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## Core Strategy Summary

# Vision, Objectives and Core Policies



This is one of a series of 8 summary leaflets about the Core Strategy Spatial Options and sets the context for options in Bath, Keynsham, Midsomer Norton, Radstock and the villages.

Before you comment pick up a copy of the full document or visit our website:  
[www.bathnes.gov.uk/corestrategy](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/corestrategy)

What do you think your area should be like in 20 years time?

What should change, be improved or stay the same?

We need to make sure we are heading in the right direction and so we have suggested a vision below – what do you think?

### Proposed Spatial Vision for Bath & North East Somerset a summary

- New development and change support the move towards to a low carbon economy and mitigate the causes of climate change by reducing the district's carbon emissions
- New homes and jobs provided in a balanced way in sustainable locations with necessary infrastructure in place at the right time to support any new development, including, if needed, the creation of new attractive and vibrant communities on the edge of the cities of Bristol and Bath
- Bath's role as an important sub-regional economic, service and cultural centre will be sustained whilst respecting its internationally renowned heritage
- Keynsham, Midsomer Norton and Radstock will be vibrant and distinctive centres with regenerated town centres and enhanced employment offer
- The diversity and high quality environment in the rural areas is maintained and prosperous rural economy sustained with access for all its residents to necessary services and facilities
- All communities are safe, inclusive and healthy where everyone can meet their full potential
- Residents, visitors and workers can get around the district safely and with ease

## Strategic Objectives

To help implement the Vision on the previous page, we have prepared some strategic objectives (below). These form the basis of the district-wide policy options (core policies) summarised in this leaflet. Remember that the Core Strategy is a document about the use of land.

### Headline Objective

1

**Tackle the causes and effects of climate change**

### Strategic Objective

2

**Ensure that development takes places in a sustainable and low carbon way, supported by the necessary infrastructure**

### Strategic Objective

3

**Meet housing need**

### Strategic Objective

4

**Conserve and enhance the District's high quality natural and cultural heritage**

### Strategic Objective

5

**Encourage and support economic prosperity across Bath and North East Somerset**

### Strategic Objective

6

**Improve access and reduce traffic congestion and transport related carbon emission**



## Core Policies – proposed policy framework summarised

The proposed core policies are outlined below. The Core Strategy does not need to reproduce existing requirements in national or regional planning policy. Part of the essential policy framework is provided by the locational strategy for B&NES set out in the Core Strategy (see leaflet 2 in this series). Do you think we have the right set of policies?

## Core Policies for Climate Change

1

### Renewable Energy

This policy will set out options for district targets for the generation of electricity and heat from renewable resources.

### Decentralised Energy to Supply New Development (on-site requirement)

Through this policy we will expect larger scale development to provide enough on-site renewable energy to reduce emissions from energy used on the development.

### Sustainable Construction and Energy Efficiency

Here new development should seek to address issues of resource and energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.

## Core Policies for Development Growth and Infrastructure

2

### Infrastructure Provision

Through this policy we will be expecting that new developments, including any urban expansion, must be supported by the timely delivery of the required infrastructure (including transport, waste, water and energy supply, community services, education, health, culture, faith, low carbon and renewable energy measures, sport and green infrastructure). This will help to provide balanced and more self contained communities.

### Green Infrastructure (GI)

We want to create and enhance a network of diverse and multifunctional Green Infrastructure to benefit sport, recreation, access, local food production, nature conservation, landscape, climate change adaptation and mitigation, wood fuel production, sustainable transport, community health and cohesiveness.

### Community Facilities/Services

We need a comprehensive range of well located community infrastructure to serve local communities which will promote healthy lifestyles and address health inequalities. This will include social; health services; educational, training and skills provision; recreational, sports, play facilities; and cultural and leisure facilities.

### Safeguarding Minerals

This will make sure existing mines and quarries are safeguarded so that there is an adequate supply of mineral resource to meet local needs in the future.

## Core Policies for Meeting Housing Need

3

### Housing Need - Affordable Housing

This policy sets out the options for the location and level of new housing. We need to make sure that we are providing the right amount of affordable housing by setting the site size threshold for affordable housing, the percentage of affordable housing on sites and identifying the proportion of social rented and tenures.

### Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

This policy will provide guidance on the identification of suitable sites for permanent and transit pitches and for determining planning applications.

## Core Policies for High Quality Environments

4

### High Quality Urban Design

This policy sets out a range of design standards that development proposals should meet. It includes use of local design guidance and Masterplans, Development briefs, Building for Life standards, Design and Access Statements, and design-led capacity work. Development proposals should also seek to benefit the wider community.

### Nature Conservation

The aim of this policy is to protect and enhance our biodiversity and geodiversity assets, recognising that the distribution habitats and species will be affected by climate change. We also need to provide for the appropriate management of these through the planning process and partnership initiatives.

### Landscape

This policy seeks to protect, promote and enhance the distinctive qualities and features of the local landscape character and will promote ensure effective landscape management measures.

### Historic Environment

This policy will preserve and enhance our historic built, cultural, landscape and archaeological heritage assets and their settings whilst understanding the need for the historic environment to continue to evolve in response to new societal challenges such as climate change.

### World Heritage Site and its setting

This policy will help protect the City of Bath World Heritage Site from the adverse effects of inappropriate development. It sets out options for protecting the setting of the World Heritage Site.

## Core Policy for a Prosperous Economy

5

### A Prosperous Economy, City, Town and local Centres

This policy defines a network and hierarchy of urban and rural centres and will maintain their vitality and viability to meet local needs. It will make sure that the scale and type of new retail and office development reflects the function of each centre. It will also consider making provision for a range of business types and premises, managing the loss of employment space, and sustaining the rural economy.

## Core Policy for Accessibility and Transport

6

### Accessibility and Transport

We need to make sure transport links are improved between the towns and cities and the strategic network and major centres by all main modes of transport, there are new and expanded Park and Ride facilities, access to public transport is improved, walking and cycling encouraged, parking is provided to reflect local circumstances, travel plans promoted, and there is local accessibility between housing and local services.

### Other summary leaflets in this series:

1. Vision, Objectives and Core Policies
2. Locational Options for the District
3. Bath
- 3a. New Neighbourhood in an urban extension to Bath
4. Keynsham
5. New Neighbourhood in an urban extension to South East Bristol
6. Midsomer Norton and Radstock
7. Rural Areas

**Make your comments on the Core Strategy Spatial Options by 11 December 2009**

**[www.bathnes.gov.uk/corestrategy](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/corestrategy)**

**Planning Policy: telephone 01225 477548**