

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING	Economic & Community Development Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel	
MEETING DATE:	13 th March 2014	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE: N/A
TITLE:	B&NES Economic Strategy Review : Update Report	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 : Framework for Review of Strategy Appendix 2 : Project Programme : Revised Internal & External Timetable Appendix 3 : External Partnership Group		

1 THE ISSUE

- 4.4 At its January meeting the Panel received a report on the Review being undertaken of the Economic Strategy for B&NES, originally published in 2010. This report provides an update on the current position in relation to the Review and the timetable for its completion.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is asked to :

- 2.1 Note the current position in relation to the Review of the Economic Strategy and the intention to bring a full report to the Panel in May 2014.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 It is currently proposed to manage the review of the Economic Strategy within existing Council resources.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The Economic Strategy is not a statutory function of the Council. However it is a key document which :
- Supports the Council's vision where everyone fulfils their potential; and a place with lively active communities and unique places and beautiful surroundings.
 - Supports the objectives underpinning this vision, which are to promote independence and positive lives for everyone, create neighbourhoods where people are proud to live and building a stronger economy.

- Provides a context & rationale for bids to lever in external funding

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The present B&NES Economic Strategy was produced in 2010 and contained a commitment to carry out a Review in 2013/14. The context for the Review is the work of the Public Services Board in promoting a co-ordinated approach to local services, and supporting the closer integration of key strategies to deliver sustainable communities.
- 5.2 Whilst the overall aims of the Strategy remain valid there is a need as part of the Review to :
- Widen its scope to embrace the whole economy and ensure that the impact and potential of the wider Visitor and Cultural sectors and their contribution to the quality of “place” are fully understood.
 - Put wellbeing at the heart of the outcomes it seeks to deliver
 - Take into account significant changes both locally and nationally including :
 - The socio economic impacts of the 2008 recession, changes to the Welfare System and Universal Credit, the increase in the age of retirement and the raising of participation age.
 - The changes to external partnership relations with the demise of the Regional Development Agencies and Business Links and the creation of Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP’s).
- 5.3 The Panel will be provided with a short presentation on the latest position on progress with the Economic Strategy review. As background to this the attached appendices set out :
- Appendix 1 : the latest emerging framework for the Economic Strategy Review
 - Appendix 2 : the Project Programme : Revised Internal & External Timetable
 - Appendix 3 : the proposed External Partnership Group
- 5.4 The Project programme includes a commitment to bring a full report to the Panel in May 2014.

6 RATIONALE

- 6.1 It is accepted that the present Economic Strategy now needs to be reviewed to address the whole economy, the present socio economic and social inequalities / disparities and overall health and wellbeing as part of a “place” based approach.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 None

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The review of the B&NES Economic Strategy is being undertaken in conjunction with a cross service officer team from the Council. The Health & Wellbeing Board has agreed to set a sub-group to input into the review and it is intended to set up an external key partner group to guide the work moving forward.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 Not applicable

Contact person	John Wilkinson 01225 396593
Background papers	B&NES Economic Strategy 2010 – 2026 http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sitedocuments/Business/EconomicEnterpriseandBusinessDevelopment/economic_strategy1.pdf
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	