

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b>		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE BUSINESS REPORT</b>		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	<b>20 March 2019</b>		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b>		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
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<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>			
<b>None</b>			
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>			
This report outlines the Executive business conducted since the last Executive Business Report to Full Council on 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2018			
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>			
	(i)	That the report be noted.	
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
1.	This report is presented in accordance with Part 4 of the Council’s Constitution.		
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>			
2.	Not applicable.		
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>			
	<b>STRONG AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH</b>		
3.	<p>I was delighted to hear about the progress made on the Southampton Cycle Network (SCN) since the launch of our 10 year cycling strategy in 2017. Two years later, we’ve already invested £2.4m in completed projects, including a new and extended segregated cycleway parallel to Millbrook Road on First and Second Avenue. The route is now receiving a green makeover with the introduction of trees along Second Avenue, as part of plans to enhance the cycling experience for those travelling into the city from the West. In February 2019, Balfour Beatty Living Places also begun work on a £1.4m project to create Southampton’s first ‘Copenhagen style’ segregated cycle freeway on both sides of Inner Avenue. Cyclists will be completely separated from traffic and pedestrians with the new lanes extending from Lodge Road to Charlotte Place southbound and from London Road to Banister Road northbound. In addition to these projects, a further £5.4m is committed to projects that will be delivered by summer 2019. The rate of delivery has been accelerated following successful bids for national finance sources from the Clean Air Zone Early Measures and National Productivity Investment Funds.</p>		

4.	<p>I am pleased to report that the major works project on Millbrook Roundabout entered its fourth and final phase earlier than expected. Southampton City Council's Highway's Partner, Balfour Beatty, moved into phase four on 23 February 2019, with a scheduled completion on 7 April 2019. It's also good to see that Balfour Beatty has started work on a major two year project to improve journey times for all road users on the A3024 Eastern Corridor. The project will deliver improvements in four phases on Bursledon Road between Botley Road and Bitterne Road East junctions.</p>
5.	<p>It was fantastic to see that Southampton City Council's Growth teams have successfully won the following funding bids:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £250,000 towards the Central Business District project</li> <li>• £50,000 towards the Bitterne Community Hub project</li> <li>• £100,000 towards the Redbridge Blue Light Centre project</li> <li>• £400,000 European Social Fund to support NEET young people into learning and employment</li> <li>• £98,000 DCMS Woldsen Galleries Improvement Fund for the improvement of Southampton City Art Gallery's lighting</li> <li>• £56,000 for Southampton City Art Gallery from the Headley Trust for curation</li> <li>• £100,000 Arts Council funding to test audience engagement</li> <li>• £400,000 from the Work and Health Unit to support health and employment</li> <li>• £210,000 EU funding - perinatal mental health support</li> <li>• £250,000 from Visit England to support cruise excursions</li> <li>• £103,000 Department of Health and Social Care funding for support for mental health</li> <li>• £10,000 from CCIN Exec Oversight Committee to deliver co-operative approaches to sustainable food policy</li> </ul>
6.	<p>Congratulations to everyone involved in the Solent Jobs Programme, which supported more than 1,000 long-term unemployed local people to help them to find work. A celebration event was hosted in December by the Mayor, in the Mayor's Parlour, to celebrate the success of the programme that finished that month. The event was attended by over 70 scheme participants and their advisors and employers. Solent Jobs Programme started at the end of 2016 and has run ever since offering to help anyone living in the Solent area with a recognised health condition who has been out of work for more than two years.</p>
7.	<p>I was pleased to hear about the special Skills for Growth business breakfast, staged by Southampton City and Solent University. The event on 5 March 2019 aimed to raise awareness of how businesses can improve their growth prospects through creating the right opportunities for staff development. It highlighted how providing skills and training opportunities to employees is mutually beneficial for both the staff members and the organisation that employs them.</p>
8.	<p>I was delighted to see that Southampton City Council have launched a new Wellbeing@Work service. The scheme is aimed at helping organisations to support the health and wellbeing of their workforce, the scheme has the additional advantage of boosting bottom line profits, through reduced absenteeism and increased levels of productivity. The service includes wellbeing surveys, policy templates, access into individual health improvement services and peer networking.</p>
9.	<p>It was great to visit Townhill Park in early February to see the official handover of six newly built Southampton City Council houses from the Drew Smith Group who are developing the site. These are the first new council homes to be completed have been</p>

	completed in the redevelopment of Townhill Park, and residents will be welcomed to the new homes in the coming weeks. Each of the six family homes, located in Roundhill Close, has three bedrooms, a lounge/dining room, separate kitchen, bathroom, back garden with shed, and two parking spaces, and benefit from energy-efficient heating systems. The homes are already signed up to CitizEn Energy, Southampton City Council's ethical energy company, to provide residents with competitively priced gas and green electricity.
10.	It is fantastic to hear that CitizEn Energy, which was set up by Southampton City Council, has reached a milestone of bringing more than 1,000 households on to their supply, and even more delighted to hear that CitizEn Energy's customer service provider, Robin Hood Energy, has been voted the second best energy company for customer satisfaction in the country. Robin Hood Energy beat the big six energy companies for satisfaction in the Which? Annual satisfaction survey, and only came second to Octopus Energy.
	<b>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE GET A GOOD START IN LIFE</b>
11.	It was great to see the continuing success of the permanent timed road closure on French Street outside St John's school during school drop off and pick up times. The measures, which came into force on 26 November 2018, have been undertaken to address the risk of traffic outside the school at peak times, tackle congestion and poor air quality around the school grounds and encourage more families to use active travel on the school run. A survey in January 2019 showed 96% support for the scheme, with 94% of respondents saying it made the area safer for children. The survey also showed the scheme improved perceptions of air quality and how attractive the area is.
12.	I was delighted to hear that Southampton has been successful in its application to become a change partner in the national What Works Centre for Children's Social Care: Children's Social Workers in Schools project. Further to a successful application coordinated by the Integrated Commissioning Unit working with Children's Services, Southampton City Council has been awarded over £450,000 up to March 2020 to locate social workers in schools to work more closely with children and their families.
13.	It is great to hear about the successful campaigning efforts of nine year old James Stinchcombe, who attends Ludlow Primary School. James campaigned for a pedestrian crossing to be installed on a busy section of Spring Road to improve the safety of children walking to school. James was delighted to see that a pedestrian crossing has now been installed, with the crossing benefiting many local families and children who cross here every day on the journey to school.
14.	I was very pleased to hear that the Integrated Commissioning Unit (ICU) has secured additional funding from Health Education England (HEE) to roll out restorative practice training within Southampton as part of the city's overall vision to become a Child Friendly City. This vision aims to improve outcomes for children and families through the use of restorative approaches where problems are resolved and relationships are built through empathy and understanding. The ICU secured funding of £62,500 from HEE and this will enable the training programme to be accelerated, with the focus on rolling out to a range of multi-agency partners including Southampton City Council, NHS providers and commissioners, voluntary organisations, police, schools, colleges and children & young people.
15.	I was excited to be able to congratulate Shanté Jackson on being elected by Southampton's young people to be the next Southampton Member of Youth Parliament on 22 February 2019. The UK Youth Parliament is a national movement that aims to increase the chances for young people aged 11-18 to have their voices heard locally and

	nationally. Southampton City Council is proud to be one of the participating local authorities working with the UK Youth Parliament. Over 2,000 young people from nine local schools and colleges had the chance to vote for nine candidates with Shanté winning with a vote share of 22.3%.
16.	I am delighted to report that, as part of our commitment to supporting young people in the city when they leave care, Southampton City Council are introducing a new Council Tax discount and exemption scheme to help ease this transition. The care leavers discount and exemption scheme will apply to all young people living in the city, up to the age of 25, who have been looked after by a local authority for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14, and which ended on or after their 16 <sup>th</sup> birthday. Depending on the living circumstances of the young person, they will be either eligible for a council tax discount or full exemption.
17.	On 8 January 2019, our Children and Families Service welcomed representatives from Ofsted for this year's annual conversation. The meeting provided an opportunity for our colleagues in Children's Social Care and Education to brief Ofsted on progress achieved and their priorities for the coming year, ensuring that Southampton is a city where children and young people get a good start in life.
	<b>PEOPLE IN SOUTHAMPTON LIVE SAFE, HEALTHY, INDEPENDENT LIVES</b>
18.	I am excited to announce that Portsmouth and Southampton have been selected as one of eight areas in England to tackle mental health stigma locally after winning a bid to become one of 2019's Time to Change Hubs. This partnership with Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils, local mental health charity Solent Mind and local people who are Time to Change Champions will support communities, workplaces and schools to end negative attitudes and behaviours towards people experiencing mental health problems in their communities. Each Hub will be provided with a £15,000 start-up budget along with £10,000 for a Champions Fund where local champions can bid for funding to run stigma-busting events and activities within their area.
19.	It was great to see so many people getting involved in the national Time to Talk Day on 7 February 2019, an event promoting mental health awareness and encouraging people to talk about their mental health. At West Quay Shopping Centre, MasterChef winner Shelina Permalloo prepared some of her celebrated dishes as part of the event, and was joined by organisations such as Solent Mind, Radian Homes, No Limits, Samaritans, Southampton Voluntary Services, Carers in Southampton and Southampton City Libraries.
20.	It was fantastic to hear that a partnership between Southampton City Council and Solent NHS Trust has resulted in a huge reduction in assessment and rehabilitation waiting times for those with a visual or hearing impairment. The integrated 'Community Independence Service' was formed in April 2016 as part of the Better Care Southampton initiative. Before the partnership, the Sensory Team saw long waiting lists with an average wait of nine months to a year wait for assessment and rehabilitation, and this has now reduced to two weeks for first contact.
21.	I was very pleased to co-host a summit on 15 January with Sandy Hopkins, Chief Executive of Southampton City Council, to discuss the future adult care plans for Southampton, facilitated by Sarah Mitchell, a social care specialist from the Local Government Association. The summit focused on how best to support residents to lead safe, healthy and independent lives and to consider how best to work with communities, the NHS, businesses and others to deliver social care, Southampton Style.
22.	I was delighted to hear that construction of Potters Court, Southampton City Council's flagship housing with care scheme is making great progress. Site foundations have been laid at the £26m environmentally friendly development, and it is due to welcome its

	<p>first residents in 2020 into its 99 purpose built, affordable homes. The housing with care scheme will support people to live their lives to the full, with easy access to care when they need it. Potters Court was shortlisted as one of 10 UK-wide projects for a prestigious Inside Housing Development Award 2018. Potters Court featured in the category for 'best older people's housing development', and whilst we did not win the award, being a finalist recognised our commitment to providing well-designed homes that meet current and future care and support needs as the city's population ages.</p>
23.	<p>It was great to hear that Southampton City Council adopted a Charter Against Modern Slavery at Cabinet in December. The Charter commits the council to take action through procurement and contract management to ensure that its suppliers are not involved in modern slavery.</p>
24.	<p>It was fantastic to hear about the success of the Raizer mobile lifting chair, used by our telecare responder service. The Raizer equipment, which has been extensively trialled by our service, enables responders to assist people to stand if fallen and uninjured, a task that would traditionally involve a 999 or 111 call to lift the individual. In December 2018 alone, it was used 42 times, freeing up ambulances to deal with other emergency calls. Responder staff state that the chair is now their first port of call to support someone who has fallen, with users saying 100% would otherwise have called for an ambulance.</p>
25.	<p>I was very pleased to hear about how a social club taking place twice weekly at Erskine Court, is helping to stop social isolation, combat loneliness and develop relationships. The social club groups are open to anyone over 50 in the local community, and run every Tuesday and Wednesday, helping to bring residents of Erskine Court and other members of the community together.</p>
26.	<p>I was delighted to hear that as part of National Fuel Poverty Day, which was on 15 February 2019, Southampton City Council and Southampton Health Homes reiterated their commitment to residents energy needs by providing advice, support and competitively priced gas and green electricity. National Fuel Poverty Awareness Day is recognised nationally to highlight the problems faced by those struggling to keep warm in their homes and the work being undertaken to tackle the issue.</p>
27.	<p>I was pleased to hear about the Carers Technology Exhibition at The Spark, Solent University held on 19 March 2019. This free to attend event gave opportunities for carers to try out different technological products to support them and ease their caring role, see demonstrations from care technology experts, discuss the day to day challenges of looking after someone and find out what other carers have found useful.</p>
28.	<p>It was a proud moment when I heard that fire safety improvements in Southampton tower blocks were shortlisted for a national housing award. Southampton City Council is committed to improving fire safety in its residential high-rise blocks, and we were one of three providers who were featured in the 'best customer impact' category. The successful shortlisting follows our close collaboration with Hampshire Fire &amp; Rescue Service and CLC Group Limited, as well as our own internal contract team, to introduce fire suppression and passive fire safety measures in 20 council-owned blocks across Southampton, benefitting over 2,000 homes.</p>
29.	<p>I was delighted to hear that Southampton Crematorium, which is run by Southampton City Council, donated £7,000 in February 2019 to HASAG Asbestos Disease Support. Southampton Crematorium has raised this money from their Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM) recycling of metals scheme. This brings the total that Southampton Crematorium has donated to charities over the past 12 months to £17,000.</p>
	<p><b>SOUTHAMPTON IS AN ATTRACTIVE AND MODERN CITY WHERE PEOPLE ARE PROUD TO LIVE AND WORK</b></p>

30.	I was delighted to announce that Southampton City Council will be introducing a Green City Charter in March 2019, in partnership with local residents, businesses and organisations. The unprecedented response to the Clean Air Zone public consultation shows how important this issue is to people living and working in the city, and I am proud that we are leading the way in becoming a clean, green and healthy city.
31.	In addition to the Green City Charter, Southampton City Council has joined forces with the University of Southampton to urge local authorities to adopt a 'healthy and prosperous' vision towards air quality and energy efficiency in towns and cities across the UK. In a united effort to highlight the green agenda, council leaders, academics, thought leaders, policy makers and heads of business met on 21 February 2019 at the Highfield Campus for "Key Cities: Cities and the Environment", an event organised by Southampton City Council in conjunction with the University of Southampton's Energy and Climate Change Division.
32.	It was fantastic to see businesses owners take advantage of an event hosted by Southampton City Council on 6 February 2019 to help them move their vehicle fleet to electric vehicles. The event provided a great opportunity for the business community to hear how the council is investing in and developing the infrastructure around the city – such as increasing the amount of charging points, season ticket discounts and concessions for electric vehicle users on the Itchen Bridge. I was also very pleased to see that the Mayor and Sheriff of Southampton can now travel in an environmentally friendly, all electric car courtesy of the Richmond Motor Group dealership in West Quay Road.
33.	I enjoyed seeing people taking part in Winter Wheelers, a month long cycling challenge in partnership with Love to Ride in December 2018. There were 101 new registrants for Winter Wheelers, and in total, 290 people participated. The challenge resulted in a total of 3,538 trips were made, resulting in 28,269 miles cycled and 7,386 lbs of CO2 emissions saved. I am pleased to see that we are building on this success with My Journey running its 'Move in March' campaign, encouraging people to be more active. The campaign provides a month long programme of events and tailored opportunities to support and incentivise people to make active journeys.
34.	I am pleased to announce that Southampton City Council has finished its refurbishment of St James' Park play area in Shirley ready for spring and summer. New play equipment and benches have been installed, as well as the creation of a more attractive riverbed and improved drainage in the area.
35.	I am delighted to see that the Junior Neighbourhood Wardens and community litter picking groups will be joining forces for a Southampton wide clean-up as part of this year's Keep Britain Tidy - Great British Spring Clean campaign. Housing areas in Golden Grove, East Meggesson Avenue in Townhill and the wider Lordswood area will receive a tidy-up on the 16, 17 and 18 April respectively.
36.	It was great to see local businesses and organisations strengthening their connections with the local Armed Forces community at an event at the Civic Centre on 6 February 2019. The event was aimed at encouraging more businesses to sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant, which is a declaration of mutual support between Southampton's civilian community, including businesses and other organisations, and the Armed Forces.
37.	I was delighted that Southampton City Art Gallery was chosen by the Royal Collection Trust as part of a collaboration with twelve museums and galleries to run simultaneous exhibitions of Leonardo's drawings across the UK. The exhibition runs from 1 February 2019 until 6 May 2019, and I would encourage everyone to visit.
38.	Congratulations to Nuffield Southampton Theatres (NST) as they recently celebrated the first birthday of the new city centre venue, NST City, by holding a giant community

	birthday party with family activities on 16 February 2019. There were large scale party games, behind the scenes tours of the theatre and live dance performances created by NST's resident dance theatre company ZoieLogic Dance Theatre.
39.	<p>I am pleased to see that Southampton has continued to offer a wide range of interesting, family friendly events to both residents and visitors. Many events were led, facilitated or supported by the council's events team and as well as the ones already referred to above, these have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 December 2018 – Woolston Christmas Fayre in Victoria Road featuring stalls, music and fairground rides.</li> <li>• 2 February 2019 – Chinese New Year celebrations in Guildhall Square, with colourful performances, parades and displays.</li> <li>• 15 February 2019 – Visions exhibit at Southampton City Art Gallery, showcasing artwork produced by adults in Southampton with various disabilities.</li> <li>• 24 February 2019 – The ICC Cricket World Cup Trophy tour visited Guildhall Square.</li> </ul>
	<b>A MODERN, SUSTAINABLE COUNCIL</b>
40.	I was pleased to hear that a record 1,709 (57%) employees took part in the 2018 Staff Survey this year, up from 49% in 2017. The results show good progress is being made, with more staff than ever saying they are satisfied working for the council and would recommend the council as an employer.
41.	I would like to congratulate Jason Taylor, Energy Manager at Southampton City Council, who has won a prestigious Heat Hero Award, which is given to individuals who have gone above and beyond to help people living in fuel poverty in their local community. Not only has he been fundamental in setting up CitizEn Energy, he has also been involved in many projects improving the energy efficiency of the council and helping reduce the council's reportable CO2 emissions by over 50% since 2009.
42.	I am pleased to say that Southampton has been chosen as one of only 12 local authorities who are piloting the government's EU Settlement Scheme. EU citizens and their families can now apply for the EU Settlement Scheme ahead of the official start date on the 30 March 2019, and Southampton City Council's Registration Services are offering additional help with the new scheme for those applying for Settled Status and Pre-Settled Status.
43.	I really enjoyed hearing news that Southampton City Council's first ever Social Work Apprenticeship Scheme called 'Grow Our Own' has been launched. The Grow Our Own scheme provides a career development opportunity for social work staff, as well as helping retain those staff within the council, creating a more sustainable and motivated workforce. The first tranche of apprentices are due to start in September 2019.
44.	It is good to see a new Dynamic Purchasing Framework for Home to School Transport being launched in January 2019. This will streamline how the team manages the transport contracts which are needed to transport the 680 school children to and from school each day. This will also allow new transport operators to join the list of approved suppliers anytime during the frame work agreement if they meet the specification criteria, so the team can manage demand.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
45.	None
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	

46.	None
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
47.	As defined in the report appropriate to each section.
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
48.	None
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>	
49.	None
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
50.	None

<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	None
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	None
<b>Documents In Members' Rooms</b>	
1.	None
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>	
<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>	
<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Other Background Documents</b>	
<b>Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>	
<b>Title of Background Paper(s)</b>	<b>Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)</b>
None	