

Housing & Major Projects update

31st January 2012

**Prepared by the Development and Major Projects Strategic Director - John Betty
Housing Services Update – Graham Sabourn**

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Sustainable Development Overview

- The Directorate is responsible for providing a co-ordinated and integrated approach to the provision of Housing, Jobs, Business growth and Economic activity and is focused on delivering Sustainable Economic Growth as set out in the Economic Strategy of April 2010 and the Smart Economic Growth Cabinet paper of November 2010.
- Work continues on Planning and Financing the Future programme (PaFF). This is being carried out to establish the impact of development upon viability and corporate financing.
Joint directorate working continues on this programme with appointed consultants Grant Thornton and Inner Circle progressing the work. A number of PaFF Steering Group and Project Team meetings have taken place to co-ordinate matters.
The outcomes of this pilot programme will inform the regeneration and development agenda.
This work is set against a background of significant Government changes to funding and support, continuing macro-economic challenges and increasing pressure on housing.
The ability of the Council to deliver its priorities and aspirations in this area continues to depend on the alignment of policies in Planning, Transport and the ability of the Council to influence and encourage growth and development through its asset base and influence.
- There are significant challenges ahead in bringing forward development but there are also major opportunities through our Enterprise Area -Bath City Riverside, Bath Western Riverside, Bath Quays South and Manvers Street. Also Norton Radstock Regeneration, MOD Sites, Keynsham, Somerdale and Temple Street. All of which could and should have significant ability to help the economic growth, development agenda and Housing delivery.
- The Directorate continues to review its capacity and organisation in order to respond to this agenda.
- The requirement to ensure that the agenda is rooted in the Administrations requirement to ensure local engagement.

Part 1. Housing

1.1 Housing Delivery

- **Commitment**
 - The Council has published a Core Strategy which seeks to provide 11,000 new homes in B&NES by 2026. This will require a step change in annual delivery rates over the plan period from 393per annum (2006-2011) to achieve the required average of 550pa. (Core Strategy Target 2006-2026)
 - The Core Strategy is subject to an Examination in Public in January 2012, including the proposed Housing numbers and delivery locations.
 - Given the scope of the changes and demands of this the Strategic Director for Development & Major Projects has been given the corporate responsibility for developing a Council-Wide action plan to ensure a corporate co-ordinated approach to the delivery of housing, including affordable housing.
 - A review of the current arrangements within the council was been commissioned by SDG. The report covers the capabilities and effectiveness of the organisation and the capacity currently in place to ensure housing delivery meets targets. The report recommends actions necessary to ensure that there is a co-ordinated approach across the council and accountability to the Strategic Director of Development and Major Projects.
 - The report is currently with SDG for review but covers::
 - § an assessment of current governance structures and future needs
 - § priorities for action against Council corporate objectives
 - § targets, reporting and accountabilities
 - § skills/capacity/gap analysis
 - § Current management reporting arrangements.
 - § New approaches to housing delivery including a more proactive approaches to working with developers and unlocking brownfield sites for development

- **Delivery update and targets**
 - Based on demographic, migration, household and housing market indicators the Bath and North East Somerset future housing growth requirements study concluded that in order for housing supply to absorb demographic change and support economic and employment growth potential it would need to increase by 12,000 dwellings to 2026. The Core Strategy plans for 11,000 homes as 12,000 presents unacceptable environmental and Green Belt impacts.
 - Between 2006 and 2011 1967 homes (an annual average of 393 homes were built. This leaves 9,033 homes to be delivered over the next 15 years at an annual average of 602 per annum. This results in a requirement for the next 5 years of 3011
 - The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment considers that 3,346 homes could reasonably be expected to come forward between 2011/12 and 2015/16.
 - The Council's policy is to focus on brownfield land in delivering these targets in order to protect the quality of life for residents in Bath and North East Somerset.
 - Sufficient brownfield land has been identified to achieve these targets. However there remain some challenges in delivery:
 - § Working with the MOD and other partners to bring forward sites vacated in Bath, although a strong working relationship with the M.O.D has now been forged and the MOD are now working with the Councils in the preparation of the Concept statements.
 - § Ensuring infrastructure is in place to allow development in Bath City Centre sites (including Bath Western Riverside)
 - § High land values in Bath and Keynsham in particular
 - § Influencing other land owners to ensure disposal of other key sites (e.g. Somerdale in Keynsham and Polestar in Poulton)
 - § Reluctance of some developers to build, given the on-going uncertainty about house prices and availability of credit.

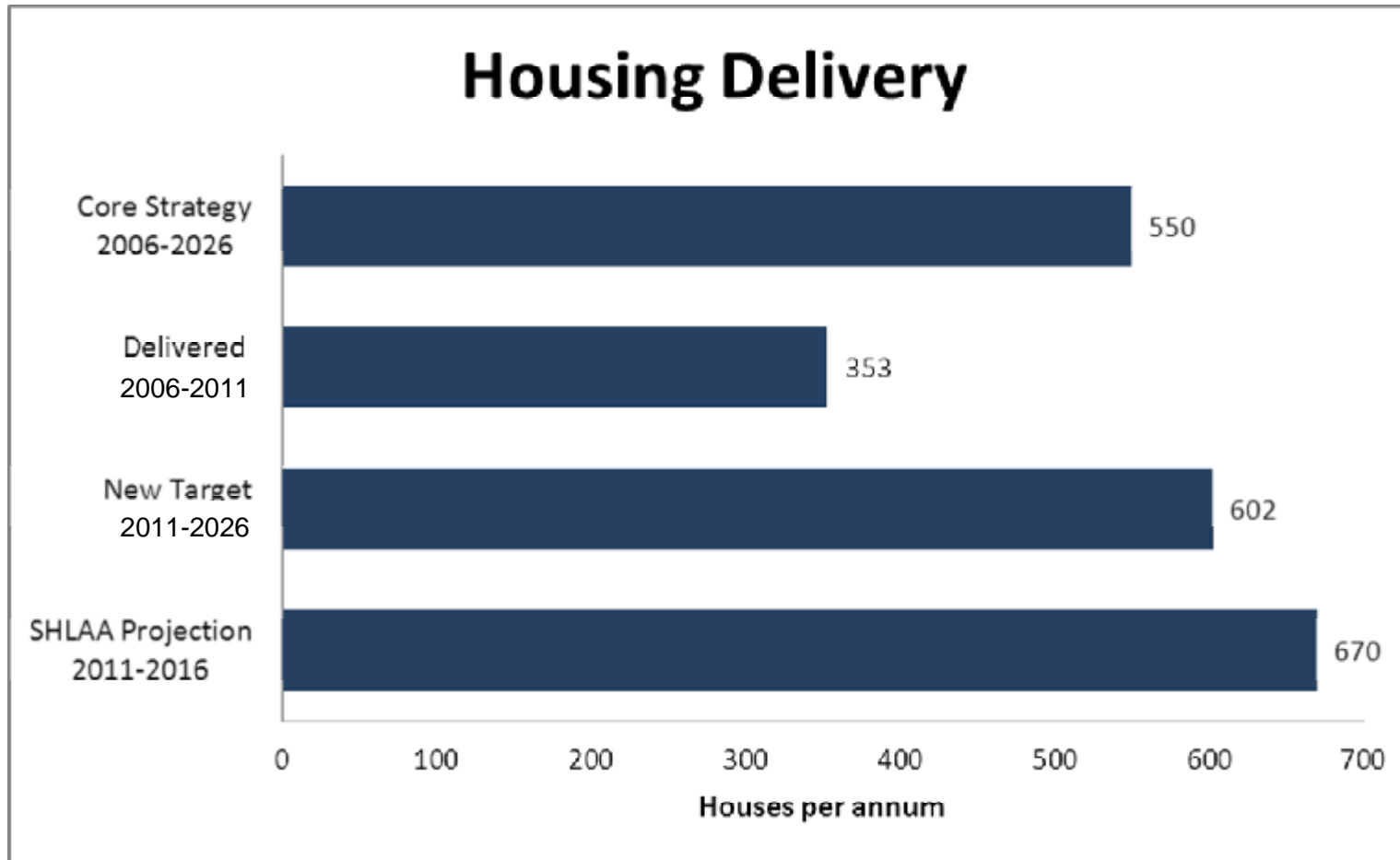
- **Affordable Housing Delivery**

- Previous delivery 2006-2011 (5yrs) 632 (Average pa = 126)
- Target delivery 2011-2015 (4yrs) 610 (Average pa = 153)
- Position to date 2011/12 3rd quarter 217 (Above target) this includes 214 new build.

- **Housing completions 2011**

	Total Housing Completions (up to the end of Q2 2011)	Housing Completion Target 2011/12	Housing Completion Forecast 2011/12	Target vs Forecast
	187	449	403	-46
Figures By Tenure				
Affordable Units	94	241	224	-17
Market sale Units	93	208	179	-29

The minus figures shown in the target vs forecast column are as a result of slippage of the 'Rear of Elm tree Avenue ' site at Radstock and Polestar Purnell 1 sites both of which are now likely to complete in Q1 of 2012/13



Major sites coming forward (e.g. BWR, MoD, Keynsham) will assist delivery

West of England Housing Delivery Panel (HDP)

- Following an Official Journal of the European Community (OJEC) compliant tender process, initiated in 2010, we have recently signed up to a four year framework of selected housing providers which aims to:
 - § Increase jobs and new homes;
 - § Develop better engagement and collaboration;
 - § Improve quality and innovation;
 - § Maximise investment and delivery;
 - § Assist “state aid” requirements
- This framework agreement replaces the former “HomesWest Partnership” which comprised Sovereign, Sarsen, Knightstone and Somer Housing Associations and officially ended on 30 September 2011;
- Following a mobilisation event on 23rd September 2011 the panel comprising 23 member organisations was established from 1st October 2011, marked by an official launch on 18th November 2011, including addresses on the ‘Economic analysis and performance of the West of England’ by Neil Gibson of Oxford Economics, and a HCA presentation by David Warburton.

Homes & Communities Agency Investment Framework 2011-15

- **National Affordable Housing Programme (NAHP)** - 17 investment partners (Registered Providers) have been approved with bids proposing new supply within the West of England. The 17 include 14 housing associations and 3 house-builder developers; nationally there are 146 approved bidders. Detailed contracts are agreed with the 14 HAs and one developer; the other two remain pending.

- **Empty Homes Programme** – The 2012-15 programme involves £100m of investment and a further £50m for community groups and social enterprises as well as Registered Providers. Detailed bids are invited with the deadline date for submission of 23 January 2012. Arrangements are progressing with RP partners in partnership with the Council to tackle long term vacant properties within Bath and NE Somerset.
- The Coalition Government published '**Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England**' in November 2011. It sets out a package of reforms to:
 - § Get the housing market moving again
 - § Lay the foundations for a more responsive, effective and stable housing market in the future
 - § Support choice and quality for tenants
 - § Improve environmental standards and design quality
- Getting the housing market moving includes several initiatives, including:
 - § £210m FirstBuy scheme – announced in March budget to help 10,000 first-time buyers
 - § Bringing forward publicly held land to provide up to 100,000 new homes
 - § New Build Indemnity Scheme helping 100,000 homebuyers with up to 95% mortgages
 - § £420m **Get Britain Building Fund** to bring forward or restart stalled housing development sites, expressions of interest are invited by noon 30 January 2012 requiring delivery from June 2012 and completion of eligible dwellings by December 2014.

- **Positive Key issues in relation to Housing:**

- **BWR**

- § Phase 1 underway. 60 homes (48 affordable) expected in 2011/12. Remaining 240 (including 52 affordable) between 2012/13 and 2014/15. 'Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment' (SHLAA) expects phase 2 to begin to deliver from 2015/16.

- **Somer Schemes in Bath** – progressing well and in line with SHLAA trajectory.

- **MOD**

- § The MOD have confirmed that, following the transfer of 1,700 – 2,000 staff currently base in Bath to Abbey Wood in South Gloucestershire they will dispose of their three sites in Bath by March 2013. This will cover 33ha of land in total at Foxhill, Warminster Road and Ensleigh

- § The MOD, in conjunction with the Council and the HCA, are preparing a Project Delivery Plan (PDP) which will cover :
 - Preparation of concept statements including community consultation and stakeholder engagement for each of the MOD sites
 - The marketing and disposal of the MOD sites
 - The relocation programme & procedures for Bath based MOD staff

- The PDP will be finalised and monitored through the Strategic Working Group between the MOD, Council and HCA. The Council is leading on the preparation of Concept Statements, which will include community consultation, with the intention of seeking their adoption by Council in July 2012

- **South West Keynsham (K2)** - Planning permission for 285 homes granted at appeal. Decision received July 22 2011. Essential to SHLAA housing delivery trajectory that the Council now progresses its part of the site and that it begins to deliver within the next couple of years.

- **Somerdale** – Sale of site progressing. Scope for development towards end of current 5 year period.

- **NRR** – Linden Homes intent on progressing redevelopment after road works have been implemented. Extension to Planning consent currently pending.

- **Polestar Phase 1** – Major elements delivered but development of final quadrant of site (c.30 flats) has been delayed

- **Polestar Phase 2** – Bovis Homes site – first phase comprising 39 dwellings under construction, first handovers (17 affordable homes) due December 2011

- **The effect of Government Policy on viability to deliver**
 - **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**
 - Consultants have been appointed to prepare the key evidence ‘viability assessment’ to set the CIL charging schedule. The final report was received in December.
 - There are a number of informal engagements scheduled as part of the viability assessment process. We had a developers’ workshop on 17th October to ensure that the viability assessment reflects the conditions with B&NES and seek their views on the methodology and assumptions behind the viability work. A briefing session with statutory providers was held on 2nd November. A member/officer workshop to consider the draft charging schedule has been arranged for 6 February 2012
 - We also started to scope the review of the Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document and the framework to produce our Regulation 123 lists. The Regulation 123 lists the Infrastructure that CIL funding will pay for.

Commence	July 2011
Public consultation on Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule	March-April 2012
Public consultation on Draft Charging Schedule	September 2012
Submission	December 2012
Hearings	March 2013
Adoption	September 2013

○ **New Homes Bonus (NHB)**

- § The Government has put in place the New Homes Bonus. This is a new scheme which provides a financial incentive to Local Authorities for every home built and an additional bonus for affordable homes built. Bath and North East Somerset received £1.8m.
- § Based on the 'Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment' SHLAA, projections the New Homes Bonus scheme is potentially* worth c£88m to B&NES 2011-2026 covered by the Draft Core Strategy. Therefore the delivery of housing units to provide New Homes bonus receipts is a crucial funding stream to the Council

*The amount of New Homes Bonus generated is dependent on the Council tax band of the completed property therefore this figure will vary but has been calculated using the DCLG calculation matrix provided to Local Authorities for this purpose

1.2. Housing Services Update: Graham Sabourn

Home Improvement Agency Re-commission (HIA)

- Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset & South Gloucestershire are undertaking the joint commissioning of a single Home Improvement Agency for the sub-region.
- HIAs help vulnerable people live independently by providing housing related support, such as minor repairs, handy person services, adaptations and advice. The core customer groups for HIAs are disabled, elderly and otherwise vulnerable households across all tenures, although the focus is on owner occupiers. The service is means tested: provided free to those on benefits, with a modest charge levied for those who can pay. HIAs also provide services through self-funding options to non-vulnerable households.
- The lead commissioners organised a workshop with Foundations, the Government appointed advisors on HIAs, to investigate whether the business case supported this partnership approach. This highlighted the following potential benefits for commissioners and users of the service:
 - Financial Benefits:
 - § Savings in procurement costs. With an increasing complex and hostile procurement environment these costs are increasing. By working together we can, and do, make significant savings.
 - § Economies of scale in the commissioned service associated with the reduction in back room duplication, particularly around governance, management, IT and other professional support costs.
 - § Reduced contract management costs, through less duplication by the contract and field officers of the 4 authorities.
 - Non-Financial Benefits:
 - § A larger contract value is likely to interest more potential providers, thus generating greater competition. The increase in bidders would also improve the sustainability of the sector reducing the likelihood of only a single or even no bidders for a single authority commission.
 - § A larger contract value would provide the economies of scale to develop services which may prove unviable for a single authority.

- § It is more effective for a single provider to market themselves across the sub-region, particularly given that referrers, such as client's children & siblings may live out of district though within the sub-regional.
- The successful provider will be expected to offer authorities a range of services including:
 - § information and advice, particularly around housing options for older people;
 - § casework, advocacy and support;
 - § home safety assessments;
 - § hospital discharge and re-ablement services;
 - § independent living centre services, including product and equipment testing;
 - § independent living centre assessment facilities;
 - § co-ordination and technical support for repairs, maintenance, adaptations and improvements; and
 - § Handy person repairs, maintenance and security improvements.
- Extensive consultation has been undertaken which has included publishing the draft commissioning strategy and three separate questionnaires developed for use by service users, partner organisations or potential providers. They were published on the 5th October 2011 and were made available until the 28th December 2011, ensuring compliance with the various local authority voluntary sector compacts. Awareness of the consultation was achieved through a combination of general publicity; a drop in event in each Council area; emailing links to partners and writing to a number of past and present HIA clients. In addition Bath & North East Somerset also took the decision to make contact with a number of past and potential services users by telephone. Finally the proposal was taken to the Wellbeing Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel on the 18th November 2011 seeking their view.
- Over 3,000 survey responses were received from older people, disabled people and carers. Nearly 70 survey responses were received from other stakeholders such as voluntary groups, council staff, councillors and agencies. Ten written submissions were received including from Equality Bath & North East Somerset. In summary there is strong support for a sub-regional commissioning approach from stakeholders and providers. However, a large number of older people, disabled people and carers, the majority of whom are past or existing HIA clients do not want the current arrangements to change. Fewer numbers of older people, disabled people and carers, although still a large number, have no concerns about the proposals as long as the service continues to deliver the current high standards. In essence clients across the region have received a good service and they want that to remain. This reflects the high value that service users place in HIA services. It is therefore important that the proposed procurement process and contractual arrangements capture the qualities that service users value, select the most appropriate organisation and put in place robust mechanisms to address poor performance.

Rough Sleeper Count

- Housing Services have been working with the Bath Homelessness Partnership to reduce the number of people sleeping rough. The rough sleeper count carried out in November 2011 found 4 rough sleepers which is an improvement on previous estimates. The service that is provided to rough sleepers is going to be enhanced through a successful bid to the Homeless Transition Fund. 190 bids were submitted and the Julian House / Drug & Housing Initiative partnership bid, supported by the Homelessness Partnership were one of only 41 successful bids. The maximum funding of £250,000 was granted for the three year project which will develop an assertive outreach team to provide support to rough sleepers and those at risk of rough sleeping to initiate and sustain their use of crisis accommodation, whilst enabling them to make positive lifestyle changes in addressing health, addictions, offending and worklessness. The new service will target this with a focus on prevention, on-going support and the creation of sustainable pathways into independence.

Temporary Accommodation

- December 2011 saw a continued reduction in households in temporary accommodation, (twenty one), the lowest figure since May 2010. At the time of writing, and for the first time since February 2010, Housing Services do not have any households in Bed and Breakfast. This time last year there were thirty two households in temporary accommodation, with two households in bed and breakfast. The reduction has been achieved despite an increased demand for assistance from the Housing Options and Homelessness Team. Better homeless prevention and increased use of private sector housing have contributed to the continued reduction.

Part 2.

Major Projects & Development

2.1 Development & Regeneration

- **Somerdale**
 - Kraft have announced that Taylor Wimpey has been selected as their preferred developer for Somerdale. An initial meeting between officers, Taylor Wimpey and Kraft is scheduled for end January 2012.

- **Planning, Delivering & Financing the Future**
 - The Council has commissioned the “Planning & Financing the Future” (PaFF) project to gain a better understanding of the issues and constraints surrounding the delivery of development sites linked to a financial model which will assess the impact on the Council’s income and expenditure streams over time.
 - The project is a response to the new and emerging income streams available to local authorities such as New Homes Bonus (NHB), Tax Increment Finance (TIF), Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and the potential for retention of Business Rates which are linked to the delivery of housing and employment growth
 - The PaFF project will initially consist of a pilot study to develop a delivery and funding model based on the Bath City Riverside “City of Ideas” Enterprise Area. It is intended to complete the pilot study by the ends of January 2012.

- **Bath City Riverside - City of Ideas Enterprise Area**
 - In 2011 the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) determined that Bristol Temple Quarter would be given a new designation as an Enterprise Zone. The LEP also agreed the establishment of 4 Enterprise Areas within the West of England. One of these is Bath City Riverside. This designation means that the area will be one of the first to benefit from some of the financial gains from business rate retention accrued from the Bristol Temple Quarter Enterprise Zone. A MoU between the Local Authorities is currently being prepared to articulate exactly how this will work.
 - Bath City Riverside is being used as a pilot project for the Planning Delivering & Financing the Future initiative to test the potential for rolling out the project across the whole of B&NES
 - Work has started to articulate the scope of the Bath City Riverside Enterprise Area. Key activities have been:
 - § A study has been commissioned to identify options for the delivery of up-stream flood storage as part of a Strategic Flood Risk Management Strategy for the river corridor in Bath

- § Work will begin on a Competitive Identity project with key members of the local business community to better promote the area as a business location. In addition the Council is about to award a contract to re-design the business facing website so that it promotes the district more effectively to businesses
- § Within the Enterprise Area Bath Western Riverside phase 1 will deliver climate change adaptation through flood alleviation measures, sustainable transport routes and a district heat grid ready to use when the first homes are occupied in January 2012

- **London Road:**

- Following extensive recent local consultation on the issues and potential solutions for addressing problems in the London Road area, Council officers are now considering the activities which could form a Regeneration Action Plan, and the funding which is available / which may be necessary to take such activities forward.
- The Council owns the freehold of three buildings in the area – numbers 2, 3, and 4 Long Acre, which have the potential to contribute towards the wider regeneration of the vicinity.
- During July and August the Council invited Expressions of Interest from community groups and from the open market for numbers 3 and 4 Long Acre. Resources have been identified to develop an overall plan for the area, including initial ideas for the Long Acre properties.

- **MOD SITES:**

- The MOD have confirmed that, following the transfer of 1,700 – 2,000 staff currently based in Bath to Abbey Wood in South Gloucestershire, they will dispose of their three sites in Bath by March 2013. This will cover 33ha of land in total at Foxhill, Warminster Road and Ensleigh
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- **Other Council projects:**

- **Radstock Infrastructure Project:**

- § At the Cabinet meeting on 14th September members decided to postpone their decision on the TROs for the proposed highway improvements in Radstock. Cabinet asked highway officers to review the objections to the TROs, look again at the traffic data and, in the light of this information and the many changes that have been suggested to the current proposal, see if the scheme can be further amended to maintain traffic flows and pedestrian movements through the town.
- § Highways have undertaken further public consultation on revised TROs and a Cabinet decision is scheduled for 11 January 2012.

- **River Group**

- § The River Corridor Group was initiated by the Council as an independent group in 2010 following a Better Bath Forum debate in July 2010. The purpose of the group is to:
‘advise the Council over a period of years on changing the present situation of the Bath Avon river corridor within the Council’s area from making no or even a negative contribution to the economy, to one with a wide ranging, positive, sustainable and regenerative contribution.’ (River Corridor Group – Heads of Terms, 2010)
- § The River Corridor Group has now been operating for over 12 months and has produced the report *Bath Avon River Economy (2011)* that evaluates the river economy, identifies potential improvements and outlines recommendations.
- § Following the publication of *Bath Avon River Economy (2011)*, the Council will need to respond to the River Corridor Group under the direction of the Strategic Director of Major Projects following the agreed rating of the recommendations.
- § The River Corridor Group is currently proposing to form as a Trust. This will confirm the group as an organisation and a stakeholder of the river (The Trust will be separate to that of the Council and will act as an organisation to co-ordinate some of their recommendations).

- **Flood Mitigation-**

- § In 2010 the Council commissioned a Flood Risk Management Strategy report which identified the provision of upstream flood water storage, combined with on-site flood defences, as the strategic solution to facilitate development of sites in the river corridor in Bath
- § A Bath Compensatory Storage Study has been commissioned which is being undertaken in conjunction with the Environment Agency. The stage 1 report investigated eight potential sites along the river corridor east of Bath for the provision of flood storage and recommended three sites, at Kensington Meadows, Mill Lane Bathampton and at Bathford, for further technical investigation. This work is being undertaken as part of stage 2 of the study. The results will be the subject of consultation prior to the development of detailed scheme proposals.

2.2 Council Direct Projects

- **Keynsham New Build & Regeneration**
 - Project remains on programme and budget
 - Following the December cabinet approval the project is progressing with the submission of the planning application and appointment of the Construction Delivery Partner
 - The Construction Delivery Partner has now been appointed for stage 1 of the project following the OJEU procurement process
 - The Public Consultation Feedback took place in December 2011.
 - The Highways consultation will take place in January 2012
 - Planning application to be submitted in February 2012.

- **Norton Radstock Public Infrastructure**
 - Highways have prepared an alternative design solution following comments received during the TRO consultation
 - A series of consultation events on the revised scheme took place in December 2011
 - A revised report to open cabinet was issued in January 2012 setting out the revised TRO scheme.

- **Southgate**
 - § Station works have commenced and are to be delivered in 2 parts:
 - § **Initial works:** Lift & Toilets
 - § **Remaining works:** Excavation of ramp commenced 14th November 2011 & completion of station environment including refurbishment of vaults works has commenced.
 - § Tenants are coming forward for occupation of restaurant spaces.

Major Projects Panel Delivering Sustainable Economic Growth

- **Public Realm**

- **Preparatory Projects -City Info, Street Furniture & Pattern book**

- § Alterations have been instructed to Monoliths, installation commence March 2012.

- § Pre-Qualification Questionnaire stage for Street Furniture – Tender documents are complete and due to be reviewed.

- § Pattern Book is currently with Fwd designers and will be reviewed at the next Steering Group meeting. Design appointments expected in the new year

- **Transforming Spaces, High Street, Union/Stall St, Street Furniture**

- § High Street procurement to commence January 2012.

- § Construction works due to commence May 2012.

- § Planned completion August 2012.

- **Children's Services**

- **Primary Capital Programme (Batheaston)**

- § The school is now completed and occupied.

- **Primary Capital Programme (Midsomer Norton)**

- § Phase 3 complete and school in occupation

- § Phase 4, demolition phase on-going.

- **Primary Capital Programme (Weston all Saints Primary)**

- § School is complete.

Major Projects Panel Delivering Sustainable Economic Growth

- **Ralph Allen School Applied Learning Centre and all weather pitch (RAS) (ALC)**
 - A full planning application was submitted at the beginning of December 2011.
 - Design team working towards completion of the designs for tender package.
 - Currently preparing for procurement of the main contractor.

- **Wellsway Sports Centre**
 - School is on programme.
 - Planning permission has been received 1st November 2011.
 - Contract Documents have been checked by Cowlins and were signed w/c 5th December 2011.
 - Cowlin have started with site setup this week which is 1 week ahead of Accepted Programme.
 - First progress meeting took place 20th December 2011.
 - Councillors will be contacted regarding a Turf cutting ceremony in January 2012
 - Completion Date due end September 2012

- **Oldfield School Bath**
 - School is on programme.
 - Planning consent was granted 28th September 2011.
 - Main Contractor awarded 7th October to E R Hemmings

- **Radstock Schools**
 - **St Nicks**
 - § School completed.

- **Trinity**
 - § School completed during October 2011 Half Term ahead of programme
 - § School not in a position to move Early Years back in- looking to complete within the New Year 2012.

- **BWR**
 - **Residential element** is on programme and not critical to any programme delay.
 - **Phase 1b**
 - § All affordable units have been handed over to Somer.
 - § First tenants have taken occupation w/c 21st November 2011
 - § Marketing to commence & Occupations expected in the New Year 2012

 - **Phase 2**
 - § Occupation due 2013.

 - **Main scheme**
 - § Currently behind on programme due to the works to Victoria Bridge. Morrison's are increasing resources should there be infrastructure delays.
 - § A proposal is expected to come to B&NES at a later date.

- **Victoria Bridge**
 - The installation of the temporary works to secure the bridge was completed prior to Christmas as programmed.
 - **Permanent works**
 - Design commence January 2012
 - Works due for completion Autumn 2013

- **Bath Transport Package**

- Wednesday 14th December, the Secretary of State has announced decisions on the remaining 25 Development Pool schemes not already announced last month as part of the Chancellor's Autumn Statement.
- Amongst these is the Bath Transportation Package and it has been decided that funding will be provided for this scheme.
- The announcement thereby confirms Programme Entry for the revised scheme.
- This should allow the Authority to complete any remaining legal and procurement processes (but not enter into contractual or other legal commitments for the construction of the scheme) following which a request for Full Approval can be made.
- Procurement is on-going and on target to submit for Full Approval in May 2012.