

Bath & North East Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy

2009 - 2026

DRAFT 2

DRAFT

Bath & North East Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy – DRAFT 2

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Foreword / A Word from the Chair of the LSP

To be completed at the end of the drafting process

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1. Introduction & Context

The Strategy

This Sustainable Community Strategy for Bath & North East Somerset sets out our long term aspirations for the area to 2026 and the key issues that will need to be tackled by the Local Strategic Partnership over the coming years.

The Sustainable Community Strategy is the overarching strategy for the area and provides a framework for a vast number of other plans and strategies owned by organisations across the partnership. It particularly influences the Local Development Framework and most notably the primary document within that framework, the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy is the spatial expression of the Sustainable Community Strategy and sets out in planning and land use terms how our long term aspirations, as described through our Vision for the area are to be achieved.

Bath & North East Somerset is now at a crucial point in its development and there are a number of important issues that are going to affect how it develops over the next 20 or so years. It is important that this Sustainable Community Strategy recognises the opportunities and challenges the area is facing and is flexible enough to adapt and respond to them.

We see sustainability as being key to any development of Bath & North East Somerset with all of our work meeting the needs of the current population without compromising the needs of future generations. This strategy sets out how we will make the aspirations for the area sustainable and a reality.

What Bath & North East Somerset is like now

Bath & North East Somerset has a population of 178,300¹ (2007) and is located in an area of the country well known for its beautiful natural environment, high quality of life and outstanding built environment. Over two thirds of the area is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Green Belt. The district encompasses a diverse range of places, each with their own distinctive history, identity and communities.

To the North-East is the beautiful spa city of Bath. The city is one of only two cities in the entire world to be inscribed as a UNESCO world heritage site. This designation recognises a range of features of 'outstanding universal value', including Bath's landscape setting, its Georgian architecture and town planning, its Roman archaeology, its three hot springs and the remarkable cultural and social life which evolved around them. Much of this life hinged on Bath's history and reputation as a centre for pilgrimage, healing, pleasure and wellbeing. Today, Bath remains an important local and regional centre as well as a national and international visitor destination, attracting over 4 million visitors a year.

Bath is the largest urban settlement within the Bath & North East Somerset area and forms the main urban conurbation, acting as the commercial and recreational heart of the district.

¹ 2007 Mid-Year Estimates; sub-authority projections based on continuation of proportions from 2001 Census Data (c) Office Of National Statistics.

It is home to approximately 89,000 or 50% of the population and is the main centre of economic and cultural activity. The city has two universities and is a major centre of sporting excellence.

To the west of the district lies Keynsham. A traditional market town with a thriving community, it has a population of almost 16,000 or 9% of the population. It is located between Bath and Bristol with good transport links. It has an interesting Roman and Saxon history and played an influential role in the development of Britain's brass manufacturing industry in the 18th century.

Midsomer Norton and Radstock are small historic market towns, located in the south of the district with approximately 22,500 or 12% of the population split between them. They both have a strong heritage of mining and industry stemming from the North Somerset Coalfield. Radstock has been particularly influenced by the Somerset and Dorset and Great Western Railway companies that operated through the town.

The rest of the district consists of a diverse range of small rural communities of varying sizes and characteristics, including the line of villages along the foothills of the Mendips, the Chew Valley and the distinctive Cotswolds villages around Bath. Home to approximately a third of the population, the rural areas have a diverse cultural heritage and over 30 villages have Conservation Area status. Many of the rural areas lie within designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The population of Bath & North East Somerset is comprised of 90% of people being classified as 'White British'. The largest Black and Minority Ethnic Groups are 'White Other', representing 3% of the total population and 'Chinese or Other Ethnic Group', representing 1.7% of the total population.

The population is relatively healthy with life expectancy for residents being longer than regional and national trends. This overall picture does mask some inequalities across the district with males from the most deprived areas of the district having less life expectancy than those from the least deprived areas.

Bath & North East Somerset has a productive and relatively strong economy, with a significant amount of knowledge driven employment. Levels of unemployment are low and educational achievement in the area is high. There is also a large and diverse voluntary and community sector contributing approximately £50 million gross value added to the local economy and making a substantial contribution to local communities. ([ref North Harbour](#)) However there is a heavy reliance on the public and tourism sectors and economic success is not shared equally across the district. Wage rates in some sectors are comparatively low.

Housing prices in the area have over the last few years followed national trends in rising disproportionately to earnings and the area fares as one of the least affordable places to buy in the country. The current economic climate has meant that house prices have fallen in recent times but the South West region as a whole still has average house prices above the UK average. This coupled with relatively low wages, severe shortages of affordable housing and a relatively large amount of low quality private housing stock means that affordable housing is an issue for the area.

Crime levels are low, but fear of crime and anti social behaviour are priorities for local people. (source) In addition, local people also tell us that tackling congestion is one of their top priorities for action and within Bath & North East Somerset and the surrounding

area, congestion is a major problem. The area has no direct link to the motorway and there is significant commuter congestion into Bath. Public transport links are limited and infrequent in some of the more rural parts of the District. Congestion is also affecting air quality, particularly in some areas of Bath City Centre.

The population as a whole is fairly active with high levels of participation in physical recreation and also participation in the arts. There is also a very strong cultural heritage and the area benefits from an exceptional natural and built environment although some areas of the district are in need of improvements to their open spaces, particularly in parts of Bath City Centre and some of the town centres across the district. Levels of community engagement are rising with 34% of people feeling that they can influence decisions in their communities.

Within Bath & North East Somerset, the mix of city, market towns, villages and rural hinterland and the different character and needs of each place and community inevitably presents a variety of challenges and tensions which must be carefully balanced in the interests of the entire area. However this mix of people and place, of urban and rural also represents enormous potential and opportunity for the future success, wellbeing and sustainability of the district.

What our Communities are saying

Listening to the views of our communities is really important in ensuring that the work of the Partnership is addressing the issues that are of most importance to people over the short term as well as looking further ahead. The top priority for local residents in the immediate term is the level of traffic congestion in the area, followed by activities for teenagers. Affordable housing, the level of crime, public transport, cleanliness of streets and the level of pollution also featured in the list of top issues identified.

We acknowledge that this strategy does not directly address some of the priorities that are raised by our local communities as this strategy aims to set out a longer term view of the priorities for the area over the next 15 or so years. For example, activities for teenagers have been identified as an immediate priority by local people whereas this strategy sets out a move towards integrated co-located services for young people aged 11-25 in schools and youth centres over the coming years. In the shorter term, the more immediate concerns of our communities are acted on through the plans of individual agencies such as the Council, the Police or the Health Service. To see how the top issues raised by the community are being dealt with in the Council's corporate plan, click here. [\(add hyperlink\)](#)

In terms of identifying priorities over the longer term, a large number of partners came together in 2008 with a focus on looking ahead to 2026. Key issues arising from the conference were locality and in particular access to local services, local democracy and the importance of a sense of community. Concerns about climate change also featured highly with the need for sustainability to be considered particularly in relation to the provision of sustainable transport facilities.

There was significant recognition given to the fact that all of these issues need to be tackled in partnership. Tackling the key, long term issues facing the area cannot be the job of any single agency or sector, but the responsibility of a wide range of organisations working together in partnership.

What we have achieved

As a community, we have a strong base on which to build activities to deliver our Vision for the area. Partnership working is strong and much has been achieved since the Community Strategy was published in 2004 such as:

- There are now 42 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and 18 Beat Managers that are now engaging with their communities to build and maintain safer and stronger neighbourhoods.
- The 'Voicebox Survey'² shows that 34% of people feel they can influence decisions in their communities and this is an increase of 9% from the previous year. In addition eight parishes have produced parish plans since 2004 and a further nine are in the process of doing so. This is helping local people make a real difference to where they live.
- The Big Energy Challenge project has succeeded in making people more aware of their carbon emissions in the workplace. There has been up to a 10% cut in emissions across the Partnership over the last three years³.
- A regeneration vision has been set out for Bath, Keynsham, Midsomer Norton & Radstock with regeneration projects undertaken across the district, most notably the development of Southgate shopping centre in Bath.
- Integration of health and social care services by the Council and NHS Bath & North East Somerset in addition to the Health and Wellbeing Partnership are now providing more efficient uses of resources and better experience of care for service users.
- The Children's Service has recently established three Local Area Partnership Boards. These boards are helping to put the needs of local residents first by working together.

By working in partnership, we have been able to deliver on a wide number of issues since 2004. We want to build on these successes and move forward in delivering our Vision for the area.

2. Why do we have to change?

The issue

It is widely recognised that Bath & North East Somerset is now at a vital stage and there is a unique opportunity to really shape how the district is to grow over the coming years. There are a number of changes happening to Bath & North East Somerset that need to be understood in order for our existing and future communities to be successful and flourish. The creation of a clear set of aspirations for the area and the development of the Local Development Framework that will turn these aspirations into spatial planning policies,

² The Voicebox survey is sent to every resident in the Bath & North East Somerset area. Data refers to 2006-2007.

³ Carbon Trust data

mean that we have the tools to really anticipate the future needs of our communities and be flexible enough in our approach in planning for change in order to really shape our area. Any future planning needs to take into account the following issues.

Growth requirements

The requirements for growth in housing and employment in Bath & North East Somerset means that the district will change considerably over the coming years, with the anticipated level of growth equating to a new settlement the size of Keynsham and Radstock combined. This provides many opportunities. The challenge is for Bath & North East Somerset to grow and develop in a way that is socially, economically and environmentally sustainable, with the necessary supporting infrastructure in place so that it really enhances the area. It is also vital that any development is of a high quality standard of design that enhances the features that make this area such a distinctive place.

Climate change

Climate change poses significant long term challenges for the area particularly in light of the expectations of growth. There is considerable commitment across the Partnership to tackle the causes of and mitigate against the effects of climate change in everything we do and with the national, statutory carbon reduction target having just been increased to 80% by 2050, there is a renewed focus on reducing our carbon emissions. With changing weather patterns, rising energy prices and increasing congestion forcing us to make different choices about how we live our lives, the Partnership recognises that how we propose to embed tackling the causes of and managing the effects of climate change needs to be mainstreamed into all of our work. This is why it is a cross-cutting theme that runs through this strategy and throughout the work of the Partnership.

Demographic change

There are significant changes in the demographic make up of the population of Bath & North East Somerset expected over the next 20 or so years. The population is set to increase across almost all age groups with particular increases in the numbers of very elderly people. The population of the area is expected to increase by 18% from 178,300⁴ to 210,070 by 2026, including a 16% increase in the over 80 population⁵ (from 10347 to 12168).

The changing make up of the population also needs to be understood. For example, the number of single person households is likely to increase; there may be changes in domestic arrangements, changes in employment and work practises, shifts in work life balance, the consumption of digital media may increase and recycling or green behaviours will increasingly become the norm rather than the exception. It is really important that we understand the social trends and lifestyle changes that will have developed by 2026 in order to planning and deliver services to meet these changing needs.

Inequalities

The population of Bath & North East Somerset is relatively prosperous and healthy. Nevertheless, there are stark contrasts between the life chances for those who live in some of the most deprived communities in the district in comparison to the rest of the area.

⁴ 2007 Mid-Year Estimates; sub-authority projections based on continuation of proportions from 2001 Census Data (c) Office Of National Statistics.

⁵ 2008, West of England Demographic Projections, Greater London Authority, [http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/BathNES/communityandliving/intelligenceproject/Population+Projections+to+2031+\(2008\).htm](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/BathNES/communityandliving/intelligenceproject/Population+Projections+to+2031+(2008).htm)

Some of these communities are geographical in nature, whilst others relate to groups of people with particular needs such as some black and minority ethnic groups and people with learning difficulties. Notably, the gap in life expectancy between men in the most and the least affluent parts of the area is as much as 5 years. Despite educational achievement which exceeds national averages and most similar neighbours⁶, one of our geographical areas is within the most deprived 5% for Education and Skills Deprivation.⁷

The challenge is to narrow the gap between the most and least affluent and reducing health inequalities in these communities is a key part of this. Because of the need to give everyone the same chances in life, we have identified narrowing the gap between the most and least disadvantaged and reducing health inequalities as the other cross-cutting themes running throughout the strategy and throughout our work.

Locality

We are committed to the concept of local, giving consideration to the local provision of joined up, accessible services, or over the longer term looking at the feasibility of local food, developing local supply chains or even local energy provision). Local services have been ranked highly, with the area ranking 39th out of 354 areas in England (where 1 = greatest standard)⁸, however rural areas to the South West of the authority and on the outskirts of Bath are identified as being isolated with poor access to services⁹.

Locality is also about encouraging and helping communities to flourish and thrive, with people able to have a say about what happens in their community, whether their community is a network of people, a group of organisations or the neighbourhood in which they live. Thinking “local” is seen as a key way of delivering our Vision for the area and how we embed locality in all our work over the coming years is set out throughout the strategy.

The recession

Finally, it is important to recognise that this Sustainable Community Strategy has been developed as the country entered into a global economic downturn, the impacts of which are not yet fully understood. The length and depth of the recession is a source of much speculation and different sectors of the economy will see different effects. Latest predictions are that economic recovery will begin in 2010, but that significant public spending constraints will be in place over the much longer term.

Bath & North East Somerset is well placed to avoid the worst of the recession, but it is inevitable that impacts will be felt. A tightening of public sector expenditure over the medium term means that there needs to be an enhanced focus on how partners work together for the benefit of the area within significant resource constraints. There may be a need for more radical thinking about service provision and potentially more cost effective joint working over wider geographical and cross agency boundaries. There may also be opportunities for doing things differently and drawing upon the expertise of partners within the private and third sectors to ensure that the delivery of the Vision for the area is not compromised.

⁶ 2008, Milner et. al Health Needs Assessment for Children and Young People in Bath and North East Somerset P60

⁷ Indices of Multiple Deprivation, 2007, Communities and Local Government

⁸ 2007, The State of the District – An Economic, Social and Environmental Audit of Bath and North East Somerset, Local Futures Group, p30

⁹ 2008, Community Action – Access to Rural Services in Bath & North East Somerset

3. Our Aspirations

In order to fully respond to the changes that the area is facing, plus the issues that our communities have identified, the Local Strategic Partnership have agreed a long term, aspirational Vision for the area to 2026.

Our Vision for Bath & North East Somerset:

Making Bath & North East Somerset an even better place to work, live and visit

Specifically, this means that **Bath & North East Somerset is a distinctive place with vibrant, sustainable communities where everyone fulfils their potential.**

We are therefore working towards:

A distinctive place that has:

- Outstanding built and natural environment
- A dynamic, low carbon economy
- Connectivity
- World class arts and culture

With vibrant sustainable communities

- That are active, lively and inclusive
- Where people feel safe, take responsibility and make a contribution,
- That are carbon neutral,
- Where the disadvantaged are supported
- Where the vulnerable are protected
- Where people feel proud to live

Where everyone fulfils their potential by having an equal opportunity to:

- Learn and develop skills
- Enjoy a healthy, low carbon lifestyle
- Influence the future of their area
- Contribute to the economy and society

Our Position in the sub - region

Bath & North East Somerset is one of the four local authority areas that make up the West of England, the others being Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset.

Working across the sub-region is increasingly important as we try to respond to issues and challenges that affect the whole of the sub region. Waste, transport, housing growth and the infrastructure requirements to support that growth are key issues for the whole of the West of England.

To help tackle these issues, the West of England has developed a vision for the sub-region to 2026. More detail on how the West of England vision compliments the work underway within Bath & North East Somerset is set out further on in this strategy.

The West of England aspires to:

- Be one of Europe's fastest growing and most prosperous sub-regions which has closed the gap between disadvantaged and other communities – driven by major developments in employment and government backed infrastructure improvements in South Bristol and North Somerset.
- A buoyant economy competing internationally, based on investment by innovative, knowledge-based businesses, prestigious universities and a high level of graduate and vocational skills.
- A rising quality of life for all, achieved by the promotion of healthy lifestyles, access to better quality healthcare, an upturn in the supply of affordable housing of all types and the development of sustainable communities.
- Easier local, national and international travel, thanks to transport solutions that link communities to employment opportunities and local services, control and reduce congestion and improve strategic connections by road, rail and through Bristol International Airport and the Port of Bristol
- Cultural attractions that are the envy of competitor city regions across Europe, making the West of England the place of choice for talented, creative workers and visitors.
- Success secured in ways that are energy efficient, protect air quality, minimize and manage waste and protect and enhance the natural and built environment. Built upon the benefits of its distinctive mix of urban and rural areas.

4. How will we make our Vision a reality?

Addressing the issues

The previous chapter set out the following key issues that Bath & North East Somerset is facing over the next 15 or so years, the reasons why we need to do things differently:

- The requirements of the **growth agenda**
- The causes and effects of **climate change**
- The impacts of **demographic change**
- **Inequalities**
- A focus on **locality**
- The impacts of the **recession**

In order to deliver this Sustainable Community Strategy, we are using 6 themes. The following chapters set out how we will address the key issues changing the area and provide an overview of exactly how we will make Bath & North East Somerset a distinctive place, with vibrant sustainable communities where everyone fulfils their potential by having an equal opportunity.

The 6 theme areas of the Sustainable Community Strategy:

- **Economic Development & Enterprise**
- **Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change**
- **Stronger Communities**
- **Safer Communities**
- **Children & Young People**
- **Health & Wellbeing**

How we will address the long term drivers for change, working through the 6 themes is set out in more detail in the following chapters.

Note to the reader:

Drafting to date has used the three cross-cutting themes of:

- Narrowing the gap
- Reducing health inequalities
- Tackling the causes and effects of climate change

These are themes from the Council's corporate plan and the Local Area Agreement. There is reference to how we will deliver on these 3 cross-cutting themes referenced throughout the 6 chapters of the strategy.

More recent discussions have focussed on the 6 key issues for the area as outlined above. These issues incorporate the cross-cutting themes within them and are broader, focussing on the things that the Local Strategic Partnership feel are important.

Therefore, work is now focussing on ensuring that the 6 key issues are addressed in each chapter of the strategy. This will form a major focus of the next draft.

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Economic Development and Enterprise

PLACE

The synthesis of the strategy for the various themes to create a coherent and distinctive vision and strategy for the places within B&NES is a key issue. This is particularly important in relation to the economy as the nature of economic activity is inextricably linked to the nature of places. It is suggested that the Theme sections are followed by a brief section on the places in B&NES and our ambitions for what these places will be like in 2026. This will need to draw upon the Future for Bath, Keynsham and Somer Valley work as agreed by Council on 20th November 2008.

Q1) Set the scene relating Economic Development and Enterprise as we move towards 2026? (Where do we want to be, what are the future challenges and what are the priorities for action?)

Introduction

A thriving, resilient and high value added economy is one of our key building blocks for sustainable growth in Bath and North East Somerset. It is linked to environmental sustainability and addressing climate change, and achieving high quality, distinctive places as the other key building blocks. Provision of cultural facilities and opportunities is an integral component of creating distinctive places, which are attractive to investors and visitors and where there are healthy, active, lively and inclusive communities.

The Economy in 2026

The economy of Bath and North East Somerset will have grown by approximately around 17,000 jobs and the population by approximately 27,000 (15%) primarily in Bath and the market towns. The economy will be characterised by sustainable growth and a strong culture of entrepreneurialism, innovation and creativity. It will grow both in terms of new jobs and gross value added. It will be more diverse with a higher proportion of private sector employment and expanded knowledge based and creative sectors. Industrial activities will comprise a reduced proportion of the total economy but will remain an important sector, particularly where this is linked to other sectors locally and/or to the functioning and sustainability of places (i.e. industrial activities that serve these places). Overall, the economy will more diverse and have a greater degree of resilience.

Tourism will remain a key sector and will grow in terms of value added. Retailing will grow and increase the level of market share achieved

from within the consumer catchment available.

Opportunities for employment and business start up will be open to all sections of the community. There will be a higher level of economic activity and reduced worklessness. Average wage levels will be increased.

The economy will produce a reduced total amount of carbon, and be on track to achieve statutory targets.

Bath will be widely recognised as a modern and sustainable university city, combining world renowned heritage with exemplary contemporary architecture, and characterised by both a distinctive retail and cultural offer and successful creative and knowledge based businesses, many of whom will have an international profile. The riverside area of Bath will be redeveloped and rejuvenated to create an expanded city centre, with a new residential community at Bath Western Riverside and a mix of uses to the west that help support the economy and sustainability of the city. The public realm of the city centre will have undergone a transformation worthy of the city's designation as a World Heritage Site, and areas of new development will be characterised by exemplary contemporary architecture inspired by the quality of the historic environment. The city will have expanded to the west through high quality new development to provide homes jobs and other facilities that are integrated with the fabric of the city as an organic growth of Bath.

The market towns of Keynsham, Midsomer Norton and Radstock will have undergone major regeneration to enhance their economic, social and cultural vitality and viability as focal points for local communities.

The places in the rural areas will have retained their distinctive identities whilst developing greater economic diversity and improved retail and other services for local communities.

The city of Bristol will have grown to the South East through and urban extension that while within Bath and North East Somerset, represents an integrated and organic growth of Bristol providing high quality new homes, jobs and other facilities.

Challenges

- Gross value added per capita GVA per capita (£18,000) above national average (£16,500) but below Bristol (£23,000) and South Gloucestershire (£19,500).
- Relatively low average wages

- Bath – over reliant on public sector, retail and tourism
- Keynsham – relatively small economic base, reliance on Cadbury and Council
- Midsomer Norton/Radstock – over reliance on manufacturing
- Worklessness – below West of England average but still significant
- Geographic disparity in economic wellbeing.
- Addressing climate change – including levels of CO2 output commerce and industry commerce and industry (1.072m tonnes p.a.- 36%).
- Rise of 110% in out of work benefit claimants between Feb. 2008 and Feb 2009 – but from a low base (Feb 09 2,107 claimants, 1.9% of working age population).
- Acute shortage of affordable housing.
- Safeguarding the environmental assets and quality of B&NES.
- Ensuring adequate infrastructure to support growth.
- By 2026 a potential doubling of journey times on congested routes in Bath and within Bath the Bath-Bristol corridor and up to a fourfold increase in journey times on congested routes in Whitchurch.

Priorities for Action

- Economic intelligence – regular, accurate and comparable
- Business premises and infrastructure
 - Modern flexible, low carbon premises

- Innovation and incubation space
- Sustainable local energy supply
- Distinctive and vibrant mixed use city and town centres
- Supporting housing, sustainable movement and ICT infrastructure
- Reduce traffic congestion and improve accessibility to employment.
- Business support and development
 - Business relations
 - Indigenous businesses
 - New start ups
 - Creative sectors and fostering creative across all sectors
 - Knowledge based sectors
 - ICT
 - Environmental technology
 - Bio-medical
 - Business and professional services
 - Wellbeing sector
 - Independent retail sector
 - University knowledge transfer

- Local supply chains
- Energy efficiency
- Inward Investment
 - Image, promotion and information
 - Targeted
 - Bespoke
- Ambition and skills
 - Entrepreneurial culture
 - Pathway from benefits to work
 - Skills for growth of knowledge based sectors
 - Skills for a low carbon economy
- Planning and investment in 'cultural facilities and activity'
 - Lasting 2012 Olympics legacy
 - Refurbishment of the Pavillion, Bath
 - Development of the Forum, Bath as a public performance venue
 - Enhancement of Victoria Art Gallery , Bath
 - Feasibility of mid-scale multi-purpose venue/creative hub for Bath
 - New 20,000 seat stadium for Bath Rugby.
 - One stop visitor centre and box office
 - Creative centre for Radstock

Q2) How does your answer above help deliver the Vision for Bath & North East Somerset?

It will directly help deliver:

- A distinctive place
- With vibrant communities
- Where everyone fulfils their potential

Particularly through addressing the priorities of :

- Improving transport and the public realm
- Addressing the effects of climate change
- Improving the availability of affordable housing
- Sustainable growth

Q3)	As a result, what will be different over the next ...	How do we know it will be different?	What else do we know? (Include any other relevant information)
3 years 2009 – 2012?	<p>The economy will return to a gradual trajectory of growth. Skill levels within the workforce will be improving. Increasing economic inclusion.</p> <p>Further development of creative and knowledge based business sectors.</p>	<p>There will be a downward trend in benefit claimants. Employment growth. Increased gross value added. An increased proportion of the workforce with level 2 skills and above. Education and training will be available from local providers linked to growth sectors to provide the local qualified</p>	

	<p>In Bath the Southgate development will be complete and fully occupied, the next phase of new city centre development will be underway, and the first new homes at Bath Western Riverside will be complete and occupied. The provision of information for visitors to the city will be improved. Improved venues for performance and exhibits and sports</p> <p>Regeneration of Keynsham town centre will be underway with completion of a new foodstore and approved plans for the Town Hall/Riverside area and the Somerdale site.</p> <p>In Radstock redevelopment of the former railway land will be underway and plans for development of other areas of the</p>	<p>workforce and ensure local people benefit from jobs growth. Sector networks established and higher profile for these sectors.</p> <p>New planning and delivery strategy adopted.</p> <p>Through visible changes to the city, improved retail performance and an increase in homes. Improved visitor feedback in surveys.</p> <p>Refurbished Pavilion and Forum, improved Victoria Art Gallery and agreed proposal for new stadium for Bath Rugby.</p> <p>Through visible changes to the town and improved retail performance.</p> <p>Through visible changes to the town.</p>	
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	<p>town will be approved.</p> <p>Development of new business space will be underway on the edge of Midsomer Norton.</p>	<p>Construction underway and increased business interest in the area.</p>	
<p>6 years 2012 – 2015?</p>	<p>Continued growth of the local economy.</p> <p>Growing knowledge based sectors. Continued enhancement of workforce skills and increased economic inclusion.</p> <p>There is a growing shift to a low carbon economy.</p> <p>In Bath development of Western Riverside will be advanced, public realm improvements will continue and major development and regeneration of the riverside area will be underway.</p> <p>In Keynsham redevelopment of the Somerdale site will be well</p>	<p>Employment growth in knowledge based sectors with education and training available to support the knowledge based-sectors.</p> <p>Reducing numbers of benefit claimants.</p> <p>An increased proportion of the workforce with level 2 skills and above and a growing proportion with level 4 and above.</p> <p>Reduced CO2 output from the commercial sector.</p> <p>New homes and other mixed use development underway.</p> <p>Through visible changes to the</p>	

	<p>advanced to create a new high quality and distinctive quarter for the town. In the town centre mixed use development to provide new shops, other uses and public space will be underway.</p> <p>Radstock town centre will be transformed through new development and investment to provide new shops, home, business space and an enhanced public realm.</p> <p>New business space will be complete on the edge of Midsomer Norton and town centre development and enhancement will be underway.</p>	<p>town.</p> <p>New homes, jobs and retail space and enhance town centre vitality.</p> <p>New and expanded businesses and visible changes to the town centre.</p>	
<p>9 years 2015 – 2018?</p>	<p>Continued growth of the local economy.</p> <p>Bath is recognised as a hub for creative, knowledge based and wellbeing businesses in addition to its traditional strengths in retail and tourism.</p> <p>Growth and diversification of the economies of the market towns.</p>	<p>Increased numbers of businesses and jobs in creative, knowledge based and wellbeing sectors, centred primarily on Bath.</p> <p>Increased education and training available, linked to growth sectors to ensure local highly skilled workforce.</p> <p>Re-training opportunities</p>	

	<p>Continued shift to a low carbon economy.</p> <p>Development of Bath Western Riverside in final phase. Regeneration of Bath's riverside areas will continue with real momentum, public realm and movement enhancements in the city centre will be advanced and a new sports stadium will be complete. Plans will be agreed for extension of the city.</p> <p>Redevelopment of Somerdale in Keynsham and the town centre will be complete.</p> <p>Continued town centre improvements in Midsomer Norton and development of further modern business accommodation</p>	<p>available from local education and training providers linked to local employer needs.</p> <p>An increase in the number of businesses and jobs in the market town areas.</p> <p>The proportion of the Somer Valley economy accounted for by manufacturing jobs is reduced.</p> <p>Continued increase in level 2 skills and above and a continued growth in the proportion with level 4 and above.</p> <p>Reductions in CO2 output from the commercial sector are on track to meet statutory targets.</p> <p>New jobs, homes, leisure/cultural and other facilities and an improved riverside environment.</p> <p>Approved plans for extension of the city.</p>	
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	<p>underway.</p>	<p>New jobs, homes, leisure/cultural and other facilities and improved riverside and town centre environments.</p> <p>New and expanded businesses and visible changes to the town centre.</p>	
<p>2018 – 2026?</p>	<p>The economy has grown and diversified, to underpin the long term sustainability of B&NES and the places within it.</p> <p>Continued o shift to a low carbon economy.</p> <p>Completion of new mixed use riverside quarter in central Bath, Western Riverside , new</p>	<p>B&NES has the second highest GVA growth is the second highest in the West of England.</p> <p>Employment in creative, knowledge based and wellbeing sectors increased by 10%.</p> <p>Education and training providers are centres of excellence in the provision of learning and skills for the above sectors.</p> <p>Reductions in C02 output from the commercial sector are on track to meet statutory targets.</p> <p>Sustainable communities enabled by new homes, jobs, retail, cultural and other facilities within</p>	

	<p>development along the lower Bristol Road to the west and extension of the city.</p> <p>Extension to South East Bristol underway and at an advanced stage.</p>	<p>a high quality urban environment.</p>	
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Q4) What are the strategies that help to deliver this theme?

The economic strategy and Local Development Framework.

Cultural Strategy

Strategies for Arts Development, Heritage Services, Sports and Active Leisure, Libraries.

Public Realm and Movement Strategy

14-19 Education Strategy

Post 19 Strategy

Q5) The Cross-Cutting Themes (Base your answer on your responses from question 1)

How does this help address health inequalities?	How does this help address the causes and effects of climate change?	How does this help to narrow the gap between the most and least disadvantaged?
<p>By addressing inequalities in income and related wellbeing.</p>	<p>By reducing the CO2 output from the local economy.</p>	<p>By increasing economic inclusion and addressing inequalities in income and related wellbeing.</p>

		Ensuring local people have the skills needed to access local jobs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved green and open space • well designed environments that are safe, playful and healthy • more local food production • improved air quality • convenient access for all to high-quality health services • parks • improved recreation and sports provision • improved transport • increased opportunity for walking and cycling • better access to goods and services • strong economies and access to employment • a range of quality accommodation and lifetime homes • Improved mental health and wellbeing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • effective management of flooding • robust approach to renewable energy • increased opportunities to use sustainable forms of transport • promotion of sustainable construction • promotion of sustainable lifestyles • less waste more recycling • better housing design • bio-diversity supported • green space • improved air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved access to housing and to jobs • increased availability of affordable housing • promotes social inclusion • access to goods and services • better transport • affordable energy • involving communities in plan making (as detailed in Statement of Community Involvement)

Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change

1) Key aspiration/ambition/aim/statement

Ambition: To lead Bath and North East Somerset to a sustainable, low carbon and climate resilient future.

Specifically, through the development of the Bath and North East Somerset Climate Change Initiative, we will take action:

- To ensure that unavoidable climate change impacts are planned for, and that homes, businesses, public services and the natural environment are safeguarded;
- To ensure that Local Strategic Partnership organisations get their own houses in order and make significant cuts in carbon emissions, at least in line with the national targets (34% by 2020, 80% by 2050);
- To provide the community leadership needed to help people to reduce carbon across the district by around 45% by 2026.

Q2) Setting the scene, challenges and priorities moving towards 2026

Where we are now and where we want to be

In Bath and North East Somerset we have the great good fortune of both an outstanding natural environment and world-renowned built heritage, giving us a local distinctiveness that underpins our quality of life and our economy. All of this is threatened by climate change, whether through the impact of the increasing cost of fossil fuel energy (partly because of dwindling fossil fuel supply, also known as the 'peak oil' issue and partly because of increasing penalties, such as carbon cap and trade schemes) or from unavoidable changes to our climate impacting on the quality of our environment, our ability to deliver public services, the viability of local businesses and the health and well-being of our people.

By 2026, we want Bath and North East Somerset to be well on the way to tackling the causes and effects of climate change, with carbon emissions having been reduced by about 45% over 1990 levels, with quality of life and the quality of our natural and built environment maintained and well-being enhanced.

The carbon footprint for the area in 2006 (latest Defra figures) was 1,072,000 tonnes, of which 437,000 was from the domestic sector, 384,000 from industry and commerce and 234,000 from transport, with smaller amounts from rail transport and agriculture.

The Council's carbon footprint for 07/08 was 26,500 tonnes from all Council services, including schools. The Council is aiming to reduce this carbon footprint by 30% by 2014, through its first five-year Carbon Management Plan. Work is now starting in the Local Strategic Partnership to support organisations and the wider community to reduce carbon emissions and plan climate change adaptation.

Challenges

- Shifting to a low carbon economy and building climate change resilience means changing how we think and how we do everything in Bath and North East Somerset;
- It also means finding ways to resolve perceived and actual conflicts over, for example, housing and population growth, creating more affordable housing, delivering the area's sustainable and renewable energy potential and growing more food locally.

Q3) How does your answer above help deliver the Vision for Bath & North East Somerset?

Achieving the ambition described is fundamental to achieving vibrant, sustainable, carbon neutral communities and ensuring everyone can enjoy a low carbon and sustainable lifestyle and the increased well-being that will bring. If we fail to achieve our ambition to tackle the causes and effects of climate change, then we will see: budgets hit by high energy costs and carbon taxes; flooding and fuel poverty becoming entrenched problems and the local economy failing to adapt, including damage to the environment, tourism and food production.

Q4)	What will an environmentally sustainable, low carbon and climate resilient Bath and North East Somerset look like in 2026?
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| 2026 | <p>Headlines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good risk assessment and long-term planning has ensured that, on the whole, our settlements are able to cope with the impact of a changing climate. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Careful flood mitigation planning has helped reduce the incidence of flash flooding caused by higher volume rainfall; |
|-------------|---|

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NHS planning has ensured successful adaptation to the health impacts of a changing climate, such as summer heat stress in the elderly. ● The Council has delivered three five-year Carbon Management Plans, cutting its carbon footprint by 30% in the first 5 years, with further cuts thereafter, moving towards becoming a zero carbon council. Similar action has been taken across the public sector. Success stories include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Council Transformation programme to modernise working practices, including rationalisation and more flexible use of office space has enabled a real leap forward in terms of resource efficiency and carbon reduction; ○ Huge reduction in energy use across the public sector, together with avoidance of carbon taxes, has helped to keep public services financially viable; ○ Actions to install renewable energy in schools has attracted funding and helped make our schools more sustainable, both environmentally and financially. ● As a result of strong and consistent leadership over the past couple of decades, an affordable and sustainable, low-carbon lifestyle is now within everyone’s reach and has ensured local prosperity and well-being, whilst achieving big cuts in carbon emissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Successful village hub scheme has brought the majority of daily needs closer to where people live, reducing car use and increasing quality of life; ○ Improvements to public transport, coupled with changes to make walking and cycling easier and more enjoyable ○ Bath leads the UK in making heritage buildings more energy efficient and lower carbon; ○ A number of local, sustainable energy projects have been implemented through the Sustainable Energy Strategy, including the development of the local wood-fuel supply chain and clean energy from anaerobic digestion of organic wastes, such as food waste; ○ Land-filling of waste from the area has been virtually eliminated, through reduced waste production, increased recycling and new ways to treat waste and use waste resources.
	<p>And what do we need to do now and over the next few years to make sure we are on track to get there?</p>

<p>Action Plan</p> <p>2009 – 2015</p>	<p>We will develop a strategic planning framework which recognises the significance of all aspects of tackling climate change and which is reflected in, for example, the Local Development Framework, the Zero Waste Strategy, Local Transport Plans, the Housing Strategy, Air Quality Action Plans, the Asset Management Strategy, the Green Infrastructure Strategy and Bath & North East Somerset NHS plans.</p> <p>This framework will be developed and implemented by the Bath and North East Somerset Climate Change Initiative. The Initiative will be set up during 2009/10 and the framework developed with advice and challenge from external experts.</p> <p>Each of the themes in the Sustainable Community Strategy will be tested against this framework to ensure action on climate change is properly incorporated and that barriers are overcome, challenges met and opportunities taken. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The school building programme provides a great opportunity to ensure that new buildings meet the national requirement of zero carbon by 2016 and are climate resilient. This represents a challenge in terms of the potential increasing energy demands from use of technology and in terms of ensuring schools have the ability to manage energy well.• The need to create a low carbon economy needs to be a key driver across the themes, ensuring that we exploit the opportunities to develop new skills and jobs, increase local economic diversity and support the development of local, low carbon supply chains.• Perceived or actual barriers to low carbon development, such as how we reduce carbon emissions from the heritage estate and how we meet the need for affordable housing need to be resolved or overcome.• The Council's office rationalisation plan, for example, presents an opportunity to achieve a major leap forward in terms of carbon reduction for the Council, but presents challenges, particularly to ensure that a reduction of carbon emissions in one aspect is not simply transferred or increased elsewhere. This applies to any similar projects in the area.
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Initial Actions

Ambition 1 – To ensure that the predicted, unavoidable climate change impacts are planned for, and that homes, businesses, public services and the natural environment are safeguarded.

- Undertake a comprehensive climate change impact risk assessment and develop understanding of these risks across services and organisations;
- Develop adaptation responses relating to relevant services such as, planning, flood management, economic development, social care, transport, schools, health, environmental services;
- Develop adaptation and resilience action plan;
- Develop Green Infrastructure Strategy that will enhance and protect the natural environment and bio-diversity, whilst also developing our ability to understand the management implications of the changing climate on the environment and the role of the natural environment in building resilience such as cooling and flood alleviation.

Ambition 2 – To ensure that Local Strategic Partnership organisations get their own houses in order and make significant cuts in carbon emissions, at least in line with the national targets (34% by 2020, 80% by 2050).

- All public sector organisations to undertake carbon foot-printing of their activities and work together to develop an LSP carbon reduction timetable and target, at least in line with national targets, building on the foundation created by the Our Big Energy Challenge project
- Bath & North East Somerset Council's Eco-schools project implemented, 2009 – 2012, achieving target of 100% coverage, helping all schools to reduce carbon emissions and savings
- Deliver initial public sector sustainable energy projects, such as wood-fuel boilers in appropriate schools and other public sector buildings.

Ambition 3 – To take the lead in helping to reduce carbon emissions across the community by around 45% by 2026, or at least in line with the national targets.

- Develop robust low carbon and climate adaptation policies in the Local Development Framework, ensuring high quality public engagement and leading to ambitious, achievable targets for renewable energy, sustainable buildings and flood defence;
- Develop action plan to support business to reduce carbon emissions, increase resource efficiency and encourage development of low carbon industries and supply chains;
- Develop and implement first stage of a Sustainable Energy Strategy for the area;
- Implement schools and community climate change engagement projects, helping neighbourhoods to reduce their carbon emissions;
- Implement range of measures to tackle fuel poverty, including the next stage of Somerset Warm & Well, the new Warm Streets initiative and setting up the local Affordable Warmth Partnership;
- Develop and implement Housing Strategy 2010-2015 to enable new social housing to meet 2013 zero carbon target, to tackle affordable warmth and carbon reduction and to facilitate energy efficiency in existing homes;
- Implementation of the Local Transport Plans 2 and 3, including delivery of the Bath Package, designed to reduce congestion in Bath;
- Create Freight Consolidation Centre to reduce heavy goods traffic, carbon emissions and air pollution in urban centres;
- Develop packages of measures to improve transport and support proposed developments south east of Bristol and along the Bath to Bristol corridor;
- Implement Joint Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan to create better network of traffic free cycle and pedestrian paths to green spaces and open countryside;
- Adaptation of Zero Waste Strategy 2010 – 2020 with new focus on options to maximise carbon reduction, minimise land-fill and maximise sustainable energy potential from any remaining waste;
- Recycling increased to above 55%, whilst landfill reduced to below half current levels;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food waste collection implemented and used to generate clean energy; • Green Infrastructure Plan developed to take account of opportunities for the natural environment and green spaces to provide some of the resources to achieve a low carbon future, such as energy and food production. <p>NB Bath has been declared an Air Quality Management Area and a new Air Quality Action Plan is being developed to tackle this serious environmental issue during this period. This will include some of the transport actions noted above. Monitoring of Keynsham indicates that it may be necessary to declare parts of the town as an Air Quality Management Area and develop an Air Quality Action Plan there as well.</p>
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Q5) What are the strategies that help to deliver this theme? See Q 4 above.

Q6) The Cross-Cutting Themes		
How does this help address health inequalities?	How does this help address the causes and effects of climate change?	How does this help narrow the gap between the most and least disadvantaged?

<p>Tackling climate change helps to address health inequalities in two key ways: first by reducing incidence of fuel poverty and the associated impact on health and well-being; by ensuring that our communities are resilient to both increasing energy costs and increasing incidence of climate-related extreme weather events as unavoidable climate change progresses.</p>	<p>This theme contains the core plans for tackling climate change, both carbon reduction across the area and building climate change resilience. The question is the extent to which action on climate change is being fully embedded in all other aspects of the SCS.</p>	<p>Those already most disadvantaged tend to suffer the most from increasing energy prices, falling into fuel poverty. Action to tackle energy efficiency reduces fuel bills and narrows the gap. Those most disadvantaged are also most likely to be badly affected by the changes in climate that will unfold over the period, for example, ability to recover quickly from flooding or to living in hard to cool homes.</p>
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Safer Communities

Insert a 'strap-line' for your theme. This might be a key aspiration/ambition/aim/statement

Building communities where people feel safe and secure

Q1) Set the scene relating to your theme as we move towards 2026?

(Where do we want to be, what are the future challenges and what are the priorities for action?)

The key challenges for B&NES in future are to:

1. Continue to meet the high expectations of our local communities and visitors in maintaining and if possible reducing the currently relatively low level of crime and disorder in the area, with a particular focus on tackling hotspots
2. Ensure that future growth in the area contributes to crime reduction, for example relating to secure homes and also ensuring a high standard for the appearance and management of our public spaces

Ensure partners respond effectively to the changing environment, including demographic change, recession, workforce development, climate change and national priorities including the threat of violent extremism

Q2) How does your answer above help deliver the Vision for Bath & North East Somerset?

A Distinctive Place

The relevant current three-year priority is: to reduce crimes of local concern through citizen focus and engaging with communities.

To 2026 there will be an enhanced focus on involving local communities in decisions about community safety priorities and to ensure local priorities are properly addressed. This neighbourhood-based, locality theme will be a consistent focus of our “trust and confidence” approach, whereby we ensure people are kept informed of what is happening in their areas and on issues they have raised.

With vibrant communities

The relevant current three-year priorities are to: create a safe, strong and vibrant city economy and to enhance the quality of life to our communities and increase public confidence by reducing anti-social behaviour ⁸

To 2026 there will be an enhanced focus on working with local people to develop visions for the design and management of local areas- for example through Parish Plans and building a vision for the night-time economy in Bath and other town centres .

Where everyone fulfils their potential

The relevant current three-year priorities are to: increase protection of the most vulnerable victims of crime; safeguarding young people and prevent them becoming victims or perpetrators of crime (shared with the CYP theme); and minimize the harm that substance misuse causes to society, communities, families and individuals(shared with the HWB theme)

To 2026 there will be an enhanced focus on working with local communities to reduce crime and fear of crime in those areas which suffer disproportionately from it. There will also be a focus on community cohesion in order to address emerging challenges including the threat of violent extremism. We will work with local communities to gain trust and confidence and to build the resilience of local communities to address community safety in their own neighbourhoods.

Q3)	As a result, what will be different over the next ...	How do we know it will be different?
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<p>3 years 2009 – 2012?</p>	<p>Our existing strategy aims to reduce anti-social behaviour, improve Bath city centre at night and reduce burglary rates (especially where higher than average). We will also be clearer on the “gaps” in services for vulnerable groups which we need to address. We will need to closely monitor the recession impact on particular crime types.</p>	<p>People will begin to benefit from setting the boundaries of behaviour Bath city centre at night. People will receive better information and response about the issues they have raised and it will be easier to report and get action “in real time” on local nuisances and concerns. People in Whiteway will have developed a community engagement model which could be adopted developed in other areas. The local community in that area will have addressed local flytipping and begun to tackle local crime.</p>
<p>6 years 2012 – 2015?</p>	<p>Local agencies will be more accountable to and have a greater presence in localities. This will go along with an increase in community expectations and also a tightening of funding. As a result, partners will need to work more closely together and focus on the needs of customers.</p>	<p>People will be able to use the “one-stop shops” which the Police and other local agencies will share in order to address local issues and promote an “on the ground” presence. Communities will benefit from faster response through “joining-up” support facilities such as local control rooms. People will find it easier to find out what is happening to the issues that concern them most and to influence local priorities. Local people will use community planning initiatives such as Parish Plans to work together on local solutions to community safety priorities.</p>
<p>9 years 2015 – 2018?</p>	<p>Local people will be involved in planning new developments with modern “secure by design” standards, making sure public spaces are easy to manage, clean and maintain, and that modern facilities (eg cabling) are in place.</p>	<p>Residents of new housing developments will benefit from secure housing design, modern technology and improved “public realm” layout - all built into the planning of new housing developments. This will also involve planning for local facilities (eg shared community public service outlets) and risk factors (eg for fire, crime, and perceptions of ASB) “designed out.”</p>
<p>2018 – 2026?</p>	<p>We expect new housing developments to come on stream at this stage: this may act as a further driver to innovation in local service delivery and neighbourhood work (eg enhanced Parish working)</p>	<p>Residents of new housing developments will have access to locally-controlled resources to address their own local needs and concerns about community cohesion and safety.</p>

Q4) What are the strategies that help to deliver this theme?
Community Safety Plan 2009-12; Strategic Assessment; Housing Strategy; Policing Plan; Somer Housing Trust Community Plan

Q5) The Cross-Cutting Themes		
How does this help address health inequalities?	How does this help address the causes and effects of climate change?	How does this help to narrow the gap between the most and least disadvantaged?
Stress and anxiety about crime is a determinant of inequalities of health and life-chances. Areas of crime and poor health are often correlated so a joint approach is required.	<p>We will use our strategic assessments to address any changes in crime patterns relating to climate change.</p> <p>We expect PACT and other local area arrangements for Police and neighbourhood working to be based as locally as possible and therefore lead to less need for travel.</p> <p>We will also work to manage the impact on public spaces of climate change, for example relating to low-energy street lighting.</p>	This will be felt most in relation to particular crimes in areas where these have an unequal impact- eg burglary in Southdown and Twerton. However, more broadly, trust and confidence will be increased across equalities strands where this has not always been the case in the past.

Stronger Communities

1) Insert a 'strap-line' for your theme. This might be a key aspiration/ambition/aim/statement

“Where everyone contributes ” “where everyone takes responsibility”

Q2) Set the scene relating to your theme as we move towards 2026?

(Where do we want to be, what are the future challenges and what are the priorities for action?)

It is difficult to define what a community is, but most of us have an idea of what being part of a strong community might feel like: things like stopping to say hello to your neighbours when you see them in the street, and knowing people would help you when you need it. Strong communities look cared-for, feel safe day or night, and provide ways for local people to have a say in what goes on and to put things right when things go wrong in neighbourhoods. There are many places in Bath & North East Somerset Council where people feel a lot of these things. There are others where people feel that some of these things are happening, but that there are areas for improvement. For example, even in 'successful' communities there are people who are isolated. Over the coming years our challenge is to foster community ties when all sorts of things are potentially fighting against this, such as the increase in single person households, an ageing population, and economic strain including a reduction in public service budgets. New housing and in-migration from the rest of the UK and beyond will also provide challenges, but also present opportunities to build new communities both of locality and interest. The climate change challenge will mean that access to fossil fuels will become increasingly scarce, so communities will need to work together to so everyone can get access to the services they need. Our key planks will be:

- Helping people to take responsibility for themselves and their communities, creating the conditions for local people to tackle things that matter to them, enabling, facilitating and- sometimes- backing off and giving people the space to solve their own problems.
- Finding new and creative ways to deliver services, involving local people and groups more and exploring new ways of being accountable. We need to design day-to-day services so that they are in easy reach, strengthening town centres and villages and cutting carbon emissions for residents and service providers. Access to more specialised services will be through reliable, affordable, appropriate public transport. We must also use new technology intelligently and ensure that this does not lead to new inequalities or “two-tier” access to services.
- Helping our well-developed voluntary and community sector, including social enterprises, to thrive, flourish and deliver innovative services tailored to local needs

- Supporting local community planning and ensuring that town and parish plans make a real difference
- Promoting 'real' consultation and engagement, so that asking questions, listening, taking views into account and feeding back become central skills for service providers
- Working together to integrate new housing developments into our communities - including improving existing facilities
- Supporting projects which foster the feeling of belonging - either through a sense of place or a sense of community e.g. events, intergenerational projects, or projects supporting communities of interest"

Q3) How does your answer above help deliver the Vision for Bath & North East Somerset?

Building stronger communities is the central building block for delivering the Vision – so that people feel at home and contribute to the place where they live, with a sense of confidence, belonging and tolerance. Specifically:-

- A Distinctive Place- we need to recognise that people identify primarily with the places where they live and not Bath & North East Somerset as a whole, but there are things we have in common across the area which can help create an overall sense of belonging
- With Vibrant Communities- further development of localised public services will provide a focal point for activity in villages and residential areas
- Where Everyone fulfils their Potential- our focus on tackling inequalities relating to decision-making (for example, our Re:generate project in Whiteway) has a clear effect on other inequalities eg relating to crime, health and quality of life

Q4)	As a result, what will be different over the next ...	How do we know it will be different?
3 years 2009 – 2012?	Community planning will be significantly extended. Working at local level by public services (eg PCT, Police, Council) will be further deepened. An LSP community engagement strategy will be agreed and begun to be delivered. The recession may impact both on the shape of the third sector, demographic change and the availability of volunteers. We will start planning new housing developments,	The priorities identified in local community plans will start to be seen in the plans of LSP members. LSP pilot projects will deliver real benefits, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • empowering communities to contribute to better services locally • public services delivering more “one-stop” services locally and improving access to services • people contributing more to their communities, for example through volunteering

	<p>emphasising integration into existing communities and creating sustainable communities with a balance of jobs and housing</p> <p>Communities will identify and prepare for the specific impacts of climate change on local community life</p>	<p>The community engagement arising from these projects will increasingly lead to public services being “enablers” for initiatives which will be owned and driven by local people.</p> <p>There will be new ways of working with Town & Parish Councils, volunteer networks and community businesses. a thriving, distinctive, “third sector” delivering innovative services</p> <p>New forms of local accountability will begin to be explored which set out the rights and responsibilities of both public services and communities</p>
2012-	<p>Beyond 2012, we expect the impact of new housing developments, technology, demographic change, budget reductions and climate change- including the need for adaptation- to be felt more significantly.</p>	<p>New housing developments will feel like communities, with high levels of volunteering and involvement, and will add significantly to the cultural and civic life of Bath and North East Somerset as a whole. New communities will also contribute significantly to carbon reduction targets.</p>

Q5) What are the strategies that help to deliver this theme?

Community Engagement Strategy. Town and parish plans. Volunteering Strategy; Vision for Bath; Culture Strategy; Housing Strategy; Somer Community Housing Trust Community Plan

Q6) The Cross-Cutting Themes

How does this help address health inequalities?	How does this help address the causes and effects of climate change?	How does this help to narrow the gap between the most and least disadvantaged?
<p>A shift to sustainable communities will mean healthier lifestyles e.g. more walking, cycling, and access to housing and good-quality living environment. Local community engagement will mean that hard to reach communities can be given the means to take more control of their</p>	<p>A focus on local needs and service delivery is central to the move towards a low-carbon economy and society. Where local communities take responsibility locally for they will be able to build their capacity and resilience to climate change impacts.</p>	<p>Empowering local communities to improve their areas is central to “narrowing the gap”. Our work in Whiteway has shown that working closely with local people can identify workable, sustainable solutions to local issues.</p>

lives which will make a difference to health and well-being and provide a framework for preventative work.		
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Children & Young People

Q1) Set the scene for Children and Young People as we move towards 2026?

(Where do we want to be, what are the future challenges and what are the priorities for action?)

The **vision** for children and young people in Bath and North East Somerset is that” **ALL** children and young people will do better in life than they thought they could”. **Children and Young People’s Plan 2006-2009(CYPP)**.

Our **Mission** is twofold:

- To ensure that all children and young people are safe
- To tackle inequalities and close the attainment gap

All partners across the Children Trust Board will build on work well underway to keep children and young people at the centre of current and new services. We will focus on delivering improvements across all Every Child Matters Outcomes, to ensure that we deliver on the priorities in the CYPP and the Children’s Plan. We will specifically:

- All services to work together effectively to ensure “keeping children safe” is everyone’s business
- Support the full participation of children, young people, parents and carers in the design , delivery and evaluation of services
- Support to all children and families during the early years of children’s lives, specifically through the delivery of integrated co-located services at children centres for children 0-11
- Further develop our excellent schools in line with the 21st century vision for schools and building schools for the future, with a key priority of narrowing the gap and supporting personalised educational attainment for all children and young people
- Support to parents in all aspects of children’s lives- strong parenting strategy with universal, targeted and specialist support with services available locally
- More positive activities, in and out of school for children and young people, to include play pathfinders

- Emotional health and wellbeing supported across all settings
- Reduced Teenage pregnancy and obesity rates
- Integrated co-located services for young people in schools and youth centres, 11-25
- A comprehensive needs led commissioning framework and services redesigned and commissioned to respond to local needs
- Ensure the established local governance arrangements- Children Trust Board and the Local Area Partnership Boards function to provide strategic leadership, oversight and accountability for services
- A workforce that is skilled and supported to deliver improved outcomes for children young people, parents and carers receive
- Services targeted or re-modelled to deliver support to our most vulnerable children i.e. disabled looked after children etc.

Q2) How does your answer above help deliver the Vision for Bath & North East Somerset?

The vision for children and young people and indicated actions specifically support 2 of the 3 elements of the council and the LSP vision for Bath and North East Somerset. It supports

- an environment “where everyone fulfils their potential by having equal opportunity to :learn and develop skills: enjoy a healthy lifestyle: influence the future of their areas: contribute to the economy and society”
- vibrant communities

Q3)	As a result, what will be different over the next ...	How do we know it will be different?	What else do we know? (Include any other relevant information)
3 years 2009 – 2012?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children Centre Services providing integrated services for children 0-11 in all local areas, notably in areas of highest deprivation • Young people centre where a range of integrated services will be available for children 11-25, developed in one area of deprivation in South West Bath • Commissioning Framework established operational • Integrated working and Contact Point fully embedded across the workforce • Fully costed and co-ordinated training programme established to support the workforce • Multi-agency teams available across the 3 LAPs • 14-19 Diplomas – first phase availability (Construction/Media and creative arts) complete. • First 3 Primary Schools remodelled under the Primary BSF Programme (Tony’s comments) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tellus Survey 4 • Feedback form children, young people, parents and carers • Uptake of universal and preventative services • Reduced number of children in need and or on the child protection register • Narrowing of the gap evident for all priority groups • Improved/sustained performance against targets 	<p>We do know that we are generally delivering “good “ services to our children, young people and families and carers as judged by Ofsted in the JAR 2008 and in the APA 2008</p>

<p>6 years 2012 – 2015?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s Service restructure in process • Young people centres where a range of integrated services will be available for children 11-25, in areas of highest deprivation • Progress with BSF (first 5 schools remodelled) and delivery on the vision for the 21st Century school • Supporting the workforce to deliver on the 2020 Workforce Strategy. • 14-19 Diplomas – all 14 diplomas available across Bath NE Somerset 	<p>Uptake of Diplomas across a range of Schools and Colleges</p>	
<p>9 years 2015 – 2018?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSF Programme complete with all Secondary Schools remodelled and 50% of Primary Schools remodelled. 		
<p>2018 – 2026?</p>			

4) What are the strategies that help to deliver this theme?

- Clear leadership from the Children Trust Board and the Children's Leadership Team within Bath and North East Somerset Council
- Children and Young People's Plan refresh 2009/10 and the completion of a new Children and Young People's Plan 2010, owned by all children trust partners-Local Area Agreement 2006-2009 and 2007-20

Q5) The Cross-Cutting Themes

How does this help address health inequalities?	How does this help address the causes and effects of climate change?	How does this help to narrow the gap between the most and least disadvantaged?
Emotional health and wellbeing supported across all settings and Reduced Teenage pregnancy and obesity rates directly contribute to cross cutting theme of reducing inequalities		Support to all children and families during the early years of children's lives, specifically through the delivery of integrated co-located services at children centres for children 0-11, and the further development of our excellent schools in line with the 21 st century vision for schools, with a key priority of narrowing the gap and supporting personalised educational attainment for all children and young people directly contribute to the narrowing the gap cross-cutting theme.

Health and Wellbeing

1) Insert a 'strap-line' for your theme. This might be a key aspiration/ambition/aim/statement

Helping individuals achieve their potential by improving health and wellbeing and reducing inequalities.

Q2) Set the scene relating to your theme as we move towards 2026?

(Where do we want to be, what are the future challenges and what are the priorities for action?)

We want people take a lead in maintaining their own health and well being and to have much greater choice and control over the services that support them to do so.

We need to develop a relationship of equal and open partnership with individuals and communities. We expect to have a vibrant and interactive network of people, groups and organisations striving for change and innovation in the way things are done, embracing the potential of the future together and ensuring that the services we offer are locally sensitive and flexible.

We must continue to maintain and develop a high standard of health social care and housing services to meet the changing needs and priorities of local people and the growing elderly population. In addition we also need to change the pattern of investment towards early intervention and preventative services for those at risk, and support and advice to all to help people make positive choices about when and how to access support.

In tackling this challenge we will focus our ideas and resources on nine strategic priorities

- Improving health and keeping well
- Developing independence and choice
- Improving access to services
- Improving quality and safety

- Improving effectiveness and value for money
- Being better informed
- Reducing inequalities and social exclusion
- Improving services to vulnerable people
- Ensuring effective organisations

Q3) How does your answer above help deliver the Vision for Bath & North East Somerset?

Taking this approach assists in delivering the vision for B&NES through contributing to vibrant and sustainable communities which are healthy, where people take responsibility, where vulnerable people are supported and where the independence of older people is promoted.

Q4)	As a result, what will be different over the next ...	How do we know it will be different?
3 years 2009 – 2012?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People will experience quicker access to services and will receive personalised high quality care in different locations and in new ways • Joint community teams operating in 3 localities bringing integrated services closer to local people • Single integrated means of accessing services and single assessment of need / self assessment process • More innovative approach to promoting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive, real time feedback from service users • Development of metrics that demonstrate improved outcomes for individuals • Levels of engagement with in local communities – establishment of infrastructure & involvement of 3rd sector • Greater investment in prevention & early intervention

	health & well being & encouraging locality based solutions emerges	
6 years 2012 – 2015?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority of people accessing personalised care packages with control over the social care resources that support them and increasing expansion of personal health budgets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher numbers of people on individualised budgets for health & social care. Early indications of improving health & wellbeing and early progress on reducing inequalities
9 years 2015 – 2018?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued expansion and embedding of the above objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustained improvement in underlying health of local population and demonstrable improvement in health & well being of most deprived
2018 – 2026?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People are exercising positive choice over their own wellbeing and accessing opportunities to live healthier lives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> B&NES residents are healthier and are living longer

Q5) What are the strategies that help to deliver this theme?

Improving Health and Wellbeing in B&NES 2009-2012

- Tackling Health Inequalities
- Health and Wellbeing
- Transforming Partnership Systems
- Transforming community Health & Social Care
- Transforming Acute Delivery Systems

Q6) The Cross-Cutting Themes

How does this help address health inequalities?	How does this help address the causes and effects of climate change?	How does this help to narrow the gap between the most and least disadvantaged?
<p>Health Inequalities are an integral focus of the H&WB theme and form a core part of our objectives.</p>	<p>In the development of its buildings and the maintenance of its estate the H&WB partnership strives for sustainable standards. In developing our working methods we are enabling flexible working solutions that reduce business miles and will continue to work to raise awareness in our staff of carbon saving behaviours.</p>	<p>In focussing on disadvantaged communities and working to establish locality based working local issues of inequality will be highlighted and addressed. Enabling individuals through choice and increasing independence gives greater opportunity for narrowing the gap.</p>

DRAFT

5. How will we make this happen?

Measuring our progress

Ensuring that this Sustainable Community Strategy is not about just setting the aspirations for the area, but that it is also deliverable, is very important if we are to improve things for our communities and to tackle the challenges that the area faces over the next 15 or so years. Our communities need to see that something is happening and how this strategy supports a wide range of partnership working.

This Strategy acts as the overarching document for the Partnership and provides the context for a host of other plans and strategies across the partners. It is to be delivered in several ways.

Long Term Aspirations:

Placeholder – building on the output from the Members workshop – longer term statements of aspiration showing how we will measure if we are meeting the vision for the area.

The Local Area Agreement:

The Local Area Agreement is a key delivery plan for the Sustainable Community Strategy. It is a written agreement which sets out the agreed priorities for the area over a three year period. The agreement comprises a number of performance indicators and targets, set out across the six themes of the Sustainable Community Strategy. Targets are set for three years and measure how well we are doing in meeting our priorities for the area. The targets are delivered by a number of partners including public and third sector organisations. The priorities are refreshed on a three year basis so the Local Area Agreement is seen as a short term action plan for the longer term Sustainable Community Strategy. The Local Area Agreement can be viewed on the Local Strategic Partnership website. [\(insert link\)](#)

Other delivery documents

The Local Development Framework:

The Local Development Framework describes the Sustainable Community Strategy and the vision for the area in spatial terms. The Framework contains a suite of planning policy documents that guide the future planning and development of the area. The main document in the suite is the Core Strategy which describes the Vision for the area in terms of where future development will go. The Local Development Framework is a key set of documents that help to deliver the Sustainable Community Strategy.

Infrastructure Delivery Planning:

Local Infrastructure Planning is important to ensure that proper plans are in place to address needs generated by future development as well as meeting existing deficiencies in accessing services and facilities. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan helps the delivery of appropriate infrastructure alongside development. It will also deliver the needs and objectives of the Sustainable Community Strategy, the Core Strategy and other more detailed place-based strategies such as town centre regeneration deliver plans and the

public realm and movement strategy. At a sub-regional level work is underway with authorities in the West of England to identify and secure the delivery of infrastructure which is of sub-regional importance.

Listening to our communities

Listening to the views of our communities is important if we are really to be dealing with what matters most to local people. There are a number of ways in which we can do this.

LSP Community Engagement Strategy:

(add text on strategy)

Statement of Community Involvement:

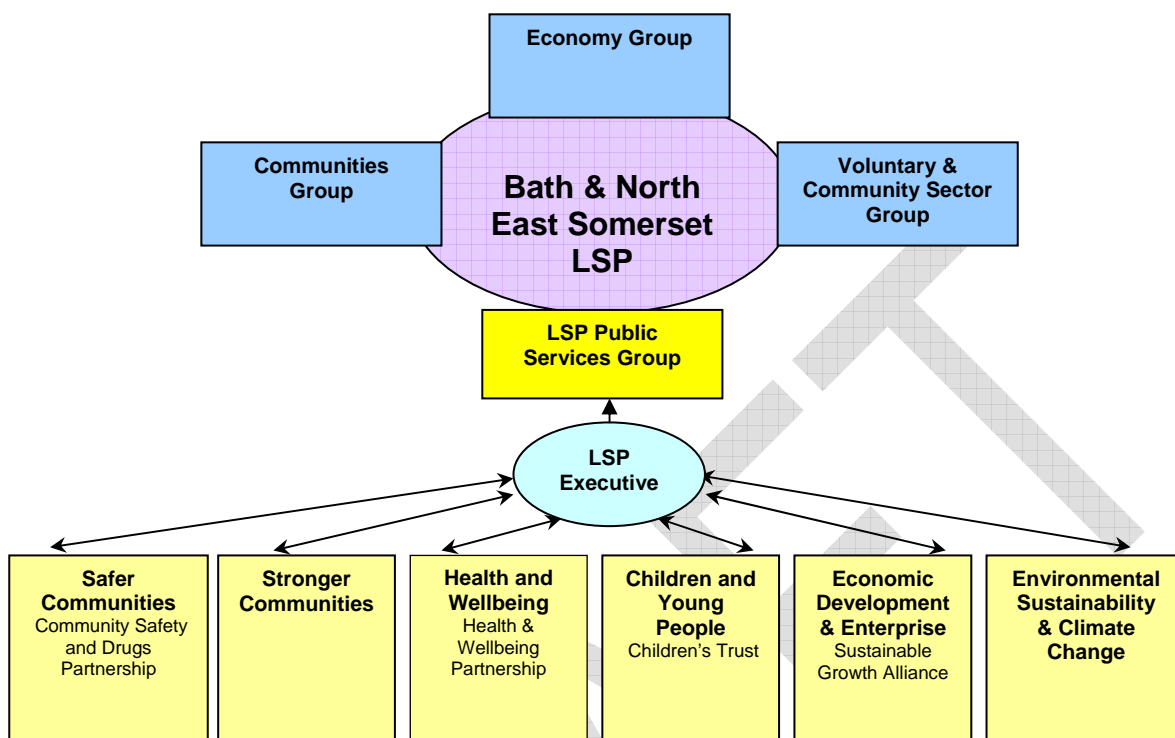
The Statement of Community Involvement explains how the Council will involve the community in the preparation of the Local Development Framework and consult on planning applications. It details when and how members of the public can be involved in the planning process and what feedback the Council will give on the consultation and what will happen to the views of the public in the decision making process.

Town and Parish Plans:

There has been a lot of close work with local communities to develop Town and Parish Plans in rural areas. Town and Parish Plans are a way of communities getting together and setting out how they would like their area to be and how they intend to work with partners to achieve this. They are a useful way of understanding particular issues within a locality identified by the people within that community.

Placeholder section: Add more on engagement across the theme areas plus how partner agencies engage e.g. Third Sector forums.

The Bath & North East Somerset Local Strategic Partnership



The Local Strategic Partnership:

Established in 2002 the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) is a “partnership of partnerships”. It comprises a wide range of partners from the statutory, voluntary, community and business sectors. This extensive membership aims to represent the views from communities and residents across Bath and North East Somerset. The LSP is responsible for continuing the development of the Sustainable Community Strategy and overseeing the process.

Voluntary & Community Sector Group:

Actively identifies and promotes the interests of the Voluntary and Community Sector on the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP).

Economy Group:

Represents both the economic growth agenda for Bath and North East Somerset and the business voice of the area.

Communities Group:

Encourages the use of existing networks and allows for briefings on key issues. It is a forum for the discussion of emerging LSP issues across communities and allows for link up in the area of community engagement.

Local Strategic Partnership Executive:

Comprises officers from the Council, Primary Care Trust, Avon & Somerset Constabulary and Avon Fire & Rescue Service. Each member of the Executive sponsors the delivery of one of the six themes of the Local Area Agreement. The Executive is an internal office working group that acts as the link between the delivery partnership and the full LSP.

The Public Services Group:

Monitors delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement. The group advises the LSP on key issues and works with other groupings within the LSP to agree on priorities. It holds to account Director-level LAA Theme Sponsors and identifies areas where moving resources can better address local needs. The Full Local Strategic Partnership sets the Public Services Group to account for delivery. This group is chaired by the Council Leader.

Six ‘Theme Sponsors’ aligned to Local Agreement theme titles.

Theme Partnerships:

Delivery partnerships are aligned to the themes of the Local Area Agreement and report into the LSP through Theme Sponsors. Each theme partnership has its own theme groups responsible for taking forward various strands of activity and delivery arrangements.