- Scrutinise the **capacity of the highway network for planned work** across the district, including BSIP capital schemes, utilities, the M5 motorway, Banwell bypass, etc., what is feasible given our minor roads have a limited capacity to accommodate diversions, and mindful of the tolerance of road users.
- Scrutinise the results of the consultation on **3-weekly bin collections** and any subsequent roll out.
- Support and monitor for **Community Safety initiatives**, including One Front Door (a new multi-agency approach to Domestic Abuse) and better alignment with Police and Crime Panel reporting.
- Plan for early **budget engagement** for 2025/26.
- Ensure **Customer Services improvements** continue to happen as planned.
- Monitor the Council's **Estate Carbon Management Plan**.
- Review North Somerset Environment Company (NSEC) governance.
- **Seek involvement in any refresh of the Joint Local Transport Plan.**
- Participate in the development of new strategies and approaches to Council communications, engagement with towns and parishes and public engagement & consultation.

My personal thanks to all Members of the Panel for their participation and shared insight, in particular vice-chair Stuart McQuillan for his valuable advice. Thanks and recognition to all those officers who presented reports to Panel meetings and briefings and for answering our questions. Special thanks and admiration for Leo Taylor, Philippa Penney, Brent Cross, Liz Godfrey-Day in the Scrutiny Team for their diligence, support, advice, and great amount of patience.

#### **4. Consultation**

The Panels undertake regular consultation with officers, Councillors, the Executive Members and relevant partners through working group and steering group monitoring and Panel reporting.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

None specific.

##### **Costs**

None specific

##### **Funding**

None specific

#### **6. Legal Powers and Implications**

Policy and Scrutiny Panels operate within relevant legislation and in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

## **7. Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

Climate Emergency is included in the remit of the Transport, Climate and Community Policy and Scrutiny Panel due to its council-wide responsibility.

## **8. Risk Management**

N/A

## **9. Equality Implications**

N/A

## **10. Corporate Implications**

None.

## **11. Options Considered**

None.

### **Authors:**

Steve Bridger – Chairperson of the Transport, Climate and Communities Panel (TCC)

John Crockford-Hawley – Chairperson of the Placemaking, Economy and Planning Panel (PEP)

Dan Thomas – Chairperson of the Adults Services and Housing Panel (ASH)

Helen Thornton – Chairperson of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel (HOSP)

Joe Tristram – Chairperson of the Children and Young People's Services Panel (CYPS)

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### **Appendices:**

None.

### **Background Papers:**

Policy and Scrutiny Panel agenda, reports and minutes

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