# Summary

Bath and North East Somerset

# Draft Core Strategy

Publication Version December 2010







# What is the Core Strategy?

The Core Strategy is a key planning policy document for Bath & North East Somerset. It translates aspirations from the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Futures work for Bath, Keynsham and the Somer Valley into an overarching and strategic planning framework for the District, guiding where development is to be permitted, how much we should have, what land should be protected, and how places should change up to 2026.

## Key Issues for Bath and North East Somerset

While the District has many strengths, its outward image conceals a range of economic and social challenges that, left unchecked, will lead to long-term decline. The Core Strategy therefore identifies a range of strategic objectives to address these issues. These include tackling the causes and effects of climate change, protecting and enhancing the District's natural, built and cultural assets, encouraging economic development and meeting housing needs.

# Summary of the District Wide Strategy

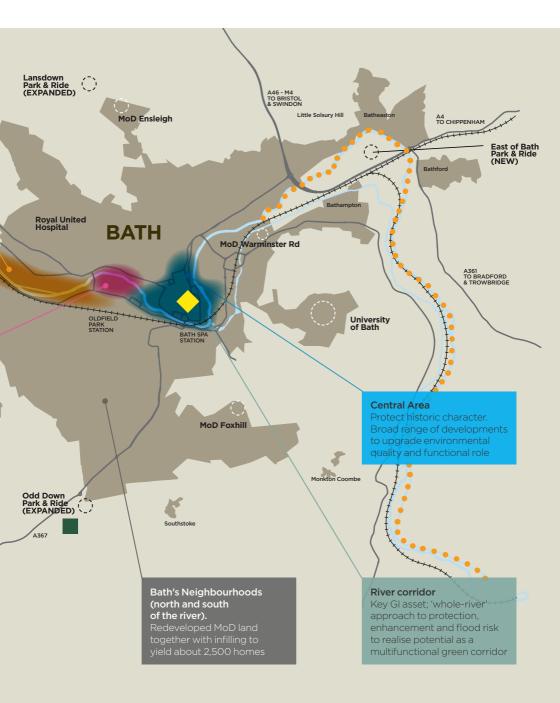
- Promoting sustainable development
- 11,000 new homes and around 8,700 new jobs
- Focusing the majority of growth on brownfield land (land that has been previously developed) within Bath, Keynsham, Midsomer Norton and Radstock
- Pursuing high levels of economic expansion whilst minimising the need for new floorspace (the Council is calling this 'smart growth')
- No changes to the Green Belt
- Requiring development to be resilient and to not contribute to the causes of climate change
- Protecting the District's biodiversity
- Ensuring infrastructure is aligned with new development

# Baths townscape and landscape combine to form a total composition of form and place

# **Key information**

- 6,000 new homes with a focus on Western Riverside and regenerating previously developed land
- 5,700 new jobs (net)
- Protect, conserve and enhance the World Heritage Site and its setting
- Enable the provision for additional on-campus student bed spaces
- Enable the development of new stadium for Bath RFC within the Central Area
- Facilitate enhancement of the public realm of the Central Area
- Implementation of necessary transport infrastructure
- Enable renewable energy generation including the development of a district heating network





# Summary

# of the strategy for Bath

- Bath's natural, historic and cultural assets combine to create a unique sense of place which is of international significance, encapsulated in the city's status as a World Heritage Site. Bath's inherited townscape and landscape setting will continue to be respected and protected.
- No changes are proposed to the general extent of the Green Belt around Bath, and there is a focus on regenerating previously developed 'brownfield' land.
- Parallel investment in integrated transport infrastructure will keep the city moving and enable more sustainable travel choices to be made.
- Significant economic provision is made to stimulate and facilitate growth and productivity, enabling Bath to boost its profile as a more competitive, entrepreneurial, innovative, creative and business friendly location. Losses in defence and manufacturing employment will be offset by significant gains in sectors such as business services, knowledge intensive and creative employment.
- 6,000 new homes will be built. 3,500 will be delivered within the Central Area and Western Corridor, focused on 'Western Riverside', and 2,500 homes will come forward within the outer neighbourhoods where surplus Ministry of Defence land will play a major role. This will help to create a better balance between the local labour and jobs markets.



# Consultation

The Council has issued its Draft Core Strategy Publication Version for consultation.

## Where can I view a copy?

Copies of the Core Strategy and accompanying documents can be viewed at the following Council offices between the hours of 8.30am to 5.00pm Mondays Thursdays and 8.30am to 4.30pm on Fridays:

- The Guildhall, High Street, Bath, BA15AW;
- The Hollies, Midsomer Norton, Bath, BA3 2DP;
- Riverside, Temple Street, Keynsham, Bristol, BS311LA

The document can also be viewed on the Bath & North East Somerset Council website www.bathnes.gov.uk/ corestrategy and at all the public libraries within the District including the mobile libraries.

# How can I comment on the document?

Comments on the Core Strategy can be made in the following ways:

- By completing the representation form online: www.bathnes.gov.uk/ corestrategy
- By completing the representation form and returning it to us by email: planning policy@bathnes.gov.uk, or by post: Core Strategy Consultation, Planning Services, PO Box 5006, Bath, BA11JG

Comments should be received within the 7 week consultation period which will run from 16th December 2010 3rd February 2011

### Next stages

Providing no significant changes are required following this consultation, the Council anticipates submitting the Draft Core Strategy to the Secretary of State in April 2011 for Examination in autumn 2011.