Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Answering the call for Case Studies for LGA – COP26 Oct 2021 (Photographs to be accompanied by 150 words max.)

Improving People's Lives

Climate & Biodiversity Festival

Bath and North East Somerset Council's first ever Climate & Biodiversity Festival saw hundreds of residents engage with ways to reduce carbon emissions and restore nature. A programme of more than 35 events took place during the two-week festival, covering topics related to tackling the climate and ecological emergency.

The Moths to a Flame mass-participation art installation at the COP26 Conference will include nine hand-crafted moths created during a festival workshop in Bath. Additionally, eleven panel discussions took place during the festival, covering work by community organisations and the council to tackle the climate and ecological emergency.



Lets Get Buzzing

Bath and North East Somerset Council has expanded its successful Let's Get Buzzing campaign with a new Neighbourhood Nature Area project, giving residents the chance to brighten up verges and open spaces in their streets with wildflowers or bulbs.

The project will help the council meet its target of improving at least 30% of its green spaces for wildlife by 2030.

The Neighbourhood Nature Area project aims to add extra interest and ecological value to small areas of land currently managed by the council.



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Low energy homes – new build

The first low-energy properties in Bath that are part of Bath & North East Somerset Council's commitment to build more affordable and sustainable housing are now on sale.

The exemplar development built to the AECB Low Energy Standard will help Bath and North East Somerset reach its target of net carbon zero by 2030.

The properties' green credentials include air source heat pumps, mechanical ventilation and heat recovery and solar panels, which are set to save the new owners more than 50% on energy bills. Alongside this all the homes will have electric vehicle (EV) charging points.



Commercial office development – new build

Bath & North East Somerset Council's flagship office development at Bath Quays South boasts the biggest array of solar panels in the city.

224 photovoltaic (PV) panels cover an area half the size of a five-a-side football pitch on the roof of No1 Bath Quays and will provide the building with a reliable source of renewable energy helping to ensure a lower long-term carbon footprint.

No1 Bath Quays incorporates a host of passive design and energy efficiency measures to reduce its CO2 emissions including a special coating on the windows to reduce heat loss and gain.





Policy alignment

Bath and North East Somerset councillors are considering proposed changes to the current Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan to ensure that planning policies better reflect the council's Declaration of Climate and Ecological Emergencies and commitment to securing net zero by 2030.

The aim of the changes is primarily to meet three key priorities; to enable greater energy efficiency of existing buildings and zero carbon new build; a shift to mass transport, walking and cycling to reduce transport emissions; and a rapid, large-scale increase in local renewable energy generation.

Find out how the council is responding to the Climate Emergency on our <u>website</u>.

Local Plan Partial Update (LPPU) - public consultation

Contents

Introduction and policy background

Plan overview

Local residents: what this means for you

Businesses: what this means for you

Developers and built environment experts: what this means for you

Other interested parties: what this means for you

View our experts discussing this Planning policy update

View the consultation documents

Have your say

Guidance on how to respond

Plan adoption timeline

Supporting Parish & Town Councils

Parish and town councils in Bath and North East Somerset are taking action to tackle the climate and ecological emergencies through an individual approach based on knowledge of their communities. Some parishes have declared emergencies whilst others have active working groups and are focusing on specific issues. (pictured: Shoscombe Parish Eco Day)

The Council has offered Climate Action Planning training to Parish and Town councils and produced a Toolkit containing signposting to useful initiatives, guidance and materials.

Bath and North East Somerset Council facilitates area-wide collaboration on initiatives via the Community Area Forums Climate working groups.

