

# Connecting Communities

## Draft Action plan 2015

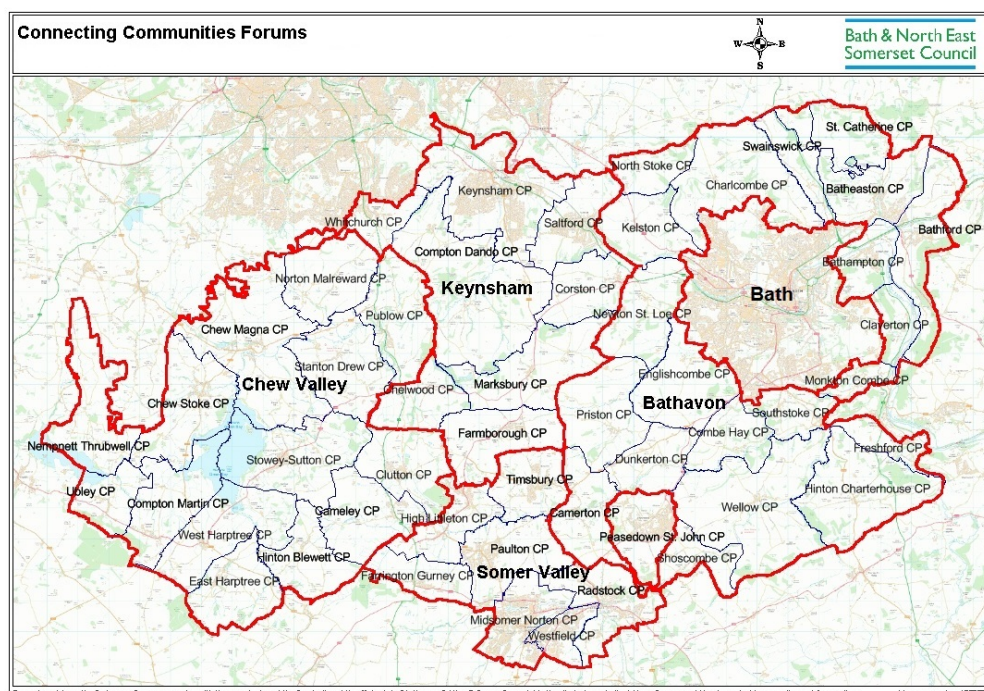
### 1. About Connecting Communities

Local residents are able to use different methods to inform the Council and public sector partners about the delivery of services. However, what has been lacking is a joined-up approach to planning services for future needs and no consistency when engaging with local communities.

The 'Connecting Communities' programme is an initiative designed to help public service providers understand the needs of the diverse range of people and communities that make up Bath and North East Somerset. The approach has been built around five key principles:

- Listen
- Prioritise
- Join-up
- Work with you and;
- Share ideas

The programme has divided Bath and North East Somerset into five distinct geographical areas: Bath, Bathavon, Chew Valley, Keynsham and Somer Valley.



Each area is supported and represented by a local 'Forum' with the aim of improving engagement between public services and local communities, as well as encouraging local people and communities to talk to each other, share skills/ideas and work together where appropriate.

The Forums aim to bring together the right people at the right time. They do not replace the rights of parish councils and key stakeholders to input into statutory consultations. However they do provide a mechanism for discussion, influence and prioritising what matters most.

## 2. Progress so far

The development of each Forum is at different stages. This is due to previous partnership arrangements in place, a legacy of regeneration partnerships and local representation on the 'Local Strategic Partnership'. Bath and Bathavon Forum are currently being developed and will be formally established by Autumn 2015.

A rationalisation of other meetings has also taken place. Parish Cluster meetings, which were designed only for Parish Councils to attend and PACT meetings, run by Avon and Somerset Constabulary, have now been disbanded. Issues raised at these meetings can now be raised at the informal session run at the start of each Forum meeting.

A series of workshops was held in July 2015 for Bathavon, Chew Valley, Keynsham and Somer Valley. The aim of these was to help the Forums consider different ways of working together, a better understanding of what partners can offer and review the influence and effectiveness of the Forums for the future.

The outcomes of the workshops have been worked up into a series of action plans (see Section 4 below 'Action Planning') and draw together previous discussions held by previous partnership arrangements. The action plans will help each Forum focus on what really matters most and help them work together to solve these issues.

## 3. About each Forum

A series of area profiles have been developed for each of the five areas. This brings together the key facts from the 2011 census data. Each profile provides a snapshot of the local population, how it lives and its characteristics and helps provide a better understanding of the area. As new data becomes available each profile will be updated to reflect the current situation.

**Bath** - The Bath Area consists of sixteen electoral wards. Unlike North East Somerset, the Bath Area does not have parishes or parish councils. It has a resident population of 88,859. It lies 12 miles south-east of Bristol, near the southern edge of the Cotswolds, in a valley of the River Avon, designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Further information can be found at:

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/your-council-and-democracy/local-research-and-statistics/wiki/bath-forum-area>

**Bathavon** - The Bathavon area consists of 3 electoral wards and 21 parishes and has a usual resident\* population of just over 12,600. Geographically it surrounds Bath City and borders South Gloucestershire to the North, Wiltshire to the West and Mendip to the South. The area is largely rural and home to a number of villages. Further information can be found at:

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/your-council-and-democracy/local-research-and-statistics/wiki/bathavon-forum-area>

**Chew Valley** - The Chew Valley Area consists of four electoral wards and 14 parishes, and has a resident population of about 9,983. The Chew Valley lies to the west of Bath and North East Somerset, and has strong links to Bristol. It is a large rural area and identified as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. One of its key features is the Chew Valley Lake, an important site for wildlife which has been dedicated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Special Protection Area. Further information can be found at:

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/your-council-and-democracy/local-research-and-statistics/wiki/chew-valley-forum-area>

**Keynsham Area** - Keynsham Area consists of seven electoral wards; one town and seven parishes, and has a resident population of about 24,692. It lies to the north of Bath and North East Somerset, and has strong links to both Bristol and Bath. The largest of the areas, Keynsham, is a market town, which serves a number of the nearby villages. One of its key features is that the physical geography is influenced by the two rivers, Avon and Chew, which converge to the north of the town. Historically the rivers were used as a transport corridor, now the A4 from Bath to Bristol provides the principle vehicular route for the area. Further information can be found at:

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/your-council-and-democracy/local-research-and-statistics/wiki/keynsham-forum-area>

**Somer Valley** - Somer Valley Area consists of eight electoral wards; two towns and six parishes, and has a resident population of about 39,848. It lies to the south of Bath and North East Somerset and has close links with Mendip. The area has strong historical characteristics from a Medieval Market town to the transformation during the industrial revolution. The strength in community and historical identity remains strong. The industrial landscape has been returned to countryside, and the former Somerset and Dorset Railway route provides a cycling route for access to Bath and Frome. Further information can be found at:

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/your-council-and-democracy/local-research-and-statistics/wiki/somer-valley-area-forum>

## 4. Action Planning

A series of workshops were held in July 2015 for Bathavon, Chew Valley, Keynsham and Somer Valley Forum areas. The workshops were run and managed by Independent Facilitators, Rowena Harris and Diana Godwin.

Each workshop included a briefing by Cllr Tim Warren, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Communities and Cllr Martin Veal, Cabinet Member for Community Services about the Council's priorities and future financial challenges.

The workshops were divided into three parts and Forum members were asked to participate in each.

1. **What's already happening?** inform others in the area about things planned or sharing best practice.
2. **What issues concern you now and what ideas do you have to make a change?** – issues that matter most and ideas to make a change. These were sorted into a series of topics.
3. **Action planning** – put forward proposals that they wished to discuss further within a small group and agree actions to take forward outside of the meeting.

Detailed notes and actions agreed at each workshop were written up by the Facilitators.

A number of priorities that were identified had a common theme across all Forums areas - the need for increased information sharing and improved community engagement. These are summarised as follows:-

- Future formats for Forum meetings

- Increase community involvement in the Forum including local residents and young people
- Training and development for new Parish Councillors & Clerks
- Improve communication between: public services and parish councils; police and residents; parishes council and residents; utilities, highways and the local community and across Forum areas

Other shared issues raised across all the Forum areas included:

- **Children & Young People:** improve the provision of services and facilities for young people.
- **Development and Infrastructure:** ensure the impact of development maintains the identity of the towns, villages and rural setting and ensure sufficient improvements to infrastructure.
- **Environmental, Sustainability and Climate Change:** encourage sustainable energy - better understanding of the benefits and opportunities for environmental sustainability initiatives.
- **Health & Wellbeing:** increase access to and information about services available.
- **Transport:** the need for affordable and accessible public transport; more community transport solutions; reduction in speeding and volume of traffic and; improved engagement in highway maintenance programmes.

It is recognised that whilst these priorities and common issues are shared across all Forum areas, the action needed may differ dependent upon the needs of each Forum and therefore have been dealt with separately in each Action Plan.

There was one priority that requires discussion across the whole area; the need to improve communication, training and development for new parish councillors and clerks. The action required is detailed below:-

Issue	Action	Involving	Timescales
Improve communication, training and development for new Parish Councillors and Clerks	Explore options for better communication, buddying scheme for PC, training opportunities and sharing information and good practice.	B&NES Strategy & Performance  Jo Swift, Kirstie Green, Kathryn Manchee, reps from other Forum Areas	Sept 15

The completed action plans are detailed below in Section 5. The action plans will be reviewed annual and updated as required.

The Bath Forum will hold a separate workshop once formally established and develop series of priorities which will be drawn together into an action plan.

## 5. Action Plans

# Bathavon Action Plan

Transport is clearly the priority issue for Bathavon as well as a need for better information sharing and community engagement.

A summary of the issues raised in July 2015 are detailed in the Action plan below.

Theme	Issue	Action	Lead / Involving	Date raised	Priority	Timescales
Children & Young People	Improve the provision of services and facilities for young people.	Share of best practice between villages that are supporting youth provision.	B&NES Children Centre Services  Parish Councils	July 15		
Developments and Infrastructure	Ensure the impact of development maintains the identity of villages and provides sufficient improvements to infrastructure such as schools, roads, traffic, affordable housing and health (being aware of the needs of boat dwellers living in the area.)	Parish Councils to continue to engage with the Placemaking and Neighbourhood Planning process. Report back to Forum on progress.	B&NES Planning Policy  All Parish Councils	July 15		
Developments and Infrastructure	Better Integration of students who live within existing communities	Work with the Student Community Partnership to explore local projects	Student Community Partnership	July 15		
Economic development, skills, training and enterprise	Improve the availability of apprenticeships, work placements and volunteering opportunities and support those people who are unemployed / career changes	Review existing apprenticeships, work placements and volunteering opportunity currently available  Explore mentoring and coaching opportunities	B&NES Economic Development and Volunteer Centre, Children's Centres	July 15		

Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change	Encourage sustainable energy - better understanding of the benefits and opportunities for environmental sustainability initiatives	Explore examples of local energy production in the area.	Bath & West Community Energy	July 15		
Health & Wellbeing	Encourage more referrals to existing services particularly support for older people  Utilise more community venues for social activities	Explore options for a 'village agent' or 'volunteer befriending service' to support individuals and signpost to services and use facilities to put on more social activities.		July 15		
Health & Wellbeing	Increase awareness of services available to improve the health & wellbeing of residents	CCG Community Services Review - input into the review of Community Services	B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group	July 15		
Stronger Communities	Future format of Forum and getting more input from our communities: how to improve communication between Parish Councils and parishioners (Common theme)	Discuss terms of reference, membership and engagement plan for the Bathavon Forum. Draft terms of reference to be presented for discussion at the inaugural meeting in the Autumn.	B&NES Strategy & Performance and Chair of Forum  All Forum members	July 15	High	Autumn 15
Stronger Communities	Better communication between B&NES and Parishes and better induction for new councillors (Common theme)	Explore options for better communication, buddying scheme for PC, training opportunities and sharing information and good practice.	B&NES Strategy & Performance  Representatives from other Forum Areas, Jo Swift, Kirstie Green, Kathryn Manchee	July 15	High	Sept 15

Transport	Influencing Transport Decisions at both strategic level (including neighbouring authorities) and at local level (responding to affordability, reliability, alternative options of public transport, speeding, volume of traffic, safer routes to schools, highway maintenance improvements.)	Discussion on transport issues will be included on the Bathavon Forum agenda for future meetings. Ensure the relevant officers and agencies are invited.  Terms of reference needs to include a spokesperson from the Valley Parish Alliance	B&NES Planning and Transportation team  All Forum members	July 15	High	Ongoing
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Developments and infrastructure	Ensure the impact of development maintains the identity of villages and provides sufficient improvements to infrastructure such as broadband, schools, roads, traffic, health, affordable housing and secure future for leisure centre.	Parish Councils to continue to engage with the Placemaking and Neighbourhood Planning process.  Report back to Forum on progress.	B&NES Planning Policy  All Parish Councils	Sept 13 & July 15		Ongoing
Economic development, skills, training and enterprise	Improve the availability of apprenticeships, work placements and volunteering opportunities	Review existing apprenticeships, work placements and volunteering opportunity currently available	B&NES Economic Development and Volunteer Centre	July 15	High	
Economic development, skills, training and enterprise	Support rural businesses to thrive.	Identify the type of support needed for local businesses	Chew Valley Chamber of Commerce	July 15	High	
Economic development, skills, training and enterprise	Improve broadband for rural businesses.	Work with the Council to ensure local issues are highlighted	B&NES Economic Development	Sept 13 & July 15	High	
Environmental, sustainability and climate change	Reduce the impact of flooding by working in partnership with agencies and the community to identify prevention measures and maintenance (including Flood Warden Training).	Support the activity of the Chew Valley Flood Forum	Chew Valley Flood Forum	Sept 13		

Environmental, sustainability and climate change	Better understanding of the benefits and opportunities for environmental sustainability initiatives such as bulk buying of oil.	Explore the benefits including financial of sustainable energy sources	B&NES Strategy & Performance - Sustainability Team	July 15		
Environmental, sustainability and climate change	Maintain awareness of the threat of Fracking in the local community.	Parish Councils to continue to engage with the Placemaking and Neighbourhood Planning process.	B&NES Planning Policy, All Parish Councils	Sept 13		
Health & Wellbeing	Improve access to services by offering more accessible ways to deliver services recognising the challenges of rural life and reducing inequality, isolation and loneliness.	CCG Community Services Review - continue to input into the review of Community Services and explore ways for local initiatives to be developed.  Continue to support the Village Agents scheme - supporting individuals and increasing signposting of services for residents.	B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group  All Forum members	Sept 13	High	Autumn 15
Safer Communities	Better Communication: especially between Police, Neighbourhood Watch and local residents  Provide a safe community by supporting campaigns and initiatives that reduce crime.	Explore options for better communication, volunteer neighbourhood co-ordinator and make better use of social media and mobile apps.  Explore the opportunity for a Pub Watch scheme	Avon and Somerset Constabulary  Parish Councils, health visitors, agencies, one stop shop, businesses and local residents.	July 15	High	
Stronger Communities	Future format and make up of Forum	Discuss amendments to the terms of reference, memberships, frequency, venues, structure and promotion of meetings at the AGM/Inaugural meeting and implement new	B&NES Strategy & Performance  All Forum members	July 15	High	Autumn

		arrangements thereafter.				
Stronger communities	Ensure community facilities are accessible and affordable to the whole community.	Report back on the Chew Valley Mapping of community activities that is currently being undertaken.	Volunteer Centre	Sept 13		
Stronger Communities	Better Community Engagement between parish councils and residents	Identify ways in which Parish Councils engage with local residents eg, email distribution list, welcome pack for new resident and share best practice.	Vice Chair of Forum All Forum members	July 2015	High	Autumn 15
Transport	Influencing Transport Strategy taking account of: health and wellbeing of those more isolated; improve connections to the main public transport routes for commuters; improve community transport provision to local services; provide safer routes for cycling and walking.	Transport Strategy - address issues that affect the Chew Valley  Develop an engagement process for inputting into the B&NES transport strategy – set up a 'Task & Finish Group' from members of the forum to explore the engagement options.  Review the information contained within the Neighbourhood Plans and issues raised previously by the Forum.  Complete the Chew Valley Transport Study: find out what is already happening - what is working, what isn't working including viewing the issues raised by the Forum.	B&NES Place Directorate, Strategy & Performance, WERN  All Forum members  Include service providers e.g. Children Centres, Health & Social care, Hospitals, local GP's, local council members, local businesses	Sept 13 & July 15	High	Autumn 15

## Keynsham Area Action Plan

Improved communication is clearly the priority issue raised at the July 2015 workshop for the Keynsham Area. Other priorities raised in 2013 are included along with the issues highlighted in 2015. These are detailed in the action plan below.

Theme	Issue	Action	Lead / Involving	Date raised	Priority	Timescale
Children and young people	Improve the provision of facilities and services for young people	Explore opportunities to join up and improve services for children and families including better use of Children's centre.	B&NES Children's Centres	Sept 13 & July 15		Ongoing
Children and young people	Promote positive behaviours of young people	Encourage more nominations to existing Awards to highlight positive achievements of young people across the area.	All Forum members	July 15		Ongoing
Development and infrastructure	Ensure the impact of development maintains the identity of the town and villages and rural setting and ensure: sufficient improvements to infrastructure such as schools, roads, traffic and health; employment land is brought forward to create new jobs; increase availability of affordable housing for local people; relocation of leisure centre in Keynsham.	Parish Councils to continue to engage with the Placemaking and Neighbourhood Planning process.  Report back to Forum on progress.	B&NES Planning Policy  All Parish Councils	Sept 13 & July 15		Ongoing
Development and infrastructure	Ensure community assets are maintained and retained for future community use.	Explore the opportunities to register local community assets under the 'Community Right to buy'.	B&NES Planning Policy  All Parish Councils	Sept 13 & July 15		Ongoing

Economic development, skills, training and enterprise	Create more job opportunities and support those people seeking employment	Support local initiatives such as Community @67 job club and Children's Centres employment and training support to help local residents seek employment.	Community @ 67, B&NES Children's Centres, Keynsham Chamber of Commerce, Salford Business Network	July 15		Ongoing
Economic development, skills, training and enterprise	Increase the opportunity for apprenticeships, volunteering and work placement opportunities	Review existing apprenticeships, volunteering and work placements currently available and explore new opportunities	Community @ 67, B&NES Children's Centres, Keynsham Chamber of Commerce, Salford Business Network	July 15		Ongoing
Environmental, sustainability and climate change	Improve the Air Quality	Input into the consultation draft Air Quality Action Plan for Keynsham and Salford and monitor progress.	B&NES Place Directorate	Sept 13 & July 15		Winter 15
Environmental, sustainability and climate change	Better understanding of the benefits and opportunities for environmental sustainability initiatives including solar panels, wind turbines and utilising the river Avon as an energy source	Explore the benefits including financial of sustainable energy sources	B&NES Strategy & Performance - Sustainability	July 15		Winter 15
Environmental, sustainability and climate change	Reduce the impact of flooding by working in partnership with agencies	Identify any flooding risks that impact on the local area	B&NES Place Directorate	Sept 13 & July 15		Winter 15
Environmental, sustainability and climate change	Encourage people to take pride in their local community.	Support local initiatives such as Keep Britain tidy, Volunteer Clear up days and In Bloom activity.	Parish Councils, In Bloom groups, Transition group	July 15		Winter 15

Health & Wellbeing	Ensure services are accessible and affordable particularly for those more vulnerable and isolated people in the community	CCG Community Services Review - continue to input into the review of Community Services.  Explore ways for local initiatives to be developed and promote existing opportunities	B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group  All Forum members	Sept 13 & July 15		Autumn 15
Health & Wellbeing	Lack of clarity regarding the provision of NHS services for residents living near other local authority boundaries.	Explore the possibility of B&NES residents being offered a choice of preferred provider	B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group and Bristol Clinical Commissioning Group	Sept 13 & July 15		Autumn 15
Safer communities	Create a safe community by reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour	Support initiatives such as 'Neighbour Hoodies' to foster good citizenship.				
Safer Communities	Better communication between Police and local residents	Explore options for better communication; consider other methods (not just social media) make better use of free media i.e. Keynsham Voice/Week & Parish Magazines, noticeboards, community radio, a regular column is planned for Keynsham Voice.	Avon and Somerset Constabulary  Parish Councils, local media.	July 15	High	Autumn
Stronger Communities	Alternatives to the Parish Ranger Scheme	Explore the opportunity for a Parish Ranger scheme for the area by sharing resources and ideas and links to volunteers.	Carolyn Beecroft (Chelwood PC) and John Twist (Corston PC) including support from B&NES Strategy & Performance  All Parish councils in Forum Area	July 15	High	Autumn / Winter

Stronger Communities	Improve communication between Utilities, Highways and the community	Invite public utilities (e.g. Wessex Water, Bristol Water) to attend future Forum meetings.  Ensure planned highways works are disseminated to Parish Councils. Engagement at the planning stages will ensure better co-ordination.	B&NES Place Directorate and Strategy and Performance	July 15	High	Autumn
Stronger Communities	Improve communication and support between B&NES & Parish & Town Council Clerks	Explore options for better communication, buddying scheme for PC, training opportunities and sharing information and good practice.	B&NES Strategy & Performance  Representatives from other Forum Areas, Jo Swift, Kirstie Green, Kathryn Manchee	July 15	High	Sept 15
Stronger Communities	Improving and developing the Forum	Discuss amendments to the terms of reference, membership (include Colleges), frequency, venues, structure and promotion of meetings at the AGM meeting and implement new arrangements thereafter.  Extend budget fairs to include Forum meetings.	Sub group to discuss proposals B&NES Strategy & Performance, Chair of Forum and Chair of Compton Dando PC  All Forum members	July 15	High	Sept 15
Transport provision	Improve the provision of public transport for access to work	Ensure all Forum members have an opportunity to comment on the Keynsham Transport Strategy and monitor progress.	B&NES Place Directorate  All Forum members	Sept13 & July 15		Ongoing
Transport provision	Ensure that any strategic transport planning considers the impacts to the Forum area and neighbouring authorities plans	Provide an opportunity to influence other local transport strategies (eg Chew Valley), neighbouring authorities plans and West of England.	B&NES Place Directorate  All Forum members	Sept13 & July 15		Ongoing



Transport provision	Ensure sufficient transport provision is offered for medical appointments and to help reduce isolation and loneliness	Actively promote community transport services and local bus services to local residents  Promote the benefits of volunteering to support community transport services	All Forum members  Community Transport schemes	Sept13 & July 15		Ongoing
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# Somer Valley Action Plan

A summary of the issues raised in July 2015 and the discussions held in July 2014 are summarised below in the action plan.

Theme	Issue	Action	Lead / Involving	Date raised	Priority	Timescale
Children and Young people	Youth Engagement in the Forum	Consult with young people and youth organisations on how they wish to engage with the Forum	B&NES Children Centre Services	July 15	High	Autumn
Children and young people	Ensure those seeking information about schools are well inform	Better understanding of the information available about local schools and colleagues (stats, funding, extra-curricular activities etc)	All Forum	July 15		
Children and young people	Improve the provision of services and facilities for young people.	Explore opportunities to join up and improve services for children and families including using Children Centres as a hub to support troubled families	B&NES Children's Centres	July 14 & July 15		
Developments and infrastructure	Ensure the impact of development maintains the identity of villages and provides sufficient improvements to affordable housing (particularly for local people), quality retirement accommodation, home share	Parish Councils to continue to engage with the Placemaking and Neighbourhood Planning process.  Report back to Forum on progress.	B&NES Planning Policy  All Parish Councils	July 14 & July 15		

	initiatives, schools, transport infrastructure					
Developments and infrastructure	Local Housing Issues (local people being priced out of housing in their own villages)	To clarify the policy procedures for allocating social housing for local families, eg shared knowledge of other schemes such as High Littleton	Timsbury PC All Forum	July 15	High	Autumn 15
Developments and infrastructure	Improve broadband and mobile phone signals for rural businesses and resident	Work with the Council to ensure local issues are highlighted	B&NES Economic Development	July 15		
Economic development, skills, training and enterprise	Economic Development for the Somer Valley (inward investment, skills and training, wages, affordable workspaces)	Develop a plan to generate inward investment into the Somer Valley  Create a business case for a business hub in the Somer Valley and report back to Forum on progress	Local businesses, public and voluntary and community sector	July 15	High	Autumn
Environmental, sustainability and climate change	Better understanding of opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of homes	Promote campaigns such as 'B&NES Energy at Home Advice Service'	All Forum	July 15		
Environmental, sustainability and climate change	Better understanding of the benefits and opportunities for environmental	Explore the benefits including financial of sustainable energy sources	B&NES Strategy & Performance - Sustainability Team	July 15		

	sustainability initiatives such as solar panels, wind farms etc.					
Health & Wellbeing	Ageing better workshop in Timsbury (as a start for village forums in other B& NES towns and villages)	Develop a proposal and present to Timsbury Parish Council on an 'Ageing Better workshop' – this proposal could be rolled out to the whole of the Somer Valley	Timsbury Parish Council, Village Agents	July 15	High	Autumn
Health & Wellbeing	Inclusive Sports Facilities	Identify local community assets that would support a permanent Boccia Facility and other sports eg fishing  Raise awareness of the benefits of inclusive sports, encourage corporate sponsors and promote volunteering opportunities	Leonard Cheshire Homes, B&NES Strategy & Performance, Sport & Active Lifestyle	July 15	High	Ongoing
Health & Wellbeing	Reduce isolation especially in villages	Explore ways for local initiatives to be developed and promote existing opportunities	All Forum members	July 14 & July 15		
Health and wellbeing	Increase residents health & wellbeing with a focus on reducing deprivation, childhood obesity, cancers, diabetes, improve child dental health, mental health	CCG Community Services Review - continue to input into the review of Community Services	B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group	July 14 & July 15		Autumn 15

Safer communities	Reduce anti-social behaviour.	Support initiatives such as Street Pastors and Alcohol Partnership to reduce anti-social behaviour	Avon and Somerset Constabulary	July 15		
Stronger Communities	Complete Community Asset Transfers (those pledged by B&NES)	Follow up on pledge Community Asset Transfers, unblock any legal issues and clearly explain any problems regarding the asset transfers	B&NES Resources and Strategy and Performance	July 15	High	Ongoing
Stronger Communities	Future of the Somer Valley Forum	Discuss amendments to the terms of reference, membership (include Colleges), frequency, venues, structure and promotion of meetings at the AGM meeting and implement new arrangements thereafter.  Extend budget fairs to include Forum meetings.	Sub group to discuss proposals, Cllr Myers and B&NES Strategy & Performance  All Forum members	July 15	High	Oct 15
Stronger Communities	Ensure community assets are maintained and retained for future community use	Explore the opportunities to register local community assets under the 'Community Right to buy'.  Encourage more joint working between organisations that manage community spaces.	All Forum members	July 15		Ongoing
Stronger Communities	Improved Communication between B&NES and Parish Councils	Explore options for better communication, buddying scheme for PC, training opportunities and sharing information and good practice.	B&NES Strategy & Performance  Representatives from other Forum Areas, Jo Swift, Kirstie Green, Kathryn Manchee	July 15	High	Sept 15

Stronger Communities	Alternatives to the Parish Ranger Scheme	Explore the opportunity for a Parish Ranger scheme for the area by sharing resources and ideas and links to volunteers.	Link to Keynsham Area Forum proposal	July 15		
Transport	Influencing Transport Strategy taking account of: affordability and accessible public transport, reliability, alternative options for public transport, speeding, volume of traffic, safer routes to schools, highway maintenance improvements and weight restrictions.)	<p>Transport Strategy - address issues that affect the Somer Valley</p> <p>Develop an engagement process for inputting into the B&amp;NES transport strategy – set up a 'Task &amp; Finish Group' from members of the forum to explore the engagement options.</p> <p>Review the information contained within the Neighbourhood Plans and issues raised previously by the Forum.</p>	<p>B&amp;NES Planning and Transportation team</p> <p>All Forum members</p>	July 15	High	Ongoing