

**NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL
DECISION**

DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES,
ASSET MANAGEMENT, CAPITAL PROGRAMME & TRANSFORMATION
PROGRAMME WITH ADVICE FROM THE SECTION 151 OFFICER OF
THE COUNCIL, CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

**DECISION NO: CSD86****SUBJECT:**

Accommodation agreement with the Avon & Somerset Police for space within Town Hall

BACKGROUND:

The Council and the Avon & Somerset Police have for some time been reaping the benefits of close partnership working, including the shared use of accommodation. To this end the Gateways in both Town Hall and Castlewood act as the principal public service reception for the Police. In addition the Police occupy offices within Castlewood. With the sale of the Weston super Mare headquarters, the Police have been in discussion with Council in respect of office accommodation within Town Hall. The accommodation is intended for the use by Weston central beat officers, with rapid response teams moving to new premises close to Junction 21.

The Office Amalgamation Programme report to the Executive in December 2010 endorsed the principle of sharing space with organisations such as the Police to meet opportunities for integration and reducing overall accommodation costs to both organisations. It is proposed that such sharing be undertaken on a serviced office basis with facilities management and other services being provided by the Council.

Negotiations have been concluded with the Avon & Somerset Police in respect of occupation within Town Hall under a license for the use of twelve desks, use of a basement store as a changing room and one parking space within the Town Hall basement for a marked Police vehicle. The agreement shall be for a period of ten years from 1st April 2017, and thereafter subject to six months' notice at a licence fee for the first five years of £26,600 per annum, with a service charge initially payable at £24,000 per annum, subject to annual review, the license agreement being similar to that already in use for the building.

DECISION:

Authority is hereby given to proceed to complete a license agreement with the Avon and Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner on the basis outlined above.

Reasons:

By providing space to the Police, the Council is ensuring both organisations benefit from working closely together in an improved environment, with greater service integration and reduced costs.

Other Alternatives Considered:

None. Both organisations agree that the advantages of co-location described above are compelling from both service and value for money perspectives

Financial Implications:

An income stream for the next ten years starting at £50,600 per annum, subject to review

Implications for Future Years:

The Police will be in occupation until at least 2027

Signed:

Section 151 Officer, North Somerset Council

Dated:

Signed:

Councillor Nigel Ashton, Leader of Council

Dated: