

DECISION-MAKER:		COUNCIL	
SUBJECT:		EXECUTIVE BUSINESS REPORT	
DATE OF DECISION:		15 NOVEMBER 2017	
REPORT OF:		LEADER OF THE COUNCIL	
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
None	
BRIEF SUMMARY	
This report outlines the executive business conducted since the last Executive Business Report to Full Council on 20 September 2017.	
RECOMMENDATIONS:	
	(i) That the report be noted.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	This report is presented in accordance with Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	Not applicable.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
3.	I would like to congratulate all of the children who submitted their fantastic entries into the flag competition, the standard was exceptionally high. The competition received over 550 votes from the People's Panel and I was delighted to be invited as a guest on the BBC Solent Breakfast Show on 18 October 2017 to announce the competition winner, Yihuan Han from Portswood Primary School. His winning entry depicts the Tudor Rose of Hampshire along with an anchor to represent the city's maritime heritage.
4.	I am very pleased to announce that the national statistical release on Looked After Children from the Department for Education reveals that the council are making very good progress in a number of areas. I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the exceptional work of the Children and Families service in Southampton and in particular recognise the achievements of those working in adoption. Southampton is now the top local authority in the country

	for placing looked after children into adoption in 2017.
	STRONG AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH
5.	I am delighted to report that the City Deal Youth Programme has received funding that will enable it to continue for at least another year. A new European Social Fund contract has been awarded as part of a partnership with Hampshire County Council. The Youth Programme has supported over 400 young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) over the last 2 years and has enabled over 250 positive outcomes. The workers engage with the most vulnerable young people who face barriers such as a lack of qualifications, housing difficulties, family breakdown, poor physical or mental health and care or offending backgrounds, and supports them into appropriate development activities, and ultimately into formal education or employment. The programme is supported by the Access Southampton website, which contains an extensive range of information for young people, parents and advisors about education, career choices and the local labour market. The online service is proving to be extremely popular, with 2,728 site views during September 2017.
6.	I am also pleased to report that a contract to engage and support 16 and 17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) has been agreed with Youth Options. This contract will focus on engagement activities with the aim of increasing the accuracy of the local authority's data collection for the NEET indicator. It will support young people in the sometimes challenging transition period between school and further education or employment.
7.	An important milestone has been crossed with the completion of the first phase of housing at Bow Square, on the site of the city's old fruit and vegetable market. This has now been handed over to property rental manager, Atlas Residential. Bow Square is one of Southampton's biggest regeneration schemes of the last decade, the first Build to Rent development in the city and is one of seven 'VIP' projects earmarked by Southampton City Council. The project will offer housing opportunities within the city centre by creating 84 one-bedroom and 195-two bedroom apartments as well as nearly 900 square metres of flexible commercial space. The development is on track to be fully completed by the end of Summer 2018.
8.	I was delighted to attend the breaking ground ceremony at Chapel Riverside, which is being developed by specialist housebuilder and brownfield developer Inland Homes. Chapel Riverside is one of the city's main regeneration opportunities and has an approximate gross development value of £100M. It is set to transform the former town depot with a range of homes, from one bedroom to family properties, as well as a new square with cafes, restaurants, shops and spaces for retained and enhanced marine industry and activities. Plans for the transformation of the site include 300 metres of river flood defences, the reconstruction of a new underground surface water storage tank for Southern Water and full archaeological investigations of the former Chapel of the Holy Trinity, dating from before 1217 AD, as well as a medieval mill and Saxon burial ground on the site.
9.	I am pleased to announce that small businesses in Southampton can look forward to business rate relief over the next four years. Funding totalling £720,000 has been made available by Central Government to help businesses that will face the highest increase in their bills as part of the 2017 re-evaluation of rates. Ratepayers of all qualifying properties in the city will

	have their business rates for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 reduced by up to £1,000, and by up to £500 for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. To address the specific concerns of shop owners in the district centres, ratepayers of qualifying shops in Bitterne, Portswood, Shirley and Woolston will receive additional targeted support so that their business rates will be reduced by £2,000 in 2017-18 and £1,000 in 2018-19.
10.	The real estate developer Mountpark Logistics have successfully let the entire first phase of their new speculative industrial and logistics development at Wide Lane, Southampton prior to practical completion. The scheme is ideally located for both national and international markets, situated at Junction 5 of the M27 Motorway and within easy reach of Southampton Airport, Airport Parkway station and Southampton Docks. Phase one, which forms three units has been successfully let to Murray Health & Beauty, Berendsen and CooperVision. This follows the recent announcement of the sale of 6.67 acres on the opposite site of Wide Lane to Inchcape Plc for the development of a new Jaguar Land Rover showroom facility. It is estimated that these transactions will result in over 600 new jobs for the region.
	CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE GET A GOOD START IN LIFE
11.	I am delighted to report that the Southampton Common Play area, which has been designed by RHS Gold Medal and BBC People's Choice Award winning Landscape Architects, Davies White Ltd., opened 22 October 2017. The play area aims to reconnect families with nature through play by creating a bespoke nature and water play area. The equipment is built to last and the majority is made out of local New Forest Wood. The opening was very well attended by over 300 children and families and the Saints footballer Francis Benali made a guest appearance.
12.	The council's promotion of National Adoption Week (16 - 22 October 2017) focused on the need to find families for some of our most vulnerable children was at the heart of this year's events. Each day during the week the council hosted an adoption information stall in Southampton Central Library which gave residents the opportunity to speak to our experienced staff for an informal chat. We are continuing to receive promising numbers of enquiries from residents in regards to fostering and adoption. In September we received 11 adoption enquiries. This takes the total for enquiries for 2017-18 to 82, which is an increase of 34 on the same period during 2016-17. We also received 20 fostering enquiries, which takes the total for enquiries for 2017-18 to 131. This is an increase of 41 on the same period in 2016-17.
13.	I am very pleased to announce that the new electronic Personal Education Plan (ePEP) system now in place for our Looked After Children, and all Southampton schools are enrolled in contributing to high quality Personal Education Plans. I am also pleased to report that 15% of Looked After Children were entered for the English Baccalaureate qualification this year (compared to 3% in the previous academic year). I am sure you will all want to join me in congratulating five of our care leavers who gained a place at university this year. I wish them all the very best of luck during their courses and beyond and I am extremely proud of their achievements.
14.	I am pleased to report that we are able to evidence some strong and improved outcomes in education and early years settings across the city. 93.75% of day nurseries are rated as good or outstanding by Ofsted, which is an increase from 89.7% in 2016. 91.8% of pre-schools were also assessed as good or outstanding and 92.98% of childminders were also assessed to

	be at this level, compared to 87.64% in 2016.
15.	I am sure you will want to join me in congratulating all the staff, governors, pupils and their families and carers at Springwell Primary School for achieving an 'outstanding' Ofsted rating for the third consecutive year. The school, which provides places for youngsters with high level learning difficulties, retained the same level of outstanding recognition as awarded previously in 2010 and 2013. This result is a testimony to the commitment and hard work of staff at the school, supported by families and carers. I would also like to highlight the successes of Thornhill Primary School and Wordworth Primary School which both maintained their 'good' Ofsted ratings following inspections during September 2017.
16.	In my last report I announced that Southampton City Council's Youth Offending Service (YOS) achieved the Training Provider Quality Mark. The work of our Restorative Justice Practitioners was singled out for praise and the inspectors noted that their work was the "jewel in the crown" of work undertaken locally with children who offend and those who they harm. I am now pleased to report that the latest performance data from the Youth Justice Board indicates that the city is equitable with the national average for First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System (young people made subject to a statutory Court or Out of Court disposal). The rate currently stands at 327 per 100,000 of the 10-17 year old population, a reduction of 371 since 2014/15. This is a huge reduction that the council and all partner agencies are proud of.
17.	I am delighted to announce that funding from the Southern Universities Network has recently been approved for a joint programme, 'City Ambitions', with Portsmouth City Council. The programme aims to raise aspiration in young people and their families and has a target of doubling the proportion of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds in higher education and the levels progressing to higher level skills by 2020. In Southampton a range of activities are planned to support this ambition including delivery of careers advice to looked after children, families in target wards and pupils in target schools through group work and classroom based activity. The programme will also include community outreach work with Housing, Community Centres and Children's Services to engage families of learners in target wards, transition support for progression and engagement through year 11 to 12, programmes to raise aspiration and support the development of academic resilience in target groups, co-ordination and development of Careers Advice resources and data monitoring and sharing.
18.	I welcome the Healthy Early Years Awards which were delivered by the Public Health through the Early Years teams and Solent NHS. The programme supports nurseries, pre-schools and child minder settings to create healthy environments for children which promote healthy eating, physical activity and good dental health. The awards branding and badges were refreshed in October 2017 before the first settings achieved their bronze awards. Several settings are now proudly displaying their awards after being presented with a certificate at our Early Years conference.
19.	Congratulations to our Junior Neighbourhood Wardens (JNWs) for recently receiving a Community Partnership Working award from Hampshire Constabulary and The Right Worshipful Southampton Mayor Les Harris for their school citizenship course at Beechwood Primary School. JNWs Coordinator Ian Mitchell developed the course that was trialled this year at the

	<p>school, with 2 main themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Social Behaviour and how this effects the community as a whole (based on the schools' local crime stats this was high priority) • Don't Stay Silent (whatever is worrying you, you must talk to someone to support you, Parent, Carer, Teacher or anyone you trust) <p>The programme included multi agency co-operation including the Police, Fire, British Red Cross and the NSPCC.</p>
	<p>PEOPLE IN SOUTHAMPTON LIVE SAFE, HEALTHY, INDEPENDENT LIVES</p>
20.	<p>Southampton City Council proudly supported World Suicide Prevention Day (10 September 2017) and World Mental Health Day (10 October 2017), as part of a continued effort to work with partners to eradicate mental health stigma in the city. The council hosted an event in the Mayor's Parlour to mark Suicide Prevention Day, update partners on the progress made on the Suicide Prevention Plan and officially open the new offices of local independent charity, The Red Lipstick Foundation, which supports families bereaved by suicide. The council has also created a short video at no cost, alongside actors from the University of Southampton, promoting the 'Take a minute, save a life' theme of this year's World Suicide Prevention Day. The post has reached over 21,000 people on social media and garnered 7,600 views.</p>
21.	<p>In my last report I announced that the Alzheimer's Society made Southampton one of the stops on its national tour. I am extremely proud of the progress made by the Dementia Friendly Southampton project. Over 60 businesses have now signed up as dementia friendly organisations and we are moving towards our goal of making the city a more accessible place for those affected by dementia. The council created a short video following the Memory Walk hosted by the Alzheimer's Society on Southampton Common. The video was produced for free to promote the project and encourage more businesses to sign up. There has been an uplift in interest in the project since the release of the video which has reached over 18,000 people and gained 4,000 views across Facebook and Twitter.</p>
22.	<p>I am very happy to report that #StepUpSouthampton was a huge success. The campaign which began 10 October 2017 challenged residents to swap one short car journey a day for walking, with the aim of walking 10 million steps together towards a happier and healthier city. Each participant who walked at least 5,000 steps a day was rewarded with a voucher for a free coffee from Mettricks. Before the start of the campaign event, over 1,000,000 steps had already been logged online and by the end of Saturday 14 October 2017, Southampton had walked 11,154,413 steps. These steps equate to around 2,276 kg in CO2 emissions saved, over 420,000 calories burned and over 1,250 potential car journeys swapped for walking.</p>
23.	<p>I am pleased to announce that a new surveillance system has been installed in Portwood High Street, the first in the shopping precinct. The system has been installed following calls from residents and is a result of partnership approach between Southampton City Council, working with Balfour Beatty Living Places, Spectrum Housing, Radian Housing and Southampton Businesses Against Crime, with the support of Hampshire Constabulary.</p>
24.	<p>I am pleased to announce that the council has approved a £26M scheme with Drew Smith Ltd. comprising 84 supported housing units and a general needs block of 15 affordable flats for people over the age of 50. Construction on Potters Courts at Wimpson Lane, Maybush is planned to start in the new</p>

	<p>year. This development is part of the council's aim to develop more Extra Care housing that is suitable, future proofed and with smart design and energy efficient features such as ground-source pumps and solar power to both reduce operating costs and the city's carbon footprint, as well as helping more people to stay independent for longer.</p>
25.	<p>The Southampton's Health and Wellbeing Board has approved the content of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for consultation, which is set to run between 18 October and 22 December 2017. The PNA is a report on the local needs for pharmaceutical services and is used to identify gaps in services or improvements that could be made, and I encourage you all to respond to the consultation.</p>
	<p>SOUTHAMPTON IS AN ATTRACTIVE AND MODERN CITY WHERE PEOPLE ARE PROUD TO LIVE AND WORK</p>
26.	<p>I am delighted to report that Southampton has welcomed YoBike, the large scale dockless bike-sharing system, to the city. An initial fleet of 300 share bikes was released on 19 September 2017 and there are plans to scale to at least 700 bikes over the coming months. YoBike's mission to reduce congestion and carbon emissions and increase wellness within communities aligns perfectly with council priorities and our recently launched Cycling Strategy. We have worked closely with YoBike to ensure that bike parking spaces are in convenient locations across the city and I trust that this initiative will provide a fun, easy and active travel option for thousands of residents and visitors for years to come.</p>
27.	<p>I am very pleased to announce that Southampton is first council in UK to roll out superfast broadband service to all housing properties in the city. Virgin Media is nearly doubling the size of its fibre optic cable network in Southampton and will be bringing ultra-fast 100Mbps speeds to more homes by the end of 2017. Southampton is setting the standard nationally and is proving itself to be at the forefront of innovation. It is likely that the superfast speeds will benefit residents and businesses alike and may even entice more people and businesses wishing to relocate to the city.</p>
28.	<p>Between 25 September and 1 October 2017 the city celebrated National Recycle Week and I would like to thank staff and residents for recycling more of the right items. In support of Recycle Week the council highlighted the items that are the least recycled in the city, such as shampoo and shower gel bottles, in a bid to encourage more residents to recycle more items. Southampton changed to alternate weekly collections in June 2017 and we are seeing an increase in the amount of recyclable materials collected and less non-recyclables in the recycling wheeled bins. This means that the quality as well as the quantity of Southampton's recycling is improving.</p>
29.	<p>I am very pleased to report that local gardening clubs have received funding which will enable them to continue their fantastic projects. Kipling Court Gardening Club received £400 from the Co-op Foundation and £1,500 from the Community Chest. Ovington Court Gardening Club have received a grant of £2,000 from SO18 Big Local to buy greenhouses and garden furniture and develop the pathways and continue landscaping. These grants have had an extremely positive impact on the health and wellbeing of many elderly residents as we know that participation in the club plays an important part in reducing social isolation. I would like to congratulate the council's Tenant Participation team who have been invaluable in coordinating the formal</p>

	Ovington Court Gardening Club and supporting funding applications.
30.	As part of the council's Decent Neighbourhoods project we are working closely with Mayfield Nurseries who have now appointed a new community gardener. Mayfield Nurseries is a mental health project using gardening as an approach to improve health and wellbeing, it is based in Mayfield Park and run by Solent Mind. They work with people with complex mental health problems as well as people affected by dementia, depression, stress and anxiety. This initiative grew from a collaboration between the ICU (Integrated Commissioning Unit), Housing and Solent Mind and will help this voluntary sector project towards the aim of being self-supporting.
31.	I am also pleased to report that PRADOS, a Tenants' Association in St Denys, were recently awarded a £10,000 lottery grant after a successful bid. The team have used the money to revamp their communal lounge area at Bellamy Court for the benefit of all local residents and improve the level of accessibility for individuals with disabilities.
32.	The Clean Air Network is progressing very well and there are several events booked at key established forums over the coming months, including the Travel Planning network and the Cycle Forum. We have also planned bespoke workshops for stakeholders without established networks including taxi providers. There has also been considerable interest in one of the perks of joining the Clean Air Network, the benefits card, which will offer discounts products from local stores as well as concessions on environmentally related items such as electric vehicles and bicycles.
33.	<p>Southampton continues to offer a range of interesting and entertaining events which appeal to residents and bring in new visitors every month. In the last 2 months, the following successful events have taken place, among many others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southampton Slamma': 10 Sep – Hundreds of people turned out in Guildhall Square to take part in the first skateboarding event arranged by the Southampton Association of Skateboarders • Southampton Boat Show: 15 – 24 Sep – Britain's best loved boating festival was another success and contributed to the local economy. • Memory Walk: 17 Sep – Well attended 5k walk on Southampton Common in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. • Sky Observation Wheel: 18 Sept -29 Oct – The UK's largest Ferris wheel offered a unique aerial view of the city. • Southampton in the Sky: 21-26 Sept – Approximately 1,200 guests were able to experience fine dining more than 100' above Guildhall Square with this unusual event. • Hijack Cinema Outdoor Screenings: 22-23 Sept – Last of the outdoor screenings in Hoglands Park for this summer. • St James' Park Dog Show and Family Fun Day: 24 Sept – Family fun day out with bouncy castles, face painting, BBQ and stalls. • QEII; A 50 Year Celebration: 25 Sept – Talk from maritime author and QE2 expert, Chris Frame for a journey through her illustrious history. • Festival of Cultures: 30 Sept – Celebration of Pakistani and African cultures with performances from renowned Gambian and Pakistani musicians. • Jane Austen Festival Weekend: 30 Sept- 1 Oct – A series of events and

	<p>talks celebrating the life and works of Jane Austen who spent three periods of her life in Southampton.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music in the City: 7- 8 Oct - More than 100 acts performed in usual and more unusual venues, many of which were linked up by heritages buses. • Game Plan; Board Games through History: 21 Oct – 25 Feb – Exhibition on tour from the V&A museum of childhood featuring many iconic games. • Oktoberfest: 26-29 Oct – Full Bavarian Oktoberfest experience in Guildhall Square with traditional drinks, food, music and dancing. • Halloween at Tudor House: 27-28 Oct – Spooky fun for families with fancy dress, crafts and tours. • Poppy Run: 29 Oct – A 5k run for all ages and abilities to support the Armed Forces community during this year's Remembrance period.
	A MODERN, SUSTAINABLE COUNCIL
34.	<p>I am delighted to confirm that Southampton City Council was awarded 'best experience in a large organisation' for our internship scheme by the University of Southampton in their Employability Excellence Awards. The council was nominated by an intern who worked with the Intelligence, Insight and Communications team over the summer. The council was recognised for providing our interns with experiences that help them develop skills to support their future careers, whilst working on interesting and important projects with real social value. The managers and colleagues who worked with our interns were praised for offering their time to support and develop the students and graduates who took placements with us. My congratulations and thanks to all our staff who have helped in the success of this year's programme and who continue to support our interns, and also to those interns who joined us over the summer.</p>
35.	<p>I am pleased to report that the 2017 Staff Survey has been completed by 49% of staff members following successful internal promotion, this is small increase on uptake from last year which was 47%. The Staff Survey is hosted by an external service, Survey Solutions, which ensures anonymity and provides all council staff an opportunity to share their views on what is going well and also what their perceived areas of improvement are.</p>
36.	<p>I am pleased to report that the council has successfully transferred another community centre under our Community Asset Transfer (CAT) programme. St Denys Community Centre has been transferred to the existing tenants, the St Denys Area Community Association. This is in addition to Red Lodge Community Pool, St. Albans Resource Centre and Townhill Park Community Centre. By working closely with community, voluntary and faith groups, the CAT programme aims to deliver successful, vibrant and inclusive community managed assets that are sustainable in the long term.</p>
37.	<p>I am very pleased to report that recently published analysis for complaints in 2016/17 show that there have been significant reductions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • overall complaints registered with the council decreased by 21% • corporate complaints have decreased by 12% • complaints about Adult Social Care Services decreased by 23% • complaints about Children and Families decreased by 40% • Complaints about Waste Management decreased by nearly 50%. <p>These reductions in recorded complaints is due to the service recovery ethos</p>

	which managers have adopted over the past three years. The Customer Relations Team (CRT) in Legal and Governance deserve recognition for their commitment to this new approach as do service managers, particularly in Children and Families, Adult Social Care and Waste Management. The CRT now offer workshops and e learning in which early engagement and immediate service recovery is promoted as the first step to be considered on receipt of any complaint or dissatisfaction expressed.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
38.	None
<u>Property/Other</u>	
39.	None
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
40.	As defined in the report appropriate to each section.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
41.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
42.	None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
43.	The report outlines activity supporting the delivery of the Council Strategy 2016-2020.

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	none
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
	None

Documents In Members' Rooms

	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	No
Privacy Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) to be carried out.	No
Other Background Documents	
Other Background documents available for inspection at:	

Title of Background Paper(s)		Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.		
2.		