

Information

for County Councillors

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From:	Melanie Roberts – Service Manager Economic Policy
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Relevant SLT Director and sign-off date:	Paula Hewitt
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Date:	30 May 2022
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To:	All County Councillors
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Somerset Futures – Trends and Scenarios

Somerset County Council, working in partnership with the District local authorities, have commissioned a 'Future Scenarios' analysis to consider what the economic future of Somerset might look like over the next 5-10-25 years.

With the five local authorities coming together as one Somerset Council in 2023 it provides the opportunity for a joined-up approach to understanding the trends and issues that may affect all of Somerset's residents and businesses.

Future scenarios will be developed in the context of national priorities (e.g. Post-Brexit, post- COVID, Build Back Better, Levelling Up & Shared Prosperity Fund) and local priorities including ensuring that Somerset keeps to its commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030.

The aim is to develop evidence-based scenarios taking into account current and future trends over 5 year, 10 year and 25 year timeframes. This will help Somerset to position itself to respond to and be more resilient when issues arise whilst also be more agile in response to opportunities.

The purpose of this work is to support and guide the new Somerset Council, both members and officers, to shape the future direction of Somerset for the benefit of all its residents.

ThirdLife Economics Ltd have been appointed to facilitate this work and will work closely with the Somerset local authorities and wider stakeholders to bring the evidence and knowledge together to generate a report in the Autumn.

(This is a product in the service alignment product list for LGR).

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