

Bath & North East Somerset Council				
MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Single Member Decision Shareholder – Leader of the Council			
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	On or after 17th January 2026	EXECUTIVE PLAN REFERENCE: E 3672		
TITLE:	AGHL Interim Dividend to Shareholder			
WARD:	All			
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM				
List of attachments to this report: None				

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The company objectives as set out in the Approved Business Plan provide for a total financial return from Aequus Group to the Council of £1M per each financial year.

2 RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 The Shareholder is asked to approve the reserved matter below to allow AGHL to progress with paying the interim dividend of £681K for 2024/2025 to the Shareholder in order to meet the total Council Returns target set of £1m for the financial year 2024/2025

- Reserved Matter 32 - Declaring or paying any end of year dividend of the company (where applicable)

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1** Qualifying financial returns to the Council comprise of total commercial interest paid on Council Loans with the balance of the target met through dividend payments. Following the restructure of the Aequus Group, dividends flow to the Shareholder via Aequus Group Holdings Limited.
- 3.2** The B&NES Shareholder target of £1m for revenue returns comprises of £319k from commercial interest from asset backed loans and £50k dividend from ADL and £631k dividend from ACL.
- 3.3** The Shareholder is asked to approve this reserved matter to allow AGHL to progress with paying the interim dividend of £681K for 2024/25 to the Shareholder in order to meet the total Council Returns target set of £1m for the financial year 2024/2025.

4. STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1** Aequus Board of Directors approved the interim dividend payment at the board meeting on 23rd October 2025 and were all satisfied that at the time of making their decision they had sufficient financial information and that the company has sufficient distributable reserves to support the payment.
- 4.2** The definition of a key decision does not apply to proposals or decisions of the Leader acting in their capacity as Shareholder of a Local Authority Company owned or operated by the Council (Section 1.12 of the Constitution).
- 4.3** Proposals and decisions of the Leader acting in their capacity as Shareholder of a Local Authority Company owned or operated by the Council cannot be called in. (Section 3.2.30 of the Constitution).

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 5.1** In accordance with the Council's MTSRP, the company has a target of £1M per annum revenue financial returns to the Shareholder.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1** A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision-making risk management.

7. EQUALITIES

- 7.1** Not applicable

8. CLIMATE CHANGE

8.1 The company's approach to meeting climate emergency is set out in the business plan.

9. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 None

10. CONSULTATION

10.1 Director Capital & Housing Delivery, S151 Officer and Monitoring Officer

Contact person	Simon Martin, Director Regeneration & Housing
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	