

E&CD PD&S PANEL UPDATE FOR BEN STEVENS

March 2014

EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS

- Successful completion of Employment & Skills Section 106 provisions on BWR phase 1 including the establishment of 10 apprenticeships
- Keynsham Town Centre Redevelopment – on track to achieve outcomes on apprenticeships (3) and work placements for care leavers (2) under Recruitment & Training Plan with main contractor
- Employment & Skills Section 106 Agreement formalised with Bovis Homes in relation to redevelopment of Purnell Paulton factory site
- 16 new apprenticeship starts in B&NES Council since April 2013 and on course to achieve year-end target of 20 new starts
- Inaugural Manufacturing Forum held at Norton Radstock College
- Green Skills Academy event to be held at Norton Radstock College on the 26/03/2014
- Somerdale S106 signed with 20 apprenticeship and 80 work experience placements embedded.
- Fashion Museum was successful in securing funds from the Creative Skills programme to employ a 6 month graduate placement.
- £135k Small Business loans fund soon to be launched in Radstock & Westfield, delivered by Quartet.

BUSINESS SUPPORT

- Since April 2013 250+ businesses have received individual support through the Council's SLA's with Cool Ventures and Low Carbon SW.
- In the year to date the Worklessness Team have assisted 49 people into employment (from their target groups – long term 12months+ unemployed and vulnerable care leavers
- We are currently testing the new Invest in Bath website. This will be launched at the end of March.. Covering the B&NES area it will serve as a front door for businesses seeking information on business support services, new investment opportunities and links to a range of business facing Council services.
- The first B&NES Hackday will be held on the 23rd and 24th March at the Guild Co Working Hub. Over 50 software designers and developers from across the authority area have registered to compete and develop a smartphone friendly application that will be of benefit to the entire

community. Additionally a prize pot sponsorship of £2,000 has been donated from local private sector businesses.

- We are working closely with the Events Team to raise private sector sponsorship when a major international sporting event comes to Bath and North East Somerset. The first weekend in September will not only showcase Bath in the international media but will inspire a number of community sport and active lifestyle events across the authority.
- We have been working with Environmental Services to coordinate the response to the Government's proposed Flood Support Scheme which will commence on 1st April. We have contacted a number of businesses in the authority area which have been effected by the recent flooding to outline the assistance that will become available to them shortly.
- We have commenced our Business Visits Programme to organisations in Keynsham who may be effected by the Riverside re development and those who are located in the Enterprise Area.

REGENERATION: Bath City Riverside Enterprise Area

- The Bath City Riverside Enterprise Area Masterplan will be a coordinated vision and delivery strategy for the West of England LEP's priority employment area within Bath. Following two stakeholder workshops, public consultation on the Masterplan will launch at the Bath City Conference on 30 April 2014 and will run for one month. The Masterplan will be finalised based on the responses of the public and discussion with Members, with the aim that in summer it will be approved by B&NES as interim planning policy on the same basis as the MOD Concept Statements.
- The Masterplan will include a Vision Report including a River Corridor Strategy and Spatial Strategy setting out clear principles around design, land use, ecology, landscape, key pedestrian and cycle routes, and enhancing the World Heritage Site setting based on the UNESCO Core Values.
- Discussions are ongoing with a number of developers to bring forward new development in line with B&NES Economic Strategy, Core Strategy and emerging Enterprise Area Masterplan – the economy is turning a corner and Bath will attract significant investment in development over the next few years.
- Innovation Quay (on Bath Quays North and South) could become one of the most exciting developments in the country, improving the economy of the city through delivering significant new employment space including creative workspace, new innovation space, a stunning new bridge and residential accommodation. The Bath Quays Waterside flood conveyance and public realm scheme will set the scene for this exciting development with a stunning series of stepped public spaces between Churchill Bridge and Green Park.

- New development will also be coming forward at Bath Western Riverside East/Green Park, Manvers Street and within Twerton/Newbridge Riverside.
- Roman Baths awarded a Round 2 £372,500 Heritage Lottery Fund grant to display and provide step-free access to the Beau Street Hoard;
- Fashion Museum secured two grant awards:
 - o Arts Council England Strategic Support Fund – £57,550 towards preparing a Forward Plan for the museum;
 - o Designation Development Fund – £90,000 over 2014/15 and 2015/16 to document and put in the public domain important collections and archives.