

Review Title: **Bath and North East Somerset Council River Corridor Report (Scrutiny Inquiry Day)**

Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel: **Economic & Community Development Panel**

Panel Chair & Vice Chair: **Cllr Robin Moss & Cllr Ben Stevens**

Policy Development & Scrutiny Project Officer(s): **Donna Vercoe**

Supporting Service Officer(s): **David Langman / Melanie Birwie / Mark Minkley**

Process for Tracking PD&S Recommendations - Guidance note for Cabinet Members

The enclosed table lists all the recommendations arising from the above Policy Development & Scrutiny Review. Individual recommendations are referred to the relevant named Cabinet Members (or whole Cabinet in the case of a whole Cabinet referral) as listed in the '**Cabinet Member**' column of the table. In order to provide the PD&S Panel with a Cabinet response on each recommendation, the named Cabinet member (or whole Cabinet) is asked to complete the last 3 columns of the table as follows:

Decision Response

The Cabinet has the following options:

- **Accept** the Panel's recommendation
- **Reject** the Panel's recommendation
- **Defer** a decision on the recommendation because a response cannot be given at this time. This could be because the recommendation needs to be considered in light of a future Cabinet decision, imminent legislation, relevant strategy development or budget considerations, etc.

Implementation Date

- For 'Accept' decision responses, give the date that the recommendation will be implemented.
- For 'Defer' decision responses, give the date that the recommendation will be reconsidered.
- For 'Reject' decisions this is not applicable so write n/a

Rationale

Use this space to explain the rationale for your decision response and implementation date. For accepted recommendations, please give details of how they will be implemented.

Recommendations from SID Benefit of joint working to retain graduates in Bath & north East Somerset

Recommendation	Cabinet Member	Decision Response	Implementation Date	Rationale
<p>Recommendation 1:</p> <p>The Panel recommend that Cabinet should lead and implement a strategy which uses the river corridor groups report as an initial evidence base, and at the heart should be the Council with a wider key stakeholder buy-in.</p> <p>This should be supported by the evidence and questions raised from the Scrutiny Inquiry day and contained within the full report to Cabinet.</p> <p><i>Financial Assessment:</i> There are no direct and specific financial implications, because the emphasis of the recommendations is to urge Cabinet to give consideration to strategic policy development with respect to the River over the long term which does not require particular special funding. Instead the above recommendation requires Cabinet to Co-ordinate existing relevant teams and functions so that they are aligned to ensure that economic, planning, development & regeneration, environmental, leisure, educational (etc,) uses of the river are maximised / taken account of and delivered in a planned and co-ordinated way over the long term through the on-going provision of services.</p> <p>Therefore consideration will need to be given to the amount of officer time from all departments,</p>	<p>Cllr Cherry Beath</p>	<p>Accept</p>		<p>Cabinet will consider forming a strategic policy development, lead from the Regeneration, Skills and Employment team, with respect to the River over the long term. The River Corridor Group report, and other sources, including the Scrutiny Inquiry Day report, will form evidence resources for this Policy development.</p> <p>This Administration is keen to ensure that any future developments near or related to the River will not “turn their back” on the river, but see the river as the excellent asset it is, and enhance the river frontage for public access.</p> <p>However any strategy and future development and regeneration with respect to the river will need to fit within available resources, and budget constraints. Any future funding would be subject to the normal annual service and resource planning processes, including bids for special projects, through the Council’s established annual budget setting processes.</p>

Economic and Community Development Panel: Cabinet Response Table

Recommendation	Cabinet Member	Decision Response	Implementation Date	Rationale
<p>functions and teams to achieve this.</p> <p>Any costs associated with specific delivery plans, projects or proposals that might arise would need to be considered on their merits at the appropriate time, either through the Councils normal annual service and resource planning processes or bids for specific project funding (capital or revenue) through the Council's established budget setting and democratic processes.</p> <p>Within the proposed 13/14 budget that will go to Council this month, there is reference to specific funding streams for the river. (<i>Appendix 2, Page 51</i>) Budget proposal for a River Corridor Fund, (100K). This programme is proposed to consider schemes to Improve river and river bank safety, improving walkways and facilities for those using boats. The Council will consider advice from the River Corridor group before deciding on the schemes to be funded.</p> <p>Furthermore as part of progressing the Bath 'City of Ideas' Enterprise Area there is proposal for a combined total of over £27 million to regenerate key sites along the River Avon with employment space and places to live, including affordable homes. (<i>Appendix 1, Page 22</i>)</p>				
<p>Recommendation 2:</p> <p>The Panel expects the Council to support the appropriate delivery mechanism in managing the river. The Cabinet should consider as part of</p>	<p>Cllr Cherry Beath</p>	<p>Reject</p>		<p>The Council will support those who would want to form a Trust. The Council will engage with Organisations, Trusts and special interest groups as part of the normal consultation processes involved in proposed developments and improvements.</p>

Economic and Community Development Panel: Cabinet Response Table

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<p>developing a model, to develop a ‘trust’, or ‘similar model’, which will provide the vehicle to drive these ideas forward.</p> <p>Further questions will need to be explored before deciding on the best delivery mechanism for managing the river and these are examined within the full report to Cabinet.</p> <p><i>Financial Assessment:</i></p> <p>2. No direct financial implications. The reason a trust or similar model was proposed was so that they could bid for their own money and therefore the council will not be expected to need to spend money outside of existing resources.</p>				<p>The Council already has a robust mechanism for handling developments and regeneration, and will look to further develop that mechanism where regeneration affecting land adjacent to the River is concerned, taking into account the factors mentioned above, including public access to the river wherever possible, and an integral enhancement of the River as an asset to the area.</p>