

**Democratic Services**

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**To:** The Chairperson and Clerk of each Parish and Town Council in Bath & North East Somerset and the Chairpersons of Parish Meetings

Copy to :

Group Leaders:

Cabinet Members:

Chief Executive and other appropriate officers

Press and Public

Dear Member

**Parishes Liaison Meeting: Wednesday, 16th October, 2013**

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **Parishes Liaison Meeting**, to be held on **Wednesday, 16th October, 2013 at 6.30 pm** in the **Council Chamber - Riverside, Keynsham BS31 1LA**.

The agenda is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely



Ann Swabey  
for Chief Executive

**If you need to access this agenda or any of the supporting reports in an alternative accessible format please contact Democratic Services or the relevant report author whose details are listed at the end of each report.**

*This Agenda and all accompanying reports are printed on recycled paper*

## NOTES:

- 1. Inspection of Papers:** Any person wishing to inspect minutes, reports, or a list of the background papers relating to any item on this Agenda should contact Ann Swabey who is available by telephoning Bath 01225 394416 or by calling at the Riverside Offices Keynsham (during normal office hours).
- 2. Public Speaking at Meetings:** The Council has a scheme to encourage the public to make their views known at meetings. They may make a statement relevant to what the meeting has power to do. They may also present a petition or a deputation on behalf of a group. Advance notice is required not less than two full working days before the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday)

The public may also ask a question to which a written answer will be given. Questions must be submitted in writing to Democratic Services at least two full working days in advance of the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays, notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday). If an answer cannot be prepared in time for the meeting it will be sent out within five days afterwards. Further details of the scheme can be obtained by contacting Ann Swabey as above.

- 3. Details of Decisions taken at this meeting** can be found in the minutes which will be published as soon as possible after the meeting, and also circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime details can be obtained by contacting Ann Swabey as above.

Appendices to reports are available for inspection as follows:-

**Public Access points** - Riverside - Keynsham, Guildhall - Bath, Hollies - Midsomer Norton, and Bath Central, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton public libraries.

**For Councillors and Officers** papers may be inspected via Political Group Research Assistants and Group Rooms/Members' Rooms.

- 4. Attendance Register:** Members should sign the Register which will be circulated at the meeting.
- 5. THE APPENDED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE IDENTIFIED BY AGENDA ITEM NUMBER.**
- 6. Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

When the continuous alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building by one of the designated exits and proceed to the named assembly point. The designated exits are sign-posted.

Arrangements are in place for the safe evacuation of disabled people.

**Parishes Liaison Meeting - Wednesday, 16th October, 2013**

**at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber - Riverside, Keynsham BS31 1LA**

**A G E N D A**

9. THE IMPROVEMENT OF RURAL BROADBAND IN NORTH EAST SOMERSET  
(Pages 5 - 6)

A briefing note will be circulated shortly. David Wales (Principal EEB Development Officer) will attend to answer questions.

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Ann Swabey who can be contacted on 01225 394416.

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## Progress update: Connecting Devon and Somerset

The Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) programme is still on track to deliver 91% (incl. private sector plans) high speed fibre by the end of 2016. Recent survey work for the initial phase is nearing completion and the programme has announced the first seven communities across Devon and Somerset to benefit from high speed fibre broadband.

Although planning for the first areas to receive high speed broadband under the project did not include the B&NES area, the fact that progress is being made on the rollout elsewhere in the region is encouraging.

However surveying is planned to start in B&NES in spring 2014 with first services live by the end of 2014.

**Maps:** CDS has recently published a [final coverage map](#) for the programme, available via the website

<http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/final-coverage-map/>

This map shows where we anticipate the roll out to have reached by the end of 2016 based on current information. This information is subject to change as the programme progresses and further survey and planning work is undertaken.

To reflect the dynamic nature of the rollout CDS also make use of an [interactive coverage map](#), which looks up to 12 months ahead and will be updated every quarter. Together with the final coverage map, which will be updated every 6 months, any changes to the coverage areas will be reflected as the programme progresses.

<http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/where-and-when/>

**Community broadband:** CDS is working in partnership with DEFRA, DCMS and BT to support community broadband initiatives and the few communities that fall into the final 10%. Recently, CDS submitted an RCBF application for both the National Parks (Dartmoor and Exmoor).

As well as seeking additional funding and examining the alternative technologies we can deploy to these areas, CDS is looking to find out how we can access some of the further £250 million investment announced by the government last June.

**For further information please visit [www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/](http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/)**

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