

Democratic Services

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Date: 19th September 2013

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**To: All Members of the Economic and Community Development Policy
Development and Scrutiny Panel**

Councillor Robin Moss
Councillor Cherry Beath
Councillor Patrick Anketell-Jones
Councillor Brian Simmons
Councillor Andrew Furse
Councillor Geoff Ward
Councillor Dave Laming
Councillor David Martin
Councillor Les Kew

Chief Executive and other appropriate officers
Press and Public

Dear Member

**Economic and Community Development Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel:
Thursday, 26th September, 2013**

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **Economic and Community Development Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel**, to be held on **Thursday, 26th September, 2013 at 1.00 pm** in the **Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath**.

The agenda is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely

Jack Latkovic
for Chief Executive

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NOTES:

- 1. Inspection of Papers:** Any person wishing to inspect minutes, reports, or a list of the background papers relating to any item on this Agenda should contact Jack Latkovic who is available by telephoning Bath 01225 394452 or by calling at the Riverside Offices Keynsham (during normal office hours).
- 2. Public Speaking at Meetings:** The Council has a scheme to encourage the public to make their views known at meetings. They may make a statement relevant to what the meeting has power to do. They may also present a petition or a deputation on behalf of a group. Advance notice is required not less than two full working days before the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday)

The public may also ask a question to which a written answer will be given. Questions must be submitted in writing to Democratic Services at least two full working days in advance of the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays, notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday). If an answer cannot be prepared in time for the meeting it will be sent out within five days afterwards. Further details of the scheme can be obtained by contacting Jack Latkovic as above.

- 3. Details of Decisions taken at this meeting** can be found in the minutes which will be published as soon as possible after the meeting, and also circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime details can be obtained by contacting Jack Latkovic as above.

Appendices to reports are available for inspection as follows:-

Public Access points - Riverside - Keynsham, Guildhall - Bath, Hollies - Midsomer Norton, and Bath Central, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton public libraries.

For Councillors and Officers papers may be inspected via Political Group Research Assistants and Group Rooms/Members' Rooms.

- 4. Attendance Register:** Members should sign the Register which will be circulated at the meeting.
- 5. THE APPENDED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE IDENTIFIED BY AGENDA ITEM NUMBER.**
- 6. Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

When the continuous alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building by one of the designated exits and proceed to the named assembly point. The designated exits are sign-posted.

Arrangements are in place for the safe evacuation of disabled people.

**Economic and Community Development Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel -
Thursday, 26th September, 2013**

at 1.00 pm in the Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath

A G E N D A

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
2. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair will draw attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out under Note 6.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting declarations of interest are received from Members in any of the agenda items under consideration at the meeting. Members are asked to indicate:

(a) The agenda item number in which they have an interest to declare.

(b) The nature of their interest.

(c) Whether their interest is **a disclosable pecuniary interest** or an **other interest**,
(as defined in Part 2, A and B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests)

Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer before the meeting to expedite dealing with the item during the meeting.

5. TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN
6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

At the time of publication no notifications had been received.

7. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 18)

8. CABINET MEMBER UPDATE

The Cabinet Member will update the panel on any relevant issues. Panel members may ask questions

9. COMMUNITY SAFETY - CONNECTING FAMILIES UPDATE (30 MINUTES) (Pages 19 - 36)

The Panel are asked to note the progress being made with Connecting Families Strategy.

10. BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET DIGITAL PROGRAMME (20 MINUTES) (Pages 37 - 38)

The Panel are asked to consider the written update and receive a presentation on the B&NES Digital Programme.

11. ARTS STRATEGY VERBAL UPDATE (20 MINUTES)

The Panel are asked to consider verbal update from the Divisional Director for Planning and Transport.

12. PANEL WORKPLAN (Pages 39 - 42)

This report presents the latest workplan for the Panel.

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Jack Latkovic who can be contacted on 01225 394452.

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL

Thursday, 18th July, 2013

Present:- Councillors Cherry Beath (Chair), Patrick Anketell-Jones, Brian Simmons, Geoff Ward, Dave Laming, David Martin and Katie Hall (In place of Andrew Furse)

15 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Cherry Beath took the Chair for this meeting due to absence of Councillor Robin Moss.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

16 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chairman drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure.

17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Councillors Robin Moss had sent his apology to the Panel.

Councillor Andrew Furse has sent his apology to the Panel. Councillor Katie Hall was substitute for Councillor Furse.

18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

19 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There was none.

20 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

The Chair informed the meeting that members of the public and Councillors may ask their questions to Sue Mountstevens (Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner) after the introduction of agenda item 8 (Annual Report of the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner).

The Chair informed the meeting that two members of the public will address the Panel at this stage of the meeting with their statements.

The Chairman invited Lin Patterson, from Save Our Larkhall Public Toilets group, to address the Panel with her statement.

Lin Patterson read out the statement where she asked the Panel to agree that closing public toilets, without the viable alternative, is seriously reducing quality of life for some people and it is putting the community in the risk of economic deterioration.

Lin Patterson also said that there is currently no alternative provision for public toilets in Larkhall and may it not be by April 2014 (the new date for closure). The Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) from September 2012, section 1.3 states that there will be provision where there is no provision. Weston toilets will remain open until an alternative is agreed so why the same doesn't apply to Larkhall.

Lin Patterson concluded her statement by highlighting the impact on the economy and potential increase in crime if the toilets in Larkhall are closed. The Save Our Larkhall Toilets group members spoke at six committees in two weeks and felt that they were fobbed off. Lin Patterson said that the campaign to save the toilets will escalate with 534 residents so far signing the petition.

A full copy of the statement from Lin Patterson is available on the Minute Book in Democratic Services.

The Chair thanked Lin Patterson for her statement.

The Chair said that the statement will be passed to the relevant Cabinet Member for consideration.

The Chairman invited Susan Charles (Honorary Chair of the Access BANES Group) to address the Panel with her statement.

Susan Charles explained that she was speaking on behalf of the Access BANES Group with the request for a support that the disabled access to the rear of Keynsham Leisure Centre be reinstated.

Susan Charles said that she received officer's response that no access will be provided until the new leisure centre is built. Susan Charles said that response was not good enough considering that the current access is not adequate for people with disabilities and also there are no parking spaces agreed.

Susan Charles concluded her statement by saying that she contacted the Divisional Director for Environmental Services on Tuesday 16th July with her concerns and asked the Panel for the support on this matter.

A full copy of the statement from Susan Charles is available on the Minute Book.

The Chair thanked Susan Charles for her statement. The Chair expressed her hope that Susan Charles will receive a response from the Divisional Director soon. The

Chair also said that the Panel will consider this issue at their meeting in September 2013 when Leisure Strategy is expected to be on the agenda.

21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 23RD MAY 2013

The Panel confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record and they were duly signed by the Chair.

22 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (45 MINUTES)

The Chair welcomed Sue Mountstevens (Avon and Somerset Police and crime Commissioner), Daniel Howitt (Planning and Performance Officer for Police and Crime Commissioner) and Simon Ellis (Chief Inspector for bath and North East Somerset) to the meeting.

The Chair invited Sue Mountstevens to take the Panel through her report. Sue Mountstevens thanked the Chair and the Panel for an invite to this meeting. Sue Mountstevens explained that Daniel Howitt is here to answer some planning and performance questions and Simon Ellis for operational questions.

Sue Mountstevens took the Panel through the report by highlighting the following points:

INTRODUCTION

Sue Mountstevens provided an overview of her work since being elected as Avon and Somerset's first Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012.

While the Chief Constable retains operational independence of policing, the Commissioner's new role has responsibility for:-

- improving the local accountability and effectiveness of the police
- driving improvements across the criminal justice system
- putting the voice of victims of crime at the heart of the criminal justice system

More specific duties set out by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 include:-

- Setting the council tax precept for policing
- Appointing the Chief Constable
- Setting the strategic direction of the Constabulary through the P&C Plan
- Working with other agencies to reduce crime
- Issuing Police and Crime grants

ACTIVITY TO DATE

Issuing the Police and Crime Plan –

- Based on extensive consultation with communities
- This led, alongside a partnership assessments of issues, risks and threats led to four force wide priorities being identified:-
 - Anti-social behaviour
 - Domestic and sexual violence
 - Burglary
 - Putting victims at the heart of the CJ system
- Six local authority level plans were published, which included the first Police and Crime Plan for BaNES.
 - This set out What the police and crime objectives mean for the people of BaNES and how local people can get involved in supporting the plan. It also included the locally-specific priorities of road safety, and improving police accessibility.
- The Commissioner also set performance aspirations as part of the plan to improve year on year and be a top ten performing force across all of the priority areas by 2017. More specifically, the Commissioner aims to improve:-
 - Victim satisfaction for ASB and the proportion of cases fully resolved
 - Reported domestic and sexual violence
 - Detection rates for serious sexual violence and burglary
 - Burglary reduction
 - Victim satisfaction and criminal justice outcomes

In her first six months in office, the Commissioner has also:-

- Set the police budget
- Appointed Chief Constable Nick Gargan
- Established a Business Crime Forum to give businesses a voice in policing and share best practice
- Issued Community Safety, youth offending and drug intervention grants and made preparations for the commissioning of local victim services from October 2014.
- Launched a Community Action Fund of £200,000 in 2013/14 which grants community projects with up to £5000 to tackle local issues related to the plan. There have already been 50 applicants in quarter 1.
- Listened extensively to communities through consultations and 'out and about' events
- Recruited a Volunteers Panel to independently scrutinise police complaints.

Sue Mountstevens also added that the first Police and Crime Plan for B&NES will target anti-social behaviour, support PACT meetings, support safe and vibrant night-time economy, support for Connecting Families project (one of the key elements in tackling anti-social behaviour) and target an increase in reporting violence against women and children. The Plan will be also looking in tackling persistent offenders in burglary as this sort of crime is done by few persistent offenders, Bobby Van Scheme, stronger neighbourhood-watch and street-watch and support for victims.

Sue Mountstevens also said that £60k is allocated to B&NES as Community Safety grant for support of community safety project and help for substance misuse project. There is also support for Youth Offending Team in B&NES (£15k) and for drug prevention programme (£40k).

The Chair thanked Sue Mountstevens for the introduction.

The Chair informed the meeting that the Panel will ask their questions first. Public and Councillors will ask their questions after the Panel.

The Chair said that grant allocation figures for B&NES look much lower than for the other areas and asked how those figures were set.

Sue Mountstevens responded that the PCC office looked at the population, the level of crime, areas of deprivation and similar when those grants were allocated.

The Chair asked about the treatment of people with mental health issues.

Sue Mountstevens replied that sometimes mentally ill people fill in Police cells even when they haven't committed any crime. There are occasions when the Police may act if they believe that someone is suffering from a mental illness and is in need of immediate treatment or care. Their powers for such occasions are set out in Section 136 of the Mental Health Act. This gives them the authority to take a person from a public place to a 'Place of Safety', either for their own protection or for the protection of others, so that their immediate needs can be properly assessed. Sue Mountstevens said that although Police are not paramedics, these people should never be taken to Police cells but to a 'Place of Safety' (provided by the NHS).

The Chair commented that Central Government cuts are probably high topic on the PCC's agenda and asked for reassurance that, despite the cuts, there will be a priority to protect services here. Whilst noting that crime levels were done, given the Government cuts how might that affect B&NES, could the Panel get reassurance that services here will be protected, including the local community presence.

Sue Mountstevens responded that nothing that can be ring-fenced and that she has to find another £15m in savings. Despite the initial saving of £35m, the crime has gone down and detection has gone up. However, another £15m of saving will have to be made in the next two years. It will be difficult though Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) independent report, which just came out today, gave excellent response to Avon and Somerset area. The report commended long term approach rather than 'salami slicing' approach (series of many small actions). That does mean prioritisation – some things will not be done and it will upset some people but there has to be prioritisation to make our residents be safe and feel safe and reduce the crime. Sue Mountstevens also said that she will be transparent with people on what it can, and cannot, be done. There will be some risks to Police Stations as there will be reduction in senior officers, who cost more. Neighbouring policing teams will be looked after though.

The Chair also asked about the fact that Avon and Somerset area was noted as third worst in the country for emergency response time, even worse than last year.

Sue Mountstevens responded that the area had 10% increase of crimes and as far as that is concern the service is doing fine. Sue Mountstevens added that she is not satisfied with those figures and since that report was published her office had been looking at it.

Councillor Katie Hall said that Devon, Cornwall and four other authorities are piloting the scheme where mental health workers patrolling with police officers. Given the recent death in custody of somebody with mental health issues did the PCC apply to be a pilot for this scheme? If not, why not?

Sue Mountstevens responded that Avon and Somerset was not invited to participate in this pilot hence why this is not happening in this area. Sue Mountstevens also informed the Panel there is only one bed to cover one million people in Bristol area for people with mental health issues, although it should be four beds. Sue Mountstevens will talk with the AWP and other mental health providers to get more beds. For the moment, people with mental health problems are in Police cells, which is not acceptable.

Councillor Dave Laming asked about the PCC's policy for river and riverbank policing.

Sue Mountstevens responded that there is no specific policy for river. The night time economy is vital for Bath and there were terrible accidents that happened around river and she invited Simon Ellis to comment on operational issues.

Simon Ellis said that Police Officer patrol riverbank on regular basis, particularly around the areas that are used by people to get to and from home. Simon Ellis added that there were a number of tragic losses due to people going into the river after their night out. Part of the problem in making the area safer is that Police do not know who the land owner is. Police is also doing a lot of work with Universities in terms of education and advice for young people.

Councillor David Martin said that the Police Plan mentions crime prevention and reduction, and asked what steps the PCC is taking to allocate resources for these tasks, and what actions does the PCC envisage in this work.

Sue Mountstevens responded that crime prevention is the key part because it does not only reduce victims but also reduce the cost of harm. The service lost crime prevention officers so the PCC office has to look at the ways of joined activity (for example – Community Safety grant investment in joint work with other agencies). In terms of domestic violence – it is to do a lot with education and awareness and making sure that it is mainstream. In terms of burglary – there is a lot of work with 'Secured by Design' (the official UK Police initiative supporting 'designing out crime' owned by Association of Chief Police Officers). Sue Mountstevens is looking at the proactive target hardening with Bobby Van Scheme (working with vulnerable residents) and working with the neighbouring policing teams.

Simon Ellis added, from local perspective, that there are two Crime Reduction Officers, yet to be fully trained, who will work quite close with the South Gloucestershire Crime Reduction Officers who are fully trained.

Councillor Martin commented that there is Student Community Partnership in Bath and number of neighbourhood watch areas and it would be really useful if Crime Reduction Officers get in touch with those groups.

Councillor Patrick Anketell-Jones asked if the PCC will continue to provide support for PACT meetings.

Sue Mountstevens responded that she will certainly continue to support PACT meetings and also to rejuvenate those meetings in this area.

Councillor Anketell-Jones commented that it appears that Bath in summer is a lucrative place for beggars who can be given between £50 and £250 per day (amount confirmed by police). It was reported at the meeting that Bristol has eliminated serious begging by educating the public to give beggars food vouchers and not money. Councillor Anketell-Jones asked if that is true and if it is, what can Bath learn from Bristol?

Sue Mounstevens responded that the real issue for Bath is the number of tourists and it is mostly tourists who give money to beggars. It is much easier to educate residents in terms of tackling that issue.

Simon Ellis added that city centre team of Police Officer are well aware of begging in Bath. The takings vary to quite considerable sum per day, as mentioned by Councillor Anketell-Jones. The Police is trying various schemes at the moment, for instance trying to discourage people at known beginning points to give beggars the money. There is also dedicated Anti-Social Behaviour Team which use all available powers to stop beggars in the city centre.

Councillor Geoff Ward said that in his Ward there is big fear of crime, in particular of burglary, though his office was robbed few weeks ago. Councillor Ward welcomed the aspiration for Avon and Somerset to become one of the top ten performers in terms of crime reduction by 2017 and asked what measures have been taken to meet those targets.

Sue Mountstevens responded that these priorities are set by the public. It is important that those messages are fed to the Police so they know what the public wants. The Police had done amazing work to tackle these issues and there are some real differences within the first three months. Sue Mountstevens said that there are no officers who do not know what the priorities are.

Daniel Howitt added that there was substantial change in burglary figures in the first three months. It is all about looking into ways to improve the process and to gather the right intelligence. So far in B&NES there were 15% fewer burglaries than at the same quarter last year (92 burglaries so far this year). The detection rate for burglaries in B&NES is extremely strong, 22% detected. Still not high enough but when compared with the average of 15% domestic burglaries detected, it is high. One of the ways to reduce burglaries is to tackle most prolific offenders and work together with neighbourhood watch, crime-stoppers and similar groups.

Simon Ellis added that the approach from the Police is to identify those prolific individuals and work proactively with those individuals to steer them away from

crime. Simon Ellis also said that for 90 burglaries there are probably 12 key offenders who are responsible.

Councillor Neil Butters, as Chairman of the Council, also welcomed Sue Mountstevens, Simon Ellis and Daniel Howitt to the meeting. Councillor Butters said that he is a Ward Councillor for Bathavon South and villages in his Ward have particular problems with speed limits, in particular with 20mph limits. Councillor Butters asked if there is a way to enforce 20mph speed limits.

Councillor Ian Gilchrist asked about the work with the Community Speedwatch.

Sue Mountstevens responded that Community Speedwatch is the subject very close to her heart – it is resident led and the PCC is now looking to set the consistent approach across the area. The Chief Constable is asked to do a review of them. Some of the Community Speedwatch is really good, like the one in Widcombe though some others were not. The PCC office will be looking how to help residents on this matter. There are six mobile camera vehicles across the patch which will go to hotspots. If residents believe that vehicles should go to certain areas they could put the bid where the vehicles should go. The PCC office is also in the process of purchasing three motorbikes with cameras on as some narrow areas are not safe enough for vans. Sue Mountstevens also said that she is talking with Local Authorities about putting fixed cameras on. The residents were quite clear that they want to be and feel safe on the roads.

Ben Simpson asked the PCC and the authority about the opportunity to find more effective and cost efficient approaches to reducing crime through a whole systems perspective of the criminal justice system.

Sue Mountstevens responded that Criminal Justice system is a combination of various agencies that in the past have regarded themselves in silos. Now, there is a Criminal Justice Board (the PCC and Chief Constable are members of that board). The measures are now set on how various agencies will work together. Everyone has some cuts from the Government and everyone has to work together though Sue Mountstevens wants to make the victims' journey as short as possible from the time they report the crime to the time they go to the court. The quality of Police files could be better for example. The Crime Prosecution Services (CPS) charging times could be shorter once all files are digitalised. The access to advisory services will be also looked at. Magistrates and Judges will be also looked at by making sure that they have victim impact statements. Sue Mountstevens also said messages coming from the ground will be fed strategically.

Councillor Sarah Bevan said that her questions are about youth justice. Councillor Bevan asked about £5,000 reward to local communities to tackle anti-social behaviour and asked if young people, who worked really hard with local Councillors and PCSOs to tackle anti-social behaviour within youngsters, would qualify for that reward.

Sue Mountstevens said that she visited the skate park in Midsomer Norton, which is one of great ways to keep young people interested and keep them away from being bored. Sue Mountstevens also said that she had an application for some similar project from one of the applicants for the reward and the probable response will be

positive, which means that particular group will likely receive £5,000 reward with the condition for them to raise the rest of the money.

Councillor Bevan asked Sue Mountstevens on her views on rehabilitation programme for young people.

Sue Mountstevens responded that the PCC office is very positive with the prospect of working with businesses to offer employment to young offenders and ex-offenders.

Patrick Knox asked about the working relationship between the PCC and the Health and Wellbeing Boards.

Sue Mounstevens responded that she was invited to most of the Health and Wellbeing Boards. Sue Mountstevens said that there is very strong correlation between people who have poor health and then go on to commit the crime. For those reasons the Sue Mountstevens want to work with the Health and Wellbeing Boards and Clinical Commissioning Groups. Sue Mounstevens also said that she is overwhelmed with the good will that is coming from the Health and Wellbeing Boards across Avon and Somerset. In the other parts of country there is no such strong working relationship like here.

Colette Lyons asked about the National Policing Landscape.

Sue Mountstevens responded that there are number of things happening in this area. National Crime Agency, which starts later on this year, will engage with the PCC on regional basis.

The Police ICT Company has been established to provide vital support to the police service and provide the PCCs with the tools to achieve value for money and operational effectiveness. There is also new College of Policing (evidence based policing).

Councillor Dine Romero (Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children, and Youth) asked about bullying in schools considering that, according to some statistics, 30% of children are bullied. This was discussed with parents and the overall view is that it should be treated more serious, perhaps with the Police.

Sue Mountstevens responded that this is really difficult subject. The use of social media nowadays is quite overwhelming in comparison to few years ago. Sue Mountstevens said that she is engaging with educational heads with the message to educate and train young people though she doesn't want anything to criminalise young people. This is one of the areas that Police and education need to work close with each other.

Councillor Vic Pritchard said that he represents one of the rural Wards and that he is grateful that Police Station in Compton Martin remained open.

Sue Mountstevens commented that she has severe cuts to make and that she wants to safeguard as many officers as she can and if that means selling Police Stations then Sue Mountstevens will do that.

Peter Duppa-Miller asked about the future of PACT meetings.

Sue Mountstevens responded that she is working with departments within constabulary and also with local Parishes and in her view PACT meetings are our future – they are eyes and ears for the Police. However, there are some incredible effective PACTs which are making difference though there are some PACTs where the same people turn out without making any difference.

The Chair noted that Sue Mountstevens visited some hot spots in Bristol last Saturday and invited her to do the same with Bath and other places with the night time economy in B&NES.

Councillor Laming suggested that the PCC could look to create centres of excellence for youth as one of ways to engage young people.

The Chair, on behalf of the Panel, thanked Sue Mountstevens, Simon Ellis and Daniel Howitt for the report and for the answers provided at the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to:

- 1) Note the report from the Police and Crime Commissioner
- 2) Acknowledge the grants for the Community Safety for B&NES
- 3) Invite Sue Mountstevens to come back to the Panel next year for an open debate and to talk more about the work with young people
- 4) Pass the messages from the debate to relevant officers
- 5) Receive the report on the Community Speedwatch once it is ready
- 6) Invite Sue Mountstevens to visit night-time economy hotspots in Bath and in North East Somerset

23 COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE PROFILE (30 MINUTES)

The Chair invited Sue Dicks (Community Safety Manager) and Natalia Urry (Research and Intelligence Officer) to give their presentations to the Panel.

Natalia Urry gave her presentation 'Domestic Violence and Abuse Profile' where she highlighted the following points:

- Domestic Violence and Abuse (DV&A) definition
- Overall rates and trends
- Abuse characteristics (including the map with the number of domestic abuse related calls received by the police per 1000 of the population in B&NES from April 2010-October 2012 by Ward)
- Offender profile
- Victim profile
- Understanding and recording domestic abuse

Sue Dicks gave her presentation 'Behind Closed Doors' where she highlighted the following points:

- Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA) – what they offer?
- IDVA in B&NES
- Southside – helping local people in their communities
- Future plans
- Number of agencies/organisations involved in helping victims
- What the victim thinks initially?
- Lisa's story – short video from the Southside project
- Tina Nash's case
- Domestic abuse has a lifetime impact on children
- Some common Myth busters
- What was learned? What is the Community Safety doing about it?
- Diagram of organisations involved
- Community Safety Partnership
- Support contacts

The Chair thanked Sue Dicks and Natalia Urry for their presentations.

The Panel made the following points:

Councillor Katie Hall mentioned that in Hackney there was afternoon session with the GPs to train them in recognising the signs of DV&A. Councillor Hall asked if that is something that this Council could pursue.

Natalia Urry responded that the example from Hackney is from the same IDVAs project, pilot that is set up in Hackney and Bristol. Natalia Urry said that she is in contact with some of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) members on this matter and also there will be report presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) in November.

Sue Dicks added that there is on-going training with the GPs on DV&A.

Councillor Hall asked if the AWP have their information on DV&A.

Natalia Urry responded that the AWP may do have information on DV&A though getting that information from the GPs is difficult and takes quite long time.

Councillor Hall asked what specific action/s could be taken to reduce the abuse of elderly and people with disabilities.

Sue Dicks replied that this issue is part of the Adult Safeguarding Board remit which will be linked with the Health and Wellbeing Board work.

Sue Mountstevens suggested the following actions to be considered by the Council:

- Council to look into having some sort of DV&A co-ordinator at A&Es. This has been done in some parts of the country and it would be useful to separate couples in situations where DV&A was apparent.

- Sue Mountstevens will have a meeting with the AWP Chief Executive on Monday 22nd July so she could ask about the information on DV &A that they have.
- Council to check if all their schools have secure emails. The reason for this is when there is a case of DV&A in the family, the Public Protection Unit could inform schools where there has been domestic abuse incident so that they (schools) know that children were particularly involved in that incident. This can only be done if the schools are having secure emails because of the sensitive data that would be sent.

Councillor Patrick Anketell-Jones asked if it is a myth that people tend to ignore early signs of DV&A.

Sue Dicks responded that many victims say that didn't see early signs of the violence. Lot of victims make excuses for their partners.

Sue Mountstevens added that many victims say that they could see the early signs, and it is not until the later stage that they admit they are victims of DV&A.

Councillor Dave Laming commented that, according to the map given in the presentation, it looks like that wealthier areas in B&NES have very little cases reported. Councillor Laming also commented that he didn't see any connection with school governors who could play vital part in reporting DV&A.

Natalia Urry responded that there is a wealth of data about DV&A from different organisations. Natalia Urry said that she didn't look yet at the data from schools and took on board comment made by Councillor Laming. It will also depend on how accessible this information is from schools. In terms of the map – it is recorded according to the information received from the Police.

David Trethewey (Divisional Director for Policy and Partnerships) commented that officers will take on board suggestion from Sue Mountstevens in terms of secure emails in schools and discuss this suggestion with the colleagues from Education Services.

The Chair also welcomed suggestion from Sue Mountstevens in terms of the secure email for schools. The Chair also suggested for officers to talk with schools forums on this matter and to receive an update on these issues at one of the future meetings of the Panel. The Chair noted the value of the IDVA service, and asked Sue MountStevens to confirm that the funding is secure for the continuation of this service in B&NES

Councillor Geoff Ward asked how 35 organisations involved in DV&A are regulated.

Sue Dicks responded that it is national issue and it is about finding a way for organisations to talk to each other.

Sue Dicks also said that Southside introduced four community hubs (Southdown, Peasedown St John, Keynsham and Foxhill). This is where people could come and talk to our partners.

The Chair welcomed this information and asked if further information on the work of those four hubs could be included in the update at one of the future meetings. The Chair also noted the value of the IDVA service and asked Sue MountStevens to confirm that the funding is secure for the continuation of this service in B&NES.

It was **RESOLVED** to:

1. Note the report and presentations from officers;
2. Take on board suggestions from Sue Mountstevens (to look into setting up Domestic Violence and Abuse co-ordinator in the A&E and to look into setting up secure emails for schools) and requested from officers to explore these suggestions;
3. Receive a further update on Domestic Violence and Abuse at one of the future Panel meetings with more information on how the actions from this debate were followed up.

24 PANEL WORKPLAN

It was **RESOLVED** to note the workplan with the following amendments:

- Alcohol Strategy to be removed from the workplan as it will presented to the Wellbeing PDS Panel in September.

The meeting ended at 3.50 pm

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services

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Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	26th September 2013	
TITLE:	Community Safety - Connecting Families update	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
<p>List of attachments to this report:</p> <p>Please list all the appendices here, clearly indicating any which are exempt and the reasons for exemption</p> <p>Connecting Families Presentation</p>		

1. THE ISSUE

1.1. TO NOTE PROGRESS BEING MADE WITH CONNECTING FAMILIES STRATEGY.

1.2. TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE NEXT STEPS

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 For information, to update the panel re progress to date following the presentation given in February 2013.

3. Budget

3.1 Funding is provided by the Troubled Families Unit for all Local Authorities.

3.2 The funding model is primarily based on a tapered and payment by results methodology. For each family identified it is anticipated that £10,000 will be spent on that family: consisting of £6,000 of Council resources and up to an additional £4,000 from the Troubled Families Unit for each family identified to work with (an 'attachment fee'). Each year for the 3 years of the programme, Local Authorities are required to submit the number of families they will be working with. For these identified families an attachment fee is paid Attachment fees can only be claimed for 5/6th of the total number of families worked with an taper for 80% in the first year (£3,200 in 2012/13) to 40% (£1,600 in 2015/16). Bath and NE Somerset connecting families team have

claimed for the maximum number of families that we are likely to work with in the first two years of the programme, leaving a very small number of claims to be made at the lower (40%) level.

3.3 Additional funding can be claimed for results achieved against the three national outcomes (employment, reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and improving attendance at school). Payment by results is again on a tapering scale but increasing from 40% in 2012/13 to 80% in 2015/16. Claims can be made every 6 months and we have just made our first claim for results related to improved attendance and preparation for work totalling £8,400.00.

3.4 For 2013/4 total funding before any in year claims for payment by result is £360,000

3.5 Financial risks to the Council have been mitigated by having only a small core team funded from the Family Intervention Project and direct funding from the Troubled Families Unit. Beyond this core team all resources directed to the Connecting Families Initiative are from existing Council and Partner resources

3.6 On the 24th June the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Danny Alexander announced an additional £200 million for 2015/16 – the first of five years – to expand the Troubled Families programme. This is a welcome extension to the programme and will enable Connecting Families to embed the good work currently being undertaken with partners.

3.7 All of the above (tapered funding in the first three years; payment by results; uncertainty over the funding for the extension from 2015 to 2020) points to need to maintain the cautious approach to the funding. The current approach has been to create a small core team and embed ways of working and establish 'lead workers' for families through our partners. This will continue, with any additional funding targeted to commissioning additional support for families or supporting partners to enable workers to be seconded/linked to the Connecting Families team or supported to take on 'lead worker' role'.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

4.1 Connecting Families aims to invest upfront in transforming service delivery and the leadership and culture which underpin it so that the Council and its partners will see a reduction in the costs of responding to these families as well as improvement in their lives and of those around them, including the wider communities. The medium term reduction in costs will contribute to sustaining the service transformation and re-design once the central government investment is withdrawn.

4.2 We continue to draw down grant from the Troubled Families Unit as part of its commitment to the Central Government initiative. The funding is a mixture of upfront payments, attachment fees per family and payment by results. The Council is committed to maximising this funding and contributing its own in kind and in cash funds for the benefit of the families.

5. STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

5.1 Central Government's Troubled Families Initiative is fully supported by Bath and North East Somerset Council. There is no statutory basis for Councils to be part of this specific programme, but it supports a large number of statutory duties to meet the needs of some of our most vulnerable residents, for example to safeguard young people.

5.2 Central Government has estimated that nationally 2% of families are "troubled". This equates to an indicative number of 215 families in Bath and North East Somerset. Families with complex issues place significant demands including financial demands on criminal justice, education, health, welfare benefits, housing and social services. Adopting the Connecting Families Initiative will make a major contribution to reducing those demands and providing better services to these families.

6. THE REPORT

6.1 Please see the attached presentation for the main body of the report.

6.2 This programme of service transformation is running hand in hand with Central Government's Troubled Families Initiative, which the Council fully supports. Connecting Families will streamline services that are working with families, by co coordinating the services they are receiving and compiling information to give a full assessment of needs so the right services are involved with the family. This approach maximises resources and avoids duplication.

6.3 A core team has been appointed consisting of an operational lead reporting to the Divisional Director for Preventive Services, 2 Team Leaders each with 3 Key Workers. In addition to this core team the team leads will support a wide range of Council Services, Commissioned Services and partners beyond the Council will work in a co-ordinated way with identified families.

6.4 The connecting families approach is underpinned by a conviction that families can change, and people must take responsibility for their lives and all people are worth persevering with.

6.5 Five key strategies have been identified as being crucial to the success of the new way of working and these are the foundation of the work with the families: -

1. Named workers to named families – each family will have a dedicated worker. The relationship will be based on honesty, authority and an assertive working style.
2. Persistence backed up by sanction – key workers will not give up. They will be straight with families about the consequences of their continued behaviour patterns and they will follow through.
3. Understanding families as a whole – not just looking at each issue in isolation.
4. One plan for the family with clear outcomes agreed at the outset.

5. Practical hands on support - rolling up sleeves and working alongside the family members to achieve agreed goals.

6.6 An Operational Group has been established with a programme of regular meetings of wider partnerships to maintain good progress.

6.7 140 families have been identified, to date. The service will work from this set of identified families and will not take referrals except for Families at risk identified through the social care duty team.

6.8 The core staff team are currently working intensively with 35 Families.

7. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None

8. CONSULTATION

All aspects of this programme have been widely consulted on with a range of workshops for wider partners and Council Staff. This panel and the Early Years, Young People and Youth Panel have previously received updates on the Connecting Families Initiative.

RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Contact person	<i>Paula Bromley – Connecting Families Manager</i>
Background papers	<i>None</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	



Connecting Families Presentation September 2013

Page 23

Paula Bromley: Operational Lead

Connecting Families – Core Purpose

To enable families with multiple complex needs to receive the services they need to change and support them to achieve resilience, health and well being within their community

The Big Challenge

- Strategic Approach across The Council
- Data/evidence informed targeting
- Maximising investment across the partnership to reduce resources / duplication & maximize outcomes.
- Developing The Matrix Team

Connecting Families - Overview

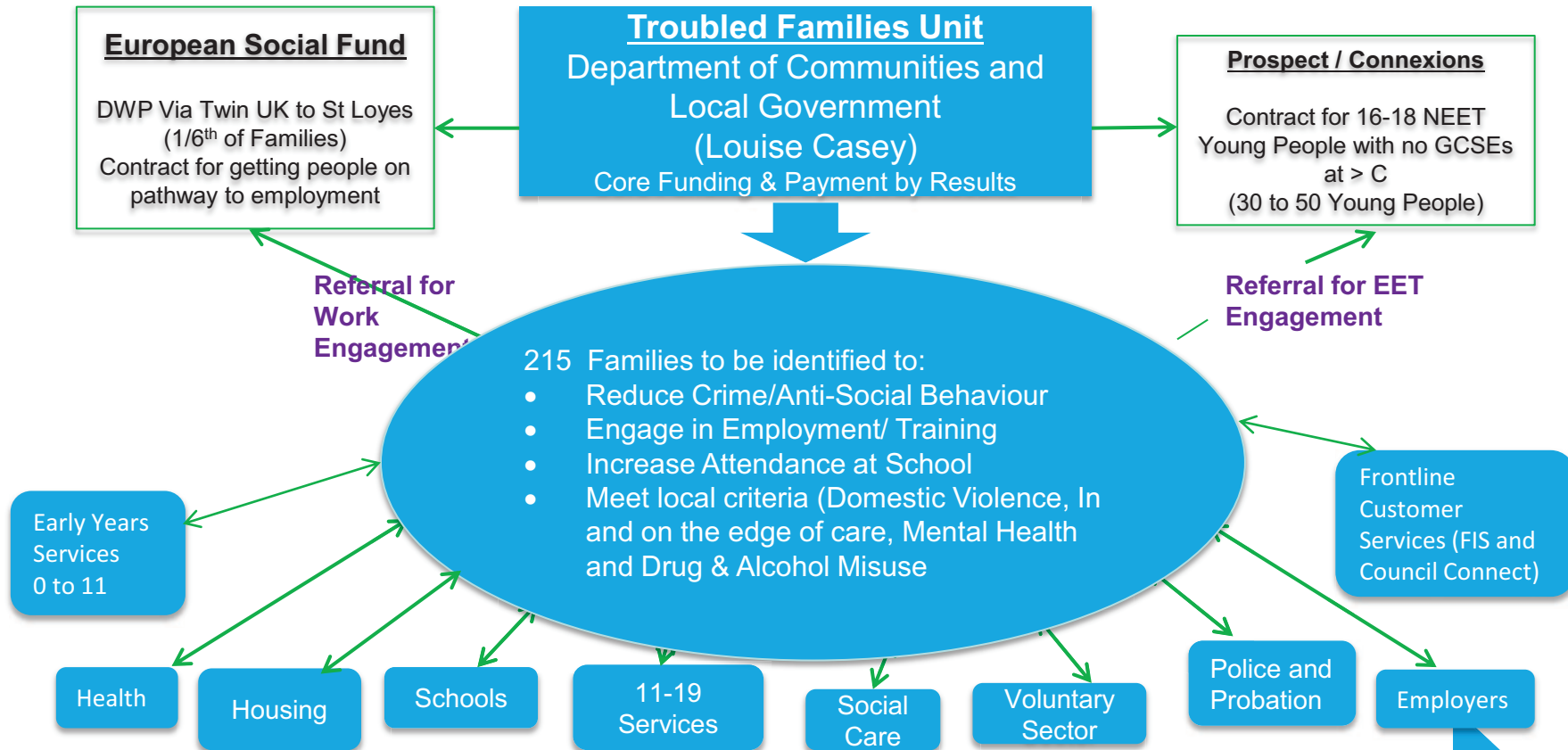
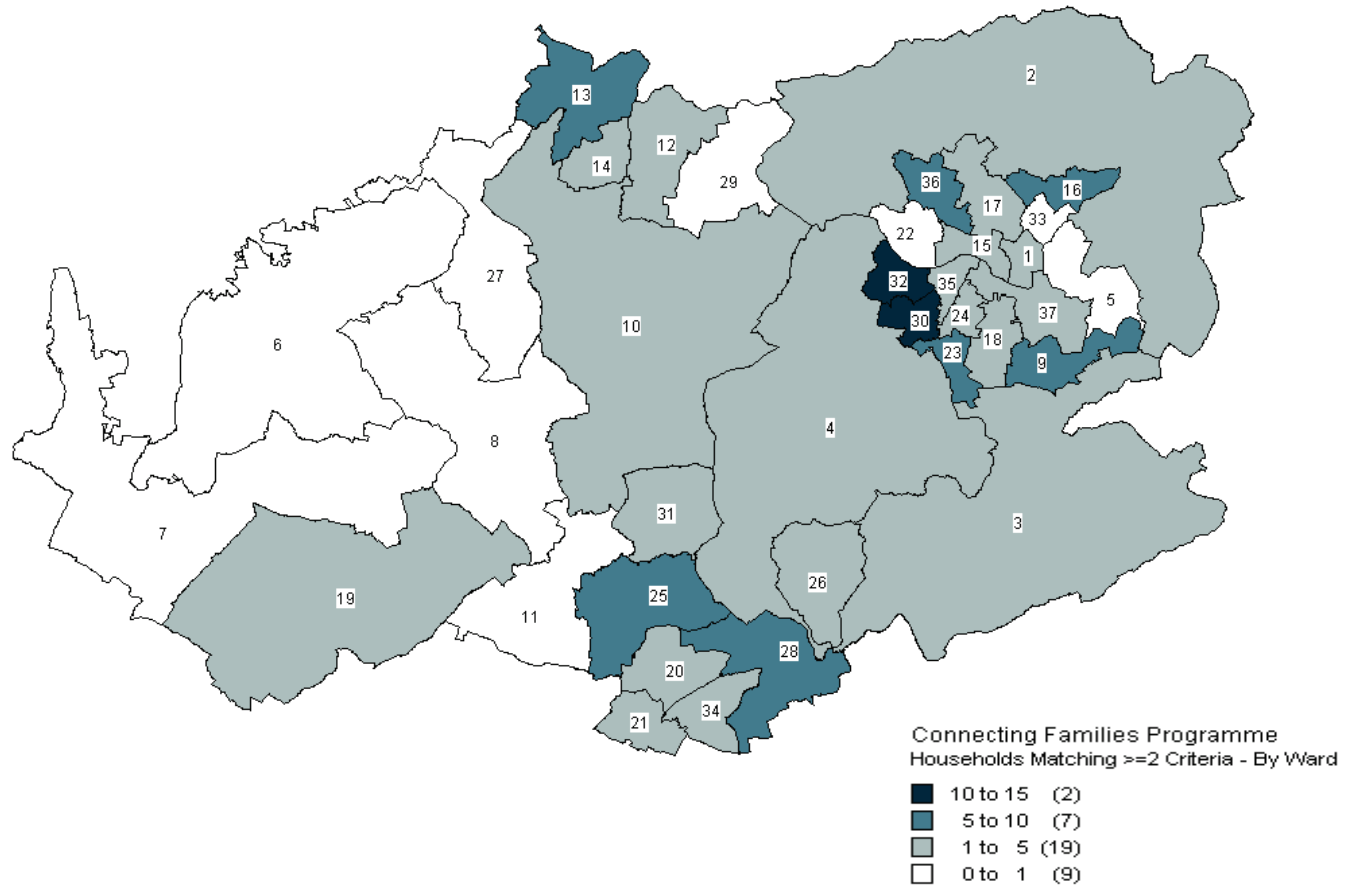
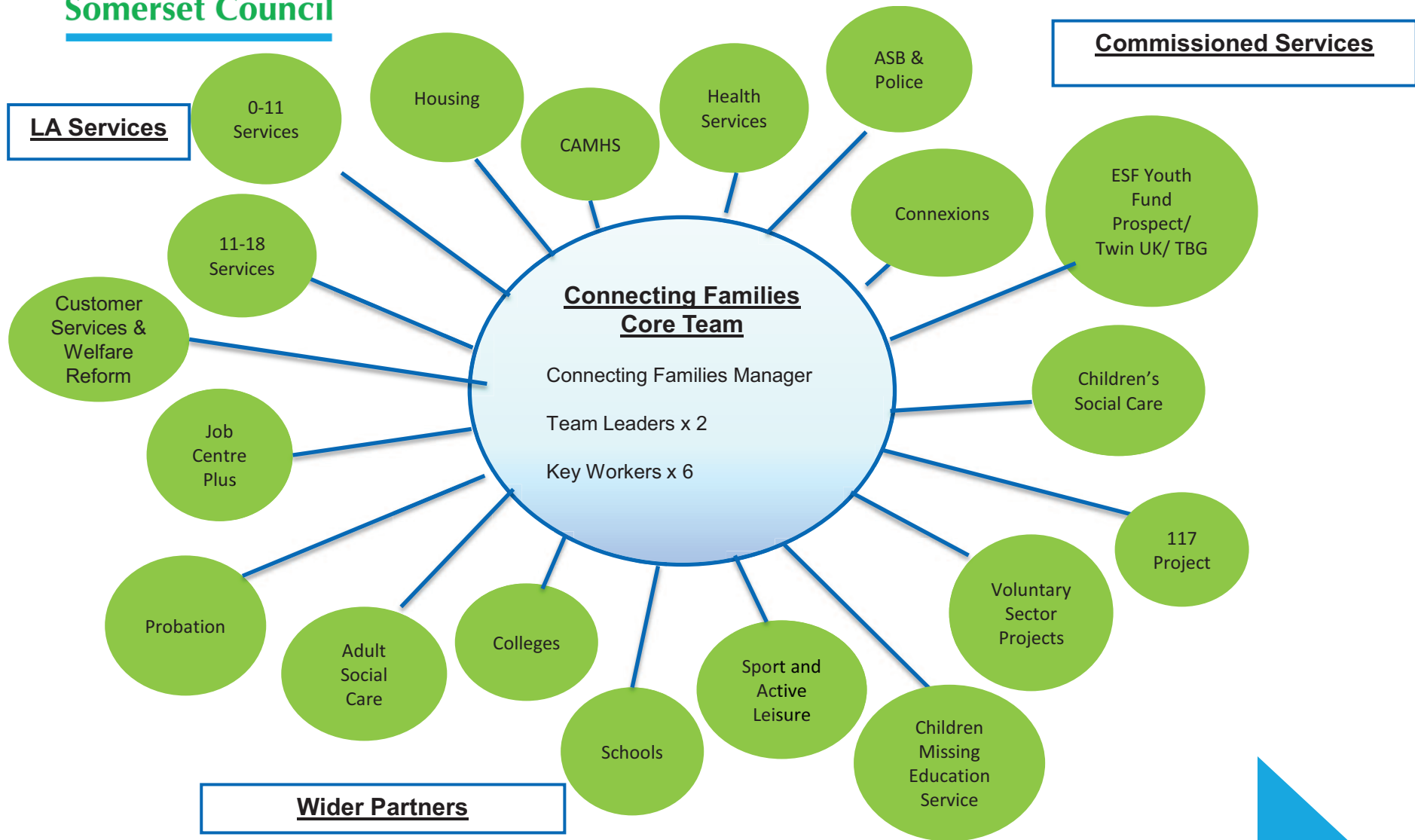


Fig. 1 Connecting Families
By Ward
Households Matching ≥ 2 Criteria

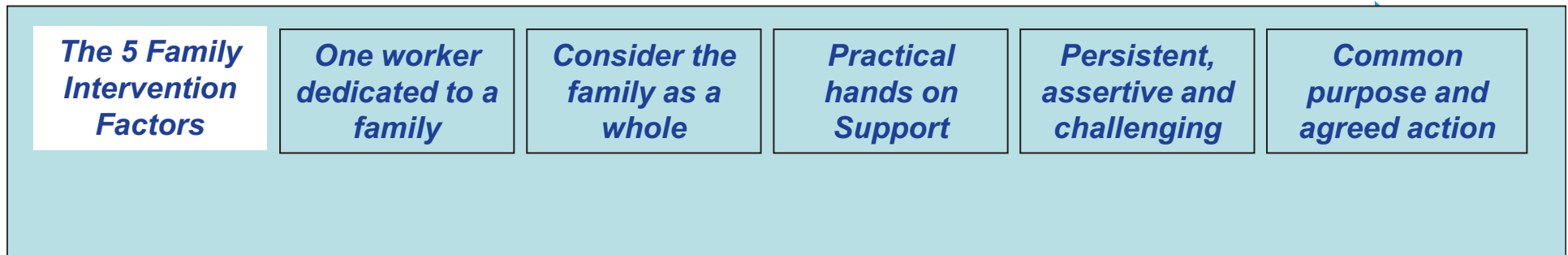
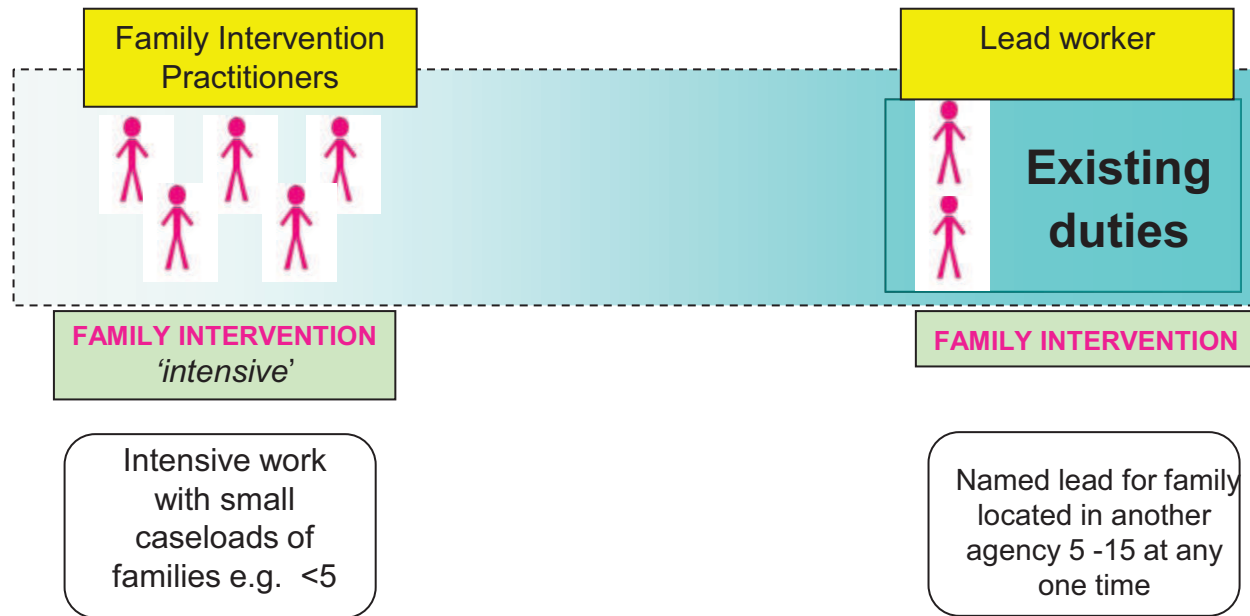
1. ABBEY WARD
2. BATHAVON NORTH WARD
3. BATHAVON SOUTH WARD
4. BATHAVON WEST WARD
5. BATHWICK WARD
6. CHEW VALLEY NORTH WARD
7. CHEW VALLEY SOUTH WARD
8. CLUTTON WARD
9. COMBE DOWN WARD
10. FARMBOROUGH WARD
11. HIGH LITTLETON WARD
12. KEYNSHAM EAST WARD
13. KEYNSHAM NORTH WARD
14. KEYNSHAM SOUTH WARD
15. KINGSMEAD WARD
16. LAMBRIDGE WARD
17. LANSDOWN WARD
18. LYNCOMBE WARD
19. MENDIP WARD
20. MIDSOMER NORTON NORTH WARD
21. MIDSOMER NORTON REDFIELD WARD
22. NEWBRIDGE WARD
23. ODD DOWN WARD
24. OLDFIELD WARD
25. PAULTON WARD
26. PEASEDOWN WARD
27. PUBLOW AND WHITCHURCH WARD
28. RADSTOCK WARD
29. SALT FORD WARD
30. SOUTHDOWN WARD
31. TIMSBURY WARD
32. TWERTON WARD
33. WALCOT WARD
34. WESTFIELD WARD
35. WESTMORELAND WARD
36. WESTON WARD
37. WIDCOMBE WARD



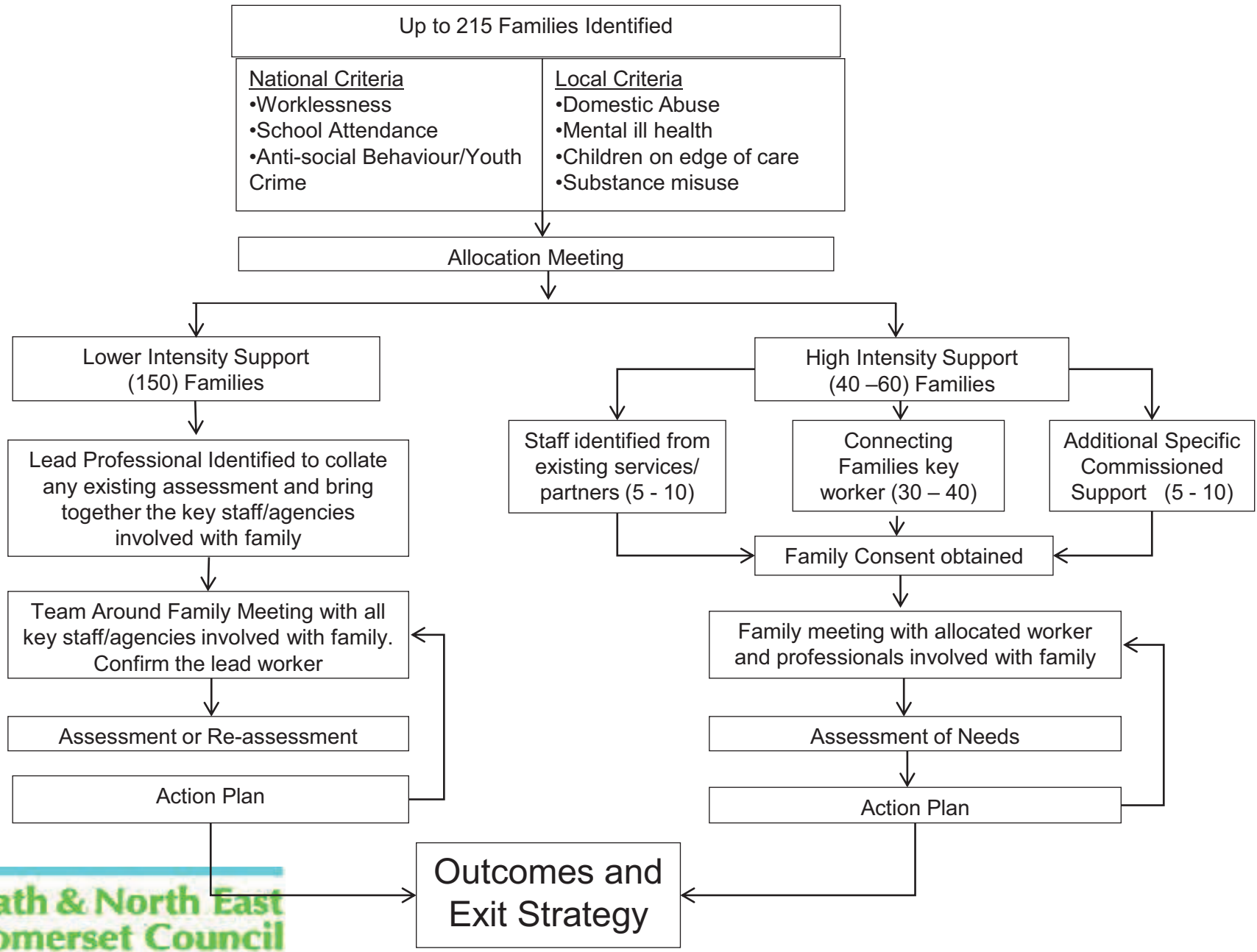
Services linked to the Connecting Families Team



The model from “Working with Troubled Families”



Connecting Families Team – High Level Process Diagram



Impact / outcomes to date

One worker dedicated to a family

- » 35 Families engaged - Core Team
- » 103 Families engaged- Wider Partners
- » 16 Payment by Results (PbR) claimed
(including 2 progress to work) July2013

Impact / outcomes to date

Consider the family as a whole

- » Family Profile & action plan developed
- » 5 Assessments completed in the new style
- » Whole Family meetings taking place to develop family relationships

Impact / outcomes to date

Practical hands on Support

- » The Core Team has supported families to:
- » Clean, clear out and follow up any outstanding repairs
- » Work with key partners especially the Social Landlords to provide essential repairs.
- » Provide fun families activities to enhance family cohesion
- » Support families to manage their money, reduce debt, apply for work & training

Impact / outcomes to date

Persistent, assertive and challenging

- » The team works with key partners to link with families re challenge & sanctions especially Education Welfare, YOT, Probation, The Police & Social Landlords
- » The team will provide honest feedback to families in order to progress

Impact / outcomes to date

Common purpose and agreed action

- » Family Profile & Action Plans drafted and all staff working with families to complete these
- » All staff to consider PbR as well as the families needs e.g. support to reduce debt.
- » Regular Team Around the Family Meetings with other key professionals help to review progress and update the family action plan to coordinate services & reduce duplications



Any Questions

B&NES Digital Programme

1 CONTEXT

1.1 The Bigger Picture

The B&NES Digital Strategy is aiming to align with the UK Digital & Connectivity agenda that has continued to grow over the last few years. This growth is in unison with the global trend of increased emphasis on applying digital and connectivity technologies to create public and private benefit, such as

- economic growth
- digital inclusion and
- improved delivery of Public Sector services.

For B&NES the economy has predominantly been reliant on the public sector, retail, leisure and tourism for employment, which has meant that statistically B&NES has now the lowest average weekly wages across the South West and the UK. However recent research has shown that B&NES has particular strengths and advantages in technology related fields. A key economic indicator estimated that “ICT” (or Information and Communication Technology) activities generated some £119m in GVA in B&NES, even though the sector only represents some 3% of total employment.

Therefore, in light of the above the Economic Strategy for B&NES has set its sights on growing higher value jobs while securing key employment sectors such as advanced engineering, creativity and ICT.

The public sector has also been spearheading for greater efficiency gains, especially in the face of budget cuts and needing to explore technology based solutions that will enable eGov services such as online benefit payments or the provision of remote adult health care to be delivered. The enabler for these efficiency gains goes hand-in-hand with enabling the UK citizens to become ‘smarter’, which will be the catalyst for long-term social inclusiveness and inspiring innovation in developing new Internet-enabled services within emerging ‘smart cities’.

Finally, with the continued and growing financial independence from central government, B&NES like many other local authorities are having to deliver services for ‘more for less’ and hence seeking other channels of revenue generation and developing new ways-of-working.

1.2 Digital Objectives

The key digital objectives for B&NES Digital Programme are therefore:

- Increase Digital Coverage, Connectivity and Bandwidth in support of Business Retention, Growth and Innovation
- Increase Digital Coverage, Connectivity and Bandwidth across Rural and Urban B&NES to enable Social Inclusion and Community Safety

- Enable Fibre to the Premises for all new development sites
- Enable Revenue Generation through leveraging Assets and Services
- Enable Public Services to be Streamlined into 'Smart' Services

1.3 Proposed Digital Initiatives To Be Explored

The digital initiatives that are the enablers to deliver these digital objectives are outlined as follows:

- Business Growth objective achieved through
 - Connecting Devon & Somerset programme to increase digital coverage of Superfast Broadband
 - Wholesale Wireless Provider to increase digital coverage of Wi-Fi and 3G/4G
 - Wholesale Fibre Provider to enable Ultrafast Broadband for Enterprise Areas
 - R&D Testbed Mesh Integration to enable product/service innovation
- Social Inclusion objective achieved through
 - Connecting Devon & Somerset programme to increase digital coverage of Superfast Broadband
 - Wholesale Wireless Provider to increase digital coverage of Wi-Fi and 3G/4G
 - Refurbished PCs to provide socially deprived families access to appropriate digital platforms
 - 'New' development planning policies to motivate developers/utility companies to rollout fibre as standard
- Public Services Streamlining objective achieved through
 - Centralising of ICT Services
 - Knowledge Management to improve decision making processes
 - Smart B&NES to enable the delivery of Smarter Services for the future
- Revenue generation objective achieved through
 - Monetizing the potential of fibre ducts that is also intended to deliver Ultrafast Broadband to the Enterprise Areas of B&NES
 - Monetizing the potential of street furniture that is also intended to increase the footprint of wireless coverage

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PDS FORWARD PLAN

This Forward Plan lists all the items coming to the Panel over the next few months.

Inevitably, some of the published information may change; Government guidance recognises that the plan is a best assessment, at the time of publication, of anticipated decision making. The online Forward Plan is updated regularly and can be seen on the Council's website at:

<http://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>

The Forward Plan demonstrates the Council's commitment to openness and participation in decision making. It assists the Panel in planning their input to policy formulation and development, and in reviewing the work of the Cabinet.

Should you wish to make representations, please contact the report author or Jack Latkovic, Democratic Services (01225 394452). A formal agenda will be issued 5 clear working days before the meeting.

Agenda papers can be inspected on the Council's website and at the Guildhall (Bath), Hollies (Midsomer Norton), Riverside (Keynsham) and at Bath Central, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton public libraries.

Economic and Community Development PDS Forward Plan

Bath & North East Somerset Council
Anticipated business at future Panel meetings

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Strategic Director Lead
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL: 26TH SEPTEMBER 2013				
26 Sep 2013	ECD PDS	Cabinet Member Update		
26 Sep 2013	ECD PDS	Connecting Families update	Paula Bromley Tel: 01225 396984	
26 Sep 2013	ECD PDS	B&NES Digital Programme	John Wilkinson Tel: 01225 396593	
26 Sep 2013	ECD PDS	Arts Strategy update		Louise Fradd
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL: 28TH NOVEMBER 2013				
28 Nov 2013	ECD PDS	Leisure Strategy update	Marc Higgins Tel: 01225 396423	Louise Fradd
4 Dec 2013	Cabinet			
E2508				
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL: 23RD JANUARY 2014				
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL: 13TH MARCH 2014				
FUTURE ITEMS				

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Strategic Director Lead
	ECD PDS	Magistrates		
	ECD PDS	Empty shops		
<p>The Forward Plan is administered by DEMOCRATIC SERVICES: Jack Latkovic 01225 394452 Democratic_Services@bathnes.gov.uk</p>				

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