

Democratic Services

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Your ref:**Our ref:** CRS**Date:** 03 Jul 2013**E-mail:** Democratic_Services@bathnes.gov.uk**To: All Members of the Cabinet**

Councillor Paul Crossley	Leader of the Council
Councillor David Dixon	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
Councillor Simon Allen	Cabinet Member for Wellbeing
Councillor Tim Ball	Cabinet Member for Homes and Planning
Councillor David Bellotti	Cabinet Member for Community Resources
Councillor Caroline Roberts	Cabinet Member for Transport
Councillor Dine Romero	Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children and Youth
Councillor Ben Stevens	Cabinet Member for Sustainable Development

Chief Executive and other appropriate officers
Press and Public

Dear Member

Cabinet: Wednesday, 10th July, 2013

Please find attached a **SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA DESPATCH** of late papers which were not available at the time the Agenda was published. Please treat these papers as part of the Agenda.

Papers have been included for the following items:

12. TWO TUNNELS PROJECT UPDATE (Pages 3 - 18)

Yours sincerely

Col Spring
for Chief Executive

If you need to access this agenda or any of the supporting reports in an alternative accessible format please contact Democratic Services or the relevant report author whose details are listed at the end of each report.

This Agenda and all accompanying reports are printed on recycled paper

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Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING:	Cabinet	
MEETING DATE:	10th July 2013	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2483
TITLE:	Two Tunnels Project Update	
WARD:	Kingsmead, Westmoreland, Newbridge	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
<p>List of attachments to this report:</p> <p>Appendix 1: Two Tunnels Greenway Leaflet</p> <p>Appendix 2: Element 3 General Arrangement</p> <p>Appendix 3: Northern Link Route</p> <p>Appendix 4: Northern Link General Arrangement</p> <p>Appendix 5: Claude Avenue Link General Arrangement</p>		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 Sustrans formally opened the completed southern sections of the 2 Tunnels Greenway on 6th April, 2013 (Appendix 1), with an average of 520 cyclists using the route each day during the first week. Although not recorded by the automatic cycle counters, the route is also proving to be popular with walkers and joggers. This report provides an update on proposals to complete remaining northern section of the route, provide a northern link to the Riverside Path and a local link to Claude Ave.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet agrees that:

2.1 Subject to agreement with Sustrans under a Memorandum of Understanding, DfT's Linking to Communities grant be accepted to complete the remaining off road section on Council land through the northern section of Linear Park, with the works to upgrade the existing permissive footpath to a permissive cycle track for use by pedestrians and cyclists to be constructed by the Council using its land ownership powers between the disused Somerset and Dorset Railway Bridge and Bellotts Road (Element 3).

2.2 Sustrans under licence to Network Rail re-open the disused Somerset and Dorset Railway bridge for pedestrians and cyclists on a temporary basis until the bridge is replaced as part of the mainline rail electrification works planned from 2015

onwards. The access arrangements on Council land through Linear Park and extent of the Works on Linear Park are to be agreed with the Council.

- 2.3 The Council enter into agreements with Network Rail for the adoption and maintenance of a new replacement foot/cycle bridge provided by Network Rail as part of the mainline rail electrification works.
- 2.4 The DfT Cycle Safety Grant be accepted by Council for the purpose of implementing the 2 Tunnels Northern Links scheme in accordance with the grant conditions and agreed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sustrans.
- 2.5 Subject to planning conditions being met, Claude Avenue Cycle Link is constructed by the Council between Claude Avenue and the 2 Tunnels Greenway funded by the LSTF WEST project.
- 2.6 The Divisional Director for Environmental Services be:
 - i) Authorised to negotiate and enter into any necessary agreements with Network Rail to facilitate the adoption and maintenance of the cycle/footbridge and seek to minimise future maintenance costs.
 - ii) Authorised to agree the Memorandum of Understanding with Sustrans to access funding allocated to Element 3 and Northern Link projects from the DfT Cycle Safety Fund and Links to Communities Fund.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The estimated cost of each aspect of the projects is:

Element 3 on the northern section of Linear Park (Appendix 2) – £80k (fully grant funded by Linking to Communities Fund)

Northern Link (Appendix 3 and 4) – £330,470 (Funded by £70,000 Integrated Transport Block funding, £35,000 S106 funding and £225,470 DfT Cycle Safety Fund)

Claude Avenue Link (Appendix 5) - £180k (fully grant funded by LSTF WEST project)

- 3.2 The works are funded by a combination of DfT grants, with the Council providing match funding of £70k from the 2013/14 LTP capital programme and S106 Funding of £35k for the Northern Link project.
- 3.3 The scheme will improve the existing unmade footpath to a high quality bitumen macadam surface 3m wide through Linear Park and replace an existing Pelican Crossing, reducing existing and future maintenance costs. However the Council will be responsible for maintaining the cost of a new foot/cycle bridge over the mainline. The design life of highway structures is 120 years and typically the main costs to the Council will be in maintaining the protective paintwork to steel structures approximately every 15 years. Expenditure on highway structures is managed from existing budgets on a risk assessment basis to ensure the condition of highway structures do not become critical.

- 3.4 Currently there is no maintenance funding provision for the Two Tunnels project in the council's ownership. Consequently planned or reactive works to this asset could potentially increase the existing maintenance backlog.

4 CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

- *Promoting independence and positive lives for everyone*

The 2 Tunnels Greenway provides a safe off road route for pedestrians and cyclists to use for every day journeys for work, education and leisure purposes.

- *Creating neighbourhoods where people are proud to live*

The scheme is supported and promoted by the 2 Tunnels Group, a local community group who also help to maintain the route with the Council's Parks Service.

- *Building a stronger economy*

The route directly serves the Bath 'City of Ideas' Enterprise Area and will encourage more people to walk and cycle, particularly for short trips, thus reducing traffic congestion.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The Council has worked with Sustrans to develop the 2 Tunnels Greenway, with the Council being responsible for constructing the route through Linear Park and a section of the route in Lyncombe Vale. These sections of the route are in the Council's ownership.

- 5.2 Sustrans has been responsible for constructing the section of the route outside the Council's ownership including the route through Devonshire and Combe Down Tunnels and the section of the route to the south of Combe Down Tunnel over Midford Viaduct.

- 5.3 Although the route was formally opened on 6th April, 2013, Element 3 of the route over the mainline railway and through Linear Park to Bellotts Road is not yet complete. Sustrans has been negotiating with Network Rail to reopen the former Somerset and Dorset railway bridge for pedestrians and cyclists. However the mainline electrification project has delayed a decision being made by Network Rail over the future of the bridge until recently.

- 5.4 In April 2013, Network Rail agreed to allow Sustrans to temporarily reopen the bridge for pedestrians and cyclists pending the demolition of the bridge for the electrification project from 2015 onwards. The bridge would then be replaced at Network Rail's expense by a new pedestrian/cycle bridge to a design approved by the council, who will then adopt the bridge and be responsible for future maintenance.

- 5.5 On the section of the route through Linear Way between the bridge and Bellotts Road, the Council will construct a new 3m wide permissive cycle track for use by pedestrians and cyclists, upgrading the existing unmade footpath. The cost of this work is estimated to be £80k entirely funded by Links to Communities Grant.

- 5.6 The Northern Link between the 2 Tunnels Greenway to the Riverside Path creates an attractive circular route between NCN 4 along the river, through Bath city centre and along the Kennett and Avon canal.
- 5.7 The scheme involves widening the northern side of Lower Bristol Road footway between Burnham Road and Fieldings Road under powers contained in the Highways Act 1980 and creating a cycle track for use by pedestrians and cyclists and upgrading the existing Pelican Crossing to a Toucan Crossing. The route then crosses the Halfpenny Bridge over the river to connect with the Riverside path
- 5.8 At present cycling is not permitted across the bridge and cycle dismount signs will be erected on each side of the bridge. The Council will monitor the usage of the bridge to determine in consultation with local ward members whether cyclists should be permitted to use the bridge in the future.
- 5.9 As part of original plan for the 2 Tunnels Greenway a number of connections to local roads were identified as being desirable, but not essential to the project. One of these connections is the link to Claude Avenue. The link is supported by the local community and primary school as well as the 2 Tunnels Group and it is proposed to use LSTF WEST funding to provide this link. The scheme is likely to need planning consent.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 The report author and Lead Cabinet member have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been completed. The scheme provides an off road route that is accessible and of positive benefit to disabled people. Adverse impacts were identified with potential conflicts between elderly and disabled pedestrians sharing the route with fast moving cyclists. Sustrans, promoters of the route, have published a code of conduct to remind cyclists of the need to act responsibly and cycle safely on the shared use paths. The code is being publicised by the 2 Tunnels Group following the partial opening of the route and early reports of conflicts between different types of user.

8 RATIONALE

- 8.1 The rationale is to complete the 2 Tunnels Greenway and provide an attractive and continuous cycle route along the Riverside Path through the centre of Bath and along the Kennett & Avon Canal, with a new local link provided to Claude Avenue.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 A route connecting the 2 Tunnels Greenway to the Riverside Path across the Lower Bristol Road and along Windsor Bridge Road was considered, but the volume of traffic and lack of controlled crossing points for cyclists to use ruled this option out.

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 Ward Councillor; Cabinet members; Stakeholders/Partners; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer by email and through the 2 Tunnels Steering Group. A meeting was held on site with Westmoreland Ward Cllr Sharon Ball to discuss and agree the proposals.

10.2 Further consultation will be undertaken with Ward members and local residents on cycle access across the Halfpenny Footbridge. In the meantime cyclists will be required to dismount prior to crossing the bridge.

11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

11.1 Customer Focus; Sustainability; Property; Other Legal Considerations

12 ADVICE SOUGHT

12.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

Contact person	Adrian.Clarke@Bathnes.gov.uk ; 01225 395223
Sponsoring Cabinet Member	<i>Councillor Caroline Roberts</i>
Background papers	<i>E1842 Two Tunnels Project</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

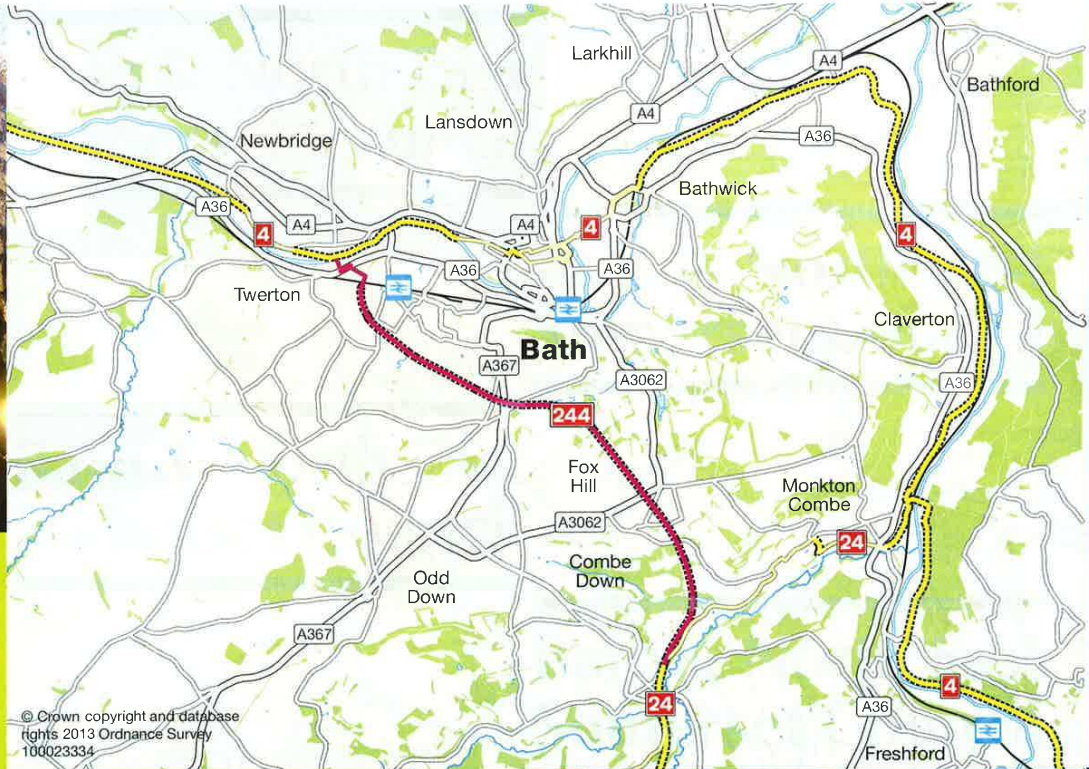
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LOCAL TRAVEL MAP

Bath Two Tunnels

Page 9



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Bath walking and cycling network

This map has been developed to help you travel around Bath and the surrounding area by foot, bike and public transport. Each grid on the map overleaf represents an average of 10 minutes walk or four minutes cycle ride, showing just how quick it is to get around under your own steam. However, do allow additional time for the occasional hill.

Two new bridges across Millmead Road and Monksdale Road, two tunnels that run 100m under the surrounding hills, and a spectacular viaduct, transport users from close to the city centre into the surrounding countryside and back again. Or why not take the lane from Tucking Mill to Dundas Viaduct to join the canal path back to Bath, a scenic 13 mile circular tour.

This map also displays bus routes and stops to enable you to link into journeys where you need to travel further afield.



The Two Tunnels Greenway

This virtually flat path connects Bath to the Midford Valley, following the track-bed of the former Somerset and Dorset Railway. It incorporates the Devonshire Tunnel and Combe Down Tunnel; the longest walking and cycling tunnel in Britain.

The route links with the Colliers Way at Midford to Wellow, Radstock and Frome in the south, the Bristol to Bath Railway Path in the west, and the Kennet and Avon canal path east to Bradford-on-Avon and Devizes.

This new route, opened in April 2013, is just part of Sustrans' UK-wide project to extend the National Cycle Network into the heart of thousands of communities across the UK.

Connecting your journey

Walking and cycling

Sustrans. Browse, download and create online maps of local walking and cycling routes.
www.sustrans.org.uk
 Tel: 0845 113 0065

Bus

For details of local bus services including timetables
Traveline South West
 Tel: 0871 22 22 33
www.travelinesw.com

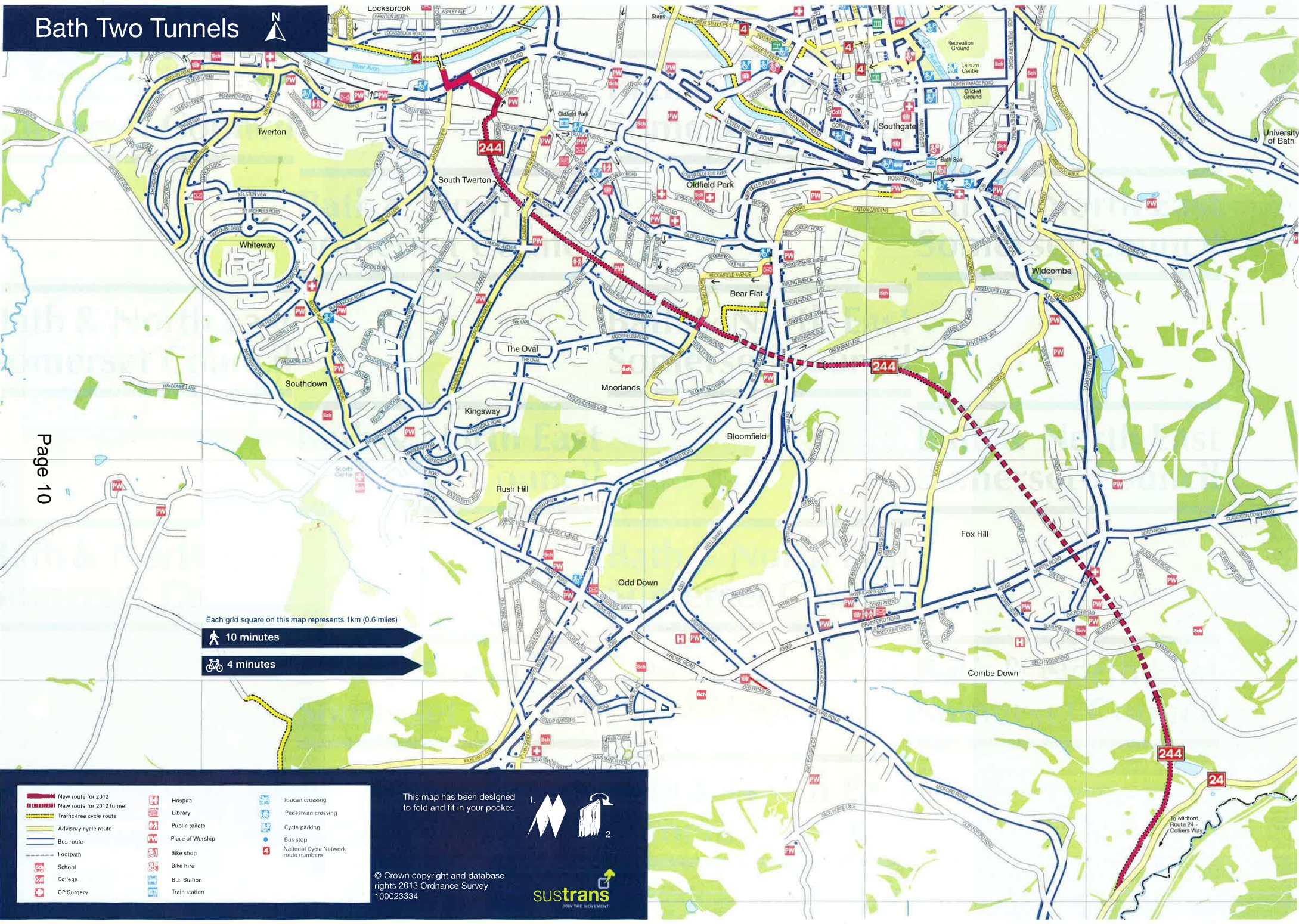
Train

National Rail Enquiries. For details of local train services including timetables.
www.nationalrail.co.uk
 Tel: 08457 48 49 50



About Sustrans
 Sustrans is the charity that's enabling people to travel by foot, bike or public transport for more of the journeys we make everyday.
 It's time we all began making smarter travel choices.
 Make your move and support Sustrans today.
www.sustrans.org.uk





Each grid square on this map represents 1km (0.6 miles)

10 minutes
 4 minutes

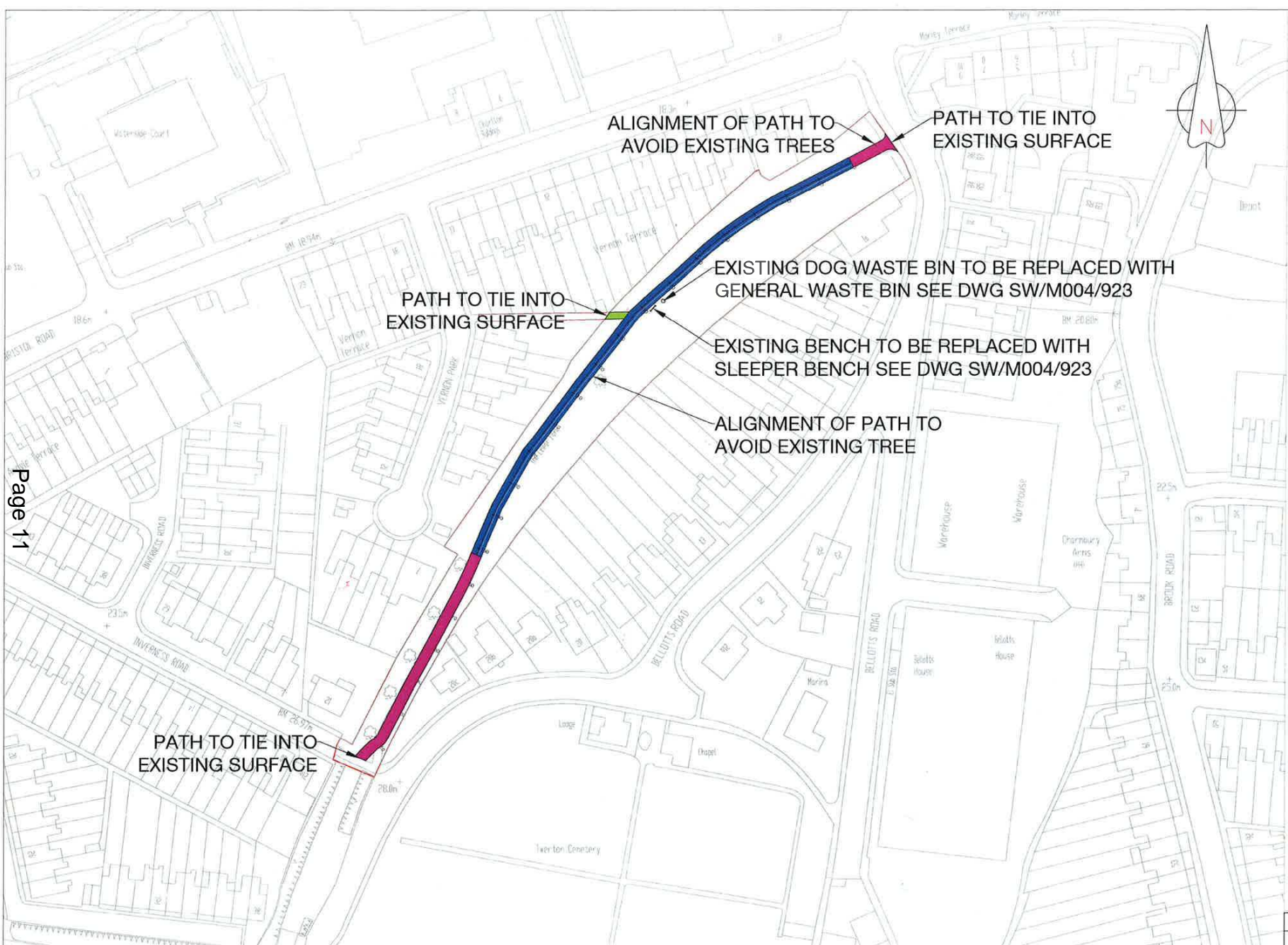
New route for 2012	Hospital	Toucan crossing
New route for 2012 tunnel	Library	Pedestrian crossing
Traffic-free cycle route	Public toilets	Cycle parking
Advisory cycle route	Place of Worship	Bus stop
Bus route	Bike shop	National Cycle Network route numbers
Footpath	School	
School	College	
GP Surgery	Bus Station	
	Train station	

This map has been designed to fold and fit in your pocket.



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- Notes:
1. The exact route of the greenway is to be agreed on site with the engineer prior to commencing.
 2. The exact location of street furniture to be agreed on site with the Engineer.
 3. All paths to be constructed at existing grade.
 4. All waste bins to be Iles Knight Free Standing type.
 5. Bins to be installed according to manufacturers instructions.
 6. This drawing to be read in conjunction with all other drawings.

Key:

- Typical 3m wide greenway section SW/M004/632
- Typical 2m wide greenway link section SW/M004/632
- Typical 3m wide greenway root protection section SW/M004/632

Page 11



National Cycle Network Centre
 2 Cathedral Square
 College Green
 Bristol BS1 5DD
 Tel: 0117 926 8893
 Fax: 0117 929 4173

Status: **FOR APPROVAL**

Drawn by: PT Checked by: MP

Project: **Bath Two Tunnels**

Title: **P3a GA**

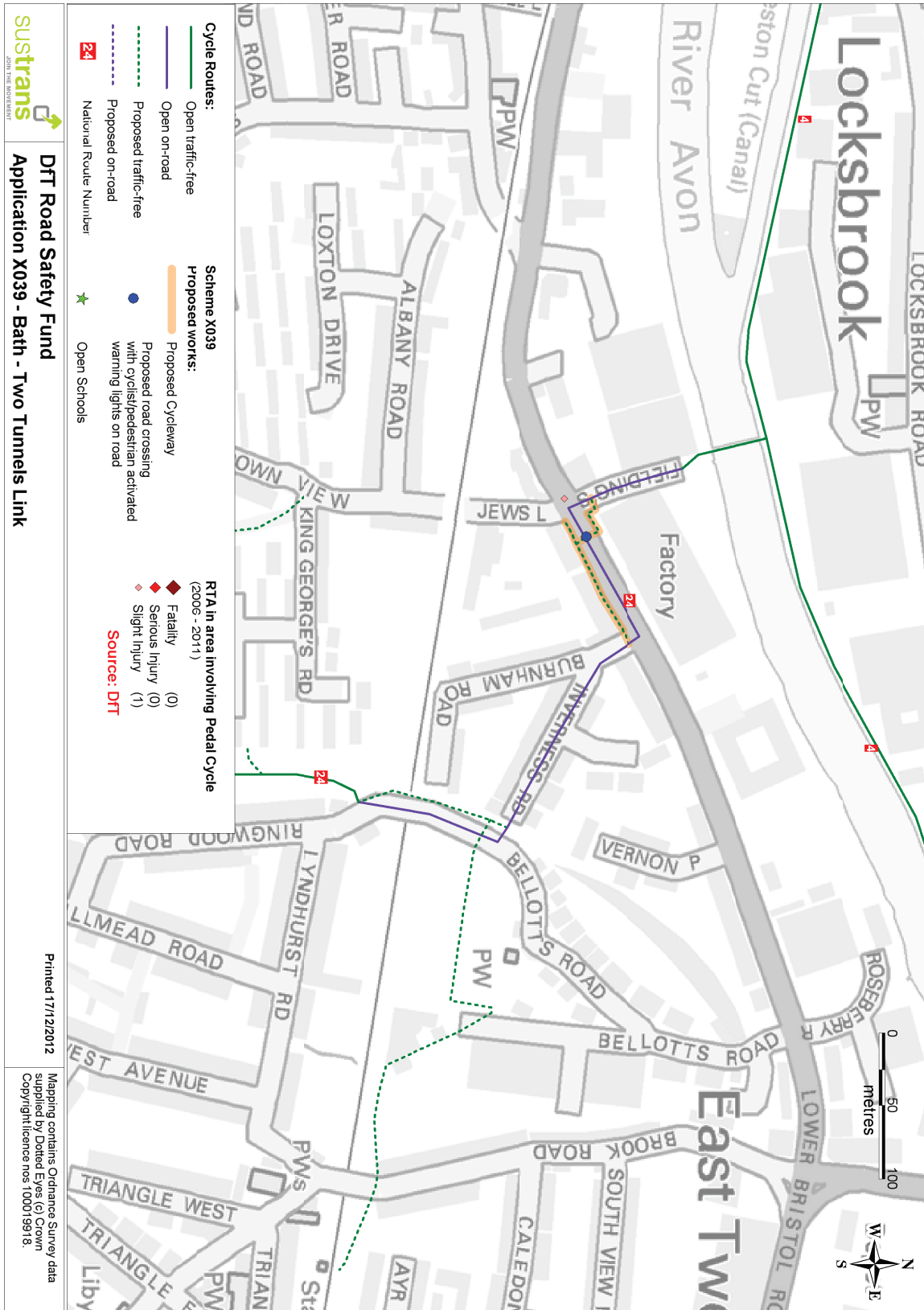
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Scale © A1:
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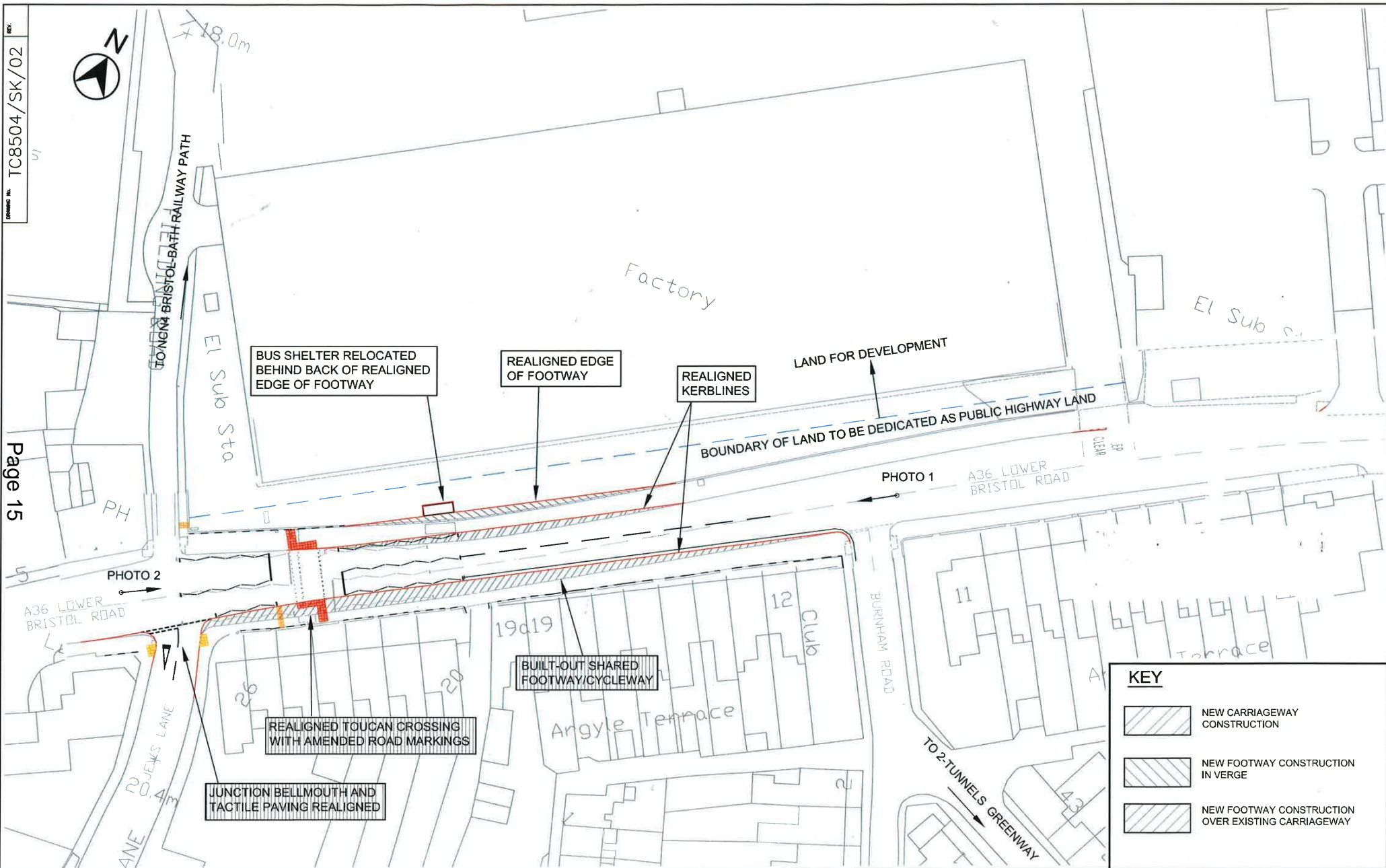
Rev	Description	Drawn	Date
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**Cycle Safety Fund – Memorandum of Understanding
Schedule of Works X039 - 2 Tunnels Greenway Northern Link**



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KEY	
	NEW CARRIAGEWAY CONSTRUCTION
	NEW FOOTWAY CONSTRUCTION IN VERGE
	NEW FOOTWAY CONSTRUCTION OVER EXISTING CARRIAGEWAY

Bath & North East Somerset Council
 KELVIN PACKER
 SERVICE MANAGER - HIGHWAYS AND PARKING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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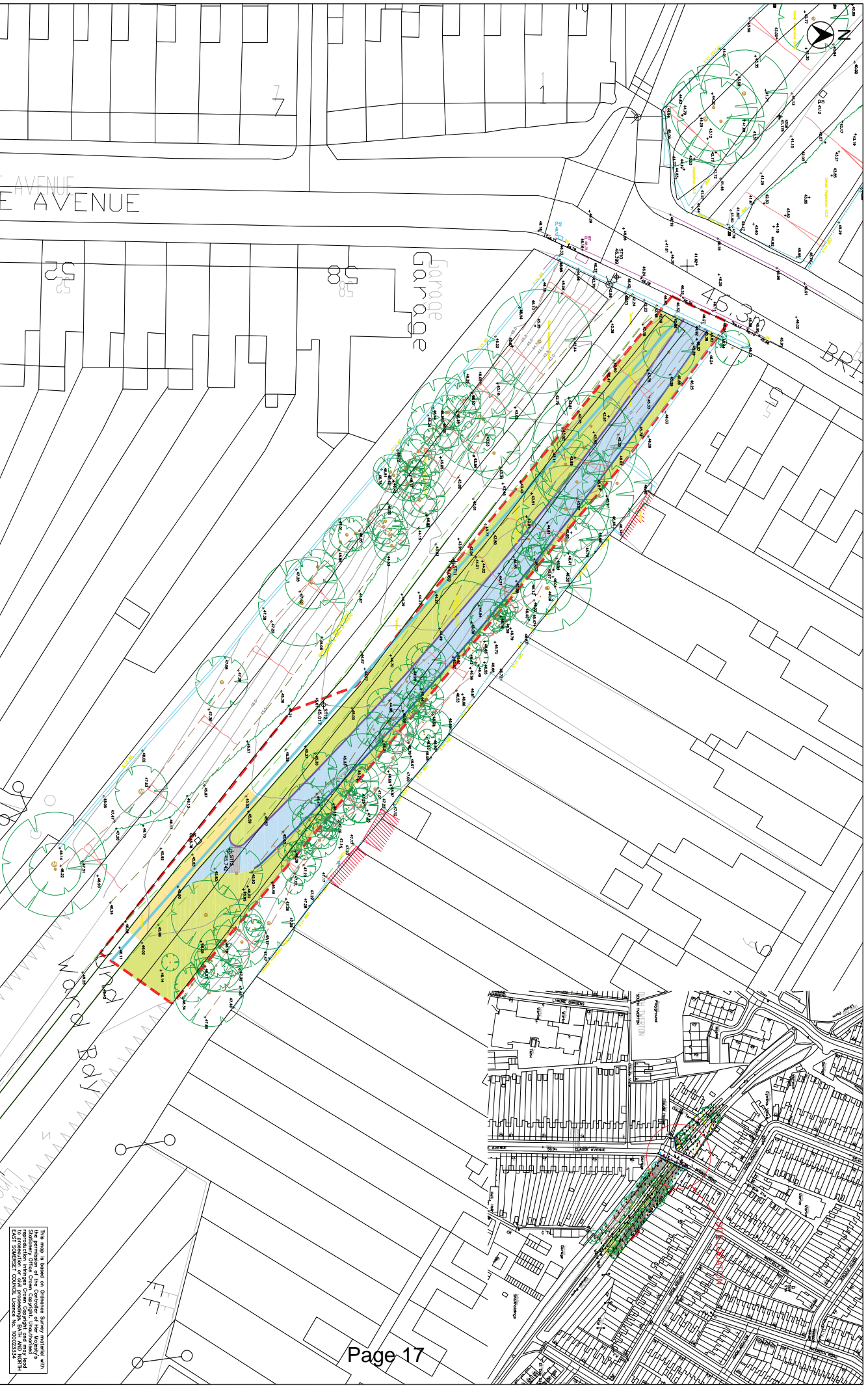
SCHEME TITLE
 2 TUNNELS GREENWAY
 NORTHERN LINK

DRAWING TITLE
 FIELDING'S ROAD PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IMPROVEMENT WORKS

REV.	DATE	REVISIONS	ORNL	CHKD.	APPROV.

DATE	NOV 2012	DRAWN BY	TRH	APPROVED BY	
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DRAWING No.	TC8504/SK/02				REV.

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Bath & North East Somerset Council
 KEVIN POKER
 SERVICE MANAGER – HIGHWAYS AND PARKING
 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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SCALE TITLE

DRAWING TITLE

REV	DATE	REVISIONS

DATE	DRAWN BY	APPROVED BY
SCALE	CHECKED	
CLIENT REF:	DRAWING No.	REV.
	TC8511 - 01	

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