

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Planning, Transport and Environment Panel
MEETING DATE:	11 September 2012
TITLE:	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: Summary of Key Issues and Proposed Course of Action following Consultation	

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 This report is to provide an update on the progress of the draft Supplementary Planning Document. Comments are sought from the Planning, Transport and Environment Panel for the proposed course of action given in Appendix 1 in response to the consultation. The proposed changes to the consultation draft will be reported to Cabinet on 14th November 2012 for consideration in order to enable preparation of the final version of the document for adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Planning, Transport and Environment Panel is asked to comment on:

2.1 The proposed course of action given in Appendix 1 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.

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 THE REPORT

4.1 The consultation draft can be viewed on the Council's website at: www.bathnes.gov.uk/settingofbath.

4.2 The key purpose of this document is to provide information and guidance 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

4.3 It is intended for use by developers and agents and development management planners when considering development proposals in the setting. 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.

4.4 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 experience from other World Heritage Sites.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

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

6 EQUALITIES

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

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 *Ward Councillor; Cabinet Members; Parish Councils; Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Local Residents; Community Interest Groups; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer*

7.2 Early stakeholder engagement has included ICOMOS UK, English Heritage and Bath Preservation Trust and the World Heritage Site Steering group. A series of internal and external presentations have been given to various groups. Presentations were given to the Local Development Framework steering group on 28th November 2011 and 17th April 2012.

7.3 Consultation on the Draft Supplementary Planning Document was carried out over the period 28th May to 6th July 2012. A variety of communication means were used to engage with stakeholders and to publicise the consultation including a stakeholder event held on 29th May attended by 34 delegates, emails to statutory and other consultees, copies of the document and consultation forms deposited at Libraries and Council offices, a web page and link through the 'Have Your Say' page on the Bath and North East Somerset Council website, the local media (Thisisbath.co.uk, Bath Chronicle and Nowbath.co.uk), Inform on 1 June 2012 and Radio Bristol.

8 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

8.1 *Customer Focus; Sustainability*

9 ADVICE SOUGHT

9.1 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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Background papers	None
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