

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Cabinet	
MEETING DATE:	09 May 2012	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2352
TITLE:	Draft City of Bath World Heritage Site Setting Supplementary Planning Document	
WARD:	All Bath Wards and Wards surrounding the City (Bathavon North, Bathavon West, Farmborough and Bathavon South)	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1: Draft City of Bath World Heritage Site Setting Supplementary Planning Document		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The key purpose of this document is to provide information and tools needed for the effective protection and appropriate management of the World Heritage Site setting in support of policies in the Local Plan and the Core Strategy.
- 1.2 Following consultation the final version of the document will be reported to Cabinet for consideration and adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document.
- 1.3 Approval is requested from the Cabinet to go out to Public Consultation during May – June 2012.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet agrees that:

- 2.1 The Draft City of Bath World Heritage Site Setting Supplementary Planning Document (attached as Appendix 1) is approved for public consultation as part of the process leading to adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document to policies BH.1 in the Bath and North East Somerset Council Local Plan and B4 in the Core Strategy once it is adopted.
- 2.2 Delegated authority is given to the Divisional Director for Planning and Transport Development, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Homes and Planning, to make minor text changes and minor design changes to the layout, if required, and for the inclusion of the rest of the appendices and changes to the selection of photos to the Draft Supplementary Planning Document.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The costs for producing the document and consulting on the draft are being met out of the existing Local Development Framework budget. There are no additional financial costs as a result of preparing and adopting the document as a Supplementary Planning Document. The document gives guidance in considering development and other proposals which may impact on the World Heritage Site and its setting and therefore is intended to speed up decision making and give greater certainty for developers.

4 CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

4.1 The document supports the objectives of *Promoting independence and positive lives for everyone, Creating neighbourhoods where people are proud to live and Building a stronger economy* by maintaining and enhancing the quality of the environment surrounding Bath. This fosters a sense of belonging to a local community, provides opportunities for recreation and so contributing to a healthy lifestyle and attracting businesses, shoppers and tourists. The objective of protection of the setting therefore not only has value in protecting the historic authenticity of the World Heritage Site but also contributes directly to the economy, health and welfare of the city and its surrounding villages and its residents.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 The draft Supplementary Planning Document is included in Appendix 1.

5.2 The key purpose of this document is to provide information and tools needed for the effective protection and appropriate management of the setting. To do this it

- Shows where the setting is
- Defines what is important about the setting and
- Outlines how to assess impacts on the setting

5.3 It also provides an overview of the international and national context for the management and protection of the setting of heritage assets and World Heritage Sites in particular.

5.4 It is intended for use by developers and agents and development management planners when considering development proposals. It is also intended for use by landowners and managers of land when considering proposals for change and when considering management operations. It is also hoped it will be of interest to residents and visitors in appreciating the relationship of the surroundings of Bath to the city.

5.5 It has been prepared in line with current international and national policy and guidance including the *National Planning Policy Framework, Circular 07/2009 on the Protection of World Heritage Sites, The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* and English Heritage guidance 'The Setting of Heritage Assets' and 'Seeing the History in the View' and with the benefit of good practice from other World Heritage Sites.

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 Impacts Assessment has been completed. No adverse or other significant issues were found.

8 RATIONALE

8.1 There is a requirement for all Supplementary Planning Documents to undergo public consultation in accordance with planning regulations and the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement for Planning

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 None

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 *Ward Councillor and Cabinet members*

10.2 English Heritage and Bath Preservation Trust, who are key stakeholders, have been actively involved in the development of the document

10.3 The consultation will include press notices, notification of the consultation to local and statutory consultees and details will be put on the Council website. A stakeholder event will be held near the start of the consultation.

11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

11.1 *Customer Focus; Sustainability;*

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.

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Sponsoring Cabinet Member	Councillor Tim Ball
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	