

Section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 (S.137)

<u>S.137 is the statutory power</u> to spend a limited amount of money for purposes where the council has no other specific statutory power, and where the expenditure will bring community benefit.

It is a power of last resort, which means that before using S.137 the council should ensure it has no other power to act. If it has an alternative power, the council should use that power and not s.137.

The total that can be spent under the power is limited to an amount per elector. The S137 limit for 2025/26 is £11.10, which reflects the percentage increase in the retail price index, in accordance with Schedule 12B to the 1972 Act, as confirmed by the Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government.

Somerset Association of Local Councils, Edgar Hall, Somerton Business Park, 8 Carey Court, Somerton, TA11 6SB

