

# Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

**Date:** Thursday, 11th January, 2024

**Time:** 10.00 am

**Venue:** Community Space, Keynsham - Market Walk,  
Keynsham

**Councillors:** Andy Wait, Michael Auton, Anna Box, Jess David, John Leach,  
Alex Beaumont, June Player, Saskia Heijltjes and Grant Johnson



**Michaela Gay**

**Democratic Services**

Lewis House, Manvers Street, Bath, BA1 1JG

Telephone: 01225 394411

Web-site - <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk>

E-mail: [Democratic\\_Services@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic_Services@bathnes.gov.uk)

## NOTES:

1. **Inspection of Papers:** Papers are available for inspection as follows:

Council's website: <https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1>

2. **Details of decisions taken at this meeting** can be found in the minutes which will be circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime, details can be obtained by contacting as above.

3. **Recording at Meetings:-**

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 now allows filming and recording by anyone attending a meeting. This is not within the Council's control.

Some of our meetings are webcast. At the start of the meeting, the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed. If you would prefer not to be filmed for the webcast, please make yourself known to the camera operators.

To comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, we require the consent of parents or guardians before filming children or young people. For more information, please speak to the camera operator.

The Council will broadcast the images and sound live via the internet [www.bathnes.gov.uk/webcast](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/webcast) An archived recording of the proceedings will also be available for viewing after the meeting. The Council may also use the images/sound recordings on its social media site or share with other organisations, such as broadcasters.

4. **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 Thursdays notice must be received in Democratic Services by 5.00pm the previous Monday.**

Further details of the scheme can be found at:

<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=12942>

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

6. **Supplementary information for meetings**

Additional information and Protocols and procedures relating to meetings

<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13505>

**Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel -  
Thursday, 11th January, 2024**

**at 10.00 am in the Community Space, Keynsham - Market Walk, Keynsham**

**A G E N D A**

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
2. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair will draw attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out under Note 6.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting declarations of interest are received from Members in any of the agenda items under consideration at the meeting. Members are asked to indicate:

- (a) The agenda item number in which they have an interest to declare.
- (b) The nature of their interest.
- (c) Whether their interest is **a disclosable pecuniary interest** or **an other interest**,  
(as defined in Part 4.4 Appendix B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests)

Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer or a member of his staff before the meeting to expedite dealing with the item during the meeting.

5. TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN
6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

7. MINUTES (Pages 7 - 14)

8. CABINET MEMBER UPDATE

The Cabinet Member will update the Panel on any relevant issues if needed. Panel members may ask questions on the update provided.

9. DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT BUDGET 2024/25 - PROPOSALS WITHIN PUBLIC CONSULTATION (RELEVANT TO THE PANEL REMIT) (Pages 15 - 30)

In preparation for the Draft Budget Proposals 2024/2025 – the savings and income

proposals (currently subject to public consultation) are linked below:

<https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/budget-consultation-2024-2025>

The Panel will be looking at the proposed savings and income proposals within its remit. The full Draft Budget Proposals 2024/2025 will be considered by the Corporate PDS Panel on 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

10. LIVEABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS UPDATE (Pages 31 - 36)

11. PANEL WORKPLAN (Pages 37 - 40)

This report presents the latest workplan for the Panel. Any suggestions for further items or amendments to the current programme will be logged and scheduled in consultation with the Panel's Chair and supporting senior officers.

### **Local Food Growing Task Group update**

**Membership** - Cllr Sam Ross (Chair), Cllr Michael Auton, Cllr Jess David, Cllr Eleanor Jackson, Cllr John Leach, Cllr Ruth Malloy, Cllr Lesley Mansell, Cllr June Player

The Task Group on 24 November to scope the review. Following discussions members approved the following terms of reference:

To support the development of a new Local Food Strategy for B&NES Council through the consideration of:

- Allotment provision current and future within Bath and North East Somerset;
- Community approaches in local food growing
- The impact of planning policy on local food growing
- Community engagement and the role of the council in promoting local food growing
- Local food insecurity and opportunities to promote food security locally.

The Task Group commenced its formal evidence gathering on 15 December, when members met with officers from Public Health and Parks Teams to discuss food insecurity and allotment provision.

The next meeting is scheduled for 19 January 2024, where the Task Group will welcome representatives from the Allotment Association.

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Michaela Gay who can be contacted on 01225 394411.

**BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET**

**MINUTES OF CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL MEETING**

Thursday, 9th November, 2023

Present:- **Councillors** Andy Wait, Michael Auton, Anna Box, Jess David, John Leach, Alex Beaumont, June Player and Saskia Heijltjes

Apologies for absence: Councillors: Grant Johnson

**23 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**24 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure.

**25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

**26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**27 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN**

There was none.

**28 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING**

Adam Reynolds made a statement to the Panel. A copy of the statement is attached to these minutes.

Nicolette Boater submitted a question to the Panel, an answer was circulated. A copy of the question and answer is attached to these minutes.

**29 MINUTES**

The Panel confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record and they were duly signed by the Chair.

*Note: The Cabinet Project Lead, Councillor Oli Henman agreed to arrange a meeting with Councillor Wait to update on Keynsham Community Energy Group.*

## 30 CABINET MEMBER UPDATE

Councillor Manda Rigby, Cabinet Member for Highways, gave an update on matters within her portfolio. A report and presentation slides are attached. The presentation covered the following:

- City Centre Security
- Residents Parking Zones (RPZs)
- Cleveland Bridge
- Emission Based Parking Charges
- Transport Improvement Programme

Panel members made the following points and asked the following questions:

Councillor Box asked about Park and Ride parking charge changes, she also stated that parish members had commented on the times of services (especially in the evenings). The Cabinet Member agreed on the comment on rural bus services. She further explained that Park and Ride Services were brought back in house last year which had been an expensive project. She explained that we want to overachieve – all ringfenced funds will be invested back in the service. She asked that parish representatives write in with ideas.

Councillor Leach asked about the numbers of overweight lorries travelling over Cleveland Bridge. The Cabinet Member reported that it was 0.09%, on a monthly basis this is approximately 482 vehicles who have all had warning notices sent.

Councillor Heijltjes asked about the effects of the vacancies in parking services. The Cabinet Member explained that the Civil Enforcement Officer Service is running with 4 vacancies out of a staff of around 30. The main aim of the service is to educate people around the restrictions.

Councillor Beaumont asked to meet with the Cabinet Member regarding 20mph zones in Keynsham (school routes). The Cabinet Member stated that she would be delighted to meet and had plans to bunch together all of the areas that are requesting 20mph zones.

Councillor Heijltjes stated that she would like the free parking permits for Bath Councillors reviewed as a way of showcasing leadership. The Cabinet Member explained that everything is reviewed in the budgeting process, the budget will be considered by Council in February 2024.

Councillor David stated that there was an overspill issue in Oldfield with regard to RPZs and thanked officers for helping with this issue. She asked what monitoring was happening outside of the zones. The Cabinet Member confirmed that monitoring is being done and mitigations will be considered where necessary. She added that it was difficult to get to the cause of the issues and data can be affected by people parking a second car outside of the zone or HMOs.

Councillor Player asked about the state of roads and how, when potholes are repaired, they soon return to a bad state. She asked if cheaper materials are being

used to patch up the roads. The Cabinet Member stated that it was not that cheaper materials are used. She explained that there has been ongoing underfunding but that there had been investment in a machine that fills the roads differently which means pot hole repairs will last longer. She stated that the weather in the past year had been a large factor with regard to pot holes (almost double the damage last year).

The Cabinet Member, Councillor Rigby stated that she would like to thank the team who do an outstanding job.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member.

## 31 JOURNEY TO NET ZERO UPDATE

Councillor Sarah Warren - Deputy Council Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel – introduced a presentation which covered the following:

- Journey to Net Zero
- Vision
- Objectives
- Project Highlights
- Bath Clean Air Zone
- City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement
- Car Clubs: Launch Spring 24
- Working in Partnerships: Anchor Institutions

Panel members made the following points and asked the following questions:

Councillor Heijltjes asked for an update on pavement parking with regard to Tier vehicles (E scooters and bikes). The Cabinet Member explained that she was looking into creating a process for on-street parking and asked for ideas to be put forward. With regard to connecting on-street parking with cycle hangers, the officer stated that work was being done on this and she would be happy to be sent any suggested locations.

Councillor Auton asked about car clubs and stated that he would be happy to look at locations in Midsomer Norton. He asked about the railway line. The Cabinet Member explained that the bid for funding had been unsuccessful regarding that site. She stated that she would check the details and agreed to a meeting.

Councillor David asked the following questions. *The Cabinet Member response is shown in italics:*

- Are there any public engagement plans. *The Cabinet Member explained that she recognised the importance of public engagement and the first job of the new communications officer is a communication strategy regarding each of the strands.*

- What is the Council's ambition regarding school streets. *The Cabinet Member explained that 'school streets' refers to a timed temporary closure of a road at pick up and drop off times. She further explained that work has started on this with schools who have expressed an interest. The criteria will include the enthusiasm of the school and the type of road etc.*

Councillor Player asked if there were any plans to expand the CAZ (Clean Air Zone). The Cabinet Member stated that a physical expansion would be an expensive option so this has not been considered in great detail. Regarding air quality data, the Cabinet Member explained that there is monitoring information/graphs on the website.

Councillor Player asked if there would be more cars available to car clubs as one person's use can dominate. The Cabinet Member stated that work is being done on the type of formula but welcomed the thoughts of residents on this.

Councillor Leach asked about the plan for development work at the Rec in terms of the potential increase in car journeys. The Cabinet Member stated that officers will work with developers on this.

In response to a question from Councillor Heijltjes regarding how progress is measured, the Cabinet Member that she will consider a formal target regarding active travel. She stated that there is a paper on the Cabinet agenda on performance management but that some areas are easier than others regarding collecting and presenting data.

Councillor Box asked about the location of car clubs – will they be in city and rural areas. The Cabinet Member stated that she was keen to include rural areas.

Councillor Box stated that school transport in rural areas is costly and are we looking at electric vehicles. The Cabinet Member stated that school transport is not her area but she would pass this on to her colleague.

Councillor Wait asked about cargo bikes. The Cabinet Member explained that Tier would introduce a couple in the coming weeks/months but currently these can be rented via the Council website.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member.

## **32 INITIAL RESPONSE TO CLIMATE ACTION SCORECARD**

Councillor Sarah Warren - Deputy Council Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel – introduced the item. She referenced the Climate Emergency UK website and explained the mapping of where Climate Emergency has been declared. In the 2022 scorecard, this authority scored well – 57% when the average is 32%.

Panel members made the following points and asked the following questions:



Councillor Leach asked about the previous scorecard where the authority did not do so well – he asked if the assumptions had changed. The Cabinet Member stated that the scoring methods have evolved, there are more details and this Council has engaged more. She added that we had not scored so high in terms of Transport and Waste but thought this was due to some work not being picked up in the scoring.

Councillor David stated that it is good news that this Council came 7<sup>th</sup>. She asked if waste and food issues could be picked up and helped by the Task and Finish Group. The Cabinet Member stated that this would be a great help. The officer added that the food issue is been considered.

Councillor Heijltjes referenced the low score for transport and asked if this was due to the range of great plans not having been implemented yet. The Cabinet Member agreed that the scoring had not been entirely fair on transport for example the score was 1/6 for transport schemes yet we have got the Tier partnership. Scoring is also not reflective in terms of the Clean Air Zone. There is always more to be done, our response can be shared with Panel members.

Councillor Wait congratulated the team on coming 7<sup>th</sup>. He asked about 84% yellow star on buildings and heating and the penalty points for transport. The Cabinet Member stated that the penalty point was for air pollution, she will double check this. Regarding the 84%, this reflected many innovations such as that in the Roman Baths.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member and officers.

### **33 RESPONSE TO THE ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY**

Councillor Oli Henman - Cabinet Project Lead for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel – gave a presentation which covered the following:

- Nature Recovery – a new era for BANES
- Ecological Emergency Action Plan
- Vision and Priorities
- The 'How': Action Themes
- Priority Actions: updates
- Progress on other actions: highlights
- Priority actions to progress in coming year
- What is the LNRS?
- How will the LNRS be used?
- Stages for preparing and LNRS
- LNRS in the West of England
- LNRS Governance
- Milestones
- How we are developing priorities
- LNRS Stakeholder engagement
- Key next steps
- New extended Biodiversity Duty for Public Authorities
- GOV.UK guidance for LPAs

- First consideration

Panel members made the following points and asked the following questions:

Councillor Anna Box asked the following questions, *officer and Cabinet Project Lead responses shown in italics:*

- There is some confusion on 'call for nature' sites – what is the aim of this. *The officer explained that the website is currently being updated – any landowners can submit sites regarding biodiversity net gain. We will try to link them with funding sources.*
- Is there a plan for light pollution guidance for new builds regarding compliance for bats. *The Cabinet Project Lead stated that he would check these powers.*

Councillor Leach asked about waterways and if there was any mapping of plastic pollution. The Cabinet Project Lead stated that the waterways comes up a lot as a theme and this could be looked at as a stand alone issue. The officer added that there are water space partnerships, volunteers do regular litter picks.

Councillor David asked about support for local level community initiatives as there is a lot going on especially regarding parks. The Cabinet Project Lead agreed that volunteers must be supported. The officer added that the aim is to have specific guidance for communities and help link them with funding streams

Councillor Heijltjes explained that performance monitoring has been postponed by the Corporate Audit Committee until 2024/25 – she asked that in the interim, will this Panel conduct the role. The officer stated that she would get information on this and pass on to the Panel.

Councillor Auton asked if the Cabinet Project Lead would meet with him and a local member who runs a forest school on Duchy of Cornwall land that has launched a new community growing space and has plans for a rewilding area. The Cabinet Project Lead stated that this sounds like a brilliant example to be explored and would like the meeting.

Councillor David asked what can be done regarding water pollution near sewage outflows. The Cabinet Project Lead stated that a national change is needed, there is a lack of funding for the Environmental Agency. He hoped for a different approach from National Government. The officer added that information can be given to the government department.

Councillor Heijltjes asked if there are resource constraints in the Nature Recovery Team. The Cabinet Project Lead stated that the emergency is real and action is needed, he stated that overall budgets are constantly being squeezed. It is harder to have core funding, the model is that funding is on a project basis. We will continue to pursue this.

Councillor David referenced a bat friendly lighting project and many opportunities for improvement. The Cabinet Project Lead stated that there is an ambition to connect across Council teams.

Councillor Wait stated that there is better scrutiny of Wessex Water than there is of landowners. He stated that when measuring pollution, it is difficult to see the source – can we identify particular positions for monitoring. The officer stated that the River Trust is looking at this, working with Wessex Water with priority catchments and more locations. He explained that there is a roll out of a real time test monitoring programme. He stated that the data will be available and interactive.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Project Lead and officers.

### **34 PANEL WORKPLAN**

The Panel noted the future workplan, including items for the next meetings:

January 2024:

Liveable Neighbourhoods and RPZs Update  
Budget discussion

March 2024:

Local Plan Update  
Housing Policy

The meeting ended at 11.57 am

Chair(person) .....

Date Confirmed and Signed .....

**Prepared by Democratic Services**

This page is intentionally left blank

**Bath & North East Somerset Council**

MEETING:	Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel
DATE:	Thursday 11th January 2024
TITLE:	Budget 2024/25 and Financial Outlook – Draft proposals
WARD:	All

**AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM**

**List of attachments to this report:**

- Annex 1: 2024/25 Draft Savings and Income proposals
- Annex 2: 2024/25 Draft Funding Requirements
- Annex 3: 2024 - 2029 Draft Emerging Capital Schemes

**1 THE ISSUE**

1.1 This report will present the draft revenue and capital budgets together with proposals for increases in Council Tax and the Adult Social Care Precept for 2024/25.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

The Panel is asked to:

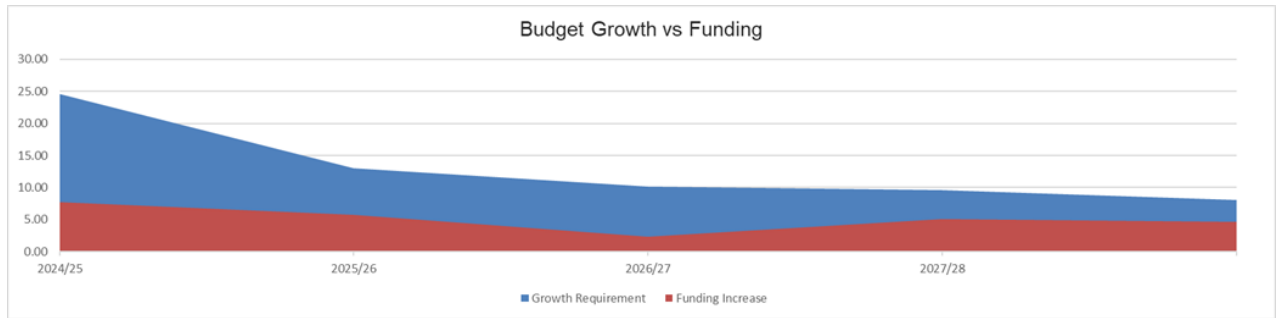
2.1 Note and discuss the proposals that impact the Council's 2024/25 revenue and capital budget.

**3 THE REPORT**

3.1 The Council's 2024/25 Budget and Council tax proposal will be considered by Cabinet on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and presented to Council on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024. This report includes the draft proposals that are relevant to the CES panel, the scrutiny of these plans will provide assurance on the completion of the Council's 2024/25 budget plans.

3.2 The draft budget funding and savings requirement over the next five years is as follows:

Budget Planning	Future years assumptions £m					Total
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	
Growth Requirement	24.53	13.03	10.15	9.65	8.08	65.44
Funding Increase	7.71	5.80	2.30	5.12	4.65	25.58
<b>Annual Funding gap</b>	<b>16.82</b>	<b>7.23</b>	<b>7.85</b>	<b>4.53</b>	<b>3.43</b>	<b>39.87</b>
Savings Proposals	16.82	6.57	2.05	1.10	1.33	27.87
<b>Remaining Funding Gap</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>5.80</b>	<b>3.43</b>	<b>2.10</b>	<b>12.00</b>



## Indicative Budget Forecast

The budget detail, assumptions, and the future forecast is shown in the table below: -

Budget Planning	Future years assumptions £m				
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
<b>Budget Requirement (Previous Year)</b>	<b>131.03</b>	<b>138.73</b>	<b>144.53</b>	<b>146.83</b>	<b>151.96</b>
Budget Adjustments	3.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pay & Pension	4.54	3.64	3.37	3.23	3.23
Demographic Growth	3.63	3.00	1.74	2.41	2.02
Contract Inflation	5.00	4.35	2.36	2.34	0.60
New Homes Bonus Pressure	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Capital Financing	2.01	1.78	0.99	1.21	1.21
Settlement grant funding	(2.54)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Budget pressure / rebasing	8.47	(1.74)	1.70	0.44	1.02
<b>Funding Requirement Sub Total</b>	<b>24.53</b>	<b>13.03</b>	<b>10.15</b>	<b>9.65</b>	<b>8.08</b>
<b>Draft Budget Before Savings</b>	<b>155.55</b>	<b>151.77</b>	<b>154.68</b>	<b>156.48</b>	<b>160.04</b>
Proposed Savings Plans	(16.82)	(6.57)	(2.05)	(1.10)	(1.33)
Estimated Savings Required	(0.00)	(0.66)	(5.80)	(3.43)	(2.10)
<b>Savings Requirement Sub Total</b>	<b>(16.82)</b>	<b>(7.23)</b>	<b>(7.85)</b>	<b>(4.53)</b>	<b>(3.43)</b>
<b>Budget Requirement</b>	<b>138.73</b>	<b>144.53</b>	<b>146.83</b>	<b>151.96</b>	<b>156.60</b>
Business Rate Relief Adjustment*	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Revised Budget Requirement</b>	<b>138.73</b>	<b>144.53</b>	<b>146.83</b>	<b>151.96</b>	<b>156.60</b>
<b>Funding of Budget Requirement</b>					
Council Tax	119.65	123.60	127.32	131.15	135.10
Business rates retention*	22.58	22.63	20.11	20.80	21.50
Reserve transfers From	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reserve transfers (To)	(3.50)	(1.70)	(0.60)	0.00	0.00
<b>Funding of Budget Requirement Total</b>	<b>138.73</b>	<b>144.53</b>	<b>146.83</b>	<b>151.96</b>	<b>156.60</b>

The forecast includes the following cost pressures and assumptions:

- **Pay Inflation** – Estimated 5.00% in 2024/25, 4% 2025/26, 3% thereafter.
- **Council tax** – General assumed at 2.99% in 2024/25 then 1.99% thereafter, Social Care precept 2% until 2024/25.
- **Pension Costs** – Have been revised in line with the recent revaluation no increase up to 2026/27.
- **Demographic Growth & Increase in Service Volumes** – Additional demand from new placement and market pressures in Adult & Children Social Care;
- **Interest Rates** - Higher interest rate to follow movement in Bank of England base rate currently 5.25% for treasury management cash investments. The Council will fix budget interest rates following the provisional settlement;
- **Inflation** – CPI projections modelled on a higher rate between 5-8% this will be refreshed for the detailed budget proposal based on ONS data.
- **Budget Pressures / Rebasing** – 2024/25 budget rebasing takes into account current pressures identified in Q2 monitoring on demand driven services including Children's Services.
- **Capital Spending** – an allowance has been made to fund previously agreed provisional schemes requiring borrowing.
- **Borrowing** – longer term borrowing costs have been factored into the MTFs however the authority will continue to optimise the use of cash balances subject to market conditions and the overriding need to meet cash outflows;
- **New Priorities** – from April 2024 these will be developed with the administration as part of the Corporate Strategy and at this stage have not yet been factored into the budget figures.
- **Reserves** – In recognition of inflation pressures commitment against un-earmarked general reserve for unbudgeted in year risks.

### 3.3 Savings and Income Generation

To deliver a balanced budget in 2024/25 savings and income generation plans total £16.82m, with income and savings to find of £7.23m in 2025/26. The Council has a good track record of delivering proposed savings. In relation to the Cabinet Portfolios being scrutinised by the CES Panel there are savings to find of £0.58m and income generation plans of £1.49m.

The proposals for savings and income generation are outlined in Annex 1.

### 3.4 Budget funding requirements

Budget growth and additional pressures across all portfolios of £24.53m have been added to ensure that the budget remains robust and to add additional budget funding to areas that require rebasing. This does not mean that savings cannot be found from these areas in future once savings opportunities are identified, but this ensures that spend and budget are aligned especially in high demand areas. In relation to the Cabinet Portfolios being scrutinised by the CES Panel there is budget growth from demand and inflationary pressures, and new funding requests of £4.17m.

Growth and pressures to bring to this panel's attention are outlined in Annex 2.

The material items requiring additional funding on top of annual budget adjustments are listed below:

- Neighbourhood Services Contract Inflation £1.05m
- Highways Contract Inflation £0.33m
- Additional Recurrent Funding for Clean and Green Initiative £0.29m
- Council House Building Resource £0.15m
- Line Painting Programme £0.08m
- Developing Walking and Cycling Routes £0.05m

When developing these proposals, the budget settings principles below have been followed:

### **Budget Setting Principles**

- New policy and service demand funding requirements need to be understood with robust and realistic estimates for future years.
- For new budget items un-avoidable growth only – other growth will require a defined funding source / saving.
- New savings will need to be material and over £50k per item, savings below this value will not be accepted (no use of one-off service reserves).
- The focus needs to be on high value strategic areas of change facilitated by Business Change delivering multiyear savings.
- Stop doing will need to demonstrate how risk is appropriately managed.
- Savings with reputational / political implications need early discussion with portfolio holders, with early, proportionate equality impact assessments completed.
- Savings proposals will need to have a budget profile in line with delivery plans.
- Cost and timescale for implementation needs to be fully understood and captured in the budget proposal.

### **3.5 Capital Programme 2024/25 to 2028/29**

The new and emerging Capital schemes can be found in Annex 3, illustrated by source of funding, with details outlined within the narrative descriptions. It is noted these reflect additions and savings from the current published programme.

All capital items have been considered and supported by the Capital Strategy Group in consultation with Portfolio holders with due consideration to revenue funding requirements.



### 3.6 Corporate Strategy and Council priority areas

The Budget proposal out the framework and allocation financial resources across the Council. How this is achieved will require close alignment to the Corporate Strategy as set out below.

**One:** We have one overriding purpose – to improve people’s lives.

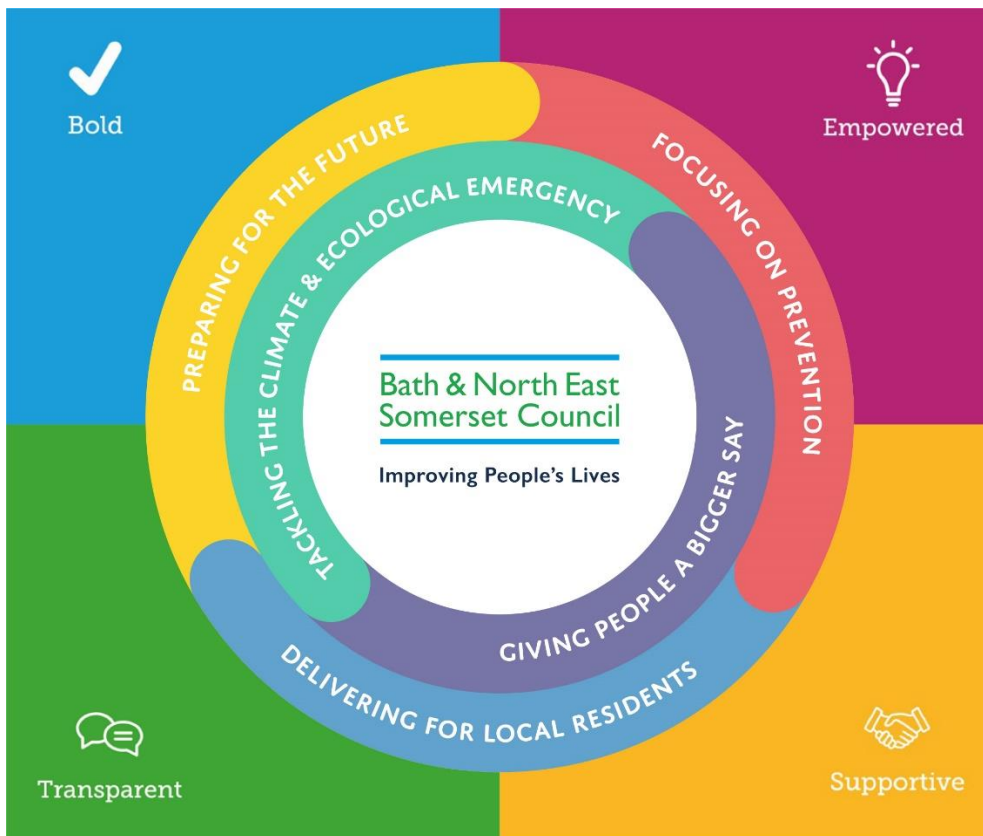
**Two:** We have two core policies – tackling the climate and ecological emergency and giving people a bigger say. These will shape everything we do.

**Three:** To translate our purpose into commitments, we have identified three principles. We want to prepare for the future, deliver for local residents and focus on prevention.

Our four values - bold, empowered, supportive and transparent - continue to underpin all of our work.

Our Corporate Strategy to 2027 builds on our achievements and reflects the ambitions and priorities of the council’s administration elected in May 2023. It provides a clear and ambitious framework for delivery, it also sets out how shared outcomes will be embedded through partnerships such as our Future Ambition Board and Health and Wellbeing Board.

This is all set out clearly in the diagram below:



This is the “golden thread” which drives what we do ensuring that setting budgets and managing our people - our most valuable resource - are guided by the council’s priorities. It also means that our commitments are realistic and achievable.

Areas of overarching strategic priority and focus over the next two years will include:

- Delivery of the Council's Being Our Best programme to enable a joined up organisational structure that meets the objectives of providing the Council with Great Jobs, Smarter Structures and a Culture of Excellence.
- Develop a new strategy and service provision of Adult Social Care services to the residents of Bath and North East Somerset.
- Focus on ensuring financial sustainability in Children's services. This recognises the increased demand and complexity of caseload which creating more effective financial and information management which are key to creating a modern and resilient service.
- Delivery against an ambitious new Economic Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset, prioritising green growth, good jobs and affordable housing.
- Manage the Council's operational assets through the introduction of a Corporate Landlord model that ensure the best use for the Council's services and its communities.
- Continued investment to support the most vulnerable people in our communities.
- Continued commitment to secure action to address the climate and ecological emergency.
- Continue to focus on council wide business change programmes which balance service improvement within a clear return on investment framework.
- Deliver new ways for our residents, businesses, partner organisations, visitors and internal service teams to interact and receive council information and services, using digital channels.
- Ensuring that we are able to manage labour market demands and fluctuations across our workforce but particularly in operational roles in both social care and neighbourhood services.

Within the budget proposals budget has been allocated to revenue and capital schemes at a Portfolio level to take forward the following initiatives that will contribute to the delivery of the Corporate Strategy:

### **Place Management Directorate**

Further changes to how we deliver our services have been identified to focus on the corporate strategy priorities of addressing the climate and ecological emergency and delivering for local residents throughout the budget setting process. This includes:

- Clean and Green Team
  - We will deliver for local residents with an uplift in base budget funding for the Clean and Green initiative to £750k per annum. This will result in increases in weed clearance, maintenance of highway gullies to prevent flooding, cutting back vegetation and removing litter on main roads.
- Line painting
  - We will deliver for local residents through additional funding for highway line painting to ensure the safety and understanding for all road users.
- Home to school transport
  - We will deliver for local residents by providing additional funding to transport children, including our most vulnerable, to and from school in a way that matches their needs.
- Waste Services staff investment
  - We will deliver for local residents ensuring that funding commitments made through Union engagement and negotiation previously are honoured with our staff, ensuring high quality services.
- City town centre management
  - We will develop and deliver a new strategy and operating model for Parks services to ensure that the service delivers against our Climate and Nature Emergency commitments.
- Highways
  - We will ensure that we are using all tools available to us as a Highway Authority to ensure that we deliver the service in line with our Climate and Nature Emergency commitments and deliver on the commitments contained within the Journey to New Zero Policy adopted in 2023.
  - This includes implementing changes to help manage parking demand by widening the use of emission-based charges and making small changes to fees in both Bath and North East Somerset as well as implementing charges of motorbikes and rebasing streetwork permit income.
- Neighbourhood services
  - We will deliver for local residents by implementing operational and contract efficiencies through the use of the new depot at Pixash Lane that will be fully operational from the start of 2024. This includes operating model changes to how we run services as well as the increased ability to offer MOTs to the public.

## **Sustainable Communities Directorate**

- Green Transformation
  - Overall funding levels will be maintained over the next three years (2024-27) to deliver the Corporate Strategy priority to address the climate and ecological emergency.
  - We will prepare for the future by developing a pipeline of renewable energy projects in support of our net zero goals, developing plans to deliver a doubling of woodland cover by 2050 and strengthening our approach to climate resilience and adaptation, as part of our wider ongoing work towards net zero, nature positive by 2030.
  - We will continue to deliver for local residents through our green infrastructure programme, with additional investment from the Community Infrastructure Levy for projects including Bathscape, Somer Valley Rediscovered, Chew Valley Reconnected, Bath Riverline, Waterspace and Keynsham Memorial Park.

- A £150k reduction in the base budget for Green Transformation will be offset through draw down from a policy reserve to fund individual time-limited projects supporting Corporate Strategy priorities. Policy reserve funding will be used for projects where external funding is likely to be secured, to maximise investment in strategic priorities whilst reducing the ongoing demand for recurring revenue funding. Projects will demonstrate a sustainable external funding source before reserve funding is agreed.
- **Strategic Transport**
  - Overall funding levels will be maintained over the next three years (2024-27) to deliver the Corporate Strategy priority to address the climate and ecological emergency.
  - The development of effective policy and strategy framework will continue to guide investment in future transport schemes which will deliver the most significant progress towards the Council's priorities. This programme of work also includes the completion of business cases to direct the investment of the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement funding.
  - Additional top-up payments to the Transport Levy paid to the West of England Combined Authority will cease on account of an underspend in the core levy. Underspend in other Levy components will mitigate impact.

#### **4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 4.1 The preparation of the Council's budget proposals meets the relevant statutory requirements including Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 that requires each local authority, when setting its annual General Fund budget and level of Council Tax, to take account of a report from its Section 151 Officer on the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves.

#### **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)**

- 5.1 These are contained throughout the attached report and appendices.

#### **6 RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations will be undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision-making risk management guidance and included in the final budget papers.

#### **7 CLIMATE CHANGE**

- 7.1 Addressing Climate Emergency is one of the two core policies within the new Corporate Strategy. The budget has recognised this priority through providing ongoing revenue funding for the Climate Emergency team and has also introduced new capital items to explore and implement renewable energy schemes. It therefore does not include any decisions that have a direct impact on Climate Change.

#### **8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 8.1 None

## 9 CONSULTATION

9.1 The Cabinet Member for Resources has been consulted on the drafting of this report as well as the Chief Executive, Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer.

<b>Contact person</b>	<i>Sophie Broadfield, Director of Sustainable Communities</i>
<b>Background papers</b>	<p>2024/25 Medium Term Financial Strategy</p> <p><a href="https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/s79189/E3485%20-%20Medium%20Term%20Financial%20Strategy%20-%20Appendix%201.pdf">https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/s79189/E3485%20-%20Medium%20Term%20Financial%20Strategy%20-%20Appendix%201.pdf</a></p> <p>2023/24 Quarter 2 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring.</p> <p><a href="https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/s79190/E3468%20-%20Revenue%20and%20Capital%20Budget%20Monitoring%20Cash%20Limits%20and%20Virements%20-%20April%202023%20to%20September%202.pdf">https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/s79190/E3468%20-%20Revenue%20and%20Capital%20Budget%20Monitoring%20Cash%20Limits%20and%20Virements%20-%20April%202023%20to%20September%202.pdf</a></p>
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	

This page is intentionally left blank

## Annex 1 - 2024/25 Savings and Income Generation Proposals - Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

Portfolio	Savings Proposal Title	Description	2024/25 £'000	Impacts to Service Delivery	Current Exp Budget / (Income Budget) £000
Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel	Corporate Strategy priority projects	Swap recurring revenue funding for draw down from a policy reserve to fund individual time-limited projects related to delivering the Corporate Strategy where external funding is likely to be secured. Overall funding for Green Transformation being maintained over the next three years (2024-27).	(150)	Projects will demonstrate a sustainable external funding source before reserve funding is agreed	N/A
Highways	Parking Services: income rebasing	Review of price and demand across all Highways Services, including Parking, Park and Ride, and Streetworks services.	(1,045)	Minor impacts to manage changes to prices and deal with feedback from customers	(13,331)
Highways	Parking charge increases and implementation of new emissions-based parking charges	Inflationary price rises, alongside the introduction of emission-based parking charges for all vehicles to all locations in Bath (on and off street), Keynsham, Saltford, Midsomer Norton, and Radstock. Motorbikes will also require valid permits in residential parking zones.	(206)	The proposed introduction of parking charges (based on vehicle emissions) to MSN and Radstock, where parking is currently free of charge, to an equivalent level as those in Keynsham is proposed to enable improvements in pedestrian safety through improved air quality and reduced air pollution to the benefit of the most vulnerable especially, whilst also encouraging turnover for shoppers and visitors.	(13,331)
Neighbourhood Services	Income from new fees and charges for businesses	Introduction of new chargeable services for commercial customers in our fleet workshop, and charge developers for waste & recycling containers to be provided for each new build property.	(89)	Increased range of services will be available to commercial fleet customers, and the initial provision of waste & recycling containers will be charged to developers of new housing	(4,550)
Neighbourhood Services	Operational & contract efficiencies	Efficiency savings through changes to operational practices of both council and contractor run services.	(362)	The majority of changes will have no impact on the service delivery to the public, as changes to operations are in service areas without public interaction, although there will be a reduction in resource to deliver strategic projects. One public toilet will remain closed due to ongoing antisocial behaviour.	12,856
Neighbourhood Services	Weekday Recycling Centre efficiency savings	Retaining 7 day access to waste recycling sites whilst managing opening times of each most efficiently.	(60)	Reduced availability of booking slots at Bath & Welton Recycling Centre. No impact on operating hours of Keynsham Recycling Centre	6,910
Neighbourhood Services	Customer experience programme	Conduct a review of customer experience to support customer channel shift and seek to maximise the use of our channels to manage customer contact more efficiently.	(115)	Improved processes, better outcomes, more streamlined service delivery	2,549
Neighbourhood Services	Parks Service redesign	Implement transformational change to deliver services in a different way across Parks & Green Spaces.	(40)	Changes to Parks delivery model	2,289
		<b>Total</b>	<b>(2,067)</b>		

This page is intentionally left blank



Annex 2 - Funding Proposals - Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

2024/25 Funding Proposals			
Funding Title	Description of Funding Requirement	Portfolio Holder / Director	2024/25 Funding £000
<b>Portfolio: Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel</b>			
Develop Walking and Cycling Routes	Officer resource to develop walking and cycling plans to successfully bid for external funding.	Clr Sarah Warren / Sophie Broadfield	50
Contractual Inflation	Annual increases in contract costs within the portfolio.	Clr Sarah Warren / Various	3
Pay Inflation	Salary inflation estimated at 5% in 2024/25 and allowing for annual staff pay increments.	Clr Sarah Warren / Various	62
<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel Total</b>			<b>115</b>
<b>Portfolio: Highways</b>			
Line Painting	Dedicated funding for rolling out an improved line painting programme.	Clr Manda Rigby / Chris Major	80
Business Rate Revaluation and Inflation Increases	Business Rate Revaluation and Inflation Increase on Corporate Properties (including car parks).	Clr Manda Rigby / Chris Major	55
Contractual Inflation	Annual increases in contract costs within the portfolio.	Clr Manda Rigby / Chris Major	362
Fees and Charges Income	Annual increases in fees and charges income within the portfolio.	Clr Manda Rigby / Chris Major	(85)
Pay Inflation	Salary inflation estimated at 5% in 2024/25 and allowing for annual staff pay increments.	Clr Manda Rigby / Chris Major	330
<i>Technical adjustment relating to 2023/24 Savings Item - Reversal of One-Off Service Efficiencies</i>	<i>Review of hire vehicles and financing options, management of service including holding vacancies, alternative funding streams increased fees, contract volume capping and capitalisation of management overhead.</i>	<i>Clr Manda Rigby / Chris Major</i>	<i>301</i>
<i>Technical adjustment relating to 2023/24 Savings Item - Reversal of One-Off Clean Air Zone (CAZ) Financial Assistance Scheme Income</i>	<i>Income from Financial Assistance Scheme use by other Authorities, HGV Euro 6 charge and review of CAZ fee.</i>	<i>Clr Manda Rigby / Chris Major</i>	<i>528</i>
<b>Highways Total</b>			<b>1,571</b>
<b>Portfolio: Neighbourhood Services</b>			
Clean and Green Initiative - Permanent £750k Base Budget	Additional recurrent funding for Neighbourhoods initiatives to tackle litter and prevention.	Clr Tim Ball / Chris Major	292
Grounds Maintenance - Adopted Land	Recurrent budget for the management and maintenance of recently adopted land by the Council.	Clr Tim Ball / Chris Major	20
Regrading of bereavement grounds operatives	Bereavement operative posts should have been regraded as part of the review of all neighbourhoods operations posts, following the TU negotiated regrading of waste posts.	Clr Tim Ball / Chris Major	47
Sendias Grant Funding to be replaced by revenue funding	Replace annual grant funding that has been in place for 4 years and now ending, with base revenue budget in order for the service to continue to deliver its statutory duty and not impact the council's reputation.	Clr Tim Ball / Amanda George	30
Income ceasing from Curo	No longer receiving income from Curo .	Clr Tim Ball / Amanda George	10
Business Rate Revaluation and Inflation Increases	Business Rate Revaluation and Inflation Increase on Corporate Properties.	Clr Tim Ball / Various	92
Contractual Inflation	Annual increases in contract costs within the portfolio.	Clr Tim Ball / Various	1,049
Fees and Charges Income	Annual increases in fees and charges income within the portfolio.	Clr Tim Ball / Various	(275)
Pay Inflation	Salary inflation estimated at 5% in 2024/25 and allowing for annual staff pay increments.	Clr Tim Ball / Various	1,023
<i>Technical adjustment relating to 2023/24 Savings Item - Reversal of One-Off Clean and Green Initiative</i>	<i>Growth funding for Neighbourhoods initiatives to tackle litter and prevention work - reversal of one-off growth in 2023/24. Recurrent growth subsequently agreed above.</i>	<i>Clr Tim Ball / Chris Major</i>	<i>(542)</i>
<i>Technical adjustment relating to 2023/24 Savings Item - Recycles Income</i>	<i>Sale of material to contracted merchants at prices tracking market fluctuations - market was overachieving budget projections in 2023/24. As expected, prices have reduced in 2023/24, resulting in the need to rebase income budget.</i>	<i>Clr Tim Ball / Chris Major</i>	<i>225</i>
<i>Technical adjustment relating to 2023/24 Savings Item - Reversal of One-Off Capitalisation of salaries</i>	<i>To accommodate management overheads.</i>	<i>Clr Tim Ball / Chris Major</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Technical adjustment relating to 2023/24 Savings Item - Reversal of One-Off Neighbourhood Environmental Services Efficiencies</i>	<i>Temporarily held vacant post for 2023/24 only.</i>	<i>Clr Tim Ball / Chris Major</i>	<i>40</i>
<i>Technical adjustment relating to 2023/24 Savings Item - Reversal of One-Off Vehicle Efficiencies</i>	<i>Review of hire vehicles and financing options.</i>	<i>Clr Tim Ball / Chris Major</i>	<i>24</i>
<b>Neighbourhood Services Total</b>			<b>2,135</b>
<b>Portfolio: Built Environment and Sustainable Development</b>			
Council House Building	Revenue resource to build capacity for B&NES Homes, the council's own social housing programme.	Clr Matt McCabe / Simon Martin	150
Contractual Inflation	Annual increases in contract costs within the portfolio.	Clr Matt McCabe / Various	5
Fees and Charges Income	Annual increases in fees and charges income within the portfolio.	Clr Matt McCabe / Various	(55)
Pay Inflation	Salary inflation estimated at 5% in 2024/25 and allowing for annual staff pay increments.	Clr Matt McCabe / Various	249
<b>Built Environment and Sustainable Development Total</b>			<b>349</b>
<b>OVERALL FUNDING PROPOSALS</b>			<b>4,170</b>

This page is intentionally left blank

ANNEX 3 - CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS

Capital Schemes - Growth								Description	Portfolio
	24/25 Budget (£'000)	25/26 Budget (£'000)	26/27 Budget (£'000)	27/28 Budget (£'000)	28/29 Budget (£'000)	5 year Total (£'000)			
<b>Mixed Funded Schemes</b>									
Council House Building programme	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	£90m outline programme for 300 Houses, with £15m council subsidy funded by CSB. Balance of £75m will come from rents repaying borrowing and government grant to be applied for.	Built Environment & Sustainable Development	
Tree Replacements - Ash Dieback	22	27	30	14	14	92	Grant support programme with £15K B&NES contribution funded by CSB	Neighbourhood Services	
<b>Corporate Support Borrowing (CSB)</b>									
Litter Bin Replacement Programme	20	20	20	20	20	100	To establish programme for replacements in line with other asset types	Neighbourhood Services	
Tree Replacements - Street Trees	28	36	44	44	44	196	To allow up to 100 Street Tree replacement per annum, policy has been to made sites only safe	Neighbourhood Services	
CCTV Camera Replacement	50	150	100	-	-	300	Phase 3 replacement of remaining camera as reach end of life	Neighbourhood Services	
Highways Maintenance					2,000	2,000	Extension of Programme for steady state replacement (enhancement to grant)	Highways	
Parks Equipment					21	21	Extension of Programme for steady state replacements	Neighbourhood Services	
<b>Developer CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)</b>									
Green Infrastructure	310					310	Various proposals including Bathscape, Somer Valley Re-discovered, BNG Pathfinders, Chew Valley Reconnected, Bath Riverline, Waterspace and Keunsham Memorial Park Wier (s.t. some may become revenue if early stage feasibility work)	Climate Emergency & Sustainable Travel	
Recreation & Leisure Schemes	200					200	Radstock Methodist Hall £100K and Larkhall Sports Field	Neighbourhood Services	
Sustainable Transport Initiatives	400					400	Matching contribution to CRSTS	Highways	
<b>Grant Adjustments</b>									
CRSTS - Liveable Neighbourhoods	3,700					3,700	Match to WECA allocation, scheme allocation to be confirmed by Full Business Case	Climate Emergency & Sustainable Travel	
CRSTS - Midsomer Norton & Westfield, Walking, Wheeling & Cycling Links	1,250					1,250	Match to WECA allocation, scheme allocation to be confirmed by Full Business Case	Climate Emergency & Sustainable Travel	
CRSTS - Bath Quays Links	(664)	637		(10)		(37)	Match to WECA allocation, scheme allocation to be confirmed by Full Business Case	Climate Emergency & Sustainable Travel	
Highways Maintenance					5,834	5,834	Extension of programme reflecting potential grant award	Highways	
Local Highway Improvement Programme (was TIP)					1,163	1,163	Extension of programme reflecting potential grant award	Highways	
<b>Service Supporting Borrowing/Revenue/Other</b>									
Renewable Energy Development Fund					500	500	Extension of programme reflecting SSB funding	Climate Emergency & Sustainable Travel	
CAZ Reserve Investment - Scholar's Way	2,000					2,000	Focus will be on proposed Western Section of new cycle and pedestrian route from Combe Road to St Martins Garden School, via Mulberry Park, including off-road sections and improved	Climate Emergency & Sustainable Travel	
CAZ Reserve Investment - Local Highway Improvements	724					724	Supplement to TIP Grant allocation and £1m brought forward from 23/24 allocation	Climate Emergency & Sustainable Travel	
Vehicle Replacements	(2,990)	3,176	(399)	1,013	964	1,764	Extension of Programme but subject to business cases providing savings	Neighbourhood Services	
<b>Total Additional Programme</b>	<b>5,050</b>	<b>4,046</b>	<b>(205)</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>10,560</b>	<b>20,517</b>			
<b>Capital Schemes - Savings</b>									
	24/25 Budget (£'000)	25/26 Budget (£'000)	26/27 Budget (£'000)	27/28 Budget (£'000)	28/29 Budget (£'000)	5 year Total (£'000)			
<b>Corporate Support Borrowing</b>									
Libraries Open Access	(220)					(220)	Proposal not progressing	Neighbourhood Services	
<b>Other funding</b>									
Entry Hill Facilities	(385)					(385)	Removal of SSB from BMX proposals not being pursued	Neighbourhood Services	
Parks Foundations	(521)					(521)	Removal of Grant funding assumption as no longer being pursued	Neighbourhood Services	
<b>Total Review Savings</b>	<b>(1,126)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,126)</b>			

This page is intentionally left blank

<b>Bath &amp; North East Somerset Council</b>		
MEETING:	<b>Climate Emergency &amp; Sustainability Scrutiny Panel</b>	
MEETING DATE:	<b>11 January 2024</b>	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		<b>Not applicable</b>
TITLE:	<b>Liveable Neighbourhoods update</b>	
WARD:	Multiple	
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b>		
Appendix 1: Record of Liveable Neighbourhood decisions		

## 1 RECOMMENDATION

**The Climate Emergency & Sustainability Scrutiny Panel is asked to;**

- 1.1 Note the update to the Panel on the Liveable Neighbourhoods programme.

## 2 THE REPORT

- 2.1 The aim of the Liveable Neighbourhood programme is to improve residential streets and encourage safe, active and more sustainable forms of travel, such as walking, wheeling and cycling. Typical improvements suggested by communities through our co-design approach include through-traffic restrictions where residential roads are used excessively by motorists as short cuts or better crossings on busy roads and walk to school routes.
- 2.2 The Liveable Neighbourhood Strategy and the adoption of priority areas for Liveable Neighbourhoods were agreed in 2020 and 2021 respectively. Appendix 1 outlines the decisions which have been made with respect to the Liveable Neighbourhoods programme.
- 2.3 **Our existing Liveable Neighbourhood trials:**
- 2.4 Following on from the adoption of the Liveable Neighbourhood Strategy, 3 trial schemes were introduced in November 2022 using Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs). The schemes are located in:

[Southlands, Weston](#)

[Church Street, Widcombe](#), and

[Queen Charlton Lane, Whitchurch Village](#)

An ETRO allows the Council to test a scheme and allow the public to experience the impacts. A minimum 6-month public consultation must take place and during this time the Council should seek feedback from local residents and businesses, whilst also monitoring any impacts on traffic and air quality in the local area.

- 2.5 A decision on whether to remove the trial schemes or make them permanent must be made within 18 months of their start, considering traffic and air quality impacts, public feedback, and relevant council policy.
- 2.6 The schemes have now been in place for over a year and information and data, in the form of public surveys, traffic monitoring data and air quality data has been collected during this time. The Council is now able to start the decision-making process to determine if the schemes should be made permanent. This will be achieved through a Single Member Decision report followed up by a statutory process to determine if the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order should be converted into a Traffic Regulation for each scheme, thus making the scheme permanent. Single Member Decision reports for each of the above-mentioned schemes have been added to the Forward Plan and reports will be published on Friday 12 January 2024.
- 2.7 **Proposed Liveable Neighbourhood trials for Spring 2024:**
- 2.8 Following on from significant consultation and co-design already conducted with the local community as part of the Liveable Neighbourhood programme, 5 more measures have been identified for trials using the mechanism of an ETRO.
- 2.9 The trials were chosen because of their ability to tackle through traffic and create more opportunities for walking and cycling. The measures are also very suitable for trialling and can be easily installed to let residents benefit from the consultation and co-design completed in 2022. Additionally, there was strong community support for these measures during consultation and co-design workshops.
- 2.10 The proposed ETROS are described [here](#).
- 2.11 The communities in the vicinity of the 5 proposed ETROs have received more detailed information during December via letter and Single Member Decisions are in progress to decide if the ETROs should proceed.
- 2.12 **Development of the Liveable Neighbourhood Full Business Case**
- 2.13 The delivery of the wider Liveable Neighbourhood schemes is predicated on the successful submission of a Full Business Case (FBC) to the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) to access a grant of £4.7m from the City Regional Sustainable Transport (CRSTS) Fund.
- 2.14 Total budget allocated for the wider Liveable Neighbourhood programme is £7.2m, of which £4.7m is funded by CRSTS grant and £2.5m is made up of contributions from B&NES Council. Budget allocated for development of the strategy, co-design, engagement, delivery of three Liveable Neighbourhood trials, feasibility and design of schemes to reach full business case stage is £1.9m. The remaining £5.3m is available to deliver the wider Liveable Neighbourhood programme when the FBC is approved and an allocation of £736k from this has been released early to enable the Council to progress the 5 proposed Liveable Neighbourhood ETRO schemes described in para 2.7-2.11 (if agreed).

- 2.15 As the available remaining funding will not be sufficient to deliver all 15 Liveable Neighbourhoods in their entirety, a prioritisation exercise has been taking place to identify those measures which should be included in the FBC submission, led by the Cabinet Project Lead for Liveable Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways. This is being completed in accordance with guidance from the MCA on benefit cost ratio scoring to ensure that the FBC is robust and will achieve sufficient funding to deliver the desired outcomes. It is also possible that other funding streams could be utilised to deliver measures within Liveable Neighbourhoods outside of the CRSTS process i.e., the Transport Improvement Programme.
- 2.16 Engagement with ward members for each of the Liveable Neighbourhood areas has taken place to further understand local priorities and issues, and which interventions would be most likely to address these. The final submitted list in the FBC will be based on this engagement along with consideration of affordability, feasibility and benefit cost ratio requirements to release the funding as well as whether some interventions are being delivered outside of the LN programme.
- 2.17 As of the time of submission of this report, the prioritisation process is still ongoing with a target completion date of January 2024.
- 2.18 **The next phase of the Liveable Neighbourhood Programme:**
- 2.19 Subject to availability, future funding will be utilised to deliver interventions in those Liveable Neighbourhood areas that were not progressed in the FBC, or those where it was only possible to partially deliver interventions, subject to further engagement with ward councillors, affordability and benefit cost ratio scoring.
- 2.20 Beyond the delivery of these remaining schemes, it is anticipated that a pipeline of future schemes will be developed over the coming years in areas that were not chosen for the initial 15 Liveable Neighbourhoods.

<b>Contact person</b>	Cllr Manda Rigby, Cabinet Member for Highways
<b>Background papers</b>	<a href="#">Cabinet report E3238 'Liveable Neighbourhoods- adoption of Liveable Neighbourhoods Strategy' dated 10/12/2020.</a>
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	

This page is intentionally left blank



Appendix 1: Record of Liveable Neighbourhood decisions

<b>Report title</b>	<b>Decision maker</b>	<b>Forward Plan reference</b>	<b>Date</b>
Liveable Neighbourhoods- adoption of Liveable Neighbourhoods Strategy	Cabinet	E3238	10/12/2020
Liveable Neighbourhoods- agree priority areas for Liveable Neighbourhoods	Cabinet	E3285	23/06/2021
Liveable Neighbourhoods Update Report	Single Member Decision	E3394	18/10/2022
Church Street pilot intervention	Single Member Decision	E3408	01/11/2022
Queen Charlton Lane pilot intervention	Single Member Decision	E3409	01/11/2022
Southlands pilot intervention	Single Member Decision	E3410	01/11/2022
Church Street and Prior Park Road Liveable Neighbourhood Area	Single Member Decision	E3407	30/11/2022
Southlands Liveable Neighbourhood Area	Single Member Decision	E3405	12/01/2023
Whitchurch Village and Queen Charlton Liveable Neighbourhood Area	Single Member Decision	E3404	21/02/2023
Egerton Road and Cotswold Road Liveable Neighbourhood Area	Single Member Decision	E3413	21/02/2023
Temple Cloud Liveable Neighbourhood Area	Single Member Decision	E3419	09/03/2023
A37 Whitchurch crossing	Single Member Decision	E3448	21/03/2023
Mount Road Liveable Neighbourhood Area	Single Member Decision	E3406	21/03/2023

This page is intentionally left blank

## CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

This Forward Plan lists all the items coming to the Panel over the next few months.

Inevitably, some of the published information may change; Government guidance recognises that the plan is a best assessment, at the time of publication, of anticipated decision making. The online Forward Plan is updated regularly and can be seen on the Council's website at:

<http://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>

The Forward Plan demonstrates the Council's commitment to openness and participation in decision making. It assists the Panel in planning their input to policy formulation and development, and in reviewing the work of the Cabinet.

*Should you wish to make representations, please contact the report author or, Democratic Services (). A formal agenda will be issued 5 clear working days before the meeting.*

*Agenda papers can be inspected on the Council's website.*

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Director Lead
<b>11TH JANUARY 2024</b>				
11 Jan 2024	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Liveable Neighbourhoods and Residents Parking Zones Update</b>	Tom Foster	Director of Sustainable Communities
11 Jan 2024 15 Jan 2024  Page 36	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>  <b>Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Development of Draft Budget 2024/25 - Proposals within Public Consultation (relevant to the Panel remit)</b>	Sophie Broadfield  Mandy Bishop Tel: 01225477416  Tel: 01225 39 4019	Director of Sustainable Communities  Chief Operating Officer
<b>21ST MARCH 2024</b>				

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Director Lead
1 Feb 2024 21 Mar 2024 E3497	Cabinet  Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Local Plan Options Consultation and Local Development Scheme	Richard Daone Tel: 01225 477546	Director of Sustainable Communities
21 Mar 2024  Page 37	Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Housing Policy	Graham Sabourn Tel: 01225 477949	Director of Sustainable Communities

**2ND MAY 2024**

**11TH JULY 2024**

**12TH SEPTEMBER 2024**

**14TH NOVEMBER 2024**

---

**ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED:**

The Forward Plan is administered by **DEMOCRATIC SERVICES:** [Democratic\\_Services@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic_Services@bathnes.gov.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank