

Key decision items not included in the Forward Plan

Where a matter that is a key decision item has not been included in the Forward Plan, that decision may only be made where –

(1) the relevant Director has informed the Chairman of the relevant Policy/Overview and Scrutiny Panel or, if there is no such person, each Member of that Panel by notice in writing, of the matter about which the decision is to be made;

(2) the relevant Director has made a copy of that notice publicly available at the offices of the Council and on the Council's Website. A copy should also be sent to all councillors for information;

(3) at least five clear days have elapsed since the relevant Director complied with (1) and (2); and

(4) If (3) cannot be complied with then the decision can only be taken if the decision taker (if an individual), or the Chairman of the body making the decision, obtains the agreement of the Chairman of the relevant Policy/Overview and Scrutiny Panel that the taking of the decision is urgent and cannot be reasonably deferred. If there is no Chairman of the relevant Policy/Overview and Scrutiny Panel or if the Chairman of each relevant Policy/Overview and Scrutiny Panel is unable to act, then the agreement of the Chairman of the Council, or in his/her absence the Vice-Chairman will suffice.

Notice of a key decision on an item not in the Forward Plan

To Councillor Charles Cave being the Chairman of the Strategic Planning & Economic Development Policy and Scrutiny Panel.

A copy of this notice must be displayed at offices of the Council and published on the Council's website as soon as reasonably practicable after compliance with the above.

Take notice that it is intended to make an urgent key decision by the Executive Member for Strategic Planning, Highways, Economic Development and Housing that has not been included in the Forward Plan.

The Decision is:

17/18 DE 208 - A2 Local Bus Service

To allow the ITU to determine an appropriate specification with the preferred bidder to run the A2 service on a contractual basis for the period of four years

The full decision can be viewed on the Council's website via the following link:

<http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-council/councillors/decisions/executive-member-decisions/2017-executive-member-decisions/october-2017-executive-member-decisions/>

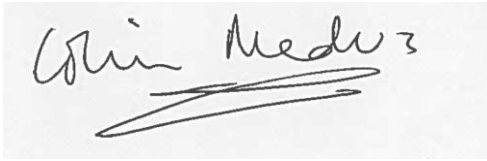
Reasons why key decision was not included in the Forward Plan:

It was initially proposed that the new service contract would commence from April 2018, allowing for sufficient time for the contract award to be advertised on the forward plan. However, discussions with Bristol Airport and confirmation of the opening date of Metrobus and associated changes of other bus routes have warranted the need for the new A2 service to be operational at a much earlier date of 7 January. Failure to launch the new contract service at this time would result in a material loss of service provision for some areas.

As a result, by submitting this item on the next available forward plan period (1 Dec) we would not have sufficient time to complete the procurement process and get the service signed off by the Traffic Commissioner (56 day notice period) before the 7 January deadline.

Agreement of the Chairman of the Policy/Overview and Scrutiny Panel **is** required in accordance with (4) above. If agreement is required the Chairman is requested to notify the Director accordingly.

I have had regard to and complied with (1) to (4) above.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature reads "Colin Medus" in a cursive style, with a large, sweeping underline stroke below the name.

Signed:

Colin Medus (Head of Highways and Transport) for Director of Development and Environment

Date

Ref. – Constitution, Access to Information Procedure Rules, ss 14, 15.