



**WESTON-SUPER- MARE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE TOWN HALL ON
MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2025**

Meeting Commenced: 7:00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 7.54 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Martin Williams (Deputy Town Mayor), Marc Aplin, Ray Armstrong, Roger Bailey, Joe Bambridge, Gill Bute, Mark Canniford, John Carson, Annabelle Chard, James Clayton, Jemma Coles, Peter Crew, Ciaran Cronnelly, Catherine Gibbons, Simon Harrison-Morse, Owen James, Hugh Malyan, Robert Payne, Alan Peak, Justyna Pecak-Michalowicz, Marcia Pepperall, Lisa Pilgrim, Caroline Reynolds, Robert Skeen, John Standfield, Tim Taylor, Helen Thornton and Richard Tucker.

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE: Sarah Pearse (Chief Executive Officer/Town Clerk), Fay Powell (Director of Community Services-Deputy Town Clerk), Helen Morton (Director of Finance and Resources), Samantha Bishop (Democratic Services Manager), Rebecca Saunders (Civic & Committee Officer), Evan Linde (Communications and Marketing Officer) and 5 members of the public.

252	<p>Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutions</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Charlie Williams, John Crockford-Hawley and Mike Bell in advance of the meeting.</p>
253	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were none received.</p>
254	<p>To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the previous Town Council Meeting held on 25th November 2024</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting had been previously circulated.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Ciaran Cronnelly SECONDED BY: Councillor Robert Payne</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.</p>
255	<p>To receive the Minutes of Youth Council Meetings held in</p>

	<p>The minutes of the September, October, November and December 2024 meetings had been previously circulated.</p> <p>There were no observations made.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be received.</p>								
256	<p>To receive announcements and communications from the Town Mayor</p> <p>The Mayor's announcements and communications had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>There had been 49 engagements attended by the Mayor;8 by the Deputy Mayor and 1 by the Leader which was a total of 249 to date.</p> <p>Dates for diaries were highlighted as follows: <u>25th January RNLl Burns Night</u> <u>9th February Axe District Scout Gang Show</u> <u>22nd February World Girlguiding Think Day</u> <u>2nd March Ramadan Celebrations</u></p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Town Mayor's report be noted.</p>								
257	<p>To approve the Calendar of Meetings for the year 2025/2026</p> <p>The draft Calendar of Meetings had been previously circulated with a second draft issued to include the 2025 Youth Council Meeting dates.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Ciaran Cronnelly SECONDED BY: Councillor Robert Payne</p> <p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was carried.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Calendar of Meetings for the year 2025/2026 be approved.</p>								
258	<p>Town Council Budget and Precept for the year 2025/2026</p> <p>The Town Council Budget and Precept requirements for the year 2025/2026, the briefing report submitted to the Special Finance and General Purposes Committee on the 20th January and a further supplementary budget report, had been previously circulated.</p> <p>The budget for the year 25/26 had been produced and recommend via the Finance and general purpose cttee on meetings held concluding with a recommendation of</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Table 1 Detail</th> <th>Net revenue Requirement</th> <th>BAND D (Annual amount)</th> <th>BAND D (Weekly amount)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Revised Revenue Proposals 20.01.25</td> <td>£4,108,538</td> <td>£33.79</td> <td>£0.65p</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Table 1 Detail	Net revenue Requirement	BAND D (Annual amount)	BAND D (Weekly amount)	Revised Revenue Proposals 20.01.25	£4,108,538	£33.79	£0.65p
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Revised Revenue Proposals 20.01.25	£4,108,538	£33.79	£0.65p						

A supplementary paper was provided for members consideration to reflect requirements from the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting on the 20th January, resulting in an alternative budget of:

Table 2

Detail	Net revenue Requirement	BAND D (Annual amount)	BAND D (Weekly amount)
Revised Revenue Proposals 03.02.2025	£4,100,668	£33.50	£0.64p
Difference from 20.01.2025 Proposal	£7,870		

Therefore, the draft budget shown in table 2 was therefore

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Ciaran Cronnelly
SECONDED BY: Councillor Tim Taylor

The Leader thanked all members for their collaboration and contribution to the generation of the draft budget.

The budget reflected positive initiatives to include improvements at Castle Batch; Grove Park toilets and an access ramp for 32 Waterloo Street, whilst acknowledging rises in National Insurance and Real Living Wage.

An amendment was then presented by

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew
SECONDED BY: Councillor Hugh Malyan

To increase the budget by £350,000 making provision to allow for devolution of services from NSC which the council has in principal,

Debate ensued for and against the amendment, summarised as follows:

Against

- Concerns that the money was not ringfenced for a specific purpose and was unnecessarily being kept in general reserves at risk of being spent elsewhere by a future administration and only benefiting residents of certain wards.
- Some members had been persuaded that the council's general reserves were adequate to take on the first phase of devolution and therefore the addition was not required.
- The council was in a position to be strategic and choose what it wanted to take on and when.
- There was uncomfortable feeling on increasing the budget further when the council had not had the opportunity to undertake pocket public consultation with residents on the impacts of devolution. It was noted that the Your Town Your Voice survey results were produced before the proposition of devolution.

- This was not the one any only chance for the council to consider devolution. The council was still not aware of what services it would be taking on and the budget was agreed once a year.
- Consider the cost of living crisis and residents not being able to afford increases. Councils progress history was very slow and that residents would not understand the increase and blame NSC.
- A recharge already was reflected in the grounds budget representing an increase for the transition year 2025/26. The Council had been very progressive in taking on projects in recent years and it was time to put the brakes on and consider increases to its tax payers.

For

- It was an extremely saddening situation that town councils were in the position of picking up the duty of NSC and the reasons of how this had come to be nationally, however the council must look to improve its town for the benefit of its residents and therefore, must provide budget provision to be able to do so.
- It was vital that the council replenished its general reserves to the required level and these should not be used for additional service financial needs.
- Castle Batch was considered an asset and should be an area for development.
- The Play Strategy did not include the additional play areas from NSC which would need capital spend to bring them up to standard, so therefore a provision to allow investment was needed.
- The draft budget was considered a good operational budget but not a strategic one, with no money for the play area/parks to come across which would stretch budgets and therefore timelines. NSC parks were in a poor state and the council needed to consider public liability insurance implications.
- Devolution was a huge opportunity for the council which would come to fruition within the next 2years and capital spend was needed to deliver. With this, was opportunity to have managed investment in the town for its residents.
- It was noted that the cross-party collaboration on the budget had been impressive and therefore was a good example of how the political system should work. The council needed to be realistic and listen to its residents.

Members requested clarity on whether the amendment funds of £350,000 would be earmarked reserves or general reserves was requested.?

The Leader advised that Group Leaders had met with the Leader and Chief Executive of NSC that morning where they were informed that the timescale for further phases of devolution would be received soon.

It was highlighted that the budget code for Signage (£15,000) needed to be capital and not revenue budget, to which this would be resolved at a future F&GP committee meeting.

Im summary, the proposer of the amendment responded as follows:

The amendment was for the purpose to make provision and address improvements to specific areas within the next 2years and the money would be earmarked specifically for devolution. The council needed to start looking at areas it could include concessions, to try and recover some money through revenue budgets. The town council had the officer expertise and flexibility to achieve and deliver much better and quicker than NSC.

A vote was taken and accordingly it was (12for; 11against) and therefore **carried**.

The amendment therefore became the substantive motion and a vote was taken and accordingly it was (16for; 6against; 2abstentions) and therefore **carried**.

RESOLVED: To approve:

1. The net revenue budget for the year 2025/2026, as reported, at **£4,450,668**;
This was an **annual council tax band D increase of £163.98** (£46.40 increase on the 2024/2025 budget);
Which equated to an **£0.89p** increase per week
and a **31.29%** overall budget increase.
2. The Town Council precept requirement value at £4,450,668 for submission to North Somerset Council.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 19.54 pm.

Signed: Dated:

Weston-super-Mare Youth Council Meeting Notes

A.	Date of meeting: 14 th January 2025
B.	Meeting Start Time: 18.04pm
C.	Where is the meeting: YMCA Youth Cafe
D.	Attendance –Sammy (SG) Oliver (OM) Natalie (NM) Ian (IR) Zac (ZR) Ben (BW) Eleanor (EH) Inara (IP) Harry (HW)Lillie (LAP) Amie (AM) Alli W (AW) Sam B (SB) Crystal B (CB) Eva (EJ) Evan (EL)
F.	Welcome – Check in, All well, EH asked all present to introduce themselves to the new members and guests.
1.	Apologies for Absence – Ellis (ER) Kelly (KH) Mylee (MRD)
2.	Declarations of Interest – None
3.	Notes of Last Meeting – Changes made to the those present at the last meeting section(D) Notes all correct. Proposed- SG Second- EH
4.	Welcome- EH welcomed Lasse from Hildesheim who is here for two months doing work experience with Weston Town Council and N Somerset Council. He will also be supporting the German Exchange programme happening in April. EH then introduced Evan Linde, EL explained that he had stepped into Becky Walsh’s role as the new Communication and Marketing office for Weston Town council. EL said he was very keen to support the youth council moving forward.
5.	Music event update – EH explained to the members that AW had produced the list of questions that the members had agreed on at the previous meeting to help organise the event. She said it would help splitting the members up in to sub committees to make sure all the areas of the organisation are covered. AW said if members joined the committees that they wanted to help with but asked SG to head up Fundraising, and OM to head up Marketing as that was their youth council roles. AW also asked CB , EJ & EL if they would be happy to support a committee. Marketing and communications – OM- EL - Looking at producing posters, advertising. Fundraising – SG- AW – BW – Looking at companies, Charities and fundraising ideas Acts – EH – EJ - - Looking at the running of the day and how to interview acts Equipment and set up – ZR – CB- AW asked the sub committees to think about what will need to be organised in the specific areas above.
6.	Litter Pick update – 8 th February 1-4pm at Weston youth centre. Now confirmed as a silent disco litter pick. We will offer hot dogs to everyone that takes part.

7.	<p>Newsletter – Update CB said that the college members had only just gone back this week so had not had a chance to work on it yet. She asked if the newsletter should be paper or an e-newsletter. AW said previously they had done an e-newsletter and sent it to all the schools, who then sent it out with their parent’s newsletters, which was more effective than a paper copy. IR & OM agreed that online would reach more young people.</p>
8.	<p>Events – Silent Disco Litter Pick February 8th –Weston Youth Centre 1-4pm</p> <p>Youth Exchange Visit Saturday 5th April– Activity afternoon – Weston Youth Centre- 2-5pm Tuesday 8th April Welcome Party – Youth Hub Lower Bristol road 7.30pm-9.30pm Tuesday 15th April – Farewell Party - Youth Hub Lower Bristol road 7.30pm-9.30pm</p> <p>Saturday 27th September - Young Peoples music event – Blakehey Theatre 10am -4pm (event 2-4pm) TBC</p>
9.	<p>Any Other Business Meeting dates to be approved. AW gave the members the 2025 suggested meeting dates and asked if they were all happy with the proposed dates. All agreed. Proposed – EH Seconded - ZR Videos for social media- OM asked all members that haven’t provided a video for social media to send one to the whatsapp group so Oliver can edit them. Just Record yourself (it doesn’t have to show your face) Saying what you do, why you are a member and how you can join the youth council.</p>
10.	<p>Meeting ended – 18.45pm Date of Next Meeting – 11/02/24</p>

Weston-super-Mare Youth Council Meeting Notes

A.	Date of meeting: 11 th February 2025
B.	Meeting Start Time: 18.05pm
C.	Where is the meeting: Blakehay Theatre
D.	Attendance –Sammy (SG) Oliver (OM) Ian (IR) Zac (ZR) Eleanor (EH) Inara (IP) Lily (LAP) Alli W (AW) Sally Heath (SH)
F.	Welcome – EH Checked in with Members to see how they are.
1.	Apologies for Absence – Sam B (SB) Kelly (KH) Natalie (NM) Mylee (MRD) Ellis (ER)
2.	Declarations of Interest – None
3.	Notes of Last Meeting – All correct. Proposed- OM Second- SG
4.	Music Event – Update & Tour SH took the Youth Council members on a tour of the Theatre to help visualise the space in preparation for the Music event planning. Afterwards SH asked the members if there were any questions. - ZR asked about equipment and what plugs etc were available- SH said that on the Blakehay website, they would find a document called a Tech pack that would answer all their questions around technical equipment. - ZR also asked if the acts could be recorded. SH explained that due to copyright laws unfortunately they wouldn't be able to, they also would not be allowed to use Disney or Grease songs. - IR asked how long they would be able to use the theatre for. SH explained that there is a maximum hire time of 12 hours so the Youth council would need to work out how long the event would be, add an hour before and after for clearing up and then some time for rehearsals. - IR asked about when to promote. SH said her team would be responsible for doing the posters, ticket sales all the youth council would need to do is provide an image for the poster and name for the event. Timings and ticket prices. She explained that she would be meeting with AW and Fay Powell to organise the financial agreement. - SH said Tickets would need to go on sale 6 weeks before the event and all the first stage of planning by the 28 th April so they can promote at the Town council meeting.
5.	Litter pick feedback – EH asked those members that attended the silent disco litter pick the previous Saturday how they thought it went. IR said he thought it went well. EH said it was fun. ZR Said would there be an opportunity to do another one? AW said if that's what they wanted, they could do it twice yearly. All members present were unanimous in the event being repeated. AW added that they poster had been shared many times across social media and was talked about at different groups. However, the members still need to be proactive with

	sharing and getting the word out to encourage more young people to join in.
6.	Newsletter – College members update EH explained that this item would need to be deferred to the next meeting as there was no college members present to update the youth council.
7.	<p>Events – EH reminded all members of the upcoming events and to add them to their diaries. AW said if they could let her know who could attend and if there were any dates, they would like to add to let her know.</p> <p>Youth Exchange Visit Saturday 5th April– Activity afternoon – Weston Youth Centre- 2-5pm, Tuesday 8th April Welcome Party – Youth Hub Lower Bristol road 7.30pm-9.30pm Tuesday 15th April – Farewell Party - Youth Hub Lower Bristol road 7.30pm-9.30pm</p> <p>Young Peoples music event- all members required to attend Saturday 27th September – Blakehay Theatre 10am -4pm (event 2-4pm)</p>
11.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Members Videos- IR reminded everyone about making a short video to add to the social media platforms in order to encourage new members. OM told the members the ways in which the videos can be produced and to send them to the group chat for him to edit before posting.</p> <p>IP asked if she could be added to the Groups whatsapp – OM said he would organise that.</p> <p>SG- Asked the members did they have any recommendations for charities for the music event? OM said Off The Record and suggested YMCA also. IR said he has mentioned YMCA before as they support young people across the Town. AW suggested In Charlies Memory.</p> <p>SG said she would look into each charity and do a little write up on each for the members to decide.</p> <p>AW – said she had caught up briefly with Fay Powel regarding the well-being bench project so it was on her radar as the weather would be changing soon. She also mentioned the possibility of obtaining a metal bin to be placed at Weston youth centre to encourage young people to dispose of their litter responsibly. She said she would look into both and get back to her.</p>
12.	<p>Meeting ended – 19.20pm Date of Next Meeting – 11/03/25</p>



REPORT TO WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL

24th March 2025

MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS

3rd February-24th March 2025

Town Mayor

Councillor John Crockford Hawley

ENGAGEMENTS SUMMARY

Council Representative	Number of Engagements
TOWN MAYOR Cllr John Crockford Hawley	31
DEPUTY MAYOR Cllr Martin Williams	5
TOWN COUNCIL LEADER Cllr Ciaran Cronnelly	1

TOTALS TO DATE

Council Representative	Number of Engagements
TOWN MAYOR Cllr John Crockford Hawley	262
DEPUTY MAYOR Cllr Martin Williams	21
TOWN COUNCIL LEADER Cllr Ciaran Cronnelly	2
TOTAL	285

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

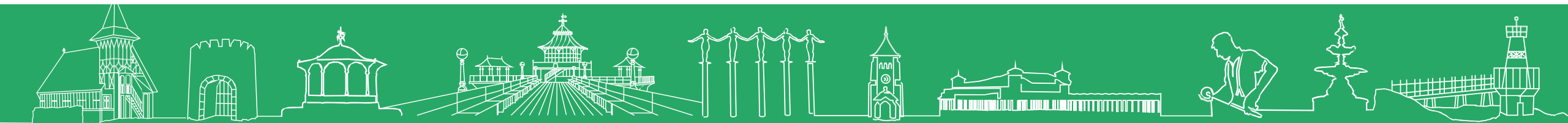
9th February Axe District Scout Gang Show
14th February Ignite Programme Graduation
22nd February World Girlguiding Think Day
2nd March Ramadan Celebrations
13th March Past Mayor Kellaway-Marriot Funeral
18th March MFA AGM
20th March Weston Electric Bus Depot Launch
23rd March High Sheriff Legal Service

UPCOMING EVENTS

26th March RBL Touchpoint Coffee Morning
27th March Mark Youth Matilda Performance
29th March Strictly Fun Dancing
4th-16th April Hildesheim Youth Exchange
5th April Mayor's end of Term Dinner
9th April Opening first weekly Market

Community Governance Review 2025

Briefing for Parish & Town Councils – 27 February 2025



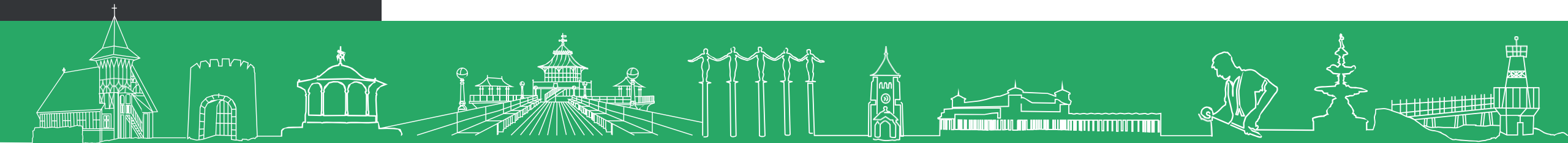
Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LGPIHA 2007)

- 12-month review of Parishes / Towns every 10-15 years or upon receipt of a valid petition
- Undertaken by the district council
- Power to make changes to current governance arrangements where appropriate to ensure effective and efficient governance.

District wards are not within the scope of the review → LGBCE

Parliamentary constituencies are not within the scope of the review → BCE

What is a
community
governance
review?



What matters can be considered

Creating, merging or abolishing parishes

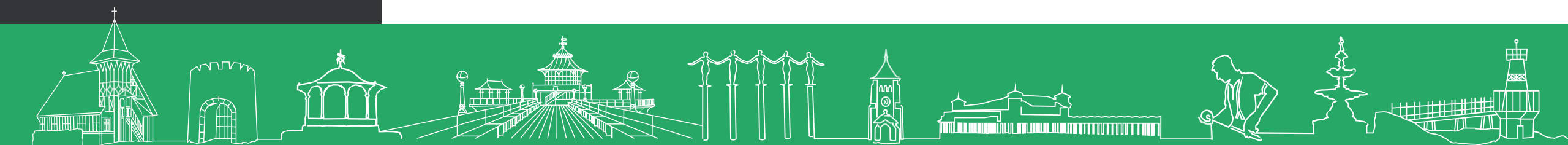
Parish boundaries

Name of parishes

Electoral arrangements including the;

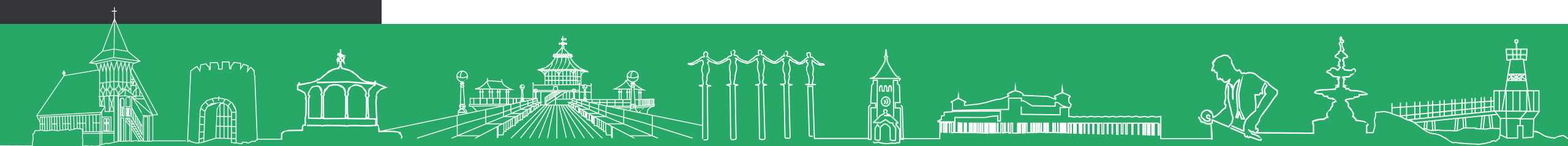
- No. of parish councillors
- Warding (including boundaries, name and number of councillors to be elected to each ward)

Grouping parishes under a common parish council (*or de-grouping parishes*)



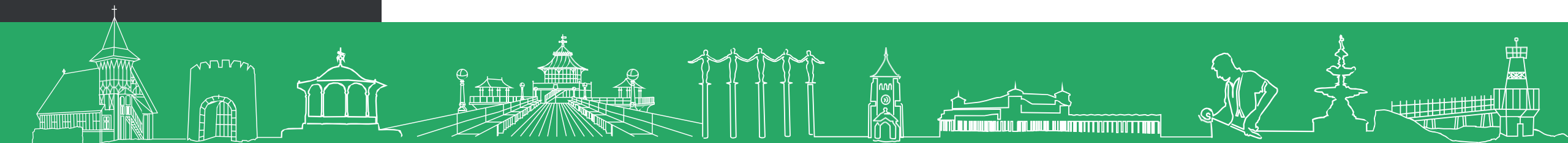
2025 timetable (indicative)

Date	Action
Jan 2025	Desk research / information gathering
Feb 2025	Terms of reference for the review are prepared, agreed by Council and published
Mar – Apr 2025	First public consultation , lasting 8 weeks.
May – Jun 2025	Review by Officers and development of Draft Recommendations .
Jun 2025	Draft Recommendations to be considered by Council and approved
Jul – Sep 202	Second public consultation , on Draft Recommendations.
Oct – Nov 2025	Review by Officers and development of Final Recommendations ..
Nov 2025	Council discuss and agree Final Recommendations.
Nov 2025	Reorganisation Order made



How to have your say

- Online consultation questionnaire – Friday 28 February www.n-somerset.gov.uk/cgr.
- Download a paper copy of the consultation questionnaire.
- Paper copies sent out upon request.
- Paper copies available in all libraries.

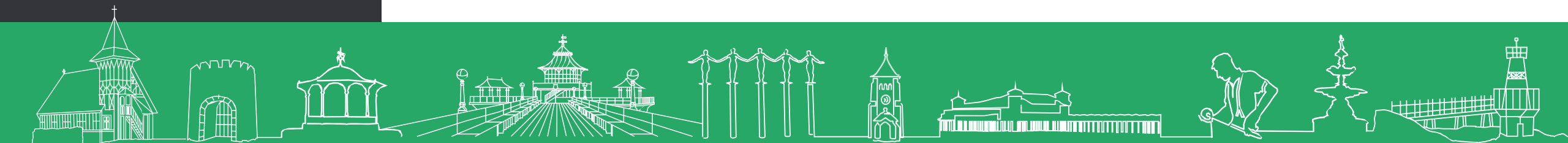


Information
available to
support
responses to the
consultation

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/cgr

- Notice of review
- Terms of reference
- Maps (online, paper copies available)
- Consultation questionnaire (online, paper copies available)
- Consultation information document
- Forecast electorate (5 years)
- Current number of seats on each council, recommended number of seats as per NALC & contested election data

For anything else email electoral.services@n-somerset.gov.uk



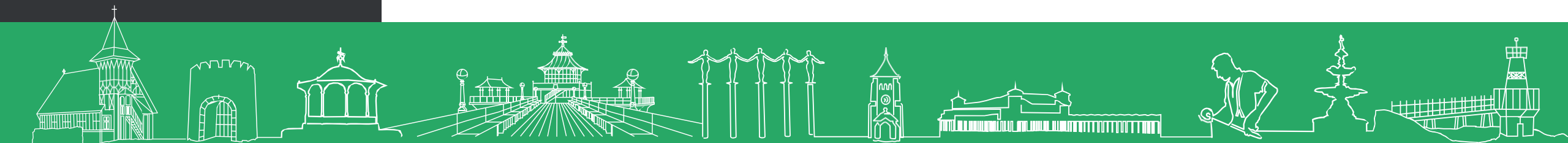
Other work across NSC

Local Devolution (previously Delivering together)

- The CGR is a separate process, governed by its own statutory rules and procedure.
- Focus on **electoral arrangements**– parish boundaries, parish ward boundaries, and parish councillor representation

National Planning Policy Framework & planning consultation on additional development

- Working closely with our planning team – forecast electorate
- The CGR will consider 5-year projections that anticipate delivery of sites that already have planning permissions, or allocation status in an adopted plan. As work progresses on identifying the new longer term growth areas colleagues in planning will work with democratic services to firm up electorate populations for future years.



Consequential matters

A **Reorganisation Order** will give effect to any decision made to change existing governance arrangements.

Change in boundaries

Polling district review to ensure each parish is in a separate polling district and the boundaries align with any new parish boundaries.

New parish

First election = at the next elections to parish councils (2027)

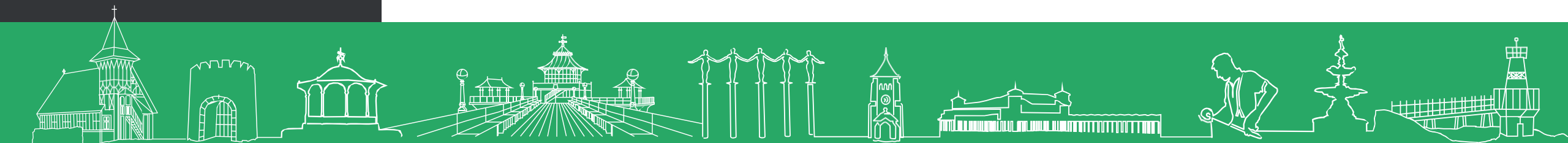
North Somerset Council is likely to arrange the first meeting of any new parish councils.

Abolish / merging parishes

Where parishes are dissolved or grouped, may include the transfer of assets to another parish council or to the principal area council.

Change in number of Councillors

The electoral arrangements for an existing council come into force at the next elections to the parish council (2027).



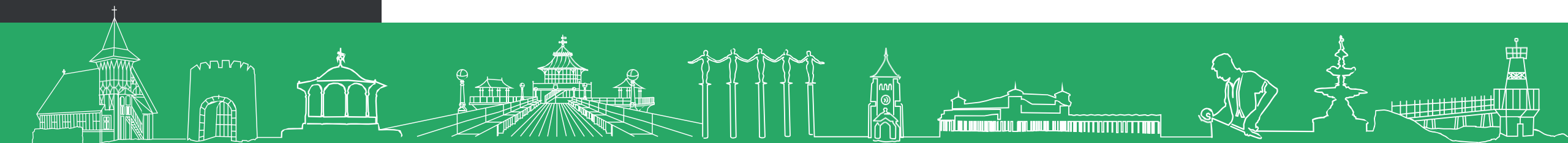
Useful links and further reading.

[NSC webpage \(CGR\)](#) – Includes information on the review and the online consultation response form.

[NSC CGR Privacy notice](#)

[Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007](#)

[Local Government Boundary Commission for England guidance on CGRs](#)



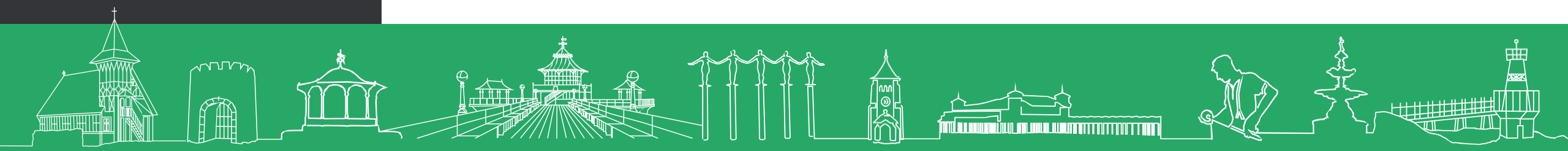


Draft proposals

Thursday 26 June 2025 4:30pm

electoral.services@n-somerset.gov.uk

**Next
briefing
session**



Any questions?

Contact:

electoral.services@n-somerset.gov.uk

01934 634909

**Electoral Services, Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Road, Weston super Mare,
BS23 1UJ**



North Somerset Council is running the first stage of a Community Governance Review. As part of this, we are inviting existing parish and town councils, residents' groups, community associations, neighbourhood organisations and individual residents to put forward suggestions for areas in North Somerset.

Please read this document before giving us your views. More information can be found on our website <https://n-somerset.gov.uk/council-democracy/councillors-committees/town-parish-councils/community-governance-review>

Please note that no decisions will be made until the survey has closed and all feedback has been considered. The survey will close at midnight on Wednesday 30 April 2025.

BACKGROUND

Government guidance advises that a review should be carried out every 10–15 years and there has been no full review of North Somerset within this period.

Local councils are the first tier of local government and play a crucial role in providing local services and involving people in their local community. This could be at a town, community, neighbourhood, parish or village level.

The North Somerset area currently has 39 Parish / Town Councils, of which 10 are warded*

- Abbots Leigh Parish Council
- Backwell Parish Council
- Banwell Parish Council
- Barrow Gurney Parish Council
- Blagdon Parish Council
- Bleadon Parish Council
- Brockley Parish Council
- Burrington Parish Council
- Butcombe Parish Council
- Churchill Parish Council
- Clapton-in-Gordano Parish Council
- Cleeve Parish Council
- Clevedon Town Council*
- Congresbury Parish Council
- Dundry Parish Council
- Flax Bourton Parish Council
- Hutton Parish Council
- Kenn Parish Council
- Kewstoke Parish Council
- Kingston Seymour Parish Council



- Locking Parish Council
- Long Ashton Parish Council*
- Loxton Parish Council
- Nailsea Town Council*
- Pill and Easton-in-Gordano Parish Council*
- Portbury Parish Council
- Portishead Town Council*
- Puxton Parish Council
- St Georges Parish Council
- Tickenham Parish Council
- Walton-in-Gordano Parish Council
- Weston-in-Gordano Parish Council
- Weston-super-Mare Town Council*
- Wick St Lawrence Parish Council*
- Winford Parish Council*
- Winscombe and Sandford Parish Council
- Wraxall and Failand Parish Council
- Wrington Parish Council*
- Yatton Parish Council*

Use our map to find your parish / town council <https://n-somerset.gov.uk/council-democracy/councillors-committees/town-parish-councils/town-parish-council-map>

THE PURPOSE OF A COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

A Community Governance Review is a legal process that gives residents and organisations an opportunity to share their views on the most suitable ways of representing the people at a community level. We are currently at Stage One of this process.

The council believes that local councils (including parish, town, community, neighbourhood and village councils) can play an important role in terms of community empowerment at a local level and wants to ensure that parish governance within the area continues to be robust, representative and is able to meet new challenges.

We also want to ensure there is clarity and transparency in the areas that local councils represent and that the electoral arrangements of parishes are appropriate, equal and easy to understand for the public and key stakeholders.

The aim of the review is to bring about:

- improved and stronger community engagement

- more cohesive communities
- better local democracy
- more effective and convenient delivery of local services ensuring residents across the respective areas are treated equally and fairly.

WHAT A COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW CAN CHANGE

A Community Governance Review can make a number of changes to the way parish and town councils are governed when there is clear evidence these changes would be an improvement, including:

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes
- The naming of parishes and the style of new parishes
- The electoral arrangements for parishes (e.g., the ordinary year of election, council size, the number of councillors to be elected to the council, and parish warding)
- Grouping parishes under a common council or de-grouping parishes.

The council needs to ensure that community governance in the North Somerset area will:

- Reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area; and
- Be effective and convenient.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING A COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW?

North Somerset Council in accordance with [Part 4, Chapter 3 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 \(LGPIHA 2007\)](#)

SURVEY INFORMATION

Below you'll find information for you to refer to while responding to the relevant sections in the survey.

Existing parishes

The Community Governance Review can make recommendations for each of the existing parishes under review including:

1. Whether those parishes should or should not be abolished; or
2. Whether the area of the existing parishes should be altered, possibly due to recent developments. Proposed changes can include –
 - the boundaries of the parish,
 - the warding of previously unwarded parishes
 - the name of the parish,
 - the style of the parish

Please use the relevant section of the survey to tell us if any parishes in the North Somerset area should be abolished or altered, including whether the name of an existing parish should be changed.

New parishes

The Community Governance Review must make recommendations about any new parishes being constituted in the area, i.e. being formally created according to law.

A 'new parish' is defined in the legislation as:

- Establishing an unparished area as a parish; - *Please note there are no unparished areas in North Somerset.*
- Combining one or more unparished areas with one or more existing parished areas; - *Please note there are no unparished areas in North Somerset.*
- Combining parts of existing parishes;
- Combining two or more existing parishes;
- Separating parts of a parish or parishes

If a new parish is constituted, the review must make recommendations about:

- The name of the new parish
- Whether or not the new parish should have a parish council
- The electoral arrangements for that council
- Whether or not the new parish should have an alternative style. The alternative styles that may be applied to new parishes, in addition to parish or town are
 - Community
 - Neighbourhood
 - Village

Please use the relevant section of the survey to tell us if you have any suggestions for any new parishes in the North Somerset area.

Grouping parishes together

The existing Parish/Town Councils in North Somerset are not grouped with other councils and as such, the provisions for dissolving existing groups does not apply.

The review may, however, make recommendations as to whether or not grouping provisions should be made.

Grouping may best be considered as a working alliance of parishes that have come together under a common parish council, with the electors of each of the grouped parishes electing a designated number of councillors to the council. It has been found to be an effective way of ensuring parish government for small parishes that might otherwise be unviable as separate units, while otherwise guaranteeing their separate community identity.

Where an application is received for a parish to be grouped with a neighbouring parish or parishes, an order to this effect may be made. However, existing parishes shall not be grouped without the consent of the parish meetings of each of the parishes in the proposed group.

Please use the relevant section of the survey to tell us if you feel any parishes in the North Somerset area should be grouped together.

Electoral arrangements for existing parishes and newly created parishes

1. Whether to have a parish / town council or not.

The guidance for undertaking Community Governance Reviews states that recommendations for the dissolution of parish councils are undesirable, unless they are in cases of parishes with very low populations or where boundary changes are reordering the parish structure.

Where the review makes recommendations that a parish should have a council or that an existing parish council should be retained, the review must also make recommendations about the electoral arrangements or about changes to the electoral arrangements.

'Electoral arrangements' in relation to an existing or proposed parish council are defined as:

(a) **the ordinary year of elections** – the year in which ordinary elections of parish councillors are to be held. Existing parish council elections are next scheduled for May 2027 and then every four years.

(b) **the council size** – the number of councillors to be elected to the council, or (in the case of a 'grouped common council') the number of councillors to be elected to the council by local electors in each parish;

(c) **parish warding** – whether the parish should be divided into wards for the purpose of electing councillors. This includes considering the number and boundaries of any such wards, the number of councillors to be elected for any such wards and the name of any such wards.

Size of the Council

'Council size' is the term used to describe the number of councillors to be elected to the whole council.

The Local Government Act 1972 says each parish council must have at least five councillors, while there is no maximum number. There are no rules relating to the allocation of those councillors between parish wards but each parish ward, and each parish grouped under a common parish council, must have at least one parish councillor.

The National Association of Local Councils published guidelines suggesting that the minimum number of councillors for any parish council should be seven with a maximum of 25. The council size should be considered on its own merits, taking into account its population, geography and the pattern of communities.

Consideration should be given to the difficulty of attracting sufficient candidates to stand for election. In some parishes, this has led to repeated uncontested elections and/or a need to co-opt¹ members in order to fill vacancies. A parish council's budget and planned, or actual, level of service provision may also be important factors in reaching conclusions on council size.

Electorate forecasts for the next 5 years can be found on our website here <https://n-somerset.gov.uk/council-democracy/councillors-committees/town-parish-councils/community-governance-review>

¹ Co-option is a process where the existing councillors invite another person to be a member without a formal election.

This information should be taken into account when considering any proposals for electoral arrangements.

Warding of parishes

Parish warding is the division of a parish into wards for the purpose of electing councillors. This includes the number and boundaries of any wards, the number of councillors to be elected for any ward and the names of wards.

When deciding whether or not a parish should be divided into wards, consideration must be given to whether:

- the number, or distribution, of the local government electors for the parish would make a single election of councillors unfeasible or inconvenient; and
- it is desirable that any area or areas of the parish should be separately represented.

Each case should be considered on its merits, and on the basis of the information and evidence provided during the course of the review.

Drawing up appropriate ward boundaries

When making decisions on the boundaries between parish wards, the review will need to take into account community identity and interests in the area. It will also need to consider whether any particular ties or links might be broken by the drawing of particular ward boundaries

Allocating councillors to wards

If the review decides that a parish should be warded, consideration must be given to the levels of representation between each ward. It is an important democratic principle that each person's vote should be of equal weight so far as possible, considering other legitimate competing factors, when it comes to the election of councillors. While there is no provision in legislation that each parish councillor should represent a similar number of electors, guidance suggests that it is not in the interests of effective and convenient local government, either for voters or councillors, to have significant differences in levels of representation between different parish wards. Such variations could make it difficult, in workload terms, for councillors to adequately represent the interests of residents. There is also a risk that where one or more wards of a parish are over-represented by councillors, the residents of those wards (and their councillors) could be perceived as having more influence than others on the council.



Where a Community Governance Review recommends that two or more parishes should be grouped under a common parish council, then the review must take into account the same considerations when considering the number of councillors to be elected by each parish within the group.

Ward names

Where parish wards are proposed, the review should give some thought to existing local or historic places so that, where appropriate, these are reflected. Ward names proposed by local interested parties are usually favoured.

HOW WILL THE FEEDBACK BE CONSIDERED?

In assessing the feedback received at all stages, the Community Governance Review must take into account:

- The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion.
- The size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.

Please note that no decisions will be made until all responses have been carefully considered by North Somerset Council.

WHAT PARTS OF NORTH SOMERSET ARE INCLUDED IN THE REVIEW

The Community Governance Review includes all parts of the North Somerset administrative area.



TIMETABLE

The timetable for the review is as follows:

Date	Action
Feb 2025	Terms of reference for the review are prepared, agreed by Council and published.
Mar – Apr 2025	First public consultation, lasting 8 weeks.
May – Jun 2025	Review by Officers and development of Draft Recommendations. CGR Working Group meetings will be held as appropriate to discuss, prior to consideration by Council.
Jun 2025	Draft Recommendations to be considered by Council and approved for second round of consultation.
Jul – Sep 2025	Second public consultation, on Draft Recommendations.
Oct – Nov 2025	Review by Officers and development of Final Recommendations. CGR Working Group meetings will be held as appropriate to discuss, prior to consideration by Council.
Nov 2025	Council discuss and agree Final Recommendations.
Nov 2025	Reorganisation Order made (if applicable).
Dec 2025	Publish revised register under new arrangements.

NEXT STEPS

After the first public consultation finishes, Officers will carefully review all the responses received. They will then make draft recommendations which we will consult the public and interested parties on in July 2025.



The current projections below cover the immediate five-year period and anticipate delivery of sites that already have planning permissions, or allocation status in an adopted plan.

As work progresses on identifying the new longer term growth areas colleagues in planning will work with democratic services to firm up electorate populations for future years.

Recommended number of councillors

National Association of Local Councils (NALC) NALC published guidance in 1988 on the suggested number of parish councillors to be allocated depending on the size of the population being represented. NALC recommended a council of no more than the legal minimum of five members is inconveniently small and it considers the practical minimum should be seven. It considered local council business does not usually require a large body of councillors, and business convenience makes it appropriate to suggest the practical maximum should be 25.

Within those minimum and maximum limits, the following allocations were recommended by NALC:

- Up to 900 electors: 7 councillors
- 901 - 1,400 electors: 8 councillors
- 1,401 - 2,000 electors: 9 councillors
- 2,001 - 2,700 electors: 10 councillors
- 2,701 - 3,500 electors: 11 councillors
- 3,501 - 4,400 electors: 12 councillors
- 4,401 - 5,400 electors: 13 councillors
- 5,401 - 6,500 electors: 14 councillors
- 6,501 - 7,700: 15 councillors
- 7,701 - 9,000: 16 councillors
- 9,001 - 10,400 electors: 17 councillors
- 10,401 - 11,900 electors: 18 councillors
- 11,901 - 13,500 electors: 19 councillors
- 13,501 - 15,200 electors: 20 councillors
- 15,201 - 17,000 electors: 21 councillors
- 17,001 - 18,900 electors: 22 councillors
- 18,901 - 20,900 electors: 23 councillors
- 20,901 - 23,000 electors: 24 councillors
- Over 23,000 electors: 25 councillors

Please note, in rural authorities with sparsity of population, this table may not be appropriate.



Parish	Baseline February 2025		Projected 5-year forecast	
	Electorate	Current no. of seats	Estimated population (inc. 16- & 17-year-olds)	NALC recommended no. of Councillors for projected electorate
Abbots Leigh	667	5	688	7
Backwell	3,754	15	4,151	12
Banwell	3,278	12	4,688	13
Barrow Gurney	426	7	586	7
Blagdon	885	11	1,037	8
Bleadon	998	9	1,191	8
Brockley	226	6	241	7
Burrington	435	5	461	7
Butcombe	190	5	247	7
Churchill	2,134	13	2,528	10
Clapton-in-Gordano	289	6	300	7
Cleeve	731	7	795	7
Clevedon	16,885	21	18,889	22
Congresbury	3008	12	3,511	12
Dundry	730	10	798	7
Flax Bourton	586	7	613	7
Hutton	2,395	10	2,693	10
Kenn	384	7	435	7



Parish	Baseline February 2025		Projected 5-year forecast	
	Electorate (as per register)	Current number of seats	Estimated population (inc. 16- & 17- year-olds)	NALC recommended number of Councillors for projected electorate
Kewstoke	1,486	11	1,754	9
Kingston Seymour	335	7	333	7
Locking	3,417	15	5,539	14
Long Ashton	5,098	21	5,430	14
Loxton	178	5	191	7
Nailsea	12,984	20	15,580	21
Pill and Easton-in-Gordano	3,939	15	4,250	12
Portbury	757	8	797	7
Portishead	20,385	14	22,467	24
Puxton	315	7	361	7
St Georges	2,445	9	2,757	11
Tickenham	891	11	1,016	8
Walton-in-Gordano	302	5	310	7
Weston-in-Gordano	275	7	263	7
Weston-super-Mare	62,605	31	75,177	25
Wick St Lawrence	1,093	10	1,181	8
Winford	1,874	12	2,089	10
Winscombe and Sandford	4,087	15	4,880	13
Wraxall and Failand	1,965	11	2,115	10
Wrington	2,313	16	2,573	10
Yatton	6,725	18	7,773	16



Election results in the past 5 years

The table below shows the number of candidates who have stood in each local government election in the past 5 years. Those in green show elections that were contested (i.e. enough candidates put themselves forward for there to be a poll).

Parish / Town Council	Wards (if warded)	No. of seats	No. of candidates in 2015 election	No. of candidates in 2019 election	No. of candidates in 2023 election
Abbots Leigh Parish Council		5	3	4	6
Backwell Parish Council		15	14	13	11
Banwell Parish Council		12	6	9	9
Barrow Gurney Parish Council		7	5	4	6
Blagdon Parish Council		11	8	8	7
Bleadon Parish Council		9	4	8	5
Brockley Parish Council		6	5	6	5
Burrington Parish Council		5	4	5	4
Butcombe Parish Council		5	4	4	4
Churchill Parish Council		13	12	9	9
Clapton-in-Gordano Parish Council		6	4	4	3
Cleeve Parish Council		7	4	6	7
Clevedon Town Council	East Ward	4	4	6	5
	South Ward	4	4	3	3
	Walton Ward	5	7	2	2
	West Ward	4	4	3	3
	Yeo Ward	4	4	4	4
Congresbury Parish Council		12	6	7	6
Dundry Parish Council		10	9	4	3



Parish / Town Council	Wards (if warded)	No. of seats	No. of candidates in 2015 election	No. of candidates in 2019 election	No. of candidates in 2023 election
Flax Bourton Parish Council		7	7	4	5
Hutton Parish Council		10	8	9	5
Kenn Parish Council		7	6	6	5
Kewstoke Parish Council		11	10	11	10
Kingston Seymour Parish Council		7	5	7	7
Locking Parish Council		15	9	7	9
Long Ashton Parish Council	Long Ashton Ward	19	14	10	8
	Leigh Woods Ward	2	2	2	0
Loxton Parish Council		5	4	3	4
Nailsea Town Council	Golden Valley Ward	5	5	6	3
	West End Ward	5	5	3	4
	Yeo Ward	5	6	3	6
	Youngwood Ward	5	5	5	4
Pill and Easton-in-Gordano Parish Council	Easton in Gordano Ward	4	3	3	3
	Pill Ward	11	7	5	12
Portbury Parish Council		8	8	5	5
Portishead Town Council	East Ward	5	7	10	5
	North Ward	2	6	4	3
	South Ward	2	5	4	3
	West Ward	5	7	11	7
Puxton Parish Council		7	3	5	8
St Georges Parish Council		9	10	7	6
Tickenham Parish Council		11	10	8	6



Parish / Town Council	Wards (if warded)	No. of seats	No. of candidates in 2015 election	No. of candidates in 2019 election	No. of candidates in 2023 election
Walton-in-Gordano Parish Council		5	3	4	5
Weston-in-Gordano Parish Council		7	6	4	4
Weston-super-Mare Town Council	Bournville Ward	3	8	6	4
	Central Ward	3	9	10	9
	Hillside Ward	3	11	10	7
	Mid Worle Ward	2	7	5	6
	Milton Ward	4	9	10	8
	North Worle Ward	3	10	9	8
	South Worle Ward	4	10	8	10
	Uphill Ward	3	8	7	10
	Winterstoke Ward	3	10	6	8
	Worlebury Ward	3	9	7	8
Wick St Lawrence Parish Council	East Wick Ward	5	5	5	5
	West Wick Ward	5	2	3	3
Winford Parish Council	Winford Ward	5	4	5	3
	Felton Ward	5	3	5	2
	Regil Ward	2	2	2	1
Winscombe and Sandford Parish Council		15	14	14	12
Wraxall and Failand Parish Council		11	9	12	10
Wrighton Parish Council	Northeast Ward	4	1	0	0
	Southwest Ward	12	9	12	7



Parish / Town Council	Wards (if warded)	No. of seats	No. of candidates in 2015 election	No. of candidates in 2019 election	No. of candidates in 2023 election
Yatton Parish Council	Claverham Ward	3	1	2	2
	Horsecastle Ward	5	4	6	3
	North Ward	5	5	3	5
	South Ward	5	6	4	3

North Somerset Council

Community Governance Review 2025

Terms of Reference



1. Introduction

North Somerset Council is carrying out a full Community Governance Review (CGR) in accordance with Part 4, Chapter 3 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LGPIHA 2007) to consider parish boundaries, parish ward boundaries and councillor representation throughout the local authority area.

North Somerset Council is required to have regard for the Guidance on CGRs issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. This guidance has been considered in drawing up these terms of reference.

2. Why is the North Somerset Council undertaking the review?

A CGR provides an opportunity for district councils to review and make changes to community governance for the parishes within their area. Such reviews can be undertaken when there have been changes in population or in reaction to specific, or local, new issues to ensure that the community governance for the area continues to be effective, convenient and reflective of the identities and interests of the community. The government has emphasised that ultimately recommendations made in a CGR ought to bring about improved community engagement, more cohesive communities, better local democracy and result in more effective and convenient delivery of local services.

Government guidance further states that it is good practice to conduct a full review at least every 10 – 15 years and keep the area under review in the interim.

The last full CGR carried out by North Somerset Council concluded in 2010, therefore it is now timely to formally review the parish governance arrangements throughout the area.

3. Scope of the review

North Somerset Council will be reviewing parish governance arrangements across the **whole** of the local authority area and will be considering the following:

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes
- The naming of parishes and the style of any new parishes
- The electoral arrangements for the parishes, including
 - the ordinary year of election
 - the number of councillors
 - the number and boundaries of wards (if warded)
 - the name of any ward (if warded).

North Somerset Council

Community Governance Review 2025

Terms of Reference



- Grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes.

Any final recommendations made on the above by North Somerset Council will have regard to Section 93 LGPIHA 2007 and will ensure that community governance within the areas under review reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area and is effective and convenient.

Note: North Somerset district wards are not within the scope of this review.

4. A timetable for the review

Publication of these Terms of Reference formally begins the review, which must be completed within twelve months.

The indicative 12-month timetable for the review is as follows. Depending on local circumstances some dates may change, although implementation ahead of the first quarter of 2025 is anticipated.

Date	Action
Feb 2025	Terms of reference for the review are prepared, agreed by North Somerset councillors at the February Planning and Regulatory Committee and published on Friday 28 February.
Feb – Apr 2025	First public consultation, lasting approx. 8 weeks.
May – Jun 2025	Review by Officers and development of Draft Recommendations.
Jun 2025	Draft Recommendations to be agreed by North Somerset councillors at the June Planning and Regulatory Committee and approved for publication on Friday 20 June.
Jun – Sep 2025	Second public consultation, on Draft Recommendations.
Oct – Nov 2025	Review by Officers and development of Final Recommendations.
Nov 2025	North Somerset councillors discuss and agree Final Recommendations at the November Planning and Regulatory Committee. Reorganisation Order made and published on Friday 21 November.

North Somerset Council

Community Governance Review 2025

Terms of Reference



5. Consultation

North Somerset Council are required to consult the local government electors and any other person or body who appears to have an interest in the review and to take the representations that are received into account by judging them against the criteria in the LGPIHA 2007.

North Somerset Council intends to consult with all households and interested parties in the area through inviting initial submissions and seeking views on the draft proposals.

North Somerset Council will also identify any other person or body who it feels may have an interest in the review and write to them inviting them to submit their views at both stages of consultation.

This will include:

- Ward members
- Parish council members

This may also include:

- Groups and societies
- Schools and colleges
- Members of Parliament
- Local political parties
- The police
- Local charities and voluntary organisations

North Somerset Council will also be pleased to receive comments from any other person or body that wishes to make representations. Any such person that makes representations during the initial invitation to submit proposals will be invited to make comments in respect of the draft proposals.

North Somerset Council intends to clearly publish all decisions taken in the review and the reasons for taking those decisions and will work towards the Government's view in undertaking the review that CGRs should be conducted transparently so that local people and other stakeholders who may have an interest are made aware of the outcome of the decisions taken and the reasons behind these decisions.

In accordance with the Act, representations received in connection with the review will be taken into account, and steps will be taken to notify consultees of the outcome of the review by publishing them on North Somerset Council's website at:

[Community Governance Review | North Somerset Council](#), through general press releases, placing key documents on public deposit at Council Offices and will communicate the final outcome of the review by November 2025.

North Somerset Council

Community Governance Review 2025

Terms of Reference



6. Following the review

A Reorganisation Order may be drafted which would cover any consequential matters that appear to North Somerset Council to be necessary as a result of the final agreed recommendations from the review that give effect to the Order.

These may include:

- The transfer and management or custody of property.
- The setting of precepts for new parishes; and
- Provision with respect to the transfer of any functions, property, rights and liabilities.

In these matters, North Somerset Council will be guided by Regulations that have been issued following the 2007 Act.

In particular, North Somerset Council notes that the Regulations regarding the transfer of property, rights and liabilities require that any apportionments shall use the population of the area as estimated by the proper officer of North Somerset Council as an appropriate proportion.

Furthermore, North Somerset Council notes that the regulations regarding the establishment of a precept for a new parish require North Somerset Council to calculate the first anticipated precept for a newly constituted parish council and for the amount of that precept to be included in the Reorganisation Order.

Where any such consequential matters affect North Somerset Council, the Council will also seek the views of that council with regard to alterations to electoral division boundaries in accordance with the government's guidance.

How to contact us:

Any queries regarding this review should be directed to:

Electoral Services

North Somerset Council

Town Hall

Weston-super-Mare

BS23 1UJ

E-Mail: electoral.services@n-somerset.gov.uk

Date of publication of these Terms of Reference: Friday 28 February 2025

Any modifications (if any) will be published as soon as practicable after they have been made.

The current projections below cover the immediate five-year period and anticipate delivery of sites that already have planning permissions, or allocation status in an adopted plan.

As work progresses on identifying the new longer term growth areas colleagues in planning will work with democratic services to firm up electorate populations for future years.

Parish	Baseline February 2025		Projected 5-year forecast	
	Current number of dwellings (as per planning)	Electorate (as per register)	Estimated dwellings	Estimated population (inc. 16- & 17-year-olds)
Abbots Leigh	329	667	334	688
Backwell	1,975	3,754	2,053	4,151
Banwell	1,878	3,278	2,431	4,688
Barrow Gurney	225	426	281	586
Blagdon	519	885	539	1,037
Bleadon	581	998	627	1,191
Brockley	110	226	113	241
Burrington	220	435	222	461
Butcombe	106	190	111	247
Churchill	1,149	2,134	1,199	2,528
Clapton-in-Gordano	153	289	156	300
Cleeve	400	731	400	795
Clevedon	10,069	16,885	10,206	18,889
Congresbury	1,712	3,008	1,761	3,511
Dundry	352	730	359	798
Flax Bourton	291	586	293	613
Hutton	1,368	2,395	1,385	2,693
Kenn	202	384	207	435
Kewstoke	863	1,486	934	1,754
Kingston Seymour	152	335	152	333
Locking	2,011	3,417	2,940	5,539
Long Ashton	2,830	5,098	2,859	5,430
Loxton	87	178	89	191
Nailsea	7,475	12,984	8,200	15,580
Pill and Easton-in-Gordano	2,211	3,939	2,218	4,250
Portbury	422	757	425	797
Portishead	12,104	20,385	12,129	22,467
Puxton	158	315	162	361
St Georges	1,445	2,445	1,448	2,757



Parish	Baseline February 2025		Projected 5-year forecast	
	Current number of dwellings (as per planning)	Electorate (as per register)	Estimated dwellings	Estimated population (inc. 16- & 17-year-olds)
Tickenham	462	891	477	1,016
Walton-in-Gordano	186	302	186	310
Weston-in-Gordano	129	275	129	2,63
Weston-super-Mare	39,417	62,605	40,878	75,177
Wick St Lawrence	568	1,093	575	1,181
Winford	985	1,874	996	2,089
Winscombe and Sandford	2,315	4,087	2,483	4,880
Wraxall and Failand	991	1,965	994	2,115
Wrington	1,299	2,313	1,348	2,573
Yatton	3,798	6,725	4,015	7,773

To: Town Council Meeting

Subject:	Town Council 10 Year Strategy Review 2020-2030
Reason for Briefing Note:	To provide rationale and evidence for changes to 10-year strategy
Responsible Officer(s):	Chief Executive Officer / Town Clerk
Senior Lead(s):	Director of Community Services/Deputy Town Clerk Director of Finance and Resources Senior Development Officer
Date:	17/03/2025
File Path:	Restricted/Town Council Strategy 2020-2030

SUMMARY:

The Town Council Strategy was adopted by Council in April 2020. An annual review of the strategy is carried out in order to update the level of progress, and as an opportunity to include new ambitions and services. The last formal evaluation of the current strategy took place March 2023. The document has not been fully reviewed since its original adoption April 2020. In the creating and reviewing of the strategy, the community are consulted to ensure the direction of the council meets a need.

In the past year, the strategy has been reviewed in three separate ways:

- a. Your Town Your Voice – a community consultation exercise carried out in October 2023 to understand what the community think about the running of Town Council Services.
- b. Annual Meeting Resolution Evaluation – in January of every year, the meeting resolutions across all council meetings for the previous year are collated and attributed to each ambition of the strategy.
- c. Councillor Workshop – an engagement workshop (September 2024) with all Town Councillors to understand their views on the progress of the strategy and suggestions for future direction.

Feedback from these reviews was collated and shared with members.

The suggestions for amendments have now been extracted and implemented within the new draft review of the 10-year strategy for members adoption.

Considerations:

1. The overall feedback was that the document needed simplifying in style as it was more of a working document than a strategic plan, this was needed to make it more explicit. A new format has incorporated all the previous detail has been used in order to make it more readable and meet the suggestions by the majority of councillors.

To: Town Council Meeting

2. Several ambitions have been removed at members request where it was felt they were no longer relevant
3. It was determined that many of the ambitions identified, whilst important to the direction of the Town Council, were actually part of a statutory or best practise requirement. As such those identified have been extracted from the live Strategy ambitions. The focus is now only strategic aims the Town Council would like to achieve and NOT what they must implement/abide by. Those ambitions removed have been added to appendix 1 which will accompany the strategy.
4. The progress column has been removed, recognising that this was easier and better visually to present separately, and as such the successes and milestones timelines were added to the end of the strategy so the ambitions are still clearly identifiable.
5. Where the wording of the specific ambition has been altered, this has been identified in **RED**.
6. The introduction was rewritten to reflect that we are now half way through the 10-year strategy.
7. Further details and specific information around how ambitions will be met have been included in the revised document at the request of members, these will be used to generate KPI's within team / departmental plans for the forthcoming years.

Summary of amendments and progress at February 2025:

The numbers below reference the order within the new draft strategy. Please note, numbers compared to the previously adopted strategy have changed due to additions and removals.

Weston View

No.	Amendments
1.1	It was felt this was too vague, with not enough specific information on how this would be achieved.
1.2	Specific reference was made to the events pages and tourism website
1.3	It was felt this was too vague, with not enough specific information on how this would be achieved.
1.4	It was felt this was too vague, with not enough specific information on how this would be achieved.

(originally 1.5) [To oppose additional drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres] was removed.

1.5	Felt that reference to Somewhere to Go should be removed, and should refer more generally to supporting homelessness initiatives.
1.6	Needed more clarification as to where this crosses over with Police work.
1.7	Felt this was too wide, what is this?
1.8	Felt this was too wide, what is this?

To: Town Council Meeting

(originally 1.10) [Support and increase the range of information available to residents about community-based projects, activities and services available to them for the purposes of wellbeing, business and civic pride] was removed and amalgamated with 1.7 as it was felt it was repetitive. This became the ‘Specific’ of 1.7.

1.9	Felt the reference to ‘culture’ was not necessary, and that access to grants needed to be easier.
1.10	Felt that more promotion was necessary.
1.11	Requested specific reference to involvement with businesses.

(originally 1.13) [The Town Council will support and seek to control the extent and location of CCTV coverage which meets the needs of the town] merged with 1.6

1.12	Specific reference to the dual delivery of VIC at HQ and Waterpark
------	--

(originally 1.15) [To encourage licensing of private landlords owning rental properties (inc HMO’s)] removed. It was felt that this was NSC responsibility and should not form part of TC strategy aims.

1.13	It was felt this was too vague, with not enough specific information on how this would be achieved.
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(originally 1.17) [Internal Communications between all departments, staff and Cllrs] removed due to duplication in other ambitions

(originally 1.18) [Provide the Visit Weston (website) to promote destination marketing] removed and combined above

1.14	Felt this should be high quality and well placed.
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(originally 1.20) [To work with Weston Town Centre Partnership via Service level agreement] removed as covered in previous points

(originally 1.21) [Fund Uphill church lighting electricity costs] was removed. It was felt that this was too ward specific, there were questions around being faith biased and consensus was to remove it.

(originally 1.22) [The Town Council will maintain and provide new community notice boards in key locations throughout the town as a means for publicising Town Council and community facilities and activities.] removed as covered in previous ambitions.

(originally 1.23) [The Town Council will fully consider local opinion when presenting recommendations to North Somerset Council regarding planning applications and relevant consultations] was removed and added to appendix 1.

Cleaner and Greener

No.	Amendments
2.1	It was felt that this was too big an ambition, and it need to be more specific about what is required.
2.2	Felt this should be a gradual process and where appropriate, with more information about whether we plan to deliver or enable.
2.3	No specific feedback given

To: Town Council Meeting

2.4	Mixed opinions about rewilding. Recognition of needing to communication what rewilding is and where it is appropriate to do.
2.5	No specific feedback given
2.6	It was felt this was too vague, with not enough specific information on how this would be achieved.

(originally 2.7) [To continually review the effect of any proposed expansion plans at Bristol airport] was removed as it was felt to be outside of the Town Councils strategic aims.

2.7	Felt to be basic, so changes focused on how this would be achieved.
-----	---

(originally 2.9) [Provision of Allotments to meet local demand and enable residents to grow their own food] was removed and added to appendix 1.

2.8	No specific feedback given
2.9	Felt this service should be expanded to include all the dog bins in Weston.
2.10	Wanted this to be achieved gradually.
2.11	Questions around what happens when we run out of space. This was combined with 1.13 (parks and play areas), to make reference to open spaces as a whole.

(originally 2.14) [To give preference wherever possible to the procurement of goods and services from locally based suppliers subject to best value principles] was removed and added to appendix 1.

2.12	No specific feedback given
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(originally 2.16) [Enable provision of parks and play areas as community facility] combined with 2.11 to reference open spaces as a whole.

(originally 2.17) [To support and work with Weston in Bloom volunteers and partner organisations on floral displays] was removed and amalgamated with 2.12 as it was felt it was repetitive. This became the who of 2.12

Healthier and Happier

No.	Amendments
3.1	No specific feedback given

(originally 3.2) [To work with community partners (NSC, Police, street wardens) to create a safe environment for local residents] removed due to repetition with item 1.6

3.2	No specific feedback given
3.3	Questions around whether this is effective currently
3.4	As with 1.5 and 1.18 above, it was felt specific reference to YMCA should be removed and make it more about service provision. Change to youth project delivery partners.

(originally 3.6) [Follow and regularly review an appropriate Health and Safety Policy that complies with the relevant legislation for the Town Council] was removed and added to appendix 1.

To: Town Council Meeting

3.5	Suggestion to provide an outline of funding sources for projects to include government grants, public/private funding and local revenue.
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(originally 3.8) [Provide provision of Allotments as community facilities] was removed and added to appendix 1.

3.6	Felt that this section could be explained to include smaller parks too. Also suggested making reference to devolution.
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3.7	Suggested making reference to devolution.
-----	---

(originally 3.11) [The Town Council will work to the letter and in the spirit of equality and health and safety legislation and continue to develop our commitments towards 'Disability Confident'] was removed and added to appendix 1.

(originally 3.12) [The Town Council will strive to ensure good year-on-year practices in health and safety; equality and diversity; wellbeing; inclusivity and safeguarding initiatives in all our departments] was removed and added to appendix 1.

3.8	It was felt that this should reference inclusion more generally, either without reference to race, or by including all the protected characteristics. Reference City of Sanctuary.
-----	--

3.9	Feedback suggested more activities in Ellenborough Park West, social prescribing, supporting access to health and wellbeing services, prevention work. Also wanted recognition of the fact that an officer is already in place.
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(originally 3.15) [To adhere to the Civility and Respect Pledge as adopted by the Council] was removed and added to appendix 1.

A Bright Future

No.	Amendments
4.1	Repetition in the ambition wording, reworded. Make more 'SMART'

(originally 4.2) [To provide a voice for the local business community to North Somerset Council Place Agency] removed and amalgamated with 4.1.

4.2	No specific feedback given
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4.3	Felt to be very important but caution should be taken to ensure it is done practically.
-----	---

(originally 4.5) [The Town Council will keep all Town Council services under review to ensure economy, efficiency and effectiveness] was removed and added to appendix 1.

4.4	It was felt this was too vague, with not enough specific information on how this would be achieved.
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(originally 4.7) [Deliver services to the highest quality in terms of efficiency, effectiveness and value for money. Adopt a Social Value Policy. Assess on a consistent basis the Social Value of WTC services and facilities.] was removed and added to appendix 1.

To: Town Council Meeting

(originally 4.8) [Fit for purpose Standing Orders and Financial Regulations] was removed and added to appendix 1.

(originally 4.9) [Ensure its staffing structure is fit to meet business needs] was removed and added to appendix 1.

(originally 4.10) [Seek, subject to agreed budgets, to maximize income derived from all sources] was removed and added to appendix 1.

(originally 4.11) [To comply with legislation to ensure healthy financial records] was removed and added to appendix 1.

(originally 4.11.5) [To follow the adopted Medium-Term Financial Plan, in line with the Your Town Your Voice Survey, to ensure governance, community engagement and sound financial decision making] was removed and added to appendix 1.

(originally 4.12) [Ensure adequate level of insurance provision for Town Council operations and assets] was removed and added to appendix 1.

(originally 4.13) [The Town Council will only put in place facilities and premises which it can afford to maintain] was removed and added to appendix 1.

(originally 4.14) [To support the local economy with the use locally based contractors and partners. Social Value of contracts (e.g. local employment) included in review of procurement policies] was removed and added to appendix 1.

4.5	It was felt this was too vague, with not enough specific information on how this would be achieved.
-----	---

(originally 4.15.5) [Enable small committees and working parties meeting on a remote basis permanently Consider more remote meetings in winter months] was removed as it was felt this was a Covid ambition.

(originally 4.16) [Support development of broadband connection by Fibre across the whole of Weston super Mare] was removed as it was felt that this was not the Town Council's responsibility.

(originally 4.17) [Support development of Autonomous Vehicles on the sea front and beyond] was removed as it was not felt a strategic aim of Town Council service delivery.

4.6	Felt to be important but no evidence of whether this was being followed.
-----	--

(originally 4.19) [To be a Real Living Wage Employer, and to ask the same of the contractors and services we procure] was removed and added to appendix 1.

4.7	Felt that specific reference should be made to business growth within the town, and distinction as to whether this would be TC run or enabled.
-----	--

Heritage, Arts and Culture

No.	Amendments
5.1	Feedback was to separate the buildings from the service delivered

BRIEFING NOTE:

Item 9

To: Town Council Meeting

5.2	Felt that this ambition should be review in line with the Blakehay Business Review.
5.3	Not felt wedding function is a strategic aim, but needs to be promoted. Did not like the wording around tourist attraction.
5.4	No specific feedback given

(originally 5.5) [To host and organise a Weston 'community focus' festival] removed and amalgamated with one below due to repetition

5.5	It was felt this was too vague, with not enough specific information on how this would be achieved.
5.6	Mixed opinions as to this ambition. Felt that this is not an ambition. Also, would like to ask people how important this is.
5.7	Felt this was losing popularity.
5.8	Needs to be run to a high quality
5.9	No specific feedback given.

(originally 5.12) [Support North Somerset Council's Heritage Action Zone] removed as this project is completed.



Weston-super-Mare Town Council
Town Council Strategy
April 2020 – March 2030
(Reviewed and Updated March 2025)

CONTENTS:

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As we reflect on the past four years of progress, we are proud of the strides we have made in engaging with our local communities. We have ensured that the voices of the residents remain central to shaping the town's future. Our commitment to listening and responding to the diverse needs of our community has been evident through the various channels we've used to connect with people, from social media to more traditional methods.

This Strategy builds upon the foundations we've established and strengthens our vision for the town's future. It serves as both a roadmap for the years ahead and a live document that will evolve with the community's needs and aspirations. Whilst we acknowledge that not every objective can be achieved within a short time frame and that certain external factors are beyond our control, we remain steadfast in our clear intentions and direct efforts to influence key decisions and take action where possible to improve the quality of life in Weston.

Five years into this journey, Weston-super-Mare Town Council is more committed than ever to improving our town and fostering a sense of pride and belonging for all who live, work, and visit here. Our ambitious plans recognise that Weston's future identity will be shaped by its rich cultural, heritage, arts, and tourism services, and the role of the Town Council will remain pivotal in defining and promoting that identity.

In the face of challenges such as shifting retail landscapes, environmental concerns, social disparities, and ongoing expansion, we are focused on improving Weston-super-Mare as a dynamic destination for not only shopping but also leisure, events, work, and living. Our efforts are focused on creating a cleaner, greener, safer, and more vibrant town—one where everyone can enjoy a high quality of life and feel a sense of pride.

We continue to recognise and celebrate Weston-super-Mare's Victorian seaside history while also embracing innovation and forward-thinking solutions. We remain committed to forging constructive partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders to ensure the delivery of our vision whilst keeping Weston's interests at the heart of all we do.

As we enter the second half of this 10-year plan, we are more determined than ever to be a relevant and responsible Town Council, equipped with the flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances and seize new opportunities. This Strategy is both a guide for the next phase of our work and a tool to ensure we continue to meet the evolving needs of our community. We will review this document annually, with a full evaluation set for 2029, ensuring that we remain on track to realise our ambitions for Weston-super-Mare.

Abbreviations:

WSMTC – Weston-super-Mare Town Council

NSC – North Somerset Council

BID – Business Improvement District

SLA – Service Level Agreement

CANS – Citizens Advice North Somerset

CIL – Community Infrastructure Levy

Mission

Working with the people of our town celebrating traditions and making Weston-super-Mare a great place to live, work, visit and enjoy.

Vision

'Ever Forward' we will ensure our town becomes a more vibrant, prosperous, cleaner, greener, safer and inclusive place for everyone to enjoy.

CORE VALUES

The Council believes it is important to establish a core set of organisation values that determine the way we operate and conduct business. These three values are:

To conduct its business with integrity, impartiality, and transparency in the spirit of the Freedom of Information Act.

Be a listening and caring Council that treats all views with courtesy and respect.

To have a positive 'can do attitude in which we believe in the people, businesses and communities of Weston and strive to support them to

Ambitions involve the Town Council being actively engaged to find solutions which best meet local needs and priorities with regard to any significant choices needing to be made affecting the town's future.

We will work with the local community and partners to ensure that the Town becomes a more vibrant, better served, more prosperous place in which to live, work and enjoy life. We will encourage public participation and make known the availability of a public speaking session prior to all Town Council and committee meetings.

The Council will at all times recognise its responsibilities surrounding governance and good financial practice. It will comply with the Code of Conduct and the Nolan Principles in public life and work to an appropriate complaint's procedure for use by the public in regards to the Town Council it's staff and councillors.

Human Resources - 2025-2030 HRM Function

The Council will act as a good employer to all Town Council employees, who are entitled to:

- Equal Opportunities.
- A Contract of Employment, Job Description and Person Specification each subject to terms and conditions as determined by current employment legislation.
- Training and development within staff development plans to meet business requirements.
- Recognition in respect of staff pay and grades under the Local Government terms and conditions.
- Issue of Employee Handbooks clearly setting out terms and conditions of employment and maintaining effective grievance and disciplinary procedures.
- Real Living Wage
- Encouragement to join a Trade Union

Town Council staff provide 'value-added' in the provision of effective and efficient service provisions. The areas this is achieved and measured are:

- 1) Reducing absence
- 2) Good recruitment decisions
- 3) Raising performance levels

We continue to invest in our workforce via training and development, effective leadership and management and the promotion of consistent 'Management Standards'.

The Council's main funding comes via its precept - this is a levy made and collected via the council tax charge payable by Weston-super-Mare residents. Other income is sourced through service provision and external grants.

The 2025/2026 expenditure budget is £5,153,627 of which £4,450,668 will be collected via the precept. This equates to £163.98 per year on an average, Band D, household.

Within this overall budget, the council has allocated resources to fund projects identified within the strategic plan for this year. Within its financial management, the council will maintain adequate levels of general reserves in line with its financial regulations and will, where appropriate, maintain a scheme of earmarked reserves which can be used as required to help fund the key strategies and any future major projects identified in this plan.

The Town Council is supported by an officer structure with a core of staff employed within each service area to deliver the Council's services and policies and ensure decisions are made appropriately. The Council is also committed to using volunteers who work with employed staff to meet objectives and ensure community cohesion.

The structure is headed by a Chief Executive Officer / Town Clerk. The officer structure is reviewed annually to ensure that it is able to deliver the broad spectrum of planned activities.

We recognise that the core staff number remains relatively small and this will be supplemented as necessary by procuring expertise or services externally in order to ensure there is the capacity to deliver, whilst remaining flexible. The Council is committed to the development of an efficient and innovative operating model in order to achieve its strategic objectives.

The Town Council will adhere to good governance best practice via its adopted and published policies and procedures.

The Town Council will act in the best interests of local people in making representations to:

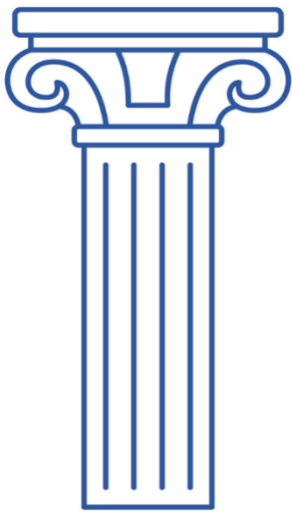
- North Somerset Council.
- Outside Agencies.
- Central Government.
- Other appropriate private or public sector groups.

The Town Council will operate to the letter and in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 in the exercise of all its functions.

The Council has devised 'five pillars' or themes that will be referred to later in this document. These 'pillars' will form the basis of its strategic aims. This is the Town Council's statement of what it aims to achieve over the course of the strategic plan. Achievements in the years 2020-2024 have been reflected upon, against these pillars, in the 'Successes and Milestones' section of the document. Whilst not exclusive, the projects included have been agreed in principle as areas to support and resource. All projects will be kept under review and may be amended or added to as circumstances change within the duration of the plan.

The Council has identified its priorities based on five pillars or themes comprising of the following:

Weston View
Measures to promote and better present the Town.



Cleaner and Greener
Measures to improve the local environment.



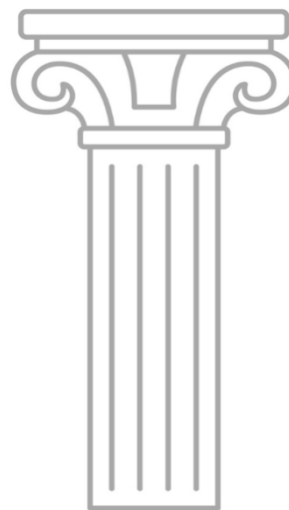
Healthier and Happier
Measures to promote the health and wellbeing of local residents.



A Bright Future
Measures to support and enhance the local economy.

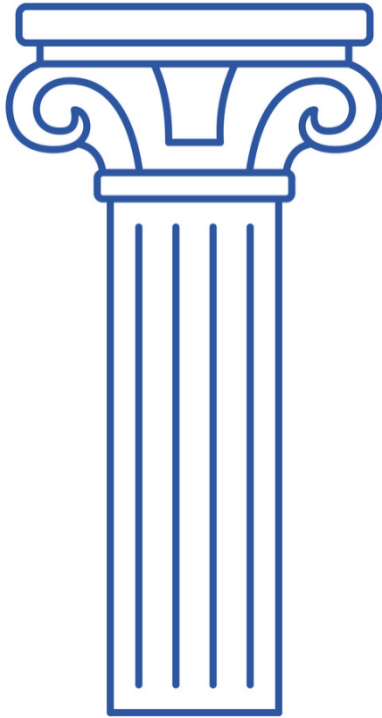


Heritage, Arts and Culture
Measures to ensure that Weston-super-Mare thrives as a vibrant place for arts and culture



Weston View

Measures to promote and better present the Town.



Our Aim

To work with local community and partners to ensure that the town of Weston-super-Mare has a positive image, with a vibrant town centre.

Ambition / Objective 1.1 – Improve the image of and pride within the town and make it attractive for visitors and businesses.

We will aim to:

- Ensure Weston-super-Mare has a positive image and identity, both locally and nationally.
- Implement successful measures to enhance the town experience for residents and visitors: adding colour to the town, markets, community events programme.
- Collaborate effectively with strategic partners (NSC, BID) to improve town cleanliness by combining resources and programming works, building the service to be more visible and responsive with working patterns to reflect the town's needs.
- Maintain a persistent expectation for high standards in the public realm even in the face of persistent anti social behaviour, engaging businesses and residents in improvements.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Civic consultation

Ambition / Objective 1.2 - Continue to develop and improve the content of the Town Council's websites and social media, including development of alternative websites.

We will aim to:

- Continue to increase participation and build engaged and active communities.
- Enable truly meaningful engagement by improving the flow of information, both digital and otherwise, to and from the Town Council.
- Review current websites operated within the town, with the intention of avoiding duplication, to provide a one-stop 'Weston' information platform to promote local economy, local living, and town promotion.

Timescale: 0-6 years

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Finance and General Purpose, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Civic consultation

Ambition / Objective 1.3 - To encourage local shopping parades to become vibrant, well used areas across the town.

We will aim to:

- Support projects of placemaking working with partners to deliver outcomes with regard to high street regeneration.
- Proactively support enterprises and businesses to create jobs for local people, encouraging expansion and the creation of new opportunities.

- Proactively work with partner organisations (i.e. BID) to improve and promote local parades.
- Promote that empty shops be used for 'community use' productively, to encourage a higher footfall in the town.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 1.4 - To encourage community initiatives to use the town centre to create events, festivals, fetes, pop-up shops, etc.

We will aim to:

- Provide events which meet the needs and ambitions of residents as well as promoting the town nationally.
- Promote, map and encourage community events through collaborative efforts.
- Support the community through building capacity for fund raising and sustainability, including using larger events to engage groups and deliverers.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Grants and Governance Sub Committee

Ambition / Objective 1.5 - Supporting homelessness initiatives

We will aim to:

- Work with Somewhere to Go via a revised and updated Service Level Agreement (SLA) to enable provision to support vulnerable communities (homeless/street) within the Town.
- Work in partnership with YMCA outreach service, community response, CANS and North Somerset Council on shared initiatives.

Timescale: 0-5 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 1.6 - To actively support anti-crime and disorder campaigns within the town, in liaison with the police and North Somerset Council and CCTV services

We will aim to:

- Continue funding dedicated community response officers for Weston-super-Mare.
- Interact regularly with police inspectors who will report to the Town Council.

- Continue funding CCTV provisions across the town, including identification of new cameras.
- Work with the police, street wardens, community response teams to retain a high presence within the town so that antisocial behaviour is dealt with and people feel safe (Crime and Disorder Act s.17).

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council, Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 1.7 - Implement a Communication Strategy

We will aim to:

- Produce an effective internal and external communications strategy to include: a framework for creating opportunities to raise awareness of, and encourage community participation in, the work of the Town Council.
- Seek to identify and deliver opportunities to be directly responsive to community needs and aims through consultation and active listening – delivering a ‘you said, we did’ approach.
- Develop better tools for listening with residents, community groups and strategic partners, i.e. introduction of interactive CMS platforms.
- Share what we learn with other towns and parishes, ensuring Weston-super-Mare stays on the map.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Finance and general purposes.

Ambition / Objective 1.8 - Implement a Marketing Strategy

We will aim to:

- Ensure the council brand is consistently linked to services.
- Make best use of social media for the benefit of residents.
- Manage the media effectively to promote Weston-super-Mare and the Council.
- Publish a regular communication leaflet four times per year for residents.
- Make the best use of council noticeboards.
- Be transparent, open and accessible with good communication at the heart of everything that we do.
- Ensure the capacity for open information sharing is maintained.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Finance and general purposes, Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 1.9 - Provide, fund and support cultural events in the community in collaboration with partners.

We will aim to:

- Hold/enable successful events in the old Town Quarry, ensuring they are well-attended with positive feedback and critical acclaim each year.
- Hold/enable successful joint events in the Italian Gardens bringing, footfall into the town and elsewhere, enabled with Town Council financial support.
- Deliver an annual programme of events designed to promote footfall for the town centre.
- Support events which meet the needs and ambitions of the residents as well as supporting the town nationally.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Blakehay Theatre, Weston Museum, Old Town Quarry

Ambition / Objective 1.10 - Produce a Central Event Listing across departments and organisations in collaboration with partners.

We will aim to:

- Attract large numbers of people and support the art and business economy of the town.
- Maintain a robust events marketing campaign via the visit Weston website.
- Utilise digital resources in the town centre (Silica) to promote events across the town.
- Utilise noticeboards along the sea front and Town.

Timescale: 0-10 Years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Visit Weston

Ambition / Objective 1.11 - Provide Christmas lights with Christmas light switch-on event

We will aim to:

- Continue funding Christmas Lights displays.
- Develop a Christmas programme of activities, shopping opportunities and Town dressing, working with businesses and NSC, Sovereign, BID to promote the town.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Civic

Ambition / Objective 1.12 - Provision of a Visitor information Centre, dedicated website and signage for tourists and residents.

We will aim to:

- Provide physical and digital visitor information services across multiple sites and platforms to include: The Waterpark, 32 Waterloo Street, roaming welcomers and our websites and social media.
- Support the provision of additional visitor infrastructure e.g. hotels and accommodation for short stays.
- Proactively support and work with key visitor attractions in the town to build and understand their capacity, relevance and offering.
- In all actions, seek to create and engender a welcoming sense for the town.

Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: VIC, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Visit Weston

Ambition / Objective 1.13 - Encourage people living and working in Weston to participate and to engage in decision making.

We will aim to:

- Encourage everyone to get involved. Participation and engagement are key. We will always look at new ways to listen to residents and businesses to bring forward voices that are not usually heard.
- Engage with and support the wide variety of community organisations in the town which help us deliver our aims.
- Build relationships and trust, advocating for town projects.

Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Communications and Marketing, Finance and General Purposes

Ambition / Objective 1.14 - Enable provision and maintenance of street furniture

We will aim to:

- Provide and maintain street furniture where needed e.g. bins, bus shelters, benches etc.
- Proactively identify gaps in provisions needed to fulfil needs within the community.

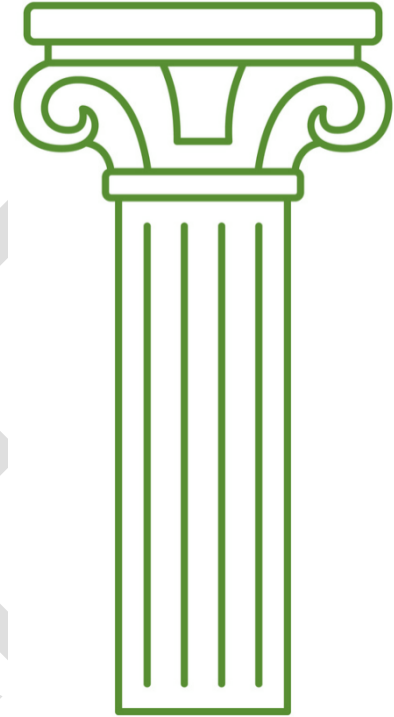
Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Grounds, Amenities Culture and Leisure



Cleaner and Greener

Measures to improve the local environment.



Our Aim

To work with local community and partners to ensure that the town and its wards become a cleaner and greener place to live and work protecting and enhancing the environment.

Ambition / Objective 2.1 - The Town Council aims to be carbon neutral by 2030

We will aim to:

- Understand our current carbon footprint at 2020. Areas covered: Buildings, operations, activities, vehicles (Both Town Council and Staff).
- Work with the community, NSC and others to deliver the Green Infrastructure Strategy.
- Ensure sustainability is embedded in all that the Council undertakes, strengthening the town's resilience with respect to the impacts of anticipated climate change.
- Review the commissioned roadmap to zero survey and subsequent report, with effort made to achieve all identified ambitions, with exploration of where further changes could be practically made.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council, Planning and Environment

Ambition / Objective 2.2 - Reduce waste and consider disposal options to include composting, recycling and reusing across all Town Council services.

We will aim to:

- Reduce waste through sharing, repairing and recycling, and ensure the most environmental disposal of generated waste is consistently reviewed and monitored.
- Make Town Council operations as sustainable as possible, with particular consideration of single use plastic.
- Support more businesses to work towards being plastic free and promoting other community and council activities to encourage reduction of resource use.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 2.3 - Supporting 'Cleaner coastlines' for Weston's plastic free ambitions.

We will aim to:

- Build a community sense of pride and ownership, including encouraging "cleaner coastlines" and other groups, supporting community action in shared spaces.
- Actively support with publicity of beach cleans and other events.
- Eliminate single use plastic in all Town Council facilities.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 2.4 - To promote biodiversity. To create a 'rewilding' programme in cohesion with North Somerset Council in appropriate areas.

We will aim to:

- Work with partners to secure the enhancement of green spaces so residents have access to a diverse range of green spaces for play, amenity, wildlife, relaxation and socialising.
- Ensure rewilding efforts will be considered and well communicated.
- Endeavour to establish rewilded areas of natural beauty, where appropriate across our asset base.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grounds, Amenities Culture and Leisure.

Ambition / Objective 2.5 - To maintain current and increase current tree stocks to offset carbon. In addition to look for more opportunities to plant trees in our area.

We will aim to:

- Maintain a robust tree management plan for all Council owned land, to include that when a tree is felled, a replacement is planted, to ensure we maintain established trees on council land.
- Explore opportunities to improve land use for a wide range of environmental benefits. Where carbon sequestration via an ambitious tree planting programme is insufficient, we will connect with other organisations and businesses to work collectively to reduce the town's carbon footprint.
- Continue to work with partners to deliver improvements to the town's biodiversity.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grounds, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Planning and Environment

Ambition / Objective 2.6 - To provide community support to ensure the up-keep of community areas i.e. paths, cycleway and verges in conjunction with North Somerset council. Identifying needs through ward members and working with community groups.

We will aim to:

- Work with strategic partners to ensure a robust programme is in place, with regard to clean open spaces and safe environments for community use, with feedback from general public.

- Explore opportunities to take on more green spaces and more public places, and provide the support necessary to ensure upkeep, whilst ensuring public spaces remain at a high standard.
- Strengthen partnerships with community groups and seek opportunities for community growing.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Planning and Environment

Ambition / Objective 2.7 - To provide Town Council Staff / members opportunity to engage in 'ride to work' and bike purchase schemes.

We will aim to:

- Promote the scheme annually to all staff with the aim of demonstrated decrease in unnecessary car journeys.
- Make the town council's electric bikes available for use during business hours.
- Take steps to make cycling more attractive to staff, by reviewing infrastructure across all assets to facilitate use e.g. bike racks, secure places.

Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 2.8 - to support local food initiatives in order to reduce food waste, including the support of the Community Fridge and Food Clubs projects.

We will aim to:

- Continue the implementation and enablement a community fridge facility to reduce carbon waste.
- Support and promotion of food club initiatives across the town, including the development of a food charter for projects in the Weston-super-Mare area.
- Access grant funding for distribution to community initiatives.

Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Town Council, Planning and Environment

Ambition / Objective 2.9 - To improve the provision of Dog waste bins and service to the community.

We will aim to:

- Create a map of the locations of all 'waste bins' for the Town Council website to encourage responsible disposal of dog waste, identifying all bins (NSC, WSMTC and other) with the aim of streamlining this service across the town.
- Review of the location of the dog waste bins and place or remove them where needed.
- Review all dog bin locations and where alternative disposal is available e.g. general waste bins.

Timescale: 0-7 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Grounds

Ambition / Objective 2.10 - To reduce energy and fuel consumption across all council activities and services. To change to 100% renewable energy (i.e. solar panels, electric vans and energy providers).

We will aim to:

- Work to reduce energy demand by supporting better energy management and installation of insulation and other energy efficiency measures across our assets.
- Introduce Solar panels across the town council assets over the duration of the strategic plan.
- Change to green vehicles for operational teams, including use of electric bikes.
- Ensure adequate staff resources are available to monitor and oversee roadmap to zero aspirations.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Finance/Procurement

Ambition / Objective 2.11 - The Town Council will continue to maintain and improve its open spaces, to include Milton Road Cemetery and Parks and Play Areas as community facilities.

We will aim to:

- Manage and look after our spaces to the high standards set and expected by the council, whilst fully acknowledging climate emergency criteria in doing so.
- Continue to plan how we create and manage open spaces in Weston-super-Mare, focusing on the people that visit and enjoy them but equally balancing the need to conserve their landscape value and their biodiversity.
- Make demonstrable improvements to support biodiversity, rewilding, reduce waste generation (composting).
- Ensure that the operational grounds team is visible and approachable as the public face of the council in parks, play areas and open spaces.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grounds, Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 2.12 - Weston in Bloom and flower bed provision. Provide floral displays for spring / to decorate centres.

We will aim to:

- Assign areas based on resources available for both volunteers and community partners, town council supported or other organisations.
- Support and work with Weston in Bloom volunteers and partner organisations on floral displays and upkeep.
- Proactively lead and support projects and initiatives that seek to improve the street scene, alley way environments, planters and flowerbeds.

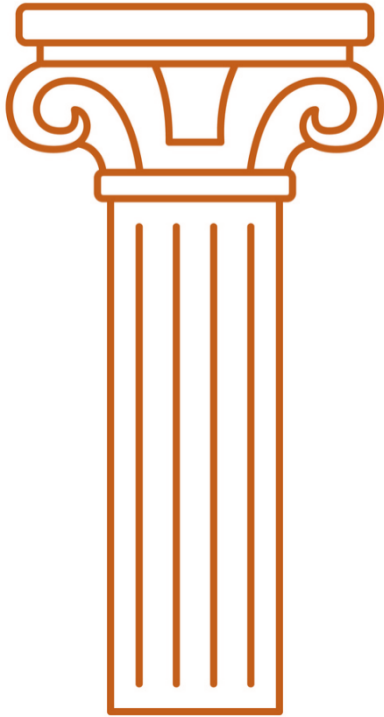
Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grounds, Amenities Culture and Leisure, Weston in Bloom

DRAFT

Healthier and Happier

Measures to promote the health and wellbeing of local residents.



Our Aim

To work with local community and partners to ensure that the town of Weston-super-Mare and its wards prioritise its residents' health and wellbeing.

Ambition / Objective - 3.1 Develop and maintain Community Support and Resilience working with community volunteer groups to enhance the town. Identify opportunities for greater use of community groups to operate services and facilities.

We will aim to:

- Support activity which strengthens social connections, fosters intergenerational networks and creates a sense of belonging.
- Work within agreed Community Engagement/ Resilience Outcomes Framework to identify priorities, and Community Resilience Team and voluntary group efforts.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective - 3.2 To find sustainable solutions to secure the future of some key community assets such as - Drop in cafes, dementia activities, SEN sessions, volunteering, Mayors charity ETC.

We will aim to:

- Understand the demand for services in Weston and work to prevent the loss of essential community assets and services.
- Continue creating inclusive events via our assets, welcoming a diverse range of community members, including marginalised demographics.
- Help reduce loneliness by providing access for community groups to gather in our venues.
- Liaise with specialist groups and explore opportunities to address elderly loneliness, promoting intergenerational activities.
- Help promote diversity and equality.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Finance and General Purposes

Ambition / Objective - 3.3 The Town Council will maintain, support and encourage a Youth Council to enable and encourage young people to take part in the democratic governance of the town.

We will aim to:

- Encourage greater participation from young people in Weston, particularly in promoting activities and generating beneficial ideas.
- Provide an annual youth grant budget, overseen directly by the Youth Council.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Finance and General Purposes, Town Council

Ambition / Objective - 3.4 The Town Council will work in partnership with the youth project delivery partners to support the provision of necessary youth services in the town.

We will aim to:

- Continue collaborating via SLAs with appropriate organisations who work to understand the needs and wants of young people, ensuring they have access to a range of appropriate leisure and social activities outside of education.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grants and Governance Sub Committee, Town Council

Ambition / Objective - 3.5 To support local voluntary organisations where deemed appropriate via the grant system.

We will aim to:

- Continue to support organisations through the use of grants and SLAs to promote the health and well-being of residents.
- Ensure grant application forms remain available throughout the year with decisions normally made at the appropriate Grants and Governance Sub Committee meetings.
- Increase public awareness of the grant availability.
- Consider SLAs for appropriate organisations to provide necessary financial support for services that benefit the town.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Grants and Governance Sub Committee

Ambition / Objective - 3.6 Provision of parks and play areas as a community facility. To maintain and develop the Water Park to meet the needs of both local residents and visitors. Celebrate and enhance Grove Park as showpiece town centre park. Explore taking on Weston and Worle's main parks including Ellenborough, Clarence, Ashcombe and Castle Batch parks.

We will aim to:

- Continue to explore opportunities to take on more green spaces and more public places for the health and wellbeing benefit to the town and its residents.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective - 3.7 Provision of public toilets to meet need. Review and improve provision of public toilets to meet need Develop Community Toilet Scheme.

We will aim to:

- Ensure the toilets are kept in good working order, through our devolved management and maintenance contract.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective - 3.8 The Town Council will continue to support the entire community of Weston-super-Mare, and establish further initiatives to ensure Weston-super-Mare is actively inclusive.

We will aim to:

- Create an environment in which people can thrive. We will work to build a cohesive community that brings people of different generations and backgrounds together.
- Celebrate the diversity of our communities of place, origin, interest or age and proactively engage with them, ensuring they are consulted and represented.
- Ensure our Equality and Diversity Policy remains robust and up to date, producing any necessary plans to address matters identified by these reviews and consultations.
- Deliver any necessary equality and diversity training which will be mandatory for staff and expected for all councillors.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective - 3.9 Development and Wellbeing initiatives via the Town Council to work with the local community on wellbeing initiatives.

We will aim to:

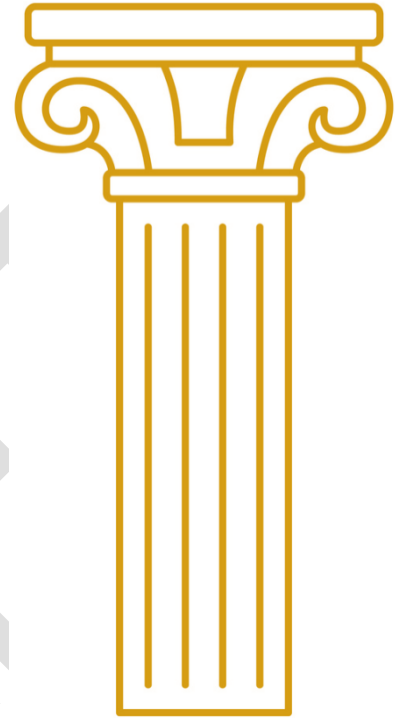
- Ensure that community organisations which serve Weston-super-Mare are well supported, connected and able to continue delivering for the town.
- Help bring groups together to share skills and resources.
- Help establish new community organisations to deliver services for the community and provide the necessary support and guidance to help get a group off the ground, where a need is identified.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council



A Bright Future
Measures to support
and enhance the local
economy.



Our Aim

To work with its own resources and with the local community and partners to ensure that the town of Weston-super-Mare and its wards has a bright long-term future for its local economy

Ambition / Objective 4.1 - Work with business in the town to provide a voice, with regard to the economic development of Weston-super-Mare through the Place Agency to support business and the town economy.

We will aim to:

- Improve Weston for its residents, for those who visit the town, those who draw visitors to the town and the businesses on which we all depend.
- Work in partnership with strategic organisations to encourage initiatives which aim to create footfall and entice new people into the town centre. Supporting the town centre means we need to encourage as many people as possible to shop local and support local businesses.
- Work with strategic partners and local businesses to promote the sharing of expertise, knowledge and resource to enable the town centre as a whole to compete. Independent businesses are facing increased competition from major brands, out of town shopping areas and the internet.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Finance and General Purposes, Town Council

Ambition / Objective 4.2 - To support any improvement to the visual impact of the access routes into town.

We will continue to:

- Be a consultee to North Somerset Council strategic planning.

Timescale: ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Planning and Environment

Ambition / Objective 4.3 - Consult with local people regarding the provision of Town Council services and facilities.

We will aim to:

- Work to maximise the benefit of our buildings to the local community whilst also minimising operational costs and maximising income.
- Ensure that, as the first tier of local government, we are seen as leaders within our community. We will always aim to keep a finger on the pulse of the town and understand the issues that affect our community.
- Ensure, through being led by democratically elected councillors, that we are well positioned to be the voice of the community outside the town, representing Weston-super-Mare with regional and national bodies as is needed.
- Recognise that working in partnership with others means we can both deliver more for our town and also take advantage of the incredible skills and passion within the community. This will also provide opportunity for us to learn from others and for

others to learn from us, helping develop the next community leaders and a more empowered community.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council, Finance and General Purposes

Ambition / Objective 4.4 - To support the sustained growth of tourism business to Weston-super-Mare.

We will aim to:

- Continue to find new ways to get more people visiting Weston-super-Mare. Weston-super-Mare benefits from being a town that people want to visit for its character, heritage and independent businesses.
- Increase number of business partners to support the Visit Weston brand.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 4.5 - Identify opportunities from new technology for more efficient working for staff and councillors.

We will aim to:

- Proactively identify gaps in technology to enable efficient and effective working practices.
- Continually work to understand the needs of staff and councillors across our services to ensure they have access to the appropriate technology within the resources available to do so.

Timescale: Ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Finance and General Purposes

Ambition / Objective 4.6 - Promote Fairtrade business practices in the town.

We will aim to:

- Uphold the commitment of the Fairtrade Town Certification within our service delivery. The Town achieved Fairtrade Town Certification from the Fairtrade Foundation March 2021.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 4.7 - To support the community through deployment of Community Infrastructure Levy funds to help improve facilities within the parish of Weston-super-Mare.

We will aim to:

- Identify, via the CIL policy, applicable community projects to determine use as appropriate. The Town Council expects to receive minimal amounts of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) from major housing developments.

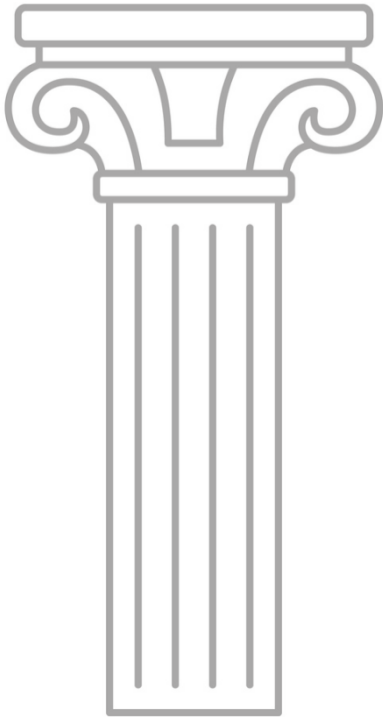
Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

DRAFT

Heritage, Arts and Culture

Measures to ensure that Weston super Mare thrives as a vibrant place for arts and culture



Our Aim

To work with local community and partners to ensure that the town of Weston-super-Mare has growing opportunity for Culture, Heritage and the Arts.

Ambition / Objective 5.1 - The Town Council will continue to support and encourage the provision of facilities for arts and culture in the town.

We will aim to:

- Continue to work with venues, both our own and other well-loved facilities throughout the town, and with other organisations to explore new opportunities and collaborations which may arise to support the cultural life of Weston.
- Attract interest in the town from the wider world, via culture and arts. This will enable us to share valued experiences whilst also attracting investment and spending.
- Continually improve the image of and pride in the town's culture, making it attractive for residents, visitors and investors alike.
- Regularly review our arts and cultural direct services to ensure efficiency, effectiveness and value for money are achieved.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities, Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 5.2 - The Blakehay Theatre **to remain an important destination for cultural development and dramatic arts in the town, providing modern facilities for the performing and visual arts and community activities.**

We will aim to:

- Develop and review the management and marketing of the Blakehay Theatre so that it becomes a recognised venue for regular drama, comedy, musical and other productions of performing arts.
- Create and develop a sustainable business model, seeking to serve all parts of the community in a representative way including access to a diverse offer of theatre entertainment.
- Recognise and promote local and national creative talent.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Finance and General Purposes.

Ambition / Objective - 5.3 Weston Museum (as a result of heritage lottery funding) will be maintained as a diverse community resource whilst maintaining its Museum focus and access to heritage and learning.

We will aim to:

- Deliver a regionally significant museum within the Town to showcase its heritage, which is also a destination for visitors.

- Aspire to be the best tourist attraction in the Town centre, whilst developing itself as an arts and cultural destination for the benefit of both the local community and visitors to the town.
- Maximise income generation opportunities (e.g. Wedding Function) to support and ensure the heritage asset remains sustainable for the future.
- Create a sustainable calendar of events, seeking to serve all parts of the community in a representative way, including free to access activities as well as larger events, using management data to inform delivery and development.
- Take the lead to empower a volunteering culture within the Museum (and across the council services) by promoting benefits and opportunities.
- Redevelop Clara's Cottage, securing grant funding to support this (Phase 2).
- Redevelop remaining spaces within the Museum (Phase 3).

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities, Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 5.4 - Promote and celebrate sites of local historical interest.

We will aim to:

- Enact a Blue Plaque scheme for buildings within Weston-super-Mare, following the completion of personal Blue Plaques.
- Continue to make heritage a central, visible theme within service delivery where appropriate, including events and regeneration, recognising that the Town Council is in a position to safeguard the town's heritage on behalf of its residents and as such can demonstrate community leadership without seeking to control it.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities, Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 5.5 - To strengthen social cohesion through running and supporting activities, events, festivals, youth initiatives and clubs alongside managing Town Council facilities and shared spaces for the community.

We will aim to:

- Identify needs working with community partners in the delivery of festival/events which are of value to the community.
- Recognise the role that events play in the fabric of the town and seek to strengthen and support them through good communication and engagement.
- Provide the support and culture for community groups and individuals to develop, deliver and build events in the town that serve the community, including links to education.

- Ensure any event programme directly delivered aims to bring the wider community together, and support other events which aim to do the same through our community events grant scheme.

Timescale: ongoing

Council Committee/Department: Amenities, Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 5.6 - To maintain the civic traditions of the town's Mayoralty.

We will aim to:

- Lead a strong, connected community with a thriving community spirit and civic pride through the Election of a Mayor annually and a robust programme of engagements within the town. Recognition of the Mayor as the town's ceremonial head.
- Support and champion causes that enhance the resilience of the town. We see the role of the Mayor as to support and enhance the energy and commitment of its citizens. We will enable others to be successful.
- Ensure that any improvements add to the sense of place and identity for Weston, building civic pride – telling the story of Weston.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Civic Consultative Group, Finance and General Purposes, Town Council

Ambition / Objective 5.7 - To maintain and assist community organisations with the town twinning with Hildesheim, keeping twinning arrangements under review.

We will aim to:

- Develop a 3-year strategic plan in collaboration with Hildesheim, to identify shared interests and opportunities.
- Work with Hildesheim and utilise the opportunities offered by them to involve our own local residents, particularly young people in the town, in educational and business activities.

Timescale: 0-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Town Council

Ambition / Objective 5.8 - Take over and operate Town Quarry in conjunction with local arts community.

We will aim to:

- Develop the Old Town Quarry Site to ensure a sustainable community space which celebrates and recognises the site's heritage and previous use.
- Create a vibrant hub for local artists.
- Safeguard the habitats of the local ecology, and create a maintenance and management programme for the site upkeep.
- Create an events programme to start Summer 2025.

Timescale: 5-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities, Culture and Leisure

Ambition / Objective 5.9 - Work with North Somerset Council to safeguard and interpret Worlebury Hillfort.

We will aim to:

- Provide detailed interpretation of the Hillfort, in collaboration with the Old Town Quarry regeneration.
- Create a visitor information centre at the Old Town Quarry to provide visual access to this hard to reach heritage site for all.

Timescale: 5-10 years

Council Committee/Department: Amenities Culture and Leisure, Finance and General Purposes

Weston View

March 2020

September 2020 – employment of dedicated community response officer.

November 2020 – Pledged to be an Anti-Racist Council.

December 2020 – decision to take the waterpark admissions operation in house.

December 2021 – New contract for creation of a Tourism website.

January 2022 – Continuation of funding support for 'Somewhere to Go' - £50,000.

March 2022 – agreed to work in partnership with Culture Weston for the delivery of the annual literary festival.

May 2022 – £2,000 awarded to Steepholmers Shanty Band for their annual Sea Shanty Festival.

July 2022 - SEE Monster arrived with collaboration with the tourism team with creation of a Tourism DVD.

January 2023 - £20,000 awarded to Weston Wallz street art project.

June 2023 – New partnership packages were created for tourism partners.

June 2023 – £2,000 awarded to Steepholmers Shanty Band for their annual Sea Shanty Festival.

November 2023 – £10,000 awarded to support Knife Angel programme of events in May 2024.

July 2024 – £3,000 awarded to Steepholmers Shanty Band for their annual Sea Shanty Festival.

November 2020 – £20,000 grant funding awarded to Culture Weston to support first Glow lights Event February 2021.

December 2020 – £25,000 given through SLA to support 'Somewhere to Go' charity as a homeless support fund.

May 2021 – £6,000 awarded to the BME Network and £1,000 to North Somerset Arts for events.

January 2022 – Secured 'Welcome Back' Funding. £40,000 for the improvement of street furniture.

February 2022 – Approval of application and criteria for £60,000 community events grant funding.

March 2022 – Community Events Budget allocated as follows: £1,500 Christmas Lights, £1,000 YMCA Youth Event, £2,500 Weston Literary Festival in conjunction with Culture Weston.

June 2022 – £26,623 awarded to Culture Weston for a procurement of complementary events alongside the SEE Monster arts installation.

October 2022 - £10,000 awarded to Culture Weston for Glow Lights Event in 2023.

February 2023 - £1,000 awarded to The Stables for a comedy event.

June 2023 – £22,000 awarded to theatre orchard to support Glow lights events in 2024.

July 2023 – decision to combine Armed Forces Day and Emergency Services Day events in June 2024.

July 2024 – £10,000 budget for cleaner streets was utilised by purchasing equipment for community use.

January 2025

March 2020

Cleaner and Greener

May 2020 – Quotes were received for a climate change consultant to produce a report.

July 2020 – Town council took over lease of Ellenborough Park West for a period of 3 years to be used as a Wellbeing Park.

November 2020 – the 'Roadmap to Zero' carbon emissions report was produced by an external consultant.

January 2021 – The Town Council signed up to the tree charter.

September 2021 – Green Infrastructure Strategy commissioned through the Town Council's Arboricultural consultant.

September 2022 – ahead of the procurement exercise, a series of grants for Castle Batch SEND play area were awarded to the Town Council (£110,499), resulting in a total budget, with town council funds, of £400,000.

August 2022 – Dedicated Climate and Community Development Officer started working at the Town council.

November 2022 – Weston in Bloom budget used to fund bedding plants and sustainable plants for Stanley's garden in Worle.

July 2023 – Castle Batch SEND Play Area opened to the community.

September 2023 – the Town council was awarded £9,000 to become the Anchor Organisation to administer grant funding to the community for the 'Shaping Places for Healthier Lives' fund.

May 2020 – a mindfulness video was commissioned of Milton Road Cemetery, to include information from the Council's Arboricultural consultant.

July 2020 – £5,000 grant funding was received from the Quartet Community Fund for the Community Fridge initiative.

January 2021 – consultants were commissioned to help set up 3 food clubs throughout the town.

March 2021 – decision to begin researching additional cemetery facility.

January 2022 – a further two grants (£4,000 from Hubbub and £1,000 from Alliance Homes) were received for the community fridge.

August 2022 – Structural investigations began at Weston Museum for solar on the roof.

October 2022 - £10,000 match funding budget earmarked for tree planting in the town.

February 2023 – Cycle to work loan scheme set up for staff to purchase bikes.

August 2023 – decision to work with an outside company to review all 23 play areas and produce a programme of maintenance and refurbishment.

January 2024 – decision to remove Climate and Community Development Officer Role.

January 2025

Healthier and Happier

March 2020

July 2020 – Town council took over lease of Ellenborough Park West for a period of 3 years to be used as a Wellbeing Park.

November 2020 – A contract for maintenance and management of the public toilets was awarded.

January 2021 – Grants awarded to: Friends of Grove Park £900, Homestart £1,000.

March 2021 – Grants awarded to: Worlebury hillfort group £1,000.

May 2021 – Grants awarded to: Worlebury hillfort group £1,000.

September 2021 – Grants awarded to: The Priory Learning Trust (Jill Dando Walk) £1,000, Friends of Grove Park £700, Weston Hospice Care £500.

December 2021 – The Town Council took ownership of a cargo bike to be used for community food initiatives in partnership with the For All Healthy Living Centre.

January 2022 – Grants awarded to: The Priory Learning Trust £1,000.

May 2022 – Grants awarded to: Stanley's Garden £950.

November 2020 – Grants awarded to: Read Easy WSM £400, Revitalise £500, Somerset Storyfest £500, That Creative Thingy Wotsit CIC £600, WSM Street Pastors £500, Worle Wind Band £500.

January 2021 – A Black Lives Matter Working Group (later renamed Anti-Racism Working Group) was created, with Councillors appointed to represent the Town Council.

March 2021 – Town Council pledged the following: accessible toilets bear correct signage and encourage retailers to do the same, raising awareness of hidden disabilities, seeking advice from disability charities on information and training that should be provided to council members, working with NSC to promote sunflower friendly scheme across WSM.

July 2021 – Consultant commissioned to undertake feasibility study for Grove Park Toilets.

November 2021 – Grants awarded to: Worle Community Association £1,000, Wellspring Counselling £1,000.

January 2022 – WSMTC supported the proposed community hub initiative which has been grant funded and being delivered by Race Equality NS and The Stables.

March 2022 – Grants awarded to: The Notable Club £1,000, North Somerset People First £987.

July 2022 – Grants awarded to: Great Western Ambulance Charity £1,000, The Brightwell (West of England MS Therapy Centre) £500.

Healthier and Happier - Continued

May 2022 – Grants awarded to: Stanley's Garden £950.

October 2022 – Funds for food projects were allocated out to community organisations.

January 2023 – Grants awarded to: HMD North Somerset £800, Food Bank £800.

January 2023 – £25,000 given to CANS through SLA.

September 2023 – Grants awarded to: Girlguiding £500, Weston Hospicecare £1,000, Together Pussy Cat CIC £1,000.

November 2023 – The Town Council agreed to become the Locally Trusted Organisation for Big Worle from April 2024 – March 2026, with the project due to finish September 2025.

November 2023 – SLA with YMCA renewed.

January 2024 – Grants awarded to: Donate a Defib £1,000, North Somerset LGBT+ Forum £1,000.

October 2024 – Grants awarded to: £500 1st Weston Village Scout Group, The Creative Thingy Wotsit CIC £500, £1,000 to Weston-super-Mare Allotment Club.

July 2022 – Grants awarded to: Great Western Ambulance Charity £1,000, The Brightwell (West of England MS Therapy Centre) £500.

November 2022 – Grants awarded to: Weston Hospicecare £1,000, Read Easy £500, Weston Bay Trefoil Guild £500, North Somerset British Bangladeshi Association £1,000.

March 2023 – Grants awarded to: Wellspring Counselling £1,000.

September 2023 – The Town council was awarded £9,000 to become the Anchor Organisation to administer grant funding to the community for the 'Shaping Places for Healthier Lives' fund.

November 2023 – £10,000 awarded to support Knife Angel programme of events in May 2024.

December 2023 – Approved to take the Waterpark Kiosk Operation in house starting April 2024.

February 2024 – Funding for the purchase of a defibrillator approved.

January 2025 – Grants awarded to: Read easy North Somerset £900, Wellspring Counselling £1,000.

January 2025

March 2020

A Bright Future

December 2020 – an 80% discount was offered to Visit Weston members.

February 2021 – Two Tuk Tuk vehicles were approved for purchase for use by Visit Weston in 2021.

June 2021 – an introductory offer for new businesses (Food & Beverage or Small non-essential business) was agreed at £99 for Visit Weston.

December 2022 – the planned and preventative maintenance programme of works for the year was approved.

May 2023 – New Council Administration welcomed to the Council.

July 2023 – The council resolved to readopt the General Power of Competence.

August 2023 – The Town Council became members of NALC/ALCA.

April 2024 – start of a wide scale community engagement exercise for the Old Town Quarry redevelopment project.

February 2021 – an introductory offer was proposed for new businesses of one free year of advertising for a minimum of two years of commitment with Visit Weston.

June 2021 – the planned and preventative maintenance programme of works for the year was approved.

May 2022 – £200,000 CIL funds were earmarked for use on the Old Town Quarry.

March 2023 – options for streamlining the councils committee structure was reviewed.

June 2023 – Review of Blakehay theatre business model begun.

July 2023 – Decision made to run an annual staff survey.

November 2023 – Your Town Your Voice consultation exercise carried out across the town.

January 2025

Heritage, Arts and Culture

March 2020

October 2020 – Awarded £323,000 from Arts Council England for the Blakehay Theatre for Covid improvement measures including ventilation and electrical works.

November 2020 – discussions with NSC and the Civic Society continued regarding the future of the Old Town Quarry

November 2021 – Weston Museum able to open in school holidays on Sundays and Mondays

March 2022 – agreed to work in partnership with Culture Weston for the delivery of the annual literary festival.

July 2022 - SEE Monster arts installation arrived at the Tropicana and opened to the public in September 2022.

August 2022 – installation of a function kitchen at Weston Museum to enhance the events offer.

January 2023 – Contractor appointed for the refurbishment of 32 Waterloo Street.

June 2023 – Freedom of the Town given to 40 Commando Royal Marines.

October 2023 – 3-day Literary Festival with the theme “Every Story Counts”.

December 2023 – heads of terms for the Old Town Quarry approved.

March 2024 – Project Manager appointed for the Old Town Quarry refurbishment and community engagement project.

July 2024 – Lease for Old Town Quarry signed.

January 2025 – tender exercise begun to find a partner organisation to operate the Blakehay Theatre.

October 2020 – introduction of a cross service events group “Ever Forward”, comprising of Weston Museum, Blakehay Theatre and Visit Weston.

March 2021 – approval of the acquisition of the Old Town Quarry on a 35-Year lease.

November 2021 – Awarded £39,238 from Arts Council England for the Blakehay Theatre for continuity support, following the grant award in October 2020.

May 2022 – £200,000 CIL funds were earmarked for use on the Old Town Quarry.

July 2022 – Purchase of 32 Waterloo Street (new Town Council offices) complete.

December 2022 – Decision to relocate Town Council Civic Insignia from Grove House to Weston Museum.

February 2023 – 0-10-year strategic plan devised for the Old Town Quarry

June 2023 - Conclusion of Blue Plaque Scheme which focused on individuals of historical significance in Weston-super-Mare.

December 2023 – Awarded £699,992 from the Community Ownership Fund, alongside £200,000 Earmarked funds for a refurbishment project at the Old Town Quarry.

June 2024 – staff moved into 32 Waterloo Street.

October 2024 – building work began at Old Town Quarry.

January 2025

**Weston-super-Mare
Town Council
Wards**

- North Worle Ward
- Mid Worle Ward
- South Worle Ward
- Worlebury Ward
- Hillside Ward
- Milton Ward
- Central Ward
- Winterstoke Ward
- Bournville Ward
- Uphill Ward



COUNCILLOR	PARTY	WARD
APLIN, Marc	CONSERVATIVE	NORTH WORLE
ARMSTRONG, Ray	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	HILLSIDE
BAILEY, Roger	CONSERVATIVE	UPHILL
BELL, Mike	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	CENTRAL
BAMBRIDGE, Joe	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	WORLEBURY
BUTE, Gillian	CONSERVATIVE	UPHILL
CANNIFORD, Mark	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	HILLSIDE
CARSON, John	LABOUR	SOUTH WORLE
CHARD, Annabelle	LABOUR	WINTERSTOKE
CLAYTON, James	LABOUR	BOURNVILLE
COLES, Jemma	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	MID WORLE
CREW, Peter	CONSERVATIVE	SOUTH WORLE
CROCKFORD-HAWLEY, John	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	HILLSIDE
CRONNELLY, Ciaran	LABOUR	WINTERSTOKE
GIBBONS, Catherine	LABOUR	BOURNVILLE
HARRISON-MORSE, Simon	LABOUR	MILTON
JAMES, Owen	LABOUR	SOUTH WORLE
MALYAN, Hugh	LABOUR	SOUTH WORLE
PAYNE, Robert	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	CENTRAL
PEAK, Alan	LABOUR	BOURNVILLE
PECAK-MICKLOWICZ, Justyna	CONSERVATIVE	NORTH WORLE
PEPPERALL, Marcia	CONSERVATIVE	NORTH WORLE
PILGRIM, Lisa	CONSERVATIVE	WORLEBURY
REYNOLDS, Caroline	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	CENTRAL

SKEEN, Robert	LABOUR	MILTON
STANDFIELD, John	CONSERVATIVE	MID WORLE
TAYLOR, Timothy	LABOUR	MILTON
THORNTON, Helen	LABOUR	UPHILL
TUCKER, Richard	LABOUR	MILTON
WILLIAMS, Charles	LABOUR	WINTERSTOKE
WILLIAMS, Martin	CONSERVATIVE	WORLEBURY

Strategy Evaluation

Review Type	Date	Consider by:	Strategy Film produced received by Committee
Strategy Reviewed against committee resolutions	January 2022	Policy and Finance Committee 25/04/2022	Policy and Finance Committee 25/04/2022
Strategy Reviewed against committee resolutions	March 2023	Expenditure and Governance 13 th July 2023	Expenditure and Governance 13 th July 2023
Full Strategy Review including committee resolutions, Your Town Your Voice Consultation Exercise and Councillor Workshop	March 2023 - January 2025	Town Council Meeting 17 March 2025	N/a

Appendix 1 – Statutory and Best Practice Requirements

Following the 2024/2025 full review of the strategy, it was determined that many of the ambitions identified, whilst important to the strategic direction of the Town Council, were actually part of a statutory or best practise requirement. As such the following has been extracted from the live Strategy ambitions in order to recognise their importance alongside the 10-year strategy, but differentiate better those ambitions that Town Council would like to achieve and what they must implement/abide by.

Ambition

1.23 The Town Council will fully consider local opinion when presenting recommendations to North Somerset Council regarding planning applications and relevant consultations.

2.9 Provision of Allotments to meet local demand and enable residents to grow their own food.

2.10 To encourage North Somerset Council to include cycle paths on new development sites

2.14 To give preference wherever possible to the procurement of goods and services from locally based suppliers subject to best value principles

3.6 Follow and regularly review an appropriate Health and Safety Policy that complies with the relevant legislation for the Town Council

3.8 Provide provision of Allotments as community facilities

3.11 The Town Council will work to the letter and in the spirit of equality and health and safety legislation and continue to develop our commitments towards 'Disability Confident'.

3.12 The Town Council will strive to ensure good year-on-year practices in health and safety; equality and diversity; wellbeing; inclusivity and safeguarding initiatives in all our departments

3.15 To adhere to the Civility and Respect Pledge as adopted by the Council

4.5 The Town Council will keep all Town Council services under review to ensure economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

4.7 Deliver services to the highest quality in terms of efficiency, effectiveness and value for money.

Adopt a Social Value Policy. Assess on a consistent basis the Social Value of WTC services and facilities.

4.8 Fit for purpose Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

4.9 Ensure its staffing structure is fit to meet business needs

4.10 Seek, subject to agreed budgets, to maximize income derived from all sources

4.11 To comply with legislation to ensure healthy financial records

4.11.5 To follow the adopted Medium-Term Financial Plan, in line with the Your Town Your Voice Survey, to ensure governance, community engagement and sound financial decision making.

4.12 Ensure adequate level of insurance provision for Town Council operations and assets

4.13 The Town Council will only put in place facilities and premises which it can afford to maintain.

4.14 To support the local economy with the use locally based contractors and partners.

Social Value of contracts (e.g. local employment) included in review of procurement policies

4.19 To be a Real Living Wage Employer, and to ask the same of the contractors and services we procure

DRAFT

Town Council Meeting 24th March 2025

Earmarked Reserves for the year 2025/ 2026

Report of the Director of Finance & Resources / RFO

Members will find attached a summary and description of the Earmarked Reserves estimates for the year 2025 / 2026. (2 x pages)

These estimates are based on known information at month 11 within the financial year 2024 / 2025.

Any other movements in month 12 will also need to be reflected in the final figures available at the year end point (31.03.25).

Members are requested to:

1. Approve the Earmarked reserve estimates for the year 2025 / 2026 at this point in time, approving further that any final adjustments to this figure can be approved by Finance and General Purposes committee at its first meeting in the new financial year (April 2025).

EMR for the year 2025 2026 as at 17.03.25

Final EMR requirements

No	Description	Nominal Code	Balance @ 31.03.24	Added from Revenue Budget 2024 / 2025 Provision	Added from Received Income 2024 / 2025	Added from General Reserves 2024/ 2025	Returned to General Reserves	Virement approved/m oved in year 2024/2025	Movement needed to Capital reserves @ 31.03.25	Spend in year 2024 / 2025 @ Month 11	Estimated Balance / Requirement - EMR 2025/2026
1	Allotments - Rectors Way	8000	£ 3,500	£	- £	- £	-	-	£ -	£ -	£ 3,500
2	Armed Forces Affiliation	8001	£ 596	£ -	- £	- £	-	-	£ -	£ -	£ 596
3	Election Costs	8003	£ 15,000	£ 15,000	- £	- £	-	-	£ -	£ -	£ 30,000
4	Blakehay Live Shows	8004	£ 5,075	£	-	-	£ -	-	£ -	£ 5,075	£ -
5	Milton Road Cemetery	8008	£ 2,016	£ -	- £	- £	-	-	£ -	£ -	£ 2,016
6	Buy A Block Fund raising campaign Phase 2	8009	£ 1,652	£ -	517 £	- £	-	-	£ -	£ 464	£ 1,705
7	Blakehay Theatre Vols Fundraising	8011	£ 103	£ -	203 £	- £	-	-	£ -	£ -	£ 306
8	Museum Grants	8014	£ 1,628	£ -	- £	-	-	-	£ -	£ 317	£ 1,311
9	Capital Projects	8018	£ 15,000	£ -	- £	15,000	-	-	£ -	£ -	£ 30,000
10	Old Mill Way Allotment (only)	8019	£ 20,193	£	- £	- £	-	-	£ -	£ -	£ 20,193
11	CIL Receipts	8023	£ 200,635	£ -	3,593 £	- £	- £	-	£ -	£ 39,733	£ 164,495
12	Environmental Climate Change	8024	£ 7,660	£ 13,880	£ -	- £	-	-	£ -	£ 874	£ 20,666
13	Blakehay CRF Grant Award	8025	£ 700	£	-	-	£ -	-	£ -	£ 698	£ 2
14	Com Res - Food Proj / Climate Grants	8026	£ 18,525	£ -	856 £	- £	-	-	£ -	£ 6,028	£ 13,353
15	Cllrs Email / Tablet Provision	8027	£ 225	£ -	- £	- £	-	-	£ -	£ -	£ 225
16	HQ Equipment purchase	8032	£ 9,199	£ -	- £	- £	17 £	-	£ -	£ 9,182	£ -
17	Mus Understanding Heritage HAZ	8035	£ 2,304	£ -	- £	- £	- £	2,304	£ -	£ -	£ -
18	Com Res - Wellbeing Grants	8036	£ 11,209	£ -	21,300 £	- £	- £	-	£ -	£ 17,405	£ 15,104
19	Wellbeing Grant	8040	£ 18,255	£	- £	- £	-	-	£ -	£ 11,997	£ 6,258
20	Tree planting - Fundraising	8041	£ 34	£ -	333 £	- £	- £	-	£ -	£ -	£ 367
21	Talking nature grant	8042	£ -	£	3,000 £	- £	- £	-	£ -	£ 442	£ 2,558
22	Community Events	8043 (new code)	£ -	£ 27,000	£ -	- £	- £	-	£ -	£ -	£ 27,000
			£ 333,509	£ 55,880	£ 29,802	£ 15,000	£ 17	£ 2,304	£ -	£ 92,215	£ 339,654

x

Members are requested to

- 1 Approve the recognised Final Earmarked Reserve requirements for the year 2025/2026
Balance changes at the year end position have been updated and reflected in the above figures