

PRESS RELEASE

BATH CITY CONFERENCE

Former Bath Rugby Captain Stuart Hooper will be joining the leader of Bath and North East Somerset Council and other key local representatives at a “Question and Answer” session at the Bath City Conference on 1st July.

The fifth annual Conference will take place in the Guildhall from 12 to 7.30pm and is a free event which this year will focus on major developments planned for Bath, including the redevelopment of the ex-Ministry of Defence site at Fox Hill, Bath Quays (North and South) and Bath Quays Bridge.

The overall aim of the conference is to provide local people with an opportunity to engage with each other and key organisations in the city, share information, and debate the issues and future possibilities. Visitors can either drop in and browse the exhibits or stay longer to listen to the presentations that are taking place during the day, including the Question and Answer session.

The Banqueting Hall will be filled with exhibits and stands and representatives from community groups.

Councillor Tim Warren (Conservative, Mendip), Leader of Bath and North East Somerset Council, said: “This annual event is a fantastic opportunity for people to find out what is going on currently and what the future holds for the beautiful city of Bath. There will be the chance to quiz myself and other decision makers as well as lots of interesting presentations and information stands to give people who work and live here an insight into the key issues facing their city.”

Councillor Bob Goodman (Conservative, Combe Down) and Chair of The Bath City Forum said “This conference is about the future of Bath and I encourage everyone to come and see what is happening, express their views and get involved.”

There will be a wide range of exhibitors showcasing the work of local community groups, organisations and businesses.

Dedicated sessions include the opportunity to find out about:

- The Recreation Ground Trust (12.15pm -1pm)
- Sustainability Research from The Student Community Partnership Green Group (from 12 noon)
- Findings from the recent Bath Access and Mobility Consultation review which aimed for an inclusive design for Bath City Centre (12.15pm-1.45pm)
- A Session from the Clinical Commissioning Group - “Our vision for general practice”: how can GP surgeries work in partnership to transform health care in your community? (1pm-2.30pm)
- What it's like to live with dementia in Bath with advice from the Alzheimer's Society (2-3.15pm)

- How the Council and community are creating a more environmentally sustainable district (3-4pm) including how Bath won the Sustainable Food Cities award and Widcombe's approach to sustainability

Following the afternoon's activities, the day will conclude with the Question and Answer session at 6pm which enables the public to put questions to a panel of some of the city's most influential figures. This will be hosted by Somer Valley FM's Dom Chambers and webcast on the Council website. If you cannot attend the event, you can still submit questions in advance or on the day by e-mailing them to bathcityconference@bathnes.gov.uk, or via Twitter @yourbath2016.

As well as Stuart Hooper – Bath Rugby Captain 2011- 16- the panel members are:

- Cllr Tim Warren - Leader of Bath & North East Somerset Council
- Ben Howlett - Member of Parliament for Bath
- Sue Mountstevens - Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner
- Caroline Kay - Chief Executive, The Bath Preservation Trust

Full details will be available in a published programme and are available on the Bath City Conference website www.bathcityconference.net.

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