

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Council
MEETING DATE:	18 September 2025
TITLE:	Policy Development & Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-2025
WARD:	All
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report:	
1. Policy Development & Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-2025	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 To consider the Policy Development & Scrutiny Annual Report for 2024-2025.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to;

- 2.1** Note the contents of the Policy Development and Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-2025.

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 As part of its statutory duty Council is required to appoint at least one overview and scrutiny committee / panel that has sole responsibility to discharge the functions (under Sections 9F and 9FA to 9FI) of the Local Government Act 2000. The council's current model includes three policy development and scrutiny (PDS) panels. The panels hold the executive to public account, whilst also assisting in the development of council policy.
- 3.2 The PDS function has agreed to provide an annual report to Council summarising the work of its panels over 2024-2025, the second year of the (2023-2027) administration.
- 3.3 The annual report provides a synopsis of the work that each of the panels carried out during 2024-2025. It highlights the positive work undertaken by the PDS panels, both internally/externally and evidences the continued importance

the PDS function has in ensuring council decision making is embedded in good governance.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The PDS function is not required to produce an annual report however it is good practice to do so and demonstrates the council's commitment to ongoing high quality, inclusive and transparent governance.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 5.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 This report recommends that Council notes the activities undertaken by its Policy Development and Scrutiny function over the last twelve months, as such a risk assessment has not been conducted in relation to this report.

7 EQUALITIES

- 7.1 The Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel includes equalities within its remit. Members regularly raise questions about the equality impact assessments that accompany reports presented to all three Panels

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 8.1 The report highlights work carried out by the Climate Emergency and Sustainability PDS Panel, which takes an active role in supporting delivery of the council's climate commitments.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 None

10 CONSULTATION

- 10.1 PDS Chairs and Vice Chairs Group, Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer.

Contact person	Ceri Williams – Designated Scrutiny Officer (01225 396053)
Background papers	None.
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	