



Bath & North East
Somerset Council

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

2017 - 2020

Bath & North East Somerset - *The place to live, work and visit*

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Local Development Scheme

- 1.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended by the Localism Act 2011, requires all local planning authorities to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS is a timetable for the production of the Local Plan, Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents that the Council is preparing, or intends to prepare. These documents are known collectively as Local Development Documents (LDDs). It is the starting point for residents and stakeholders to find out what planning policies relate to their area and how these will be reviewed.
- 1.2 The LDS should be kept up-to-date and was last reviewed in December 2016. To cover the period 2017 -2020, the amendments comprising this version of Local Development Scheme were agreed on 8th November 2017.
- 1.3 The Local Development Scheme came into effect on **10th December 2017**.

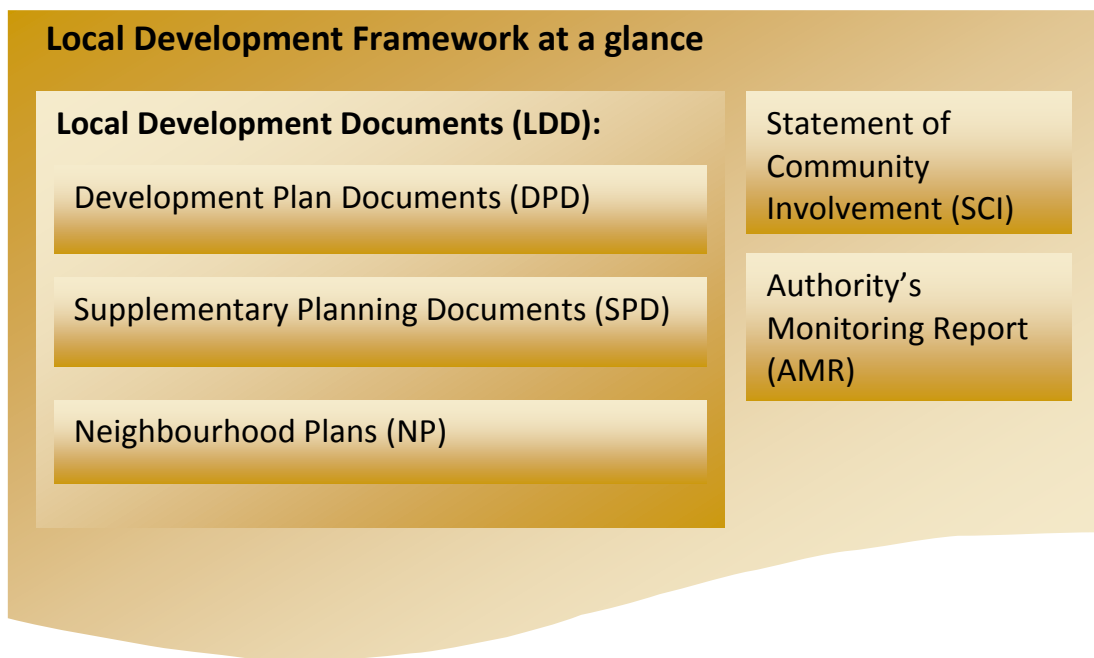
A Glossary of terms used in this document is set out at **Appendix C**

Local Development Framework

- 1.4 The Local Development Framework comprises a portfolio of locally prepared planning documents (Local Development Documents). It also includes related documents such as the Authority's Monitoring Report (AMR) and the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).
- 1.5 Local Development Documents (LDD) include:

Development Plan Documents (DPD). These set out policies and proposals and have development plan status and therefore have full weight in the determination of planning applications (see paragraph 1.7). They will be subject to community involvement and Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment throughout their preparation and will be subject to independent examination. They include Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans. The Policies Map should illustrate geographically the Local Plan policies.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD): Supplementary Planning Documents do not have statutory Development Plan status but are useful in providing more detailed guidance and support for policies and proposals in Development Plan Documents. They are quicker to prepare as they are not subject to independent examination. Whilst they constitute a material consideration in the determination of planning applications they cannot be used to formulate planning policy or designate sites. They will however be subject to community involvement and where appropriate Sustainability Appraisal during preparation.



The Development Plan for Bath & North East Somerset

- 1.6 Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compensation Act stipulates that planning applications must be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. This gives considerable weight to Development Plan Documents.
- 1.7 With the adoption of the Core Strategy in July 2014 and recent adoption of the Placemaking Plan in July 2017 the Development Plan for Bath and North East Somerset comprises:

The B&NES Development Plan October 2016

Bath & North East Somerset Core Strategy adopted July 2014

The Core Strategy sets out the policy framework for the location and level of new housing and other development and includes four Strategic Site Allocations. It forms Part 1 of the Local Plan 2011 - 2029.

Bath & North East Somerset Placemaking Plan adopted July 2017:

Adopted Placemaking Plan

- Volume 1 - District-wide Strategy and Policies
- Volume 2 - Bath
- Volume 3 - Keynsham
- Volume 4 - Somer Valley
- Volume 5 - Rural Areas
- Volume 6 - Appendices

The Placemaking Plan complements the Council's Core Strategy and forms Part 2 of the Local Plan 2011 - 2029. It is a six volume document focussed on creating the conditions for better places, and on providing greater clarity to enable the right developments to be delivered. It allocates a range of sites for development for a variety of uses; facilitates the delivery of key sites with planning requirements; sets out development management policies which will be used to determine planning applications; and safeguards and enhances the quality and diversity of places in Bath and North East Somerset. Some policies in the Placemaking Plan under the Town & Country Planning Regulations 2012 8(5).

Bath & North East Somerset saved Local Plan (2007) Policies:

- Policy GDS.1 Site allocations and development requirements (policy framework)
- Policy GDS.1/K2: South West

Four part implemented sites allocations and their respective development requirements have not been replaced by the Core Strategy or the Placemaking Plan and therefore remain 'saved'. This is to ensure the remaining development of each site takes place in accordance with the site requirements. These policies are reproduced in full in Volume 6 of the Placemaking Plan (Appendix 1, Table 2)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keynsham (site) – Policy GDS.1/NR2: Radstock Railway Land (site) – Policy GDS.1/V3: Paulton Printing Factory (site) – Policy GDS.1/V8: Former Radford Retail System's Site, Chew Stoke (site) 	
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<p>Joint Waste Core Strategy DPD (JWCS) adopted March 2011</p>	<p>The JWCS sets out the waste planning strategy for the West of England, addressing the planning aspects of the waste hierarchy promoting waste minimisation, recycling/ composting, recovery and disposal.</p>
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<p>The Policies Map (previously known as the Proposals Map)</p>	<p>This illustrates all the allocations and designations set out in the DPDs. It will be revised as each new DPD is adopted where there are allocations or designations. The existing Local Plan Policies Map will be amended to give geographical expression to the Core Strategy and the Placemaking Plan. Proposed amendments to the Policies Map will be publicised alongside the appropriate DPD.</p>
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<p>Neighbourhood Plans</p>	<p>Six Neighbourhood Plans have been made and form part of the Development Plan; Chew Valley, Clutton, Englishcombe, Freshford & Limpley Stoke, Publow & Pensford and Stowey Sutton.</p>
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1.9 In addition to the six made (adopted) Neighbourhood Plans in B&NES there are a number of neighbourhood plans currently under preparation (see para 2.10). However to date there are no Neighbourhood Development Orders.

1.10 Emerging DPDs will carry weight as set out in the NPPF.

Other related planning documents

1.11 Other key planning related documents the Council is required to produce are a Statement of Community Involvement, a Monitoring Report and a Policies Map as explained below.

1.12 The **Neighbourhood Planning Protocol (NPP)** was adopted in September 2012 and sets out how the following new mechanisms will operate:

- Neighbourhood Fora,
- Neighbourhood Referenda
- Neighbourhood Development Orders
- Community Right to Build

1.13 The NPP also incorporates a review of the Council's **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)** adopted in 2007. The SCI helps to ensure that the Council is in a position to respond to the Localism agenda efficiently and coherently. This will enable communities to understand the range of opportunities to interact with and take an active role in planning in their locality.

1.14 A minor review of the NPP was undertaken in October 2014 to ensure the information is factually correct and up to date and any anomalies rectified.

1.15 The **Authority's Monitoring Report (AMR)** assesses whether plan production is on target and the extent to which policies in local development documents are being implemented. It monitors key data such as housing completions, growth in office space and losses in industrial space. It will also monitor CIL once finalised. The AMR is based upon the period 1st April to 31st March each year.

Bath & North East Somerset's Local Development Framework in 2017

Development Plan for B&NES

Local Development Documents Current

Development Plan Documents

- Core Strategy (2014)
- Placemaking Plan (2017)
- Saved policies from the Local Plan (2007)
- Joint Waste Core Strategy (2011)
- B&NES Policies Map

Supplementary Planning Documents

See Annex A for full list

Other documents

- Authority's Monitoring Report
- Neighbourhood Planning Protocol
(includes the Council's Statement of Community Involvement)

Local Development Documents Under preparation

Development Plan Documents

- West of England Joint Spatial Plan
- Local Plan 2016 - 2036 (incorporating the review of the Core Strategy)
- Travellers' Sites Plan
- Neighbourhood Plans

Supplementary Planning Documents

- Planning Obligations SPD
- Locally Listed Heritage Assets SPD
- Design Guide SPD
- Somer Valley Enterprise Park SPD

Other documents

- Community Infrastructure Levy

2. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK PRODUCTION 2017 - 2020

Progress

Development Plan Documents

- 2.1 The **Core Strategy** (adopted July 2014) sets out the long term strategic planning framework for Bath & North East Somerset and includes a spatial vision and spatial objectives looking ahead to 2029. The Core Strategy forms **Part 1 of the Local Plan 2011 - 2029** to comply with the NPPF requirement to produce a Local Plan (see below regarding the review of the Core Strategy).
- 2.2 The **Placemaking Plan** complements the Core Strategy and forms **Part 2 of the Local Plan 2011 - 2029**. The Placemaking Plan identifies development site allocations, reviews designations and makes changes to and introduces new Development Management policies. It sets out the development parameters for site allocations in the context of their surroundings. The Placemaking Plan was formally **adopted on 13 July 2017**.
- 2.3 Preparation of the **West of England Joint Spatial Plan (JSP)** by the four West of England Authorities is on target. The JSP will provide a formal coordinated strategic context to inform UA local plan reviews. It will identify: the overall quantum of housing and jobs needed in the Wider Bristol and Bath Housing Market Areas to 2036; the overall spatial strategy for accommodating homes and employment land across the sub-region including strategic locations; and the strategic infrastructure necessary to deliver the spatial strategy for the West of England. Joint studies have been procured to support this process. Consultation on the Publication Draft JSP will commence in November 2017.
- 2.4 The Core Strategy partial review was previously scheduled to be undertaken in conjunction with the preparation of JSP with a routine full review in 2019, five years after its adoption. The Core Strategy review has now been incorporated into the preparation of the **new Local Plan 2016 - 2036**. The timetable for the preparation of the new Local Plan has been amended to align closely with that of the JSP but allowing for key JSP milestones to be achieved in order to avoid

abortive work. This approach allows B&NES to align with the other UAs and review the B&NES SHMA now instead of 2019 as part of the JSP. The preparation of the new Local Plan is also the mechanism by which the Core Strategy and Placemaking Plan will be formally combined into one Development Plan Document. The scope of the new Local Plan is likely to be restricted to the following issues:

- Revised housing and jobs requirement for B&NES for the period 2016 to 2036, including affordable housing based on an updated SHMA
- Formal allocation of sites in the strategic locations included in the JSP to meet identified development needs, setting development and infrastructure requirements
- Establish a strategy for and identify any other sources of housing land supply not identified in the JSP to meet identified development needs
- Affordable housing policies
- Revised five-year Housing Land Requirement assessment
- Inclusion of new policies or amendments to existing policies arising from the above; or from new legislation or from any other significant changes in circumstances and evidence to ensure that the plan is up-to-date

2.5 This may have implications for some policies in the Placemaking Plan necessitating their early review. It is intended that the Regulation 18 stage will take place over an extended period to include three periods of consultation. The first will be run concurrently with the conclusion of the JSP Pre-Submission Draft focussing on the strategic issues and framework for the District. The second stage will focus more on detail and policy implications on a place basis and include district-wide (development management) policies. The third stage will set out the Council's preferred strategy.

2.6 The LDF documents are supported by an **Infrastructure Delivery Plan** to ensure the strategic proposals are deliverable and aligned with infrastructure needs. Linked to this is the revised Planning Obligations SPD. The Core Strategy and the Placemaking Plan will both need to be underpinned by the **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)** to address infrastructure funding issues and ensure growth happens in a planned way.

- 2.7 The **Joint Waste Core Strategy** was adopted by the West of England Unitary Authorities in 2011 and, in conjunction with adjoining UAs, consideration is being given to its review during the LDS period.
- 2.8 The **Travellers' Sites Plan** (formerly Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations DPD) reached Preferred Options consultation stage in July 2012. Further progress has been affected by a number of factors including further site assessment work needed, the requirement to work jointly with adjoining authorities (Duty to Cooperate) to ensure that all non-Green Belt options are fully explored. In addition, the 2012 accommodation needs assessment for B&NES is out of date and needs reviewing in the light of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 (s124); the changes in the definition of 'traveller' in the revised 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites' (August 2015); and the fact that a number of sites have recently been granted planning permission for traveller use. An updated evidence base will give a more accurate assessment of the need in B&NES. The revised timetable is set out in the Document profiles on page 17.
- 2.9 The Localism Act introduces **Neighbourhood Plans**. These are being prepared by neighbourhood forums under the auspices of the Local Authority and once 'made' they will form part of the Development Plan. To facilitate this process, the Council has introduced a **Neighbourhood Planning Protocol 'My Neighbourhood' (NPP)** which incorporates the Statement of Community Involvement. The Government is currently funding Neighbourhood Planning support. Between April 2015 and March 2018 *Locality* in partnership with *Planning Aid England* and other partners will deliver the national support package for Neighbourhood Planning.
- 2.10 The current position on Neighbourhood Plans (NPs) within Bath and North East Somerset Council is summarised below:
- **Chew Valley, Clutton, Englishcombe, Freshford & Limpley Stoke, Publow & Pensford and Stowey Sutton NPs** have been 'made' (or adopted).
 - **Whitchurch has** submitted its Draft Plans to B&NES with the examination and referendum is scheduled for November 2017.
 - **Stanton Drew and Westfield Parish Councils and Midsomer Norton Town Council** are currently working on their options and Draft Neighbourhood Plans and are expecting to formally submit their

Neighbourhood Plans to B&NES with examinations and referendums being held 2017/2018.

- **Timsbury and Batheaston Parish Councils and Keynsham Town Council** are currently collating the evidence base for their Plans by holding consultation events and sending out questionnaires. The next stages will be for the parishes to start developing planning policies.
- **High Littleton & Hallatrow Parish Council and Paulton Parish Council** are now designated Neighbourhood Planning Areas and are in the throes of launching the process.
- **Bathampton and Claverton Parish Councils** have recently applied for designation as a Neighbourhood Planning Area.

Supplementary Planning Documents

- 2.11 The **Planning Obligations SPD** is a key document in setting out a coordinated approach to securing contributions from development. It is a 'living document' and will be reviewed from time to time to take account of new information. In order to ensure that it is aligned with up-to-date policy, especially the Core Strategy and Placemaking Plan, it has been revised together with the new Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The CIL and revised Planning Obligations SPD came into effect on 6th April 2015. This SPD supersedes the Planning Obligations SPD published in 2009 and also Appendix C of the Bath Western Riverside SPD (March 2008, as updated in July 2014).
- 2.12 The **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Guidance for Listed Buildings and Undesignated Historic Buildings** was adopted in September 2013 as an Appendix to the Sustainable Construction and Retrofitting SPD for use determining Listed Building Consent and Planning Applications. This guidance will be reviewed to reflect any future guidance from Historic England as necessary.
- 2.13 Work is progressing on the **Locally Listed Heritage Assets SPD** with the programme adjusted in order to take account of Historic England's Guidance on Locally Listed Heritage Assets. The timescale for its production is set out in the summary timetable on page 19.

- 2.14 The **Houses in Multiple Occupation SPD** has been reviewed and consultation on the Draft SPD finished in October 2017 and will be recommended for adoption by Council in November 2017.
- 2.15 **A Design Guide SPD** will be prepared to guide new development in Bath & North East Somerset and it is intended that this will incorporate the existing Building Heights Study. It will supplement the design policies in the Placemaking Plan. Preparation of this SPD will help to provide greater certainty in the development process and ensure the Council can effectively and efficiently determine planning applications.
- 2.16 Work will commence on a **SPD for the Somer Valley Enterprise Park** during the first part of 2018. This will set out more detailed guidance in respect of delivering development of the site allocated at Old Mills in the Placemaking Plan (SSV9). Preparation of this SPD is being resourced through Somer Valley Enterprise Zone implementation funding.
- 2.17 The Strategic development Locations (SDLs) emerging from the JSP will also require a more detailed policy framework and evidence base to feed into the New Local Plan work
- 2.18 Other SPDs will be prepared depending on their urgency and as resources permit - see Part 2 of this document: Supplementary Planning Documents (page 24).

Other related planning documents

- 2.19 The Council has prepared a **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**. The CIL came into effect on 6th April 2015. It enables the Council to raise funds from new development in order to fund the timely delivery of infrastructure. Preparation of a CIL requires an adopted Core Strategy and it includes a charging schedule and a spending regime based on development proposals in the LDF. Its preparation entailed viability assessments so as not to inhibit development and input from stakeholders. The Infrastructure Delivery Programme will need to be kept up-to-date. The Localism Act requires the allocation of a proportion of CIL revenues raised back to neighbourhoods where development takes place. CIL Strategic Spending Protocol is due to be reviewed during the latter part of 2017.
- 2.20 Work undertaken so far on the Core Strategy, the Placemaking Plan, the Joint Spatial Plan and with the local community, along with the requirements arising from the NPPF, has stressed the importance of ensuring a sufficient **environmental evidence base**. The 2011 Natural

Environment White Paper and work with West of England Nature Partnership also require the preparation of environmental strategies which will be a material consideration in plan preparation and planning decisions and provide the necessary evidence for plan-making. This includes a Trees and Woodland Strategy and Landscape Character Assessments. These are described in more detail in **Appendix A**.

- 2.21 Although only the work essential to the preparation of the key Development Plan Documents and CIL will be prioritized for the duration of this LDS, there may be scope to initiate some of environmental strategies, in connection with corporate and national priorities
- 2.22 There are 35 conservation areas in the District but only 13 of these have up to date conservation area character appraisals. Only the Keynsham Conservation Area currently has a character appraisal and management plan (adopted December 2016). However, preparation of an appraisal provides the scope to address management opportunities.
- 2.23 The deficiency of not having a character appraisal for Bath Conservation Area was highlighted by the Inspector at the Core Strategy examination. This has begun to be addressed by preparing a framework for a character appraisal for Bath. Characterisation of 6 character areas has been completed in draft and the project to complete the remaining character areas and the character appraisal as a whole is being planned, together with a programme of public consultation. It is likely that a number of further character areas will be addressed in 2017/18.
- 2.24 Work continues on character appraisals for the rural areas, for Englishcombe and Newton St Lowe when some initial work has been done by students. This work is scheduled to be developed in-house during 2017/18. Corston Parish Council is also seeking a character appraisal for Corston Conservation Area and provides the opportunity to continue to pilot a community engagement approach with Corston during 2017/18. Draft character appraisals for Midsomer Norton, Saltford and Queen Charlton were completed during 2016/17 and public consultation on these ended in July 2017. Character appraisals for other rural areas will be undertaken based on development pressure and local demand.
- 2.25 Generally, skills exist in-house for undertaking conservation area character appraisals, however internal resources are limited. As with

Englishcombe and Newton St Lowe above, there is the potential to engage students from educational establishments in the development of appraisals; this approach was used for the recent development of the Hinton Blewett appraisal (2014).

- 2.26 Progress on the delivery of conservation area appraisals is dependent on funding – consultant engagement, graphic design and printing (if hard copy is needed). In respect of previous appraisals some funding has been available from parish councils.
- 2.27 In December 2015, the Council published Bath Conservation Area Design and Conservation Guidance (to supplement Placemaking Plan Policy D9) to cover commercial signage and tables and chairs on the highway. This was formally adopted in July 2016.

LDD Content and Key Milestones

- 2.28 The **LDS Summary timetable** setting out an overview of the programme and key milestones for the production of Bath & North East Somerset Local Development Framework is set out after the risk assessment table following para 4.9 and provides a schedule of the LDDs to be prepared during the next 4 years. This is followed by the individual profiles for each LDD.

3. THE EVIDENCE BASE

3.1 The strategies, policies and proposals in the Local Development Documents must be founded on a robust evidence base. A considerable amount of data is available at national and regional level. A number of bespoke studies have been prepared to inform the preparation of its Local Development Framework and other Council strategies. There are also opportunities for the Council to improve its data collection and management strategies. The full Evidence Base informing the Local Development Framework is listed on and is accessible via the Council's website. The evidence base covers a range of subjects including those listed below:

- Economic (including Economic Development Needs Assessment)
- Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)
- Flood Risk
- Housing (including the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment or HELAA)
- Infrastructure Delivery Programme
- Recreation, Cultural and Services
- Retail
- Sustainability
- Transport
- Urban Design
- Landscape
- Heritage
- Nature conservation
- Waste
- Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Green Spaces Strategy
- Building Heights Study

3.2 Other studies not covered by the categories above can be found on the Council's website: <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base>. These include a comprehensive suite of evidence underpinning the Core Strategy, Placemaking Plan and the emerging Joint Spatial Plan for the West of England.

4. PRODUCTION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 4.1 The development of DPDs and SPDs in the Bath & North East Somerset Local Development Framework will be informed by Sustainability Appraisal. Sustainability Appraisal is an iterative process through which the economic, social and environmental effects of a plan under preparation are assessed. It incorporates the requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as required by EU SEA Directive 2001/42 on the Assessment of certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment. The appraisal process will draw heavily on the evidence base.
- 4.2 In order to protect the integrity of European sites, Local Authorities are obliged to carry out Appropriate Assessment (AA) as a part of the planning process under the Habitats Directive. AA has been and will continue to be carried out in conjunction with the SA as recommended by the Guidance.

Review and Monitoring

- 4.3 Review and monitoring are crucial to the successful delivery of the spatial vision and objectives of the LDF and will be undertaken on a continuous pro-active basis. The **Authority's Monitoring Report** is prepared for each financial year (see also paragraph 1.15). It has a dual purpose which is to:
- monitor progress of preparation of planning documents against agreed milestones in the LDS
 - assess the implementation of DPD policies against targets which will influence policy review and other decisions

Resources and Arrangements for Production

- 4.4 The Planning Service co-ordinates the preparation of Local Development Documents in liaison with other relevant Services across the Council. The document profiles (page 17 onwards) outline the responsibilities for document preparation.

Joint Working

4.5 Bath & North East Somerset Council works jointly with Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Unitary Authorities (UAs) on sub-regional planning and cross boundary issues. Section 110 of the Localism Act sets out a new **'duty to co-operate'**. In addition to the other West of England UAs referred to above the Council engages actively with the neighbouring authorities of Mendip District Council, Somerset County Council and Wiltshire Council on strategic issues. The **'duty to co-operate'** applies to all local planning authorities and a number of other public bodies including:

- Environment Agency
- Historic England
- Natural England
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Homes and Communities Agency
- Primary Care Trusts
- Office of the Rail Regulator
- Highways Agency
- Integrated Transport Authorities
- Highways Authorities

4.6 These bodies are required to cooperate with Councils on issues of common concern to develop sound Development Plans. The West of England UAs maintain a Duty to Co-operate schedule to record key co-operation activities.

4.7 The authorities are also working with business leaders as part of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for the West of England. The LEP does not have a direct role in spatial planning but there is a need for co-ordination in activities. Similarly the Council is committed to working collaboratively with the West of England Nature Partnership (WENP) which accords with advice in the NPPF.

Member Arrangements and the LDF

4.8 A bespoke Local Development Framework Steering Group guides the production of the Council planning policies and advises the Cabinet Member for Development. Decisions on DPDs are made by Full Council in accordance with the Council constitution and other LDDs are agreed as appropriate.

Risk Assessment

4.9 It is often difficult to anticipate all potential risks which could affect the Local Development Framework programme. There are a number of factors that could affect the Council's ability to deliver the Local Development Framework in accordance with the programme outlined for each of the LDD Profiles. Actions to manage these risks have been identified.

Area of Risk	Likelihood/Impact	Mitigation Measures
Programme slippage	<p>Medium/High</p> <p>Failure to meet the key milestones for LDDs in the LDS is detrimental to the reputation of the local planning authority. Absence of up to date Development Plan likely to lead to unplanned developments across the district. The deadlines for preparing the Local Development Framework are very challenging given the greater emphasis on community consultation.</p> <p>High risk</p> <p>Political process lead to delays</p>	<p>Ensure that progress is carefully monitored and that priority is given to achieving the key milestones set out in the LDS.</p> <p>Allow for contingency in the programmes.</p> <p>Use efficient project management.</p> <p>Ensure elected members are properly briefed throughout the plan preparation process including through the LDF Steering Group.</p>
Adequate staff resources	<p>Low/Medium</p> <p>Should cuts to local government funding together with the current restructuring of Council Services impact on the Planning Services, the potential loss of experienced staff would impact on the preparation of LDDs and heightens the risk of programme slippage.</p>	<p>Ensure that sufficient staff resources with the necessary experience and expertise are available for the production of LDDs.</p> <p>Consider seconding staff from other Services in the Council and/or joint working with neighbouring authorities.</p> <p>Subject to the availability of financial resources, employ temporary staff or consultants.</p>
Financial resources	<p>Medium/High</p> <p>It is important that there are sufficient financial resources available to prepare LDDs, including for consultants (where necessary), to secure and maintain robust</p>	<p>Ensure the LDS influences budgetary decisions to ensure sufficient resources are in place including a suitable level of contingency. However cuts to local</p>

	evidence base, community consultation and engagement, and for the Examination process in the case of DPDs.	government funding are outside the Council's direct control.
Competing work priorities	Medium/High The Policy Team is involved in a wide range of spatial policy work. Planning applications for major unplanned developments are resource-heavy. There is a risk that the Team's work is diverted from plan making by other unforeseen work pressures such as involvement in planning appeal inquiries, regeneration projects and responding to consultation on emerging Government policies.	Ensure that progress on the Local Development Framework remains a high priority and at certain times other work will have to take a much lower priority. Consideration may then need to be given to outsourcing work to prevent delays in progress.
Evidence base	Low/Medium Lack of an up -to date evidence base will affect the soundness of a DPD	Maintain a proportionate and up to date evidence base. Ensure all policies and proposals can be fully justified with evidence.
Level of public interest in plan making	Medium/High Historically the level of public interest in LDDs has been high during previous consultations and engagement exercises. An unanticipated high level of responses could result in a delay in the programme.	Ensure that resources are in place at appropriate times to ensure representations are dealt with promptly and efficiently.
Neighbourhood Planning	Medium/High An additional stress on staff resources is the requirements to provide professional and technical advice to support Parish and Town Councils in progressing Neighbourhood Plans.	Maintain close liaison with Parish and Town Councils to monitor the scale of work required. Consider to what extent neighbourhood planning aspirations can be delivered through LDDs to reduce costs

LDS SUMMARY TIMETABLE

BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2017 - 2020

DOCUMENT	2017			2018					2019					2020																				
	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec			
Development Plan Documents																																		
Placemaking Plan DPD	Rt	A																																
WoE Joint Spatial Plan DPD				P			S		H			R		A																				
New B&NES Local Plan DPD				O				O		P			S		H		Rt		A						
Policies Map	M		R						M		R			M		R							M											
Joint Waste Core Strategy DPD				R																														
Travellers' Sites Plan DPD										O							D		S		H		Rt		A									
Supplementary Planning Documents																																		
Design Guide SPD							C		O			A																						
Houses in Multiple Occupation SPD	O			A																														
Somer Valley Enterprise Park SPD				C			O			A																								
Planning Obligations SPD Review	R															R		R																
Locally Listed Heritage Assets SPD							O		A																									
Strategic Development Locations				C		O															A													
West of England & Other SPDs	<i>Progress as resources permit</i>																																	
Other Policy Documents																																		
CIL Spend Protocol				R																														
CIL Charging Schedule				R			R			R													R											
Infrastructure Delivery Programme review	P		.			.			.			P					P			.				
Authority Monitoring Report	P		.			.			P			.			P			.			P			.			P			.			P	
Neighbourhood Development Plans	<i>Ongoing statutory support</i>																																	
Article 4 Direction on loss of office space																																		
Neighbourhood Planning Protocol (SCI)							R																											

- C** Commencement
- O** Options (Reg 18 for DPDs)
- P** Publication Plan (Reg 19)
- S** Submit Plan (Reg 22)
- H** Hearings
- Rt** Inspector's Report
- A** Adoption/Approval
- M** Policies Map changes published
- D** Publish document
- R** Review
- .** Ongoing

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

5. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

PART 1: DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS

WEST OF ENGLAND JOINT SPATIAL PLAN	
Role and Content	Identifies the housing requirement for the Wider Bristol Housing Market Area (HMA) and the Bath HMA, identifies the broad locations to meet housing and employment land needs and the infrastructure required to deliver the growth.
Status	Development Plan Document
Geographic Coverage	Combined area of the four unitary authorities of B&NES, Bristol, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire
TIMETABLE & MILESTONES	
The planned milestones for the Joint Spatial Plan (JSP) are set out below. The review of the B&NES Core Strategy to be undertaken through the preparation of the new B&NES Local Plan 2016 - 2036 in conjunction with other West of England authorities reviews will be informed by work on the West of England JSP.	
JSP Pre-Commencement Document consultation	January 2015 - March 2015
JSP Issues and Options consultation (Reg 18)	November 2015 - January 2016
JSP Towards an Emerging Spatial Strategy consultation (Reg 18)	November 2016 – December 2016
Publish Pre-Submission Draft JSP (“Publication Document”) (Reg 19) and draft SA report for consultation	November 2017 - January 2018
Submission of JSP to Secretary of State (Reg 22) with final SA Report	April 2018
Examination Hearings Period (Reg 24)	October/November 2018
Inspector’s Report (Reg 25)	January 2019
Adoption (Reg 26)	February 2019
ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION	
Resources required and management arrangements	Co-ordination with other West of England Authorities of Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Councils through the Planning, Housing and Communities Board and the Joint Transport Board. Supporting evidence prepared corporately. LDF Budget. This work will require additional funding for the years 2016/17 and 2017/18 which will be managed through one-off revenue budget requests. Staff resources of the Planning Policy teams working jointly across the 4 UAs.
Key Evidence:	SHLAA, HELAA, EDNA, Infrastructure & Viability studies, FRA, Environmental Assessments, Sustainability Appraisals.
Community/stakeholder involvement	In accordance with Regulations 18 and 19 of the Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and the Neighbourhood Planning Protocol
POST-PRODUCTION	
Monitoring & Review	Outputs incorporated in the B&NES Local Plan 2016 - 2036 and monitored via the AMR.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

LOCAL PLAN 2016 - 2036	
Role and Content	The new Local Plan for B&NES sets out the spatial vision, spatial objectives, core policies and a delivery strategy for the development of the district and framework for development management. It will be underpinned by an Infrastructure Delivery Plan to ensure a deliverable strategy. Preparation of the new Local Plan will incorporate a review the Core Strategy which will be undertaken in conjunction with other West of England authorities' reviews will be informed by work on the West of England JSP.
Status	Development Plan Document
Geographic Coverage	District wide
TIMETABLE & MILESTONES	
Commencement	Dec 2016
Issues and Options consultation (Reg 18)	November 2017 - October 2018
Publication Draft (Reg 19) and draft SA report for consultation	June - July 2019
Submission of to Secretary of State (Reg 22) with final SA Report	September 2019
Examination Hearings Period	December 2019
Inspector's Report	February 2020
Adoption	April 2020
ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION	
Resources required and management arrangements	Planning Policy Team, LDF Budget & LDF Governance arrangements
Key Evidence:	SHMA, HELAA, student accommodation requirements, employment growth & land supply, infrastructure & viability studies, Flood Risk Assessments, Environmental Assessments, Sustainability Appraisals.
Community/ stakeholder involvement	In accordance with Regulations 18 and 19 of the Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and the Neighbourhood Planning Protocol
POST-PRODUCTION	
Monitoring & Review	The implementation of the objectives and policies of the Local Plan will be monitored as part of the AMR as set out in the submission Local Plan.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

TRAVELLERS' SITES PLAN	
Role and Content	Allocate specific sites to meet the accommodation needs of the travelling community
Status	Development Plan Document
Chain of conformity	National Policy, Core Strategy
Geographic Coverage	District-wide
TIMETABLE & MILESTONES	
Commencement and early stakeholder and community engagement in document preparation	July 2009
Publication of issues and alternative options for consultation (Reg 25) ¹	November 2011 – January 2012 (Issues & Options - call for sites and site assessment criteria)
Publication of preferred options for consultation (Reg 18)	June – July 2012 (alternative and preferred sites)
Publication of revised set of site options for consultation	January/February 2019
Publication and public participation on draft DPD (Reg 19) and draft SA report	September/October 2019
Submission to Secretary of State (Reg 22) with final SA Report	February 2020
Commencement of Hearings	May 2020
Receipt of Inspector's report	August 2020
Adoption and publication	November 2020
ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION	
Resources required and management arrangements	Prepared by Planning Services in collaboration with other relevant Council Service areas, external authorities service providers and specialist consultant advisors as required. Key stages to be agreed at Cabinet and Council. The Policies Map will be revised accordingly. Cost to be shared between the Services.
Community and stakeholder involvement	In accordance with Regulations 18 and 19 of the Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and the Neighbourhood Planning Protocol
POST-PRODUCTION	
Monitoring & Review	The DPD will be monitored as part of the AMR and will be reviewed if the monitoring highlights such a need.

¹ Prepared under the Town and County Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 until March 2012.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

PART 2: SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS (SPD)

Currently work is programmed for four SPDs in the first part of the LDS period. These are listed below and the broad programme for preparation is shown on the summary diagram on page 17.

- Review of the Planning Obligations SPD linked to the review of the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- Design Guide SPD for new development in Bath & North East Somerset. This will incorporate the existing Building Heights Study.
- Locally Listed Heritage Assets SPD.
- Somer Valley Enterprise Park SPD.
- *The Bath HMO SPD has been reviewed and will be recommended for adoption by Council in November 2017.*
- In order to implement JSP proposals, the preparation of SPDs for the Strategic Development Locations at North Keynsham and Whitchurch will be an integral part of the work on the New Local Plan. The scope of these SPDs will depend on the resources available through funding bids and will provide the more detailed policy framework and design codes needed to ensure high quality new development.
- An Article 4 Direction to address the impact of the loss of office space in Bath is also being progressed although this is likely to rely on existing policies for implementation
- The JSP also proposes joint working on a sub-regional Affordable Housing SPD and a Green Infrastructure Plan.

Other SPDs will be prepared depending on their urgency and where resources permit including the following.

- A review of the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Guidance for Listed Buildings and Undesignated Historic Buildings (Appendix to the Sustainable Construction and Retrofitting SPD) may be necessary should updated advice be published by Historic England in the LDS period.
- A review of the 'Existing dwellings in the Green Belt SPD' adopted in 2008 to bring it into line with the NPPF and provide further information, guidance and interpretation to planning policy relating to existing buildings in the Green Belt.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

PART 3: OTHER LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENTS

POLICIES MAP	
Role and Content	The Policies Map identifies site-specific proposals, designations, and locations and areas to which specific policies in other DPDs apply on an Ordnance Survey base map and will include inset maps. This map evolves with each Development Plan Document.
Status	Development Plan Document
Conformity	Conformity with other Development Plan Documents (DPDs).
Geographic Coverage	District-wide
TIMETABLE & MILESTONES	
The production of the Policies Map is dependent on the timetable of DPDs which require the geographical expression of location of site-specific proposals and area based policies and will be updated as DPDs are adopted.	
ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION	
Resources required and management arrangements	Prepared by Planning Services with Corporate GIS and technical support. Preparation of printed versions and interactive electronic versions will be outsourced as required. Key stages to be agreed at Cabinet and Council.
Community and stakeholder involvement	In accordance with Regulations 18 and 19 of the Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and the Neighbourhood Planning Protocol.
POST-PRODUCTION	
Monitoring & Review	An amendment to the Policies Map is contingent on the outcome of the monitoring and review of DPDs.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING PROTOCOL (incorporating the Statement of Community Involvement)	
Role and Content	The SCI sets out how the community, stakeholders and interested parties are involved in the production of plans and proposals for the District and the determination of planning applications. The NPP reflects the localism agenda and sets out the engagement processes, guidance for the establishment of Neighbourhood Fora, preparation of Neighbourhood Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders.
Status	LDD
Chain of conformity	Must at least meet the minimum requirements set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008. The SCI has regard to the Council's corporate communication strategy.
Geographic Coverage	Whole District
TIMETABLE & MILESTONES	
Addendum published alongside adopted SCI as required	
Revisions to the SCI finalised and agreed by Council	
ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION	
Resources required and management arrangements	Prepared by Planning service in conjunction with Policy & Partnerships Team and in consultation with Member portfolio holder. Agreed by the Council/Cabinet.
Community and stakeholder involvement	Fundamental revisions to the SCI will entail community engagement.
POST-PRODUCTION	
Monitoring & Review	To be reviewed on an ongoing basis in response to problems or successes consulting on LDDs or planning applications and as part of the AMR and changes in government legislation

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)	
Role and Content	The CIL is a levy on new development to fund the timely delivery of infrastructure needed to support development.
Status	Local Development Document
Chain of conformity	Core Strategy; Infrastructure Delivery Programme (IDP)
Geographic Coverage	Whole District
TIMETABLE & MILESTONES FOR ANNUAL REVIEW	
Update and publish B&NES IDP.	By 30 th June annually
Service / Infrastructure Providers to submit the CIL Bid forms	From 1 st to 31 st July annually
Assess the CIL Bid forms and prepare a summary report	August annually
Prepare a draft Spending Priority Programme	August/September annually
Finalise the draft Spending Priority Programme and make an recommendation to the Cabinet	October/November annually
CIL Spending Priority Programme agreed	December annually
ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION	
Resources required and management arrangements	<p>Charging schedule and a spending regime based on development proposals in the LDF, viability assessments & the Infrastructure Delivery Programme to be prepared by the Planning & Transport Service in conjunction with other Council services. This will be overseen by the LDF Steering Group with decisions made by Cabinet/Council. The work will be co-ordinated by the Officer Development Co-ordination Group with input from external developers/stakeholders as required.</p> <p>Other key tasks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarifying the proportion to be allocated back to neighbourhoods - Establish enforcement arrangements/penalisation for non-payment
Community and stakeholder involvement	Community engagement was undertaken in preparation of charging schedule, spending regime and neighbourhood element in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Protocol.
POST-PRODUCTION	
Implementation	<p>B&NES, as both the charging and collecting authority will issue a liability notice on grant of planning permission. The levy is paid on commencement of and during development.</p> <p>Establish collection arrangements</p>
Monitoring and Review	A report on the levy raised and what it is spent on will be included in the AMR.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER APPRAISALS	
Role and Content	<p>Local planning authorities are obliged to designate as conservation areas any parts of their own area that are of special architectural or historic interest, the character and appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Local planning authorities also have a duty to review past designations from time to time to determine if any further parts of their area should be conservation areas.</p> <p>Conservation area designation introduces a general control over the demolition of unlisted buildings and provides a basis for planning policies whose objective is to conserve all aspects of character or appearance, including landscape and public spaces, that define an area's special interest.</p> <p>There are 35 conservation areas in the District but only 13 of these have up to date conservation area character appraisals. None at present have management plans, but preparation of an appraisal provides the scope to address management opportunities.</p>
Geographic Coverage	District-wide conservation areas
TIMETABLE & MILESTONES	
<p>The production of the conservation area character appraisals outside Bath is to be planned alongside resources available, development pressure and local demand.</p> <p>Bath Conservation Area character appraisal is planned to be progressed during 2017-18.</p>	
ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION	
Resources required and management arrangements	Prepared by Planning and Conservation team with consultants. Preparation of printed versions and interactive electronic versions will be outsourced as required. Key stages to be agreed at Cabinet and Council.
Community and stakeholder involvement	In accordance with Regulations 18 and 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and the Neighbourhood Planning Protocol.
POST-PRODUCTION	
Monitoring & Review	All progress relating to implementation will be reported in the AMR.

Natural Environment Evidence and Strategies

1. The West of England Nature Partnership (WENP) launched in June 2013 is one of 47 Local Nature Partnerships given statutory status by Defra. The WENP will develop and advocate an investment strategy for the natural environment of the West of England that provides a range of essential services to support economic development and public health. The WENP aims to provide coherent and cohesive representation of a range of stakeholders concerned for the natural environment and work in partnership with economic development agencies, health authorities and other statutory bodies to create a truly joined up approach in the West of England. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that local planning authorities should work collaboratively with Local Nature Partnerships.

Landscape

2. One of the core principles the NPPF is that planning should recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside. Landscape Character Assessment is the tool that informs judgements on the value of landscapes and should be undertaken at a scale appropriate to local and neighbourhood plan-making. The rural character assessment of the District was carried out in 2003 and an assessment of Bath was carried out in 2005 as a precursor to more detailed Conservation Appraisals across Bath which are still pending, and are dependent on available resources.
3. The District is vulnerable to impacts on the landscape and visual character because the existing character assessments carried out to current methodologies to accord with government policy. A District landscape character assessment carried out in partnership between the Council, and parishes and local communities is needed. This will inform planning decisions and will help to provide the context for other related assessments including local planning initiatives such as Neighbourhood Plans where these are undertaken.

Trees and Woodland Strategy

4. The need for a tree and woodland strategy has been identified through a number of related studies (Public Realm and Movement Strategy, Green Space Strategy, Green Infrastructure Strategy etc.). This is especially relevant with the high level of public interest in this area following the governments proposed sell off of the public forestry estate and the risks of significant landscape scale tree loss through ash die-back and other tree related disease. The objective is to produce, adopt and implement a collaborative strategy for protecting, developing and managing a thriving, benefit-generating treescape which is in tune with local needs and aspirations.

Ecology

5. In 2011 Government published a Natural Environment White Paper setting out its goals and vision for the natural environment followed later that year by Biodiversity 2020 Government's biodiversity strategy. The NPPF sets out the requirement to map ecological corridors and also to be able to respond to biodiversity offsetting. There is a need for the council to review/consider these needs and set out its approach, this should ideally be done to tie in with the plan review.

Current Supplementary Planning Documents and Guidance

Agricultural Building Design Guidelines for the Mendip Hills AONB (published 2001, revised 2013).
Archaeology in Bath & North East Somerset SPG (May 2004) and Archaeology in Bath SPG (May 2004)
Bath City-wide Character Appraisal (August 2005)
Bath Conservation Area Design and Conservation - Commercial signage and tables and chairs on the highway (July 2016)
Bath Western Riverside SPD (March 2008)
Existing Dwellings in the Green Belt SPD (October 2008)
Guidelines for Horse-related Development for the Mendip Hills AONB (published 2004, revised 2012)
Houses in Multiple Occupation in Bath SPD with Article 4 Direction for HMO in Bath (June 2013)
Planning Obligations SPD (April 2015)
Retrofitting & Sustainable Construction SPD (February 2013)
Rural Landscapes of Bath & North East Somerset: A Landscape Character Assessment (February 2003)
Streetscape Manual SPD (April 2005)
Walcot Street Works (1997), Cherishing Outdoor Places (1994), and External Building Materials Local Design Guide
City of Bath World Heritage Site Setting SPD (August 2013)
<p>Conservation Area Appraisals</p> <p>The Council has a number of Conservation Areas, the following of which are SPD or a material consideration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chew Magna Conservation Area Statement (2003) - Claverton Conservation Area Appraisal (2007) - Combe Hay Conservation Area Appraisal (July 2014)

- [Hinton Blewett Conservation Area Appraisal](#) (July 2014)
- [Freshford and Sharpstone Conservation Area Appraisal](#) (2007)
- [Keynsham Conservation Areas Appraisal and Management Plan](#) (December 2016)
- [Midsomer Norton and Welton Conservation Area Statement](#) (2004)
- [Paulton Conservation Area Statement](#) (2003)
- [Pensford Conservation Area Appraisal](#) (2008)
- [Radstock Conservation Area Appraisal](#) (1999)
- [South Stoke Conservation Area Appraisal](#) (March 2014)
- [Wellow Conservation Area Appraisal](#) (2007)
- [Woollard Conservation Area Appraisal](#) (2008)

Village Design Statements

- [Bathford Village Design Statement](#) (2005)
- [Chew Magna Village Design Statement](#) (2006)
- [Hallatrow & High Littleton Design Statement](#) (2003)
- [Larkhall Character Statement and Development Principles](#) (1998)
- [Paulton Village Design Statement](#) (2003)
- [Peasedown St. John Village Statement](#) (2001)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- AMR** The **Authority's Monitoring Report** will assess the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which policies in Local Development Documents are being successfully implemented. Previously known as an Annual Monitoring Report.
- CS** **Core Strategy:** sets out the long-term spatial vision for the local planning authority area, the spatial objectives and a strategic policy framework to deliver that vision. The Core Strategy will have the status of a *Development Plan Document* and will form Part 1 of the new style Local Plan.
- DP** **Development Plan:** as set out in Section 38(6) of the Act, an authority's development plan consists of the relevant *Development Plan Documents* contained within its *Local Development Framework*.
- DPD** **Development Plan Document:** spatial planning documents that are subject to independent examination will form the *Development Plan*. They can include a *Core Strategy*, *Site Specific Allocations of land*, and *Area Action Plans* (where needed). Other Development Plan Documents, including generic Development Control Policies, can be produced. They will all be shown geographically on an *adopted Policies Map*.
- FRA** **Flood Risk Assessment:** an assessment of the risk of flooding from all flooding sources, identifying flood mitigation measures to reduce the impact of flooding to the site and surrounding area and recommendations on actions to be taken before and during a flood.
- LDF** **Local Development Framework:** the name for the portfolio of *Local Development Documents*. It consists of *Development Plan Documents*, *Supplementary Planning Documents*, a *Statement of Community Involvement*, the *Local Development Scheme* and *Annual Monitoring Reports*. Together these documents will provide the framework for delivering the spatial planning strategy for a local authority area.
- LDD** **Local Development Document:** the collective term for Development Plan Documents, Supplementary Planning Documents and the Neighbourhood Planning Protocol.
- LDS** **Local Development Scheme:** sets out the programme for preparing *Local Development Documents*.
- LEP** **Local Enterprise Partnerships:** locally-owned partnerships between local authorities and businesses and play a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs.
- NPP** **Neighbourhood Planning Protocol:** sets out mechanisms for:
- Neighbourhood Fora

- Neighbourhood Referenda
- Neighbourhood Development Orders
- Community Right to Build

This includes a review of the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

NPPF National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be implemented. It replaces all previous planning policy guidance notes and planning policy statements.

PMP Placemaking Plan: a Development Plan Document being prepared to complement the strategic framework in the Core Strategy by setting out detailed development principles for identified sites and other policies for managing development across Bath & North East Somerset. It will form Part 2 of the new style Local Plan.

Policies Map: previously referred to as the **Proposals Map** and illustrates geographically the policies and proposals in the Development Plan Documents (DPD) on an Ordnance Survey map. Inset Maps show policies and proposals for specific parts of the district. It will need to be revised each time a new DPD is adopted.

Saved policies or plans: existing adopted development plans are saved for three years from the date of commencement of *the Act*. Any policies in old style development plans adopted after commencement of the Act will become saved policies for three years from their adoption or approval.

SA Sustainability Appraisal: tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives. Sustainability Appraisals are required in the Act to be undertaken for all local development documents.

SEA Strategic environmental assessment: a generic term used to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans and programmes. The European 'SEA Directive' (2001/42/EC) requires a formal 'environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the field of planning and land use'.

SPD Supplementary Planning Document: provide supplementary information in respect of the policies in *Development Plan Documents*. They do not form part of the Development Plan and are not subject to independent Examination.

This document can be made available in a range of community languages, large print, Braille, on tape, electronic and accessible formats from the Planning Policy Team Tel (01225 477548) Fax (01225 477617), Minicom (01225 477535).