

Simon de Beer,  
Group Manager, Policy & Environment  
Bath & North East Somerset Council

16.9.14

Dear Simon,

Members of the Initiative in B&NES and Bath Chamber of Commerce are keen to see continuous economic development and long term prosperity for the district.

Therefore, we accept it is right that developers should make a fair contribution to essential infrastructure and we believe the proposals in the charging schedule are broadly reasonable.

We are pleased to see some changes have been made in this latest iteration compared to the original one of a couple of years ago, specifically the reduction in the levy to be paid on residential and office developments. This latter change, to zero, was particularly welcome since there is an urgent need for good quality modern office space in the city. We feared, if a charge were levied, that developers would declare Bath to be unviable.

One other matter I would like to mention is that whilst we appreciate the regulations require the levy to be charged per sq metre we felt there was a potential advantage in some cases of changing that process if it were possible.

We believe that if hotels and student housing use types were charged on a per room basis rather than an all-encompassing square metre , then there would be active encouragement for higher quality developments with greater internal public space provision and better proportioned living space for the occupants being developed.

Yours sincerely,



W. Ian Bell - Executive Director.