

SOMERSET COUNCIL

Phase 1 Review | To support 2026/27 budget

£7.2m additional net revenue identified



CONTEXT

- ▶ New unitary authority following LGR
- ▶ In receipt of Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) with a priority to develop a sustainable MTFS
- ▶ Wide variation in fees and charging practice inherited from predecessor districts

KEY OUTCOMES

- ▶ £4.9m estimated additional gross income in 2026/27 rising to £7.2m per annum by 2029/30 from Phase 1 proposals
- ▶ Clear, evidence-based options for councillors to consider as part of the MTFS
- ▶ Identification of implementation risks, system constraints and resourcing requirements to deliver income sustainably

BIG HITTING AREAS

- ▶ Adult Social Care
- ▶ Waste services
- ▶ Car Parking

THE JOURNEY

- ▶ Somerset Council commissioned a Phase 1 Fees and Charges Review to provide proposals and options for 2026/27 to 2029/30, alongside projected financial implications and risks.
- ▶ We worked closely with finance and service teams to develop a robust evidence base and understanding of costs, supported by benchmarking and modelling.

Barrier	Solutions
Capacity and process constraints limiting income capture (particularly in ASC)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of assessment processes and resourcing needs 2. Identification of system improvements to support uplifts and backdating
Inconsistent practice inherited from pre-LGR districts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Harmonisation of approaches across the new unitary 2. Development of consistent pricing options informed by benchmarking
Limited understanding of full cost and market position in some services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cost analysis against pricing objectives 2. Wider comparator benchmarking to identify gaps and opportunities