

SWT Executive

**Wednesday, 23rd October, 2019,
6.15 pm**

**Somerset West
and Taunton**

**The John Meikle Room - The Deane
House**

**Members: Federica Smith-Roberts (Chair), Benet Allen (Deputy Chair),
Chris Booth, Ross Henley, Richard Lees, Peter Pilkington,
Mike Rigby, Francesca Smith and Alan Wedderkopp**

Agenda

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Executive

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee.

(Pages 5 - 10)

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive and note any declarations of disclosable pecuniary or prejudicial or personal interests in respect of any matters included on the agenda for consideration at this meeting.

(The personal interests of Councillors and Clerks of Somerset County Council, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes.)

4. Public Participation

The Chair to advise the Committee of any items on which members of the public have requested to speak and advise those members of the public present of the details of the Council's public participation scheme.

For those members of the public who have submitted any questions or statements, please note, a three minute time limit applies to each speaker and you will be asked to speak before Councillors debate the issue.

5. Executive Forward Plan

(Pages 11 - 12)

To receive items and review the Forward Plan.

6. Corporate Equalities Action Plan

(Pages 13 - 38)

This report contains the draft Corporate Equality Action Plan which identifies actions we will take to deliver the equality objectives.

The aim of the objectives is to help us better meet the needs of our service users and our staff who are, or could be, disadvantaged or suffer inequality because of their particular characteristics.

7. Taunton Garden Town Charter and Checklist

(Pages 39 - 64)

The purpose of the Charter and Checklist is to provide a concise summary of both the Vision and Design Guide. They have been prepared to help the Local Planning Authority assess the quality of proposed developments and to clearly set out the standard expected for well-designed homes and neighbourhoods. These have been produced as a 'stop-gap' in the short-term ahead of the Design Guide being adopted, this is important with a number of major developments coming forward. The topics and requirements will set an agenda for discussion between applicants and planning officers and will form the basis for assessment of emerging development proposals.

8. Somerset Climate Emergency Framework and SWT Carbon Neutrality and Climate Resilience Plan

(Pages 65 - 154)

The purpose of the report is to inform Members about the emergence of a framework for developing the county-wide Climate Emergency Strategy and a framework for SWT's own Carbon Neutrality and Climate Resilience Plan, to approve these framework documents for public consultation over November 2019 – January 2020 and endorse proposed arrangements for approval of future draft documents.

9. Small Scale Industrial Space Local Development Order - Approval for Public Consultation

(Pages 155 - 250)

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the public consultation of the Small Scale Industrial Space Local Development Order (LDO).

10. Access to Information - Exclusion of the Press and Public

During discussion of the following item(s) it may be necessary to pass the following resolution to exclude the press and public having reflected on Article 13 13.02(e) (a presumption in favour of openness) of the

Constitution. This decision may be required because consideration of this matter in public may disclose information falling within one of the descriptions of exempt information in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The Executive will need to decide whether, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption, outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Recommend that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the next item of business on the ground that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 respectively of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

11. SWT Commercial Investment Strategy

(Pages 251 - 308)

The purpose of the report is to set out the proposed Commercial Investment Strategy for Somerset West and Taunton Council. The Strategy is one of the key pillars that supports the delivery of additional income needed by the Council to meet the targets set within the Financial Strategy that Executive approved on 18 September 2019, which aims to achieve ongoing financial stability.



**JAMES HASSETT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Please note that this meeting will be recorded. At the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded. You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. Data collected during the recording will be retained in accordance with the Council's policy. Therefore unless you are advised otherwise, by entering the Council Chamber and speaking during Public Participation you are consenting to being recorded and to the possible use of the sound recording for access via the website or for training purposes. If you have any queries regarding this please contact the officer as detailed above.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussions. There is time set aside at the beginning of most meetings to allow the public to ask questions. Speaking under "Public Question Time" is limited to 3 minutes per person in an overall period of 15 minutes. The Committee Administrator will keep a close watch on the time and the Chair will be responsible for ensuring the time permitted does not overrun. The speaker will be allowed to address the Committee once only and will not be allowed to participate further in any debate. Except at meetings of Full Council, where public participation will be restricted to Public Question Time only, if a member of the public wishes to address the Committee on any matter appearing on the agenda, the Chair will normally permit this to occur when that item is reached and before the Councillors begin to debate the item.

If an item on the agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group. These arrangements do not apply to exempt (confidential) items on the agenda where any members of the press or public present will be asked to leave the Committee Room. Full Council, Executive, and Committee agendas, reports and minutes are available on our website: www.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

The meeting room, including the Council Chamber at The Deane House are on the first floor and are fully accessible. Lift access to The John Meikle Room, is available from the main ground floor entrance at The Deane House. The Council Chamber at West Somerset House is on the ground floor and is fully accessible via a public entrance door. Toilet facilities, with wheelchair access, are available across both locations. An induction loop operates at both The Deane House and West Somerset House to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. For further information about the meeting, please contact the Governance and Democracy Team via email: governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

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