

## **Appendix 4 – Terms of Reference (as agreed at initiation in 2010)**

### **10097 The River Corridor Group, Bath TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Group has been facilitated by Terry Gazzard, Exec Member and John Betty, Strategic Director Development and Major Projects. It includes Councillors, consultants and business leaders with particular skills relevant to the use of waterways, the economic opportunities rivers and their banks create and the technical issues involved. It aims 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.

The Group is independent of the Council and Advisory. Its members have been selected by invitation to offer an appropriate range of skills and experience.

The Group will issue an annual report and a midyear interim report during each year and liaise with the Council through the Strategic Director, Development & Major Projects. Access to relevant data, senior Council Officers and Councillors and consultees will be facilitated through the same.

The involvement of the Group members is on a voluntary basis, but the Council will facilitate these endeavours in every way possible through setting up meetings and information distribution facilities, preparing minutes, circulating agendas etc.

The fixture of the River corridor is affected by many areas of the Council's operations and responsibilities and those of other bodies such as the Environment Agency, British Waterways etc. In setting up the Group the intention is that the Group's advice should inform the policies and actions of the Council in the interest of ensuring that the economic transformation goals of the brief are maximised.

The Group have been instructed to focus on the potential of the river to create new economic activity and wealth compatible with elements of cultural and environmental value.

The Group should note the commissioned work already underway for the council in devising flood management strategies and work to inform rather than direct the development control policy in the area.

The work of the Group is to be focussed on opportunities that can bear fruit in the short term, especially in stimulating new economic activity and employment around river transportations', waste management and treatment and leisure opportunities on the water and the banks. Opportunities with medium and long term dimensions will be identified.

The Group will meet at intervals of 4 to 8 weeks and be managed under the Chairmanship of an elected chair, supported by a Deputy.

The Group will be asked to comment on emerging proposals likely to affect the Regenerative mission of the brief as a consultee.

As advice and economic opportunities come forward, the council expect to advise on special studies that might need to be commissioned and where options are taken up to use their position and experience to bid for funding where appropriate.