

Annex A

Reviews of relevant plans, programmes and strategies

Bath & North East Somerset
Draft Placemaking Plan

Sustainability Appraisal Draft Report

Date:
December 2015

Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies:

Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA

General / Sustainable Communities

International

The World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, (September 2002). *Commitments arising from Johannesburg Summit*

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) represents a reaffirmation of international commitment to sustainable development coming 30 years after the Stockholm commitment to tackle environmental degradation and ten years after the Rio Summit and Declaration of 1992.

Objectives

The key outcomes of the summit were the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development – from our origins to the future, and a Key Outcomes statement mapping out commitments made by all parties.

A number of the sustainable development commitments originating from WSSD, are relevant to land use planning, and include:

- Integrate energy into country-led poverty reduction processes;
- Remove market barriers and create a level playing field for renewable energy and energy efficiency;
- Greater resource efficiency (incl. decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation); and
- Support business innovation and take-up of best practice in technology and management; work on waste and producer responsibility.

Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/06/st10/st10917.en06.pdf>

The overall aim of the renewed EU SDS is to identify and develop actions to enable the EU to achieve continuous improvement of quality of life both for current and for future generations, through the creation of sustainable communities able to manage and use resources efficiently and to tap the ecological and social innovation potential of the economy, ensuring prosperity, environmental protection and social cohesion.

Key Objectives

Environmental Protection, Social equity and Cohesion, Economic Prosperity, Meeting our international responsibility.

Policy Guiding Principles

Promotion and protection fundamental rights, Solidarity within and between generations, Open and democratic society, Involvement of citizens. Involvement of Businesses and social partners, Policy coherence and governance, Policy integration, Use best available knowledge, precautionary principle and Make polluters pay.

National

National Planning Policy Framework (May 2012)

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It sets out the Government's requirements for the planning system only to the extent that it is relevant, proportionate and necessary to do so. It provides a framework within which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities. The National Planning Policy Framework constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers both in drawing up plans and as a material consideration in determining applications.

At the heart of the National Planning Policy Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, which should be seen as a golden thread running through both plan-making and decision-taking.

For plan-making this means that:

- local planning authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area;
- Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless:
 - any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole;or

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- specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.

For decision-taking this means:

- approving development proposals that accord with the development plan without delay; and
- where the development plan is absent, silent or relevant policies are out-of-date, granting permission unless:
 - any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole;
 - or
 - specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.

Towards a one nation economy: A 10-point plan for boosting productivity in rural areas, DEFRA (August 2015)

Rural areas fully connected to the wider economy

1. Extensive, fast and reliable broadband services

- The government is committed to delivering superfast broadband of at least 24Mbps to 95% of UK households and businesses by 2017. Decisions on further broadband rollout will be taken in the Spending Review in November.
- By the end of 2015, access to standard broadband will be available to anyone unable to get a service of at least 2Mbps, through the option of satellite broadband.

2. High quality, widely available mobile communications

- The government will work closely with industry to support further improvements to mobile coverage.
- The government proposes to extend permitted development rights to taller mobile masts subject to conclusions from the Call for Evidence which closes on 21 August 2015.

3. Modern transport connections

- The government will improve transport connections for rural areas, including through its £15 billion Road Investment Strategy and £38 billion rail investment programme. To support smaller airports serving regions across the UK, the government is publishing proposals for new publicly-supported passenger air routes, with final decisions on funding for successful routes to be made in November.

A highly skilled rural workforce

4. Access to high quality education and training

- The government will ensure fairer funding for schools, including those in rural areas. It will turn inadequate schools into academies and focus efforts to support school improvement in underperforming rural areas.
- The government will invite local areas to participate in the re-shaping and commissioning of local post-16 skills provision.

5. Expanded apprenticeships in rural areas

- The government will increase apprenticeships in rural areas, including by tripling apprenticeships in food and farming and by helping small tourism businesses to provide more, high quality apprenticeships.

Strong conditions for rural business growth

6. Enterprise Zones in rural areas

- In the current bidding round for Enterprise Zones closing on 18th September 2015, preference will be given to proposals involving smaller towns, districts and rural areas.

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- The government's ambition is that businesses in all Enterprise Zones in rural areas will be able to access high speed broadband.

7. Better regulation and improved planning for rural businesses

- Alongside wider measures to reduce the regulatory burden and improve planning, the government will review planning and regulatory constraints facing rural businesses and measures that can be taken to address them by 2016.
- The government will introduce a fast-track planning certificate process for establishing the principle of development for minor development proposals.

Easier to live and work in rural areas

8. More housing

- Through the right combination of measures, the government wants to ensure that any village in England has the freedom to expand in an incremental way, subject to local agreement.
- The government will make it easier for villages to establish neighbourhood plans and allocate land for new homes, including the use of rural exception sites to deliver Starter Homes.

9. Increased availability of affordable childcare

- The government will work with local authorities and providers to ensure there is sufficient high-quality childcare to meet the needs of parents in rural areas.
- The government will welcome high quality early expressions of interest from rural areas to deliver 30 hours of free childcare to working parents.

Greater local control

10. Devolution of power

- The government will encourage further proposals from local areas for devolution of powers in return for strong and accountable local governance.

Regional

Local

Community Energy Strategy (Draft) (2015) B&NES

[The strategy encourages community participation in energy governance, ownership and revenue allocation.](#)

[Enterprise Area District Heating Feasibility Report \(2015\) Buro Happold](#)

BuroHappold Engineering were commissioned to assess the technical and economic feasibility of district energy within the Bath Enterprise Area. A masterplan for the area has been developed and this identifies nine key development sites within the Enterprise Area. Previous studies have identified the potential for district heating within the Enterprise Area and B&NES Core Strategy Policy CP4 District Heating identifies two priority areas in which new development can be compelled to connect or make provision for connection to a district heating network. District heating can also help B&NES Council achieve Core Strategy Policy CP3 Renewable Energy and its overarching requirement to reduce CO2 emissions by 45% from 1990 levels by 2029. This report covers the findings from Phase 1 of the Enterprise Area study. The aims of this work were to engage with key stakeholders and gather relevant data, carry out technical and economic assessment of a number of district heating options, identify the most viable options and identify potential governance approaches for a district heating scheme. The preferred options will be analysed in more detail in Phase 2 of the works in order to establish whether there is a viable business case. Initial constraints mapping, review of previous studies and discussions with B&NES Council led to the identification of potential district heating consumers with the study area. From this a long list of 10 potential network options was developed and a short list of 5 network options was selected for techno-economic assessment. For each network option two low carbon technologies were tested.

[Renewable Energy Target Evidence Report \(2015\) B&NES](#)

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Provide evidence to support an on -site renewable energy target (based on solar PV) for residential led development sites

Bath and North East Somerset; Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan including minerals and waste polices (October 2007)

The Local Plan sets out policies which guide how and where development should take place up to the year 2011. It seeks to improve the area of Bath and North East Somerset's quality of life. It sets out policies for the use of land in the public interest, enabling development whilst protecting the environment. In deciding whether planning permission should be granted, the Local Plan is the single most important consideration.

The Local Plan will help protect and enhance the character of places that are locally valued and identify areas which would benefit from improvement.

Living and Working

Social Inclusion

- To enable people to enjoy a better quality of life.
- To enable development which meets the needs of all sections of the community.

Resources

- To promote the best possible use of existing resources and infrastructure and encourage the reuse of land and buildings.
- To provide for the safe and sustainable management of waste.
- To reduce all forms of pollution and emissions including air, noise and light, pollution.
- To ensure that adequate infrastructure is in place to serve all new development.

Housing

- To meet the District's housing needs by providing a range of housing types, including affordable homes, at locations with convenient access especially by means other than the car to employment, shops, services and other community and recreational uses.

Economy

- To maintain and enhance Bath's regional, sub-regional and local importance as a centre for business and employment.
- To maintain and enhance opportunities for business and employment in the towns of Keynsham and Norton-Radstock.
- To provide for business and industrial development in locations which respond to competitive needs, are readily accessible by a variety of means of transport and which are well related to housing areas.

Urban Areas

- To enhance the role of Bath, Keynsham and Norton-Radstock as attractive, safe places to live and work.

Rural Areas

- To improve sustainability of rural areas, enhancing economic and social vitality and accessibility while maintaining and enhancing character and local distinctiveness.

Shopping, Services and Leisure

- To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of City, town and local neighbourhood and community centres in urban and rural areas.
- To ensure provision of sufficient, good quality and accessible community, leisure and recreational facilities and open space including improved access to the countryside.

Environmental Assets

- To conserve, enhance and make positive use of the historic environment.
- To conserve and enhance the local character and distinctiveness of settlements and the countryside.
- To secure the effective stewardship of the area's biodiversity (wildlife and habitats), and geology.
- To secure improvements to degraded landscapes and derelict land

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- To conserve and reduce the consumption of non-renewable resources including greenfield land, soils, minerals, water and fossil fuels.
- To maintain and improve the quality of water resources necessary for the wellbeing of the natural environment and for consumption.

Transport and Access

- To co-ordinate development and transport measures to reduce car-usage and to ensure alternative forms of transport are available in an integrated way.
- To increase accessibility by a choice of means of transport including public transport, cycling and walking.
- To maximise the safety of all types of movement.
- To reduce the adverse impact of all forms of travel on the natural and built environment.

Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2026 (Bath & North East Somerset Strategic Partnership, 2009)

See Population, Human Health and Social inclusion section

B&NES Local Food Strategy (2014) B&NES

The B&NES Local Food Strategy provides a framework for action that encompasses social, economic and environmental sustainability in a coherent and coordinated manner. The strategy has been designed to bring together the full range of current food activities and to highlight future opportunities within a single strategic framework, enabling greater co-ordination, cross-fertilisation and closer working between partners and stakeholders across the local authority area with a view to improving health, environmental sustainability, food security and the local economy.

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Air Quality and Noise

International

Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe

This Directive includes the following key elements:

- The merging of most of existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive) with no change to existing air quality objectives*;
- New air quality objectives for PM_{2.5} (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives – exposure concentration obligation and exposure reduction target;
- The possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values; and
- The possibility for time extensions of three years (PM₁₀) or up to five years (NO₂, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission.

Member States are required to reduce exposure to PM_{2.5} in urban areas by an average of 20% by 2020 based on 2010 levels. It obliges them to bring exposure levels below 20 micrograms / m³ by 2015 in these areas. Throughout their territory Member States will need to respect the PM 2.5 limit value set at 25.

European Directive on Noise 2002/49/EC

The Directive aimed at requiring competent authorities in Member States to produce strategic noise maps on the basis of harmonised indicators, to inform the public about noise exposure and its effects, and to draw up action plans to address noise issues.

The four main objectives of the directives:

1. Monitor the environmental problem by drawing up strategic noise maps;
2. Informing and consulting the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures considered to address noise;
3. Addressing local noise issues by requiring authorities to draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise where it is good; and
4. Developing a long term EU strategy.

The Directive states that MSs must draw up action plan to manage noise issues and effects, including noise reduction by July 2008, but it does not set targets to be met by 2008.

National

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF); DCLG March 2012

In relation to air quality, the NPPF states that planning policies should sustain compliance with and contribute towards EU limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and the cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites in local areas.

In relation to noise, the NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should aim to avoid noise from giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life as a result of new development, and should aim to identify and protect areas of tranquillity which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason.

Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas is consistent with the local air quality action plan.

The Environment Act 1995 Part IV Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

Placed the requirement on the Secretary of State to produce the National Air Quality Strategy; and Established the statutory requirement for Local Authorities to carry out local Review and Assessments of air quality and where necessary declare Air quality Management Areas and produce Air Quality Action Plans.

s. 82 LAs' duty to review the air quality

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<p>s. 83 Designation of air quality management areas. s. 84 Duties of local authorities in relation to designated</p>
<p>The Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 and 2002 Amendment. Office of the Deputy Prime Minister 2000 and 2002</p>
<p>The Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 and 2002 Amendment. Established the Air Quality Framework Daughter Directives into UK legislation.</p>
<p>The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland: DEFRA 2007 Working Together for Clean Air (and addendum 2003) Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, Scottish Executive, National Assembly for Wales and Department of the Environment in Northern Ireland.</p>
<p>It sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues, sets out details of the objectives to be achieved and introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles, similar to the approach being proposed in the new European air quality directive, which is currently under negotiation. The Strategy also identifies new measures which modelling shows could help achieve significant health benefits and help us move closer towards meeting our targets. These measures have been subject to a thorough analysis of the estimated reductions in air pollution, and quantification and valuation of costs and benefits.</p> <p>The Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues; • sets out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved; • introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles; and • identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives.
<p>The Urban Environment (26th Report); Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution (March 2007)</p>
<p>This study examines the environment within urban areas and the wider environmental impacts of towns and cities, and considers the relationship between the urban environment and human health and wellbeing.</p> <p>PRINCIPLES AND KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A BETTER URBAN ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>It should be a fundamental requirement of government policy that towns and cities become more environmentally sustainable and healthy places to live. However, such aspirations will not be met unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • urban management is guided by an explicit policy for the urban environment; • health and wellbeing are recognised as being inextricably linked with environment; • urban growth and renewal are planned within environmental constraints; • the environment is placed at the heart of urban design, regeneration and management; • there is an integrated approach to the urban environment that takes account of social, physical and economic factors; • there are incentives to reduce negative environmental impacts; and • knowledge, capacity and skills to reduce environmental impacts and promote health and wellbeing are increased and maintained. <p>To put these principles into practice we call for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a policy for the urban environment and its impact on health; • an environmental contract between central and local government which also involves the private, voluntary and community sectors; • a major programme to improve the environmental performance of new and existing buildings; • promotion of the natural urban environment and green infrastructure through planning policy;

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • driving up a range of environmental standards (through the Code for Sustainable Homes, utility pricing and incentives to reduce waste and traffic in urban areas); and • provision of appropriate skills and information.
Transport White Paper the Future of Transport A Network for 2030 DfT 2004
See Transport Section
Regional
Regional Transport Strategy
See Transport Section
Final Joint Local Transport Plan 2006
See Transport section
Local
Bath and North East Somerset (April 2011); Air Quality Action Plan
<p>The Air Quality Action Plan for Bath was adopted by the Council in April 2011.</p> <p>It has been developed at a time when a number of inter-related transport initiatives are at varying stages of development, including the Bath Transport Package; CIVITAS initiative; Pulteney Bridge restrictions; increases in City Centre parking charges; and the Greater Bristol Bus Network.</p> <p>Bath and North East Somerset Council has adopted a target of 30% reduction in their own Carbon emissions on 2008 levels by 2014 and 45% for all emissions across the district by 2026.</p> <p>Monitoring of air quality shows that the annual mean national objective for NO₂ is being exceeded at a number of locations along main roads in Bath. This area was consulted on and the major road network area was declared as an Air Quality Management Area for NO₂ in July 2008.</p> <p>Walcot Terrace (just east of the Cleveland junction on London Road); London Road (Snow Hill); and St James' Parade had an annual average concentration of nitrogen dioxide in excess of 60 µg/m³ in 2009 (the national air quality objectives set a standard of 40 µg/m³). Cleveland Place West; Bathwick Street; Broad Street; Somerset Street; The Paragon; Widcombe Parade; Somerset Street (east of Corn Street); Manvers Street; Wells Road (bottom); Kennet House; Morley Terrace; Windsor Bridge; Argyle Terrace and Beckford Road had annual average concentrations in excess of 50 µg/m³ in 2009.</p> <p>The source apportionment shows road traffic contributes up to 92% of the total NO_x concentration, with Heavy Duty Vehicles (HDV's) contributing between 24 and 57.1%. It is recommended therefore that the Action Plan should focus on measures that reduce emissions from HDV's as the primary source of NO_x emissions within Bath.</p>
Air Quality Round 4 Progress Report Bath and North East Somerset (2011)
<p>The Progress Report presents results for monitoring data carried out in 2009/10 in Bath and North East Somerset.</p> <p>Monitoring has shown that there are a number of sites which exceed the annual average NO₂ objective. These sites are all within the current AQMA or the proposed AQMAs. There are no exceedences of the air quality objectives for pollutants within the air quality management process. There are no significant trends in the monitoring data. A detailed assessment is not required for any pollutant.</p> <p>A site for a 6-months continuous monitoring in Saltford is being identified.</p> <p>Local Air Quality Management tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variation of Bath AQMA – Summer 2011 • Consult on Saltford AQMA – Summer 2011
Bath and North East Somerset Air Quality Strategy (2002)
Following the publication of the National Air Quality Strategy in 1997, a new regime of managing local air quality was introduced across the UK. The focus of Local Air Quality

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Management (LAQM) is the identification of local pollution hot spots where members of the public might be exposed to future exceedences of specific air quality objectives. The objectives of Local Air Quality Strategy is to thereby identify how Bath & North East Somerset can assist in securing air quality improvements across the local authority, both within the AQMA identified and external to it, through planning frameworks and wider activities within the local authority.

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Biodiversity, flora and fauna

International

EU Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of Wild Birds European Commission

This is the EU's oldest piece of nature legislation and one of the most important, creating a comprehensive scheme of protection for all wild bird species naturally occurring in the Union.

The directive recognises that habitat loss and degradation are the most serious threats to the conservation of wild birds. It therefore places great emphasis on the protection of habitats for endangered as well as migratory species (listed in Annex I), especially through the establishment of a coherent network of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) comprising all the most suitable territories for these species. Since 1994 all SPAs form an integral part of the NATURA 2000 ecological network.

To maintain the population of 181 endangered species and sub-species at a level that corresponds in particular to ecological, scientific and cultural requirements, while taking account of economic and recreational requirements, or to adapt the population of these species to that level.

EU Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and flora (the Habitats Directive 1992)

The Habitats Directive (together with the Birds Directive) forms the cornerstone of Europe's nature conservation policy. It is built around two pillars: the Natura 2000 network of protected sites and the strict system of species protection.

The aim of the Habitats Directive is to create a coherent European ecological network known as Natura 2000. This network consists of a series of Special Areas of Conservation which protect habitats and species of community interest.

All in all the directive protects over 1.000 animals and plant species and over 200 so called "habitat types" (e.g. special types of forests, meadows, wetlands, etc.), which are of European importance.

Managing Natura 2000 sites The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC

Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive plays a crucial role in the management of the sites that make up the Natura 2000 network.

The document aims at providing guidelines to the MSs on the interpretation of certain key concepts used in Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites Methodological guidance on the provisions of article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC European Commission Environment DG Nov. 2001

The document provides non-mandatory methodology help to carry out or review the assessments required under the Habitats Directive.

The Assessments are required where a project or plan may give rise to significant effects upon a Natura 2000 site.

Process:

- Stage one :Screening;
- Stage two: Appropriate Assessment;

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- Stage Three: Assessment of alternative solutions; and
- Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain.

European Biodiversity Strategy 1998 European Commission

Biological diversity (biodiversity) is essential to maintain life on earth and has important social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values. In addition to its intrinsic value biodiversity determines our resilience to changing circumstances.

In spite of past efforts by the Community and its Member States to address the problem of biodiversity reduction or loss, existing measures are insufficient to reverse present trends. It is therefore both essential and urgent for the Community to develop a strategy and take action towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The Community Biodiversity Strategy is developed around four major Themes. Within each Theme the specific objectives that will need to be achieved in the context of Action Plans and other measures are highlighted.

1. Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.
2. Sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.
3. Research, identification and monitoring of information.
4. Education, training and awareness.

The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro 1992

4. The objectives of this Convention, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding.

The Convention establishes 3 main goals:

- 1. The conservation of biological diversity;
- 2. The sustainable use of its components; and
- 3. The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources.

Article 6a requires each Contracting Party to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable uses of Biological diversity.

Objectives:

To achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth.

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (1971)

It provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. Originally, the Convention was set up to protect wetland habitats for the conservation of waterfowl but it now seeks to ensure the protection of all important wetlands.

"The Convention's mission is the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world" (Ramsar COP8, 2002).

National

The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework (July 2012)

The Framework covers the period from 2011 to 2020, and was developed in response to two main drivers: the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD's) Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its 5 strategic goals and 20 'Aichi Biodiversity Targets', published in October 2010; and the EU Biodiversity Strategy (EUBS), released in May 2011. The Framework shows how the work of the four UK countries joins up with work at a UK level to achieve the 'Aichi Biodiversity Targets' and the aims of the EU biodiversity

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<p>strategy. It identifies the activities required to complement the country biodiversity strategies, and where work in the country strategies contributes to international obligations. In total, 23 areas of work have been identified where all the countries have agreed that they want to contribute to, and benefit from, a continued UK focus, and an Implementation Plan was published in November 2013. Reporting on progress with the Implementation Plan is also undertaken.</p>
<p>UK Biodiversity Action Plan Nov 2000 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister</p>
<p>The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) is the UK response to the Convention on biological Diversity which was signed at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.</p> <p>OVERALL GOAL To conserve and enhance biological diversity within the UK and to contribute to the conservation of global biodiversity through all appropriate mechanisms.</p> <p>UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1. Where biological resources are used, such use should be sustainable. • 2. Wise use should be ensured for non-renewable resources. • 3. The conservation of biodiversity requires the care and involvement of individuals and communities as well as Governmental processes. • 4. Conservation of biodiversity should be an integral part of Government programmes, policy and action. • 5. Conservation practice and policy should be based upon a sound knowledge base. • 6. The precautionary principle (see glossary) should guide decisions. <p>OBJECTIVES FOR CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To conserve and where practicable to enhance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (a) the overall populations and natural ranges of native species and the quality and range of wildlife habitats and ecosystems; • (b) internationally important and threatened species, habitats and ecosystems; • (c) species, habitats and natural and managed ecosystems that are characteristic of local areas; and • (d) the biodiversity of natural and semi-natural habitats where this has been diminished over recent past decades. 2. To increase public awareness of, and involvement in, conserving biodiversity. 3. To contribute to the conservation of biodiversity on a European and global scale.
<p>Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended</p>
<p>It consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive) in Great Britain.</p> <p>This act aims to prevent loss of diversity of flora and fauna by making it illegal to intentionally damage wild plants and animals or their habitats.</p> <p>The Act provides for the notification of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – areas of special scientific interest by reason of their flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features.</p>
<p>Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994 And The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2009 (SI 2009/6) Joint Nature Conservation Committee</p>
<p>To transpose Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (EC Habitats Directive) into national law.</p> <p>Containing five Parts and four Schedules, the Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites.</p> <p>The amendment in 2009 requires appropriate assessment to be carried out for plans and programmes.</p>
<p>Working with the grain of nature: a biodiversity strategy for England (2011) Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs</p>

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<p>The Biodiversity Strategy for England sets this fundamental shift in train by ensuring that biodiversity considerations become embedded in all the main sectors of economic activity, public and private.</p> <p>To make biodiversity a fundamental consideration in:</p> <p>Agriculture: encouraging the management of farming and agricultural land so as to conserve and enhance biodiversity as part of the Government's Sustainable Food and Farming Strategy.</p> <p>Water: aiming for a whole catchment approach to the wise, sustainable use of water and wetlands.</p> <p>Woodland: managing and extending woodland so as to promote enhanced biodiversity and quality of life.</p> <p>Marine and coastal management: so as to achieve the sustainable use and management of our coasts and seas using natural processes and the ecosystem-based approach.</p> <p>Urban areas: where biodiversity needs to become a part of the development of policy on sustainable communities and urban green space and the built environment.</p>
<p>Biodiversity 2020: a Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services (August 2011)</p> <p>This new, ambitious biodiversity strategy for England builds on the Natural Environment White Paper and provides a comprehensive picture of how we are implementing our international and EU commitments.</p> <p>It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea. It builds on the successful work that has gone before, but also seeks to deliver a real step change.</p>
<p>The Natural Choice: Securing the value of nature (June 2011) HM Government</p> <p>Aims to mainstream the value of nature across society by: facilitating greater local action to protect and improve nature; creating a green economy; strengthening the connections between people and nature; and showing leadership in the European Union and internationally, to protect and enhance natural assets globally</p> <p>This publication provides guidance on how to put the value of nature at the heart of decision-making.</p>
<p>Planning for a healthy environment – good practice guidance for green infrastructure and biodiversity; TCPA and Wildlife Trusts; (July 2012)</p> <p>This provides guidance to local authorities to ensure local plans deliver a network of wildlife-rich places in their area.</p> <p>This publication provides guidance to local authorities on how green infrastructure and biodiversity can be protected and enhanced through the planning system.</p>
<p>Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006</p> <p>The Act will, among other measures, create a new integrated agency - Natural England– http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/ruraldelivery/natural-england.htm- to act as a powerful champion for the natural environment, and formally establish a Commission for Rural Communities which will be a strong national rural adviser, advocate and watchdog charged with ensuring that Government policies are making a real difference on the ground in tackling rural disadvantage.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>Key elements of the Act included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of Natural England with the responsibility for enhancing biodiversity and landscape –in rural, urban and coastal areas –with promoting access and recreation; • Formal establishment of the Commission of Rural communities, which will act as an independent advocate/adviser for rural people; and • The act delivers the Government's commitment to curtail the inappropriate use of byways, by putting an end to claims for motor vehicle access on the basis of historic use by horse –drawn vehicles.
<p>Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000</p> <p>The Act will extend the public's ability to enjoy the countryside whilst also providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers. It will create a new statutory right of access to open country and registered common land, modernise the rights of way system, give greater protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), provide better</p>

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<p>management arrangements for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), and strengthen wildlife enforcement legislation. The Act received Royal Assent on 30 November 2000.</p> <p>Emphasises the public's right of access to open country and common land, and gives additional protection to SSSIs. The Act imposes a duty on public bodies, to have regard to the conservation and enhancement of the AONBs in the County and also have regard to the conservation of biological diversity when discharging its functions.</p>
<p>Defra (2007) England Biodiversity Strategy Towards adaptation to climate change</p>
<p>DEFRA guidance for conserving biodiversity in a changing climate provides six guiding principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conserve existing biodiversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1a. Conserve Protected Areas and other high quality habitats • 1b. Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species 2. Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate 3. Develop ecologically resilient and varied landscapes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3a. Conserve and enhance local variation within sites and habitats • 3b. Make space for the natural development of rivers and coasts 4. Establish ecological networks through habitat protection, restoration and creation 5. Make sound decisions based on analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5a. Thoroughly analyse causes of change • 5b. Respond to changing conservation priorities 6. Integrate adaptation and mitigation measures into conservation management, planning and practice
<p>Regional</p>
<p>South West Nature Map - A Planners Guide</p>
<p>South West Nature Map is a broad-scale, strategic vision for change which offers a spatially-based tool for identifying where biodiversity enhancement should be delivered in the future, using existing areas of wildlife value as a starting point.</p>
<p>English Nature, Environment Agency, RSPB (1997). Action for Biodiversity in the South West – A Series of Habitat and Species Plans to Guide Delivery:</p>
<p>Objective 1. Maintain the current extent and distribution of wood pasture and parkland (ongoing).</p> <p>Objective 2. Extend and improve knowledge of management options for existing sites and formulate methodologies for best management practice (by 2000).</p> <p>Objective 3. Ensure that the management of all surviving sites acknowledge the biological values associated with wood pasture and parkland, as well as the historical, cultural and agricultural values. (By 2010).</p> <p>Objective 4. Restore, where appropriate, the quality of wood pasture and parkland by ensuring long term recruitment, and linking and buffering within and to existing separate sites (50% by 2000).</p>
<p>South West Biodiversity Implementation Plan (Biodiversity South West, 2004)</p>
<p>South West Biodiversity Implementation Plan: generic priorities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain and enhance biodiversity by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sensitively managing existing habitats;

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- expanding and re-establishing links between fragmented sites; and
 - where appropriate, managing at a larger, functional scale (landscape, ecosystem or catchment).
2. Develop integrated sustainable land management practices that safeguard and enhance the region's biodiversity whilst also bringing benefits to society, the economy and environment.
3. Increase awareness and understanding of the importance of biodiversity to the region's health, quality of life and economic productivity and develop wider support and active engagement.
4. Understand and manage the dynamic processes of change (e.g. climate change) and develop long-term sustainable approaches within the region that focus on the quality, extent and diversity of habitats.

Local

B&NES Core Strategy

POLICY CP6 Environmental quality

4. Nature Conservation

The quality, extent & robustness of protected sites and valued habitats will be enhanced, and networks of valued habitat will be restored or created, by measures which:

- a: Improve the quality and/or increase the size of current sites and valued habitat.
- b: Enhance connections between, or join up, sites and valued habitats.
- c: Create new sites and valued habitats.
- d: Reduce the pressures on wildlife by improving the wider environment

New Development will

- protect and enhance international, national and local sites and existing networks of valued habitats;
- facilitate migration and dispersal through the natural and built environment; and
- seek to reduce fragmentation of existing habitats.

The Council will promote the management, conservation, enhancement or restoration of environmental assets. Sustainable opportunities for improved access to and enjoyment of these assets will be promoted where it does not compromise the integrity of the asset.

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Climate Change

International

Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

The Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is an amendment to the international treaty on climate change, assigning mandatory emission limitations for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to the signatory nations.

- To deliver the UK climate change programme;
- To address the causes and effects of climate change and to secure maximum benefit for communities;
- To achieve a significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from local authority's operations especially energy sourcing and use, travel and transport, waste production and disposal and the purchasing of goods and services;
- To encourage all sectors in the local community to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to make public their commitment to action;
- To work with key providers to assess the potential effects of climate change and to identify ways in which to adapt;
- To provide opportunities for the development of renewable energy generation; and
- To monitor the progress against the actions needed and publish the results.

The Kyoto Protocol requires that greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by 12.5 per cent below base year levels over the 2008-12 period. This equates to annual emissions of 682.4 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e) on average over the period.

Excluding emissions trading: in 2011, emissions were provisionally estimated to be 549.3 MtCO₂e, which is 29.6 per cent below the baseline.

Including emissions trading: taking the effect of emissions trading into account increases the UK's reported emissions for 2011 to 574.3 MtCO₂e. This is 26.4 per cent below the baseline.

Directive 2001/77/EC on the promotion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources in the internal electricity market

To increase the use of electricity produced from renewable energy sources - to form an important part of the package of measures needed to comply with the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and of any policy package to meet further commitments.

- To promote the improvement of the energy performance of buildings within the Community, taking into account outdoor climatic and local conditions, as well as indoor climate requirements and cost-effectiveness considering:
 - The general framework for a methodology of calculation of the integrated energy performance of buildings;
 - The application of minimum requirements on the energy performance of new buildings;
 - The application of minimum requirements on the energy performance of large existing buildings that are subject to major renovation;
- Energy certification of buildings; and
- Regular inspection of boilers and of air-conditioning systems in buildings and in addition an assessment of the heating installation in which the boilers are more than 15 years old.

Renewables Directive (2009/28/EC)

Mandates levels of renewable energy among EU member states. Obliges MS to produce a National Renewable Energy Action Plan. UK target is 15%.

National

UK Climate Change Act (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2008)

The UK Government is committed to addressing both the causes and consequences of climate change. The Act created a new approach to managing and responding to climate change in the UK through: setting ambitious targets, assuming powers to help achieve them, strengthening the institutional framework, enhancing the UK's ability to

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<p>adapt to the impact of climate change and establishing clear and regular accountability to the UK, Parliament and devolved legislatures. The Climate Change Act has set legally binding targets to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by at least 26% by 2020 and 80% by 2050. In the UK 2009 budget, the 2020 target was revised and therefore the current legally binding target is to achieve a carbon emissions reduction of 34% by 2020. This target is likely to be reviewed in forthcoming budgets.</p>
<p>Energy Bill 2015-2016</p>
<p>A Bill to make provision about the Oil and Gas Authority and its functions; to make provision about fees in respect of activities relating oil, gas, carbon dioxide and pipelines; to make provision about wind power; and for connected purposes. It includes making legislative changes to remove the need for the Secretary of State's consent for large onshore wind farms (over 50 Mega Watt) under the Electricity Act 1989, acting alongside other measures to, in effect, transfer the consenting of new onshore wind farms into the planning regime in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990</p>
<p>Press release: New direction for UK energy policy (Department for Energy and Climate Change, November 2015)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Consultation on ending unabated coal-fired power stations by 2025 •New gas-fired power stations a priority •Commitment to offshore wind support completes commitment to secure, low-carbon, affordable electricity supplies •Move towards a smarter energy system
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)</p>
<p>The NPPF states that local planning authorities should work with other authorities and providers to assess the quality and capacity of infrastructure for [<i>inter alia</i>] water supply, wastewater and its treatment, flood risk and coastal change management. The NPPF states that, to support the move to a low carbon future, local planning authorities should: plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions; actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and, when setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards.</p>
<p>Future Water Strategy: The Government's Water Strategy for England, DEFRA (2008)</p>
<p>Future Water sets out how we want the water sector to look by 2030, and some of the steps we will need to take to get there. It is a vision where rivers, canals, lakes and seas have improved for people and wildlife, with benefits for angling, boating and other recreational activities, and where we continue to provide excellent quality drinking water. It is a vision of a sector that values and protects its water resources; that delivers water to customers through fair, affordable and cost-reflective charges; where flood risk is addressed with markedly greater understanding and use of good surface water management; and where the water industry has cut its greenhouse gas emissions. The vision shows a sector that is resilient to climate change, with its likelihood of more frequent droughts as well as floods, and to population growth, with forward planning fully in tune with these adaptation challenges. In short, our vision is for sustainable delivery of secure water supplies and an improved and protected water environment. The vision for water policy and management is one where, by 2030 at the latest, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology which it supports, and continued to provide high levels of drinking water quality from our taps; • sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water; • ensured a sustainable use of water resources, and implemented fair, affordable and costreflective water charges; • cut greenhouse gas emissions; and

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • embedded continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users.
<p>Planning for Climate Change – guidance for local authorities: Planning and Climate Change Coalition (April 2012)</p> <p>Planning for Climate Change is a resource for local communities across the East Midlands (and beyond) to use to enable them to make informed decisions and have meaningful input into planning consultations, especially in relation to local, regional and national renewable energy, low carbon and adaptation agendas. Local development plans can support the move to a low-carbon economy and secure low-carbon living in a changing climate. Local planning authorities are advised to design their policies to support and not unreasonably restrict renewable and low carbon energy developments. Development management should not prevent, delay or inhibit proposals for renewable and low carbon energy, and associated infrastructure.</p>
<p>Home Energy Conservation Act 1995</p> <p>An Act to make provision for the drawing up of local energy conservation reports in relation to residential accommodation; to give the Secretary of State functions in connection therewith; and for related purposes. To increase the energy efficiency of housing in all sectors</p>
<p>Part L of the Building Regulations 2010 (2013 Edition)</p> <p>Part L of the Building Regulations deals with energy efficiency. A significant general change from the existing regulations is the recognition of the need to improve the energy efficiency of existing buildings. Thus, in future, changes such as replacing glazing and upgrading of boilers will have to meet the same requirements as for new buildings. Allowances will be made for dwellings that have efficient gas or oil fired heating systems installed. Electric, solid fuel and inefficient gas or oil boilers will require higher levels of insulation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A requirement for higher standards of envelope insulation for dwellings with electric or poor efficiency gas and oil heating systems. • The inclusion of a "Carbon Index" method in place of the SAP energy rating (but based on the SAP calculation) as an alternative method of demonstrating compliance. • A requirement for increased standards of detail design and site workmanship to improve real building performance and to reduce the incidence of gaps in the insulation, thermal bridging and poor air-tightness.
<p>Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning English Nature, Environment Agency, Countryside Agency and English Heritage 2005</p> <p>This guidance is produced by the Countryside Agency, English Heritage, English Nature and the Environment Agency (the agencies) to help planning authorities and regional planning bodies in preparing plans and strategies under the new planning system. It will also be used by the agencies' own staff. It is intended to supplement guidance issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact the agencies (see Supplementary File 15) to help to scope the environmental and rural issues in the plan and the evidence base needed to address them. • Discuss with English Heritage, English Nature and the Environment Agency the use and handling of data. • Start to identify areas that are distinct, because of their ability to accommodate change, or their sensitivity to change depending on their characteristics. Identify the changes these areas are experiencing or may be vulnerable to, or the nature and scale. • Planning authorities should develop their visions for the 'future picture' so that the kind of environment and quality of life that they aspire to achieve in the future is clearly understood and sufficiently described to provide a steer for the planning system as a whole. • The vision should clearly reflect the statutory duty to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.
<p>Leading the way: how local authorities can meet the challenge of climate change Local Government Association 2005</p> <p>Political leaders are united about the urgency and importance of climate change. Local government has a key role to play in this agenda. We offer a vision of 'Any town 2025',</p>

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <p>a sustainable energy future, adapted to the effects of climate change; and set out the steps, building on existing good practice, which local government can take to achieve it. Working towards this future can lead to multiple benefits for local authorities and their communities: improvements in health, community cohesion, social inclusion and quality of life. It does not rely on any technological breakthroughs.</p>
<p>Stern Review Report on the Economics of Climate Change Treasury 2007</p> <p>This independent Review was commissioned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, reporting to both the Chancellor and to the Prime Minister, as a contribution to assessing the evidence and building understanding of the economics of climate change.</p> <p>The Review first examines the evidence on the economic impacts of climate change itself, and explores the economics of stabilising greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The second half of the Review considers the complex policy challenges involved in managing the transition to a low-carbon economy and in ensuring that societies can adapt to the consequences of climate change that can no longer be avoided.</p>
<p>DEFRA (2007) England Biodiversity Strategy Towards adaptation to climate change</p> <p>DEFRA guidance for conserving biodiversity in a changing climate provides six guiding principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conserve existing biodiversity; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1a. Conserve Protected Areas and other high quality habitats; and • 1b. Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species. 2. Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate; 3. Develop ecologically resilient and varied landscapes; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3a. Conserve and enhance local variation within sites and habitats; and • 3b. Make space for the natural development of rivers and coasts. 4. Establish ecological networks through habitat protection, restoration and creation; 5. Make sound decisions based on analysis; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5a. Thoroughly analyse causes of change; and • 5b. Respond to changing conservation priorities. 6. Integrate adaptation and mitigation measures into conservation management, planning and practice.
<p>Regional</p>
<p>Local</p>
<p>Bath and North East Somerset Environmental Sustainability Partnership Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change Strategy 2012-2015</p> <p>The Environmental Sustainability Partnership (ESP) oversees work across the district to achieve the following vision in the Bath & North East Somerset Council's Vision & Values statement:</p> <p>"Bath and North East Somerset is an area with lively, active communities that are low carbon and resource efficient, and unique places and beautiful surroundings that are building for a greener and low carbon future"</p> <p>The Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy sets out the ESP's current approach to achieving this, with the key aim of providing the community leadership needed to help people to reduce carbon across the district by around 45% by 2026. The Strategy has three principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Partnership Working

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Community Enablement •Leading by Example
<p>Strategic Flood Risk Assessments for Bath, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton and Radstock (2009-2029)</p>
<p>A Level 1 assessment has been prepared for the District. Due to flood risks in these areas, Level 2 detailed assessments have been prepared for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bath; • Keynsham; and • Midsomer Norton & Radstock. <p>The results of the SFRA provide valuable information for the SA baseline, particularly in the form of maps. This information has been and will continue to be used to inform the baseline and assessments of options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bath -at risk of flooding from rivers, sewers, surface water, artificial sources and to a lesser degree from groundwater (springs). • Keynsham -at risk of flooding from rivers (which may be tidally influenced), surface water, sewers and artificial sources. • Midsomer Norton/Radstock -at risk of flooding from rivers, surface water and sewers. Note: Midsomer Norton benefits from a flood alleviation scheme during a 1% AEP river flood event. • Chew Magna and downstream communities -at risk of flooding from rivers, surface water and artificial sources.
<p>Flood Risk Management Strategy - Scoping Report (Capita Symonds, May 2009)</p>
<p>This study has pulled together existing information from flood defence studies and identified conclusions and recommendations on how to proceed with the main stage of the Flood Risk Management Strategy.</p>
<p>Green Infrastructure Strategy (Nov 2012)</p>
<p>It provides a framework for the Council and partners across a diverse sector of skills and specialisms concerned with social, economic and environmental planning and land use management.</p> <p>It covers a wide range of agendas and those elements relating to planning policy and management will be embedded in the Local Plan including through the Placemaking Plan. Other elements will achieve weight through inclusion in related strategies and partner policies and work streams.</p> <p>The overarching vision for the district is complemented by a more detailed picture of the sort of change that we hope to achieve.</p> <p>“By 2026 the Council and its partners will have worked with the community to achieve a well-used, managed, connected and expanding network of green infrastructure which provides a wealth of benefits for people, place and nature”.</p>
<p>Bath Flood Risk Management Technical; Note Black & Veatch (B&V) (Jan and Nov 2013)</p>
<p>Options to provide compensatory flood storage upstream of Bath have been considered by B&NES Flood Risk Management Strategy as a means of mitigating the increase in flood risk. The modelling prepared by B&V has confirms that the principal impact of raising developments is a loss of flow conveyance, rather than a loss of flood storage, therefore upstream storage is no longer being considered as part of any flood mitigation measures for these development sites in the Enterprise Area. B&V Technical Notes contains detailed locations for the mitigation measures.</p>

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Cultural Heritage, Archaeology and Landscape

International

Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Revised)(Valetta Convention 2000)

The Convention defines the archaeological heritage very broadly (Article 1). It deals with the inventorying and protection of sites and areas, the mandatory reporting of chance finds (all in Article 2) and the control of illicit trade in antiquities (Articles 10 and 11). It promotes high standards for all archaeological work, which should be authorised and should be carried out by suitably qualified people (Article 3). It recommends the creation of archaeological reserves, and requires the conservation of excavated sites and the safe-keeping of finds (Article 4). It follows closely current British practice (as set out in PPG15 and PPG16 in England and comparable documents in other parts of the UK) for the protection and recording of archaeology during development (Article 5) and contains provisions for the funding for development-led archaeology (again following closely current British practice) and for research (Article 6). Articles 7 and 8 cover the collection and dissemination of information while Article 9 is about the promotion of public awareness and access. Article 12 deals with mutual technical and scientific assistance internationally.

- to institute, by appropriate means, a legal system to protect the archaeological heritage, including the maintenance of an inventory and the designation of protected monuments and areas;
- to establish archaeological reserves, even without any visible remains on the ground or under water, for the preservation of material evidence to be studied by next generations;
- to institute the mandatory reporting to the competent authorities by finders of chance discoveries of elements of the archaeological heritage and making them available for examination;
- to apply procedures for the authorisation and supervision of excavation and other archaeological activities in such a way as:
 - to prevent any illicit excavation or removal of elements of the archaeological heritage; and
 - to ensure that archaeological excavations and prospecting are undertaken in a scientific manner;
- to ensure that excavation and other potentially destructive techniques are carried out only by qualified and authorised persons;
- to submit for prior authorisation, whenever foreseen by domestic law, the use of metal detectors and other detection equipment;
- to implement measures for the physical protection of the archaeological heritage, making provision:
 - for the acquisition or protection, by appropriate means, by the authorities of areas intended to constitute archaeological reserves;
 - for the conservation and maintenance of the archaeological heritage, preferably *in situ*; and
 - for appropriate storage places for archaeological remains which have been removed from their original location.

European Spatial Development Perspective 1999

The European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) is a document approved by the Informal Council of Ministers of Spatial Planning of European Commission in Potsdam in 1999. It is a legally non-binding document forming a policy framework with 60 policy options for all tiers of administration with a planning responsibility. The strategic aim is to achieve a balanced and sustainable spatial development strategy.

- Development of a polycentric and balanced urban system, and strengthening of the partnership between urban and rural areas, so as to create a new urban-rural relationship.
- Promotion of integrated transport and communication concepts, which support the polycentric development of the EU territory, so that there is gradual progress towards parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge.
- Wise management of the natural and cultural heritage, which will help conserve regional identities and cultural diversity in the face of globalisation.

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<p>UNESCO World Heritage Convention 1972 http://www.getty.edu</p> <p>The World Heritage Convention was adopted in 1972 by the General Conference of UNESCO. It promotes an international perspective on cultural heritage by inviting member states to submit an inventory of properties forming its national cultural and natural heritage to be included in a list of World Heritage sites.</p>
<p>European Landscape Convention United Nations 2006</p> <p>A key factor in individual and social well-being and people's quality of life, the landscape contributes to human development and serves to strengthen the European identity. It plays an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields and is a valuable resource conducive to economic activity, notably tourism. Developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques and in regional planning, town planning, transport, infrastructure, tourism and recreation and, at a more general level, changes in the world economy have in many cases led to the destruction of landscapes, or rendered them featureless. While every citizen must certainly play a part in preserving the quality of the landscape, public authorities have a duty to define the general framework for ensuring this quality. The Convention thus considers that landscape protection, management and planning entail "<i>rights and responsibilities for everyone</i>" and establishes the general legal principles which should serve as a basis for adopting national landscape policies and establishing international co-operation in such matters.</p>
<p>National</p>
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)</p> <p>The NPPF aims to protect and enhance valued landscapes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty.
<p>The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000</p> <p>The Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW) extends the public's ability to enjoy the countryside whilst providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers. The Act aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a new statutory right of access to open country and registered common land. Modernise the rights of way system. • Give greater protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). • Provide better management arrangements for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs). • Strengthen wildlife enforcement legislation. <p>The protection of the countryside and SSSIs should be incorporated into the SEA/SA objectives The Core Strategy should include policies to promote conservation and protect areas of interest.</p>
<p>Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning (English Heritage <i>et al</i> 2005)</p> <p>Guidance to help planning authorities and regional planning bodies in preparing plans and strategies under the new planning system. Sets out how planning authorities might achieve high standards of environmental quality in spatial planning</p>
<p>Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990)</p> <p>Buildings which are listed or which lie within a conservation area are protected by law. This does not mean that you can never alter or demolish one, but carrying out relevant work without the appropriate consent is a criminal offence. Unfortunately many building contractors and even some architects who do not specialise in historic building work are unaware of the alterations which require consent, leaving them and their clients liable to criminal prosecution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All works affecting a scheduled monument or the ground surrounding it require scheduled monument consent.

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The demolition or alteration of a listed building and historic structures within its grounds requires listed building consent. • The demolition of an unlisted building in a conservation area requires conservation area consent. • Alterations to the exterior of all buildings may also require planning permission and an application may be needed for some works to houses in conservation areas and other buildings affected by an 'Article 4 direction' which otherwise would not require one.
<p>Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979</p> <p>The Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to ancient monuments; to make provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and (in connection therewith) for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters; to provide for the recovery of grants under section 10 of the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 1972 or under section 4 of the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 in certain circumstances; and to provide for grants by the Secretary of State to the Architectural Heritage Fund.</p>
<p>Regional</p> <p>A Strategy for the Historic Environment in the South West. English Heritage (2004)</p> <p>The strategy aims to develop a regional perspective that reflects the special character, variety and contribution of the historic environment within the South West; Support rural renaissance initiatives to help rural communities, supporting the development and implementation of sustainable projects</p>
<p>Local</p> <p>City of Bath World Heritage Site Management Plan</p> <p>The City of Bath World Heritage Site was inscribed in 1987. The reasons for inscription, or attributes of Outstanding Universal Value, can be defined as Roman Archaeology; the hot springs; Georgian town planning, Georgian architecture, the green setting of the City in a hollow in the hills, Georgian architecture reflecting 18th century social ambitions. This plan replaces the first site plan of 2003. It follows that document in explaining site significance, management, pressures and challenges facing the site, and how to address these. There are important changes in this plan, notably a new draft statement of Outstanding Universal Value defining site significance in World Heritage terms, which underpins all World Heritage management decisions.</p>
<p>Bath and North East Somerset; City of Bath World Heritage Site Management Plan (1010-2016)</p> <p>The Management Plan aims to provide a framework to conserve the cultural heritage assets of the World Heritage Site of Bath. This wide remit includes protection and enhancement of the architectural, archaeological, landscape and natural assets and their urban and landscape settings, improving understanding of the Site, its interpretation and use as an educational resource, and supporting the local community in its cultural, social and economic vitality.</p>
<p>Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2013-2018 The Cotswolds Conservation Board</p> <p>The Cotswolds AONB Management Plan 2013-18 covers the wide range of issues that affect the area including; development and transport, rural land management, natural resources, biodiversity and the historic environment.</p> <p>The plan not only sets out the Board's objectives and policies for 2013-18 but also provides a vision for the future of the AONB over the next 20 years. It is not just a plan prepared by the Board for itself but a plan for all those who value the area and have an interest in it.</p>
<p>Mendip Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-2019</p> <p>The management Plan is a statutory document and relates specifically to the designated areas of the Mendip Hills AONB. It also covers any developments outside the area which may impact upon its conservation and enhancement.</p>

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<p>The Plan sets out what the special qualities of the Mendip Hills AONB are in the Statement of Significance. It has considered current issues and future trends to devise objectives to address these in order to retain and enhance the special qualities in order to achieve the Vision for the Mendip Hills AONB.</p>
<p>Archaeology in Bath and North East Somerset Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) (2004)</p> <p>The purpose of this draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) is to provide more detailed information and guidance on archaeology and planning. Its principal purpose when adopted is to supplement the policies of the existing and emerging Development Plan. It also clarifies development control procedures and Planning Policy Guidance notes (Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning, DoE 1990 & Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment, DoE/DNH 1994) issued by Government. It will also be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications relating to the historic environment.</p> <p>Archaeology exists throughout the District in all locations. It comprises buried archaeological remains, scheduled monuments, historic parks and gardens, the historic landscape including hedgerows and other land boundaries, buildings of historical significance and towns and villages and industrial features. Not all threats to, and opportunities for, the historic landscape relating to land use change can be influenced through the planning system. This guidance explains the significance of archaeology and the historic environment. It also examines the processes and procedures necessary to ensure that a sustainable approach to management of the historic environment is adopted.</p>
<p>Archaeology in the City of Bath Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) (2004)</p> <p>The purpose of this Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) is to provide more detailed information and guidance on archaeology and planning in Bath. Its principal purpose when adopted, is to supplement the archaeological policies of the existing and emerging Local Plan. It also clarifies development control procedures and Planning Policy Guidance notes (PPG 15 & 16) issued by Government. Upon adoption it will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications relating to the historic environment in Bath.</p> <p>The UAD, established in 1997, contains detailed information on 90 monuments and around 700 archaeological investigations, surveys and historical interpretations within the City of Bath. This information is stored in a Microsoft Access database which forms part of the Bath and North East Somerset SMR.</p> <p>The archaeology of Bath has been ascribed to 36 character zones, based on the state of existing, sometimes limited knowledge. The detail of these zones, including an assessment of character, threats and opportunities, and research potential, will be contained in the forthcoming Bath Urban Archaeological Strategy.</p> <p>A total of 1.4 hectares or 13% of the area enclosed by the old city walls (Character Zone 1) are protected as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM's) under the 'Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979'. There are 13 separate scheduled elements within Zone 1, and 2 elements outside this zone, each of which is described below.</p>
<p>Landscape Setting of Settlements (2015) B&NES</p> <p>This document appraises the landscape setting of settlements through an assessment of selection criteria.</p>
<p>Local Green Space Summary Report (2015) B&NES</p> <p>Sets out the approach to designating local green spaces and makes recommendations.</p>
<p>Green Space Strategy B&NES March 2007</p> <p>This document sets out the green space strategy for B&NES. It brings together a number of pieces of research carried out previously and analyses the current provision of green space based on their findings.</p> <p>Its focus is on all publicly accessible green space, regardless of owner or manager.</p> <p>The Strategy looks at all freely accessible green space, regardless of owner or manager, and divides it into 3 land types. These land types are formal green spaces (parks, gardens, recreation grounds and open spaces), natural green spaces (woodland, natural and semi natural areas) and allotments. A separate strategy is also being developed for built sports facilities.</p>

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The main outcome from the work has been the development of local standards for the quantity, distribution and quality of green space along with a comprehensive action plan to address all of the major issues that arose during the strategy development process.

The local standards will be used in two main ways in the future. Firstly to determine the levels of green space provision that should be made in all future planning applications. This provision could be on or off- site, depending on the needs of the particular area. The Green Space Strategy provides further guidance on the operation of Policies in the Local Plan on the provision of recreational open space. Policy SR.3 in the Local Plan sets a standard for children's play space and for outdoor sports facilities but not for other recreational uses. The Green Space Strategy takes a different approach and sets a combined standard for formal recreational open space provision. It will therefore be a material consideration in relation to the standards for children's play space and for outdoor sports facilities and it provides more specific guidance on the standard of provision of other recreational uses.

Secondly, the local standards will be used to identify where there is a deficiency in existing quantity, distribution or quality of green space. This will help to determine where new provision is needed and will help support funding bids.

Bath City-wide Character Appraisal Supplementary Planning Document 2005

This document presents the results of the Bath city-wide character appraisal which was carried out in 2004 and 2005. This has been prepared to assist residents, businesses, developers, agents, amenity societies, planners, decision makers, visitors and the local community in understanding the character of the city, its setting and its component parts. It also provides the context for more detailed assessments which will be needed to inform specific proposals and for studies such as the Bath conservation area character appraisal which is planned to be carried out following this study.

The Bath city-wide character appraisal reviews:

- The historical development of Bath;
- Key elements that contribute to Bath's character; and
- Variations across the area of the city and its immediate environs and provides a summary of the issues that affect Bath's character.

The aims and objectives of the Bath city-wide character appraisal are to:

- Identify character; and
- Inform decisions.

Bath Conservation Area Character Appraisals 2015

A series of appraisals of the historic value of Bath's conservation area.

Keynsham Conservation Area Character Assessment March 2000

Keynsham Conservation Area was designated on July 17th 1997 by the Planning, Transportation and Environment Committee of Bath and North East Somerset Council. The purpose of this report is to update the adopted preliminary Conservation Area Statement, and to provide a full and comprehensive assessment of the Conservation Area. The key objective is to identify the 'special character of the area'.

Claverton Conservation Area Character Appraisal; Bath and North East Somerset (Jan 2007)

Claverton was recognised as being of special architectural and historic interest and was designated a Conservation Area in November 1981.

The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

Freshford and Sharpstone Conservation Area Character Appraisal; Bath and North East Somerset (Jan 2007)

The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

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<p>To avoid the danger of development encroaching on the character of the area, applications must be carefully assessed and be sympathetic to the locality, inappropriate proposals will be refused.</p>
<p>Midsomer Norton and Welton Conservation Area Character Appraisal Supplementary Planning Guidance</p> <p>This Conservation area character appraisal summarises the architectural and historic interest of Midsomer Norton and Welton in two broad sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Character summaries of Midsomer Norton and Welton followed by character summaries for each area; and • An historical timeline for Midsomer Norton and Welton with a comparative national timeline. <p>No key objectives set, however, the document subdivides the area into areas of similarity. The implication for developers is to keep residential development and alterations in keeping with the surrounding area, unsuitable or inappropriate proposals will not be allowed.</p>
<p>Paulton conservation area character appraisal Supplementary Planning Guidance (2003)</p> <p>Conservation area designation helps to protect an area's special architectural or historic interest by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The basis for policies designed to preserve or enhance all aspects of the character or appearance of an area that define its special architectural or historic interest ; • Control over the demolition of unlisted buildings and works to trees within a conservation area; • Stricter planning controls within a conservation area; and • Introducing a statutory requirement for the local planning authority to consider the impact of a proposed development upon the character or appearance of a conservation area.
<p>Chew Magna Conservation Area Character Appraisal Supplementary Planning Guidance (2003)</p> <p>The Chew Magna conservation area character appraisal as Supplementary Planning Guidance is a material consideration in planning decisions affecting Chew Magna. This character appraisal carries considerable weight in decision making, having been subject to scrutiny and amendment through public consultation. Chew Magna has 50 buildings or structures in the 1986 List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest including 1 Grade I, 4 Grade II*, and 45 Grade II listed buildings or structures.</p> <p>Key negative issues identified within the SPG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic – needs addressing; • Modern designed houses – detract from the area; • Boundary walls and pavements need to be preserved; and • Minor repair work needed to preserve character.
<p>Pensford Conservation Area Appraisal (2008)</p> <p>The special architectural and historic interest of Pensford was recognised by its designation as a Conservation Area in 1988. The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Identifies elements which contribute toward the character of the area and those that detract from it. This provides a base upon which to develop proposals for preservation and enhancement.</p>
<p>Radstock Conservation Area Appraisal (1999)</p> <p>The special architectural and historic interest of Wellow was recognised by its designation as a Conservation Area in 1999. The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Identifies elements which contribute toward the character of the area and those that detract from it. This provides a</p>

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<p>base upon which to develop proposals for preservation and enhancement.</p>
<p>Wellow Conservation Area Appraisal (2007)</p> <p>The special architectural and historic interest of Wellow was recognised by its designation as a Conservation Area in 1983. The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Identifies elements which contribute toward the character of the area and those that detract from it. This provides a base upon which to develop proposals for preservation and enhancement.</p>
<p>Woollard Conservation Area Appraisal (2008)</p> <p>The special architectural and historic interest of Woollard was recognised by its designation as a Conservation Area in 1990. The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Identifies elements which contribute toward the character of the area and those that detract from it. This provides a base upon which to develop proposals for preservation and enhancement.</p>
<p>Rural Landscapes of Bath & North East Somerset: A Landscape Character Assessment SPG (2003)</p> <p>This document identifies and describes the component features and characteristics of the landscape within Bath and North East Somerset. This has been done through a landscape character assessment which is the process of dividing up the landscape into parcels of land with common characteristics. These characteristics are many and varied and will be different for each area. They include natural physical influences and human processes but can also include the cultural values that are placed upon an area. This assessment has as its overarching objective the maintenance and enhancement of landscape character and local distinctiveness. A summary of ways it is planned to be used is listed below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To aid formulation of planning policies. • To guide landscape change such as informing decisions about the location and design of new woodland. One of the most pressing challenges is the change affecting farming. Traditional family farms and their farming practices are under threat and at the same time there is recognition that the countryside offers a wider resource than just for intensive food production. This recognition provides opportunities for giving greater emphasis to other objectives such as habitat enhancement, management for greater species diversity, opportunities for improved access to the countryside, diversified use of farm buildings and developing local produce for local markets. • To contribute to identifying landscape management priorities. • To provide a baseline for future guidelines on specific issues such as development at the edges of settlements. • To provide a baseline for monitoring change and the condition of the landscape. The measurement of indicators is under development but includes issues such as biodiversity, tranquillity, heritage and landscape character. While components of the landscape such as hedges, stone walls and ponds can be measured; indicators for protection of the wider landscape are less easily measurable. This character assessment can be seen as contributing to the process of defining and recording local indicators.
<p>Cherishing Outdoor Places - A Landscape Strategy for Bath (1994)</p> <p>The landscape strategy for Bath is a plan of action which the City Council is developing to promote the better protection, enhancement and long term management of the city's outdoor spaces and landscape features.</p> <p>Through this plan the City Council seeks to address the problems of continuous, but varied, change within the landscape, which is brought about by the natural forces of growth and ageing, of competition between species, disease, decay and the actions of people. It seeks to cherish and celebrate the rich and varied landscape of the city by protecting that which is good and by enhancing that which is not so good.</p>
<p>Bath Building Heights Strategy 2010</p>

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http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sitedocuments/Planning-and-Building-Control/Planning-Policy/Evidence-Base/Urban-Design-Landscape-and-Heritage/BathBuildingHeightsStrategyPart1ExecSummaryandIntro.pdf
The overall purpose of the strategy is to provide a framework within which decisions can be made about the appropriate height of new buildings in Bath. It will be used as a development management tool and, has been compiled in such a way that it can be transformed into a Supplementary Planning Document
Green Belt Review (Stage 1) (2013) Arup & Partners
The purpose of this Green Belt Review has been to undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the purposes served by the Green Belt within the Bath & North East Somerset (B&NES) administrative area.

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Economic development
International
National
National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)
In relation to economic development, the NPPF supersedes and replaces PPS 4 and PPS 1. The NPPF states that planning policies should avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for that purpose.
Planning Practice Guidance (launched March 2014)
Ensuring the vitality of town centres: Supports councils in planning effectively for new development supporting town centres
Local
Defining Primary Shopping Areas and Primary Shopping Frontages in B&NES (2015) B&NES
Sets out the approach to defining primary shopping areas and primary shopping frontages in B&NES and assesses them.
Review of the district and local centre boundaries B&NES
Sets out the approach to defining centres and assesses centres.
Retail Strategy: Evidence and Recommendations to Bath and North East Somerset (December 2008)
Sets out the recommended retail and retail development strategy for Bath & North East Somerset up to 2026 to be tested through LDF process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision: establish the district as a leader in providing a distinctive retail offer, with a high proportion of local. High quality independent retailers set within a world class shopping experience. • Reduce leakage of expenditure outside the area to help support the local economy and reduce travel. • Comparison goods: cautious rate of growth, below the high rates of growth in the last years of the economic boom. • Convenience growth rates: less sensitive to recession. The strategy provides evidence for the LDF and baseline data for SA.
Economic Strategy Review 2014-2030

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In 2010 B&NES Council approved its first Economic Strategy, developed in conjunction with the B&NES Economic Partnership. The Strategy contains a number of strategic priorities and detailed actions and a commitment to review and refresh the document after a period of three years.

The Review highlights the issues that must be addressed. House prices are 40% higher than the national average. Average wages are 10% lower. Long term unemployment, particularly long term youth unemployment, remains an issue. There is a shortage of industrial space and we lack the overall quality of office space that modern businesses demand.

Our ambition is to increase the overall number of jobs in B&NES by 11,500 and by focussing on “priority sectors” where the area has particular strengths we can increase overall productivity and raise average earnings.

Bath and in particular the Bath City Riverside Enterprise Area, has a key role to play in delivering future economic growth. The Review also highlights the importance of promoting additional employment in the Market Towns, supporting key housing & transport projects and addressing employability and skills in the workforce.

In addition we have widened the scope of the Strategy to embrace the whole economy and ensure the contribution and potential of the wider visitor and cultural sectors, both in economic and “place” terms, is taken into account.

The Economic Strategy remains very much a partnership document which will require partnership working, both locally and sub-regionally, to address the identified priorities. We look forward to making our aims and objectives a reality for people living and working in Bath & North East Somerset.

B&NES Destination Management Plan (October 2007)

The purpose of the Destination Management Plan is to ensure that Bath and the surrounding area continues to flourish as a successful leading visitor destination in the years to come and continues to derive benefit from tourism.

The aim is:

To develop a viable and sustainable visitor economy which continues to make an important contribution to the economic vitality of Bath and the surrounding area, enhances its image and standing, is in harmony with its unique environment, and adds to the quality of life for its residents.

Visitor Accommodation Study, December 2009

This report reviews the current provision of visitor accommodation in Bath and North East Somerset (B&NES) and assesses future requirements in terms of the scale, nature and location of accommodation. The study covers all aspects of accommodation across the District but looks in more detail at hotels in Bath.

Recommendations are made in the Study report for visitor accommodation in Bath and outside of Bath. The study provides evidence for the LDF and baseline data for SA.

Business Growth and Employment Land Study (March 2009)

The study has three main tasks, as set out in the Council’s brief:

- Predict business requirements for economic land uses to 2026;
- Assess the current supply of land against these requirements, both in terms of quality and quantity; and
- Accordingly propose potential land provision strategies for the District as a whole and its main towns, to show where land should be provided for economic development, and where the Council and its partners should intervene to bring sites forward for development.

The study provides evidence for the LDF and baseline data for SA.

The Future for Bath and North East Somerset

The purpose of the vision

These changes must be guided by a place-shaping vision and set of values to ensure that growth and redevelopment contribute to the Council’s overarching

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Vision for Bath and North East Somerset as a distinctive place, with vibrant and sustainable communities where everyone fulfils their potential.

The Local Strategic Partnership's Community Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset establishes a series of 'shared ambitions' and improvement ambitions' which provide a highly relevant framework of values for the future of the district.

The Future for Bath and North East Somerset comprises a series of place-focused visions for the revitalisation and growth of the district and, in particular, the main urban centres of Bath, Midsomer Norton and Radstock, and Keynsham. It seeks to realise a number of the ambitions of the Community Strategy and to provide a direct response to the Economic Development and Enterprise section of the Local Area Agreement.

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Housing

National

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

In relation to housing the NPPF supersedes and replaces PPS 3 and PPS 1.

The NPPF states that, to deliver a wide choice of high quality homes, widen opportunities for home ownership and create sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities, local planning authorities should plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and the needs of different groups in the community; and should identify the size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular locations, reflecting local demand. Chapter 7 also emphasises the need for good design.

Regional

West of England Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2009)

A SHMA should estimate housing need and demand in terms of affordable and market housing, determine how the distribution of need and demand varies across the area, consider future demographic trends and identify the accommodation requirements of specific groups and the likely mix of housing. Forecasting in the modeling work has generally been undertaken at five year intervals from 2006 to 2026, with the main emphasis on the period to 2021.

The overwhelming message is one of very high housing need, in relation both to household growth and in relation to likely total future supply. It is clear that continuing current policies will not be sufficient to meet even a significant proportion of the housing need identified in the SHMA.

The SHMA is a key evidence document and also provides baseline information for SA.

West of England Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment (Oct 2007)

http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/media/SWRA/RSS%20Documents/Gypsies_and_Travellers/West_of_England_GTAA.pdf

The Housing Act 2004 requires local authorities to assess the accommodation need for Gypsies and Travellers residing in or resorting to their areas, in a manner similar to that used to undertake accommodation assessments for the rest of the population. Having undertaken such an exercise, local authorities must then develop a strategy, which addresses the need arising from the accommodation assessment, through either public or private provision.

Bath And North East Somerset Gypsy And Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2012

The main objective of this study was to provide the Councils with robust, defensible and up to date evidence about the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers in BANES during the period until 2027 in five year sections covering 2012-2017, 2017-2022 and 2022-2027. The results were further extended to cover the anticipated period of the BANES Local Plan of 2014-2029. It also required the identification of whether any extra site provision should be on public or private sites, and whether or not there is any

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need to plan for the provision of transit sites or emergency stopping places.
Local
B&NES Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update 2013
http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sitedocuments/Planning-and-Building-Control/Planning-Policy/Evidence-Base/Housing/banes_shma_update_2013.pdf
Opinion Research Services (ORS) was commissioned by Bath and North East Somerset Council (BANES) to undertake a Strategic Housing Market Assessment Review, including a study of current and future housing requirements and housing need.
SHMAs assess the full range of housing requirements for an area to both deepen understanding of sub-regional housing markets and develop future strategy, all based on the best available evidence. Critically, their evidence base shapes and assists with the production of the Local Plan which set out the spatial policy for a local area. They also provide evidence to support development of local housing strategies and can also inform the planning of other services such as education, health and transport.
Housing and Wellbeing Strategy 2010-2015
Sets out the area and population characteristics of Bath and North East Somerset and a strategic review under the Housing and Wellbeing Strategy's three themes better homes, more homes, happy and healthy lives.
Planning Obligations SPD 2015
Bath and North East Somerset Council adopted the revised Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document on 6th April 2015. It supercedes the Planning Obligations SPD approved in 2009 (with the exception of the Affordable Housing Commuted Sum Formula) and Appendix C of the Bath Western Riverside SPD, as updated in July 2014.

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Natural Resources, Water and Soil
International
The EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
European Water Policy has undergone a thorough restructuring process, and a new Water Framework Directive adopted in 2000 will be the operational tool, setting the objectives for water protection for the future.
There are a number of objectives in respect of which the quality of water is protected. The key ones at European level are general protection of the aquatic ecology, specific protection of unique and valuable habitats, protection of drinking water resources, protection of bathing water, and to reverse any anthropogenically induced upward pollution trend. Taken together, these should ensure the protection of groundwater from all contamination, according to the principle of minimum anthropogenic impact.
The Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)
This Directive establishes a regime which sets groundwater quality standards and introduces measures to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater. The directive establishes quality criteria that takes account local characteristics and allows for further improvements to be made based on monitoring data and new scientific knowledge. The directive thus represents a proportionate and scientifically sound response to the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) as it relates to assessments on chemical status of groundwater and the identification and reversal of significant and sustained upward trends in pollutant concentrations. Member States will have to establish the standards at the most appropriate level and take into account local or regional conditions.

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The Groundwater Directive complements the Water Framework Directive (WFD). It requires:

groundwater quality standards to be established by the end of 2008;

pollution trend studies to be carried out by using existing data and data which is mandatory by the WFD (referred to as "baseline level" data obtained in 2007-2008);

pollution trends to be reversed so that environmental objectives are achieved by 2015 by using the measures set out in the WFD;

measures to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater to be operational so that WFD environmental objectives can be achieved by 2015;

reviews of technical provisions of the directive to be carried out in 2013 and every six years thereafter;

compliance with good chemical status criteria (based on EU standards of nitrates and pesticides and on threshold values established by Member States).

EU Thematic Strategy on Soil (European Commission, 2006)

The EU Thematic Strategy on Soil advocates higher levels of protection to the soil resource.

Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)

The Council Directive 91/271/EEC concerning urban waste-water treatment was adopted on 21 May 1991. Its objective is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water discharges and discharges from certain industrial sectors (see Annex III of the Directive) and concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of:

Domestic waste water

Mixture of waste water

Waste water from certain industrial sectors (see Annex III of the Directive)

Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)

The Directive seeks to reduce or prevent the pollution of water caused by the application and storage of inorganic fertiliser and manure on farmland. It is designed both to safeguard drinking water supplies and to prevent wider ecological damage in the form of the eutrophication of freshwater and marine waters generally.

National

Future Water Strategy: The Government's Water Strategy for England, DEFRA (2008)

Future Water sets out how we want the water sector to look by 2030, and some of the steps we will need to take to get there. It is a vision where rivers, canals, lakes and seas have improved for people and wildlife, with benefits for angling, boating and other recreational activities, and where we continue to provide excellent quality drinking water. It is a vision of a sector that values and protects its water resources; that delivers water to customers through fair, affordable and cost-reflective charges; where flood risk is addressed with markedly greater understanding and use of good surface water management; and where the water industry has cut its greenhouse gas emissions. The vision shows a sector that is resilient to climate change, with its likelihood of more frequent droughts as well as floods, and to population growth, with forward planning fully in tune with these adaptation challenges.

In short, our vision is for sustainable delivery of secure water supplies and an improved and protected water environment.

The vision for water policy and management is one where, by 2030 at the latest, we have:

- improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology which it supports, and continued to provide high levels of drinking water quality from our taps;
- sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water;

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensured a sustainable use of water resources, and implemented fair, affordable and costreflective water charges; cut greenhouse gas emissions; and embedded continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users.
<p>Planning for Soil: Advice on how the planning system can help to protect and enhance soils SNIFFER, April 2004</p> <p>This advice note aims to help planning authorities address soil issues in forward planning and in the execution of their development control functions. It is aimed at all those who are involved in the development process. This includes forward planning and development controls staff, elected members, developers, statutory consultees, architectural, planning, landscape and engineering consultants and non-governmental organisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil issues should be considered during the process of developing plan policies. Soil should be included as a criterion within the statutory SEA process. Plans should include 'high level' plan policies on soil, setting out a commitment to the protection and enhancement of soils as part of a wider, sustainable approach to planning and development; Strategic development plan proposals (for example relating to new settlements or urban expansion) should include consideration of the likely effects on soils and soil functions; 'Soils' should be included as a criterion within more detailed development plan policies (e.g. For waste or minerals); Outline guidance should be provided for developers to ensure that soil is considered as a factor throughout the design and implementation of a project; and Soils should be considered in the process of plan review and appraisal. State of the Environment Reporting and national and more local sustainability indicators will provide a partial measure of the success of development plans in protecting and enhancing soils.
<p>Defra (2009) Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England</p> <p>Contains the vision that by 2030, all England's soils will be managed sustainably and degradation threats tackled successfully. This will improve the quality of England's soils and safeguard their ability to provide essential services for future generations.</p> <p>Our soils have degraded over the last 200 years due to intensive agricultural production and industrial pollution. Soils in England continue to face three main threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil erosion by wind and rain. Erosion affects both the productivity of soils but also water quality and aquatic ecosystems. Compaction of soil reduces agricultural productivity and water infiltration, and increases flood risk through higher levels of run off. Organic matter decline. The loss of soil organic matter reduces soil quality, affecting the supply of nutrients and making it more difficult for plants to grow, and increases emissions to the atmosphere. <p>All these threats may be magnified by climate change. Safeguarding our soils for future generations means managing them better, reducing degradation and building resilience to increasing pressures in order to provide a sustainable food supply and cope with our changing climate.</p>
<p>National Planning Policy Framework</p> <p>In relation to natural resources, water and soil, the NPPF supersedes and replaces PPS 9, PPS 23 and PPS 25.</p> <p>The NPPF states that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils.</p>
<p>Water Act 2014</p> <p>The Water Act 2014 makes provisions regarding water supply licences and sewerage licences; water and sewerage undertakers; regulation of the water industry; water resources; environmental regulation; flood insurance.</p>
<p>Water Act 2003</p> <p>The Water Resources Act of 1991 controls the abstraction and impounding of water. In November 2003 the Water Act received Royal Assent, which will lead to a major</p>

Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA
change in the sustainable management of water resources in England and Wales.
Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice GP3 Consultation Document Environment Agency 2006
Part 4 of Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice (GP3) summarises the legislation relevant to the management and protection of groundwater and sets out Environment Agency's associated and complementary policies. The document sets out the policy statements based around a common structure. It consists of an introduction to the subject area and a summary of the key issues. Where appropriate Environment Agency has indicated whether a policy statement is focused on development planning or regulatory activity (the latter being normally focused on day to day operation).
The Nitrate Pollution Prevention Regulations 2008
Implements the Nitrates Directive
Groundwater Regulations 2009
Implements the Groundwater Directive
Regional
Bristol Avon and North Somerset Streams WFD Management Area Abstraction Licensing Strategy
Bristol Avon, Little Avon, Axe and North Somerset The Bristol Avon Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy December 2012
This document will enable Environment Agency to manage water resources in a more sustainable way. Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) are six-year plans detailing how we are going to manage water resources.
Water Level Management Plans
The Water Level Management Plan (WLMP) initiative provides a means by which the water level requirements for a range of activities in SSSIs and Natura 2000 sites, including conservation, agriculture and flood defence, can be balanced and integrated. In the lower Avon, implementation of the plans aims to establish appropriate water level management in the SPA/SSSI, reversing the decline in grazing marsh habitat, breeding waders and wintering wildfowl. The plans take into account the needs of the river, but primarily focus on restoring appropriate water levels in the floodplain. In the upper Avon, the priority for WLMPs is to ensure appropriate water level management for the SAC, taking into account seasonal variations in flow. Enhancement of Desmoulin's whorl snail habitat in the upper Avon should only take place at locations and times when this will not impact on the riverine interests.
West of England SUDS Developers Guide (2015) <i>West of England authorities</i>
A guide which signposts to existing policy and guidance to support the delivery of a sustainable approach to the drainage of new development in our sub-region.
Bristol Avon Catchment Flood Management Plan Summary Report (Environment Agency, December 2009)
Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMPs) give an overview of the flood risk across each river catchment and estuary. They recommend ways of managing those risks now and over the next 50-100 years. CFMPs consider all types of inland flooding, from rivers, ground water, surface water and tidal flooding, but not flooding directly from the sea. They also take into account the likely impacts of climate change, the effects of how we use and manage the land, and how areas could be developed to meet our present day needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Future direction for Flood Risk Management <i>In Bath:</i> Areas of moderate to high flood risk where we can generally take further action to reduce flood risk: This policy will tend to be applied to those areas where the case for further

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action to reduce flood risk is most compelling, for example where there are many people at high risk, or where changes in the environment have already increased risk. Taking further action to reduce risk will require additional appraisal to assess whether there are socially and environmentally sustainable, technically viable and economically justified options.

In the area surrounding Bath (falling within the Lower Avon sub-area):

Areas of low to moderate flood risk where we are generally managing existing flood risk effectively: This policy will tend to be applied where the risks are currently appropriately managed and where the risk of flooding is not expected to increase significantly in the future. However, we keep our approach under review, looking for improvements and responding to new challenges or information as they emerge. We may review our approach to managing flood defences and other flood risk management actions, to ensure that we are managing efficiently and taking the best approach to managing flood risk in the longer term.

In the Midsomer Norton and Radstock area (falling within the Mendip Slopes and Long Ashton sub-area):

Areas of low, moderate or high flood risk where we are already managing the flood risk effectively but where we may need to take further actions to keep pace with climate change. This policy will tend to be applied where the risks are currently deemed to be appropriately-managed, but where the risk of flooding is expected to significantly rise in the future. In this case we would need to do more in the future to contain what would otherwise be increasing risk. Taking further action to reduce risk will require further appraisal to assess whether there are socially and environmentally sustainable, technically viable and economically justified options.

Wessex Water Business Plan 2014-2020 June 2014

Every five years water companies are required to submit to the water regulator, Ofwat, business plans that reflect the funding necessary to operate the business and to undertake new investment.

The plan:

- cuts bills by 5% in real terms and provides the most extensive range of affordability assistance in the UK
- increases investment on the outcomes customers value most and on our statutory obligations, meeting or exceeding these in increasingly innovative ways
- includes a comprehensive package of rewards and penalties to incentivise delivery
- • is underpinned by a very strong track record of delivery and of sharing past gains and a commitment to promoting new skills and a new culture to match the ambition of our new direction.

Local

Bath and North East Somerset (June 2003) Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy

The document sets out the Inspection Strategy of the Bath and North East Somerset Council (B&NES) in identifying contaminated land under the Governments regulatory regime, referred to as the Part IIA regime. The document includes the proposed methodology for inspection of the District, identification of contaminated land and how all information gathered will be handled.

This Strategy document has been produced to meet the requirements of the contaminated land regime. This is carried out through the implementation of the Contaminated Land Strategy with the following aims:

- To identify unacceptable risks to human health and the environment from the immediate and long-term effects of contaminated ground;
- To address properties/land in need of remediation in order to improve the environment within the B&NES District;
- To encourage methods of tackling contaminated land, which ensure compatibility with Council policy, encourage best practice and are in the spirit of sustainability;

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a Strategy available to the public, which presents the regime in a clear and understandable format; • To provide an efficient mechanism to allow regulatory bodies and other interested parties to liaise and exchange information; and • To encourage the voluntary remediation and redevelopment of contaminated land.
<p>Development of Potentially Contaminated Land – Guidance Note for Developers, Agents and Consultants Bath and North East Somerset (May 2007)</p> <p>This guidance is aimed at site owners, developers and their consultants who may be involved in the assessment and management of land contamination. The purpose of this guide is to make developers aware of what information the Council may require in order to assess an application for planning permission.</p>
<p>Environment Agency River Basin Management Plan, Severn Basin District (December 2009)</p> <p>In the Severn River Basin District, only 29 per cent of surface waters are currently classified as good or better ecological status. 37 per cent of assessed surface water bodies are at good biological status now, although the EA expect this to change to 32 per cent when they have assessed all water bodies.</p> <p>A range of specific pressures need to be dealt with in this river basin district. The most significant of these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • abstraction and other artificial flow regulation – problems related to taking water from rivers, lakes and groundwater; • non-native species - invasive non-native species are plants and animals that have deliberately or accidentally been introduced outside their natural range, and by spreading quickly threaten native wildlife and can cause economic damage; • nitrate – a nutrient found in fertilisers used in agriculture, and in sewage effluent; • pesticides – chemical and biological products used to kill or control pests; • phosphate – a nutrient in sewage and fertiliser, which can cause too much algae to grow in rivers when in excess quantities; • physical modification – changes to the structure of water bodies, such as for flood defence; • sediment – undissolved particles floating on top or suspended within water, for example those caused by increased rates of soil erosion from land based activities. <p>Sedimentation can smother river life and spread pollutants from the land into the water environment;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • urban and transport pollution – a range of pollutants related to urban areas and the transport network.. <p>Actions identified within the plan for regional and local government to tackle these pressures include:</p>
<p>Water Resources Management Plan (Wessex Water Services Ltd, May 2008)</p> <p>B&NES largely falls within the WRMU 2 Bristol Avon which is designated as having ‘no water available’.</p> <p>The River Avon has been allocated a Medium ‘environmental weighting’ score (relating to abstractions- the impacts upon flow resulting from abstraction activity).</p> <p>Wessex Water is committed to ensuring continuous flow within the River Avon. This is to be achieved via support and selective abstraction practices which control inputs to and outputs from the river.</p> <p>The EA will consider new unconstrained abstractions (river flow restrictions apply).</p> <p>In 2007, approx. 40% of households within the Wessex Water supply area (which includes B&NES) were metered.</p>
<p>Draft Water Resources Management Plan (Wessex Water, 2013)</p> <p>Update to 2008 plan, still in draft</p>
<p>Flood Risk Management Strategy (June 2010)</p> <p>http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sitedocuments/Planning-and-Building-Control/Planning-Policy/Evidence-Base/Flood-Risk/FRMSReport.pdf</p> <p>The Flood Risk Management Strategy has been commissioned by Bath & North East Somerset Council to identify where strategic and site based flood risk management measures can be implemented to make sites at risk of flooding developable without increasing the flood risk elsewhere. The Strategy links a series of proposed development</p>

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sites to on-and off-site solutions and by considering all potential development sites together, the Council should ensure that individual sites are not left undevelopable because of flood risk.

The Flood Risk Management Strategy has concluded that there is no strategic solution reducing peak flow through Bath which is either technically or economically viable. As such the Strategy proposes the provision of compensatory storage upstream combined with on-site flood defences. New development must provide storage to offset the volume of water that would be displaced in a flood event by the defences on-site. In order to meet this requirement, a maximum flood storage area of 345,000m³ volume would be required as this is equivalent to the total combined volume of the footprint of the identified development sites. Provision of compensatory storage off-site is more cost-effective than providing it on-site and allows for greater flexibility in master planning sites.

1.2 Given the limited impact of flooding on development sites proposed in Keynsham, Midsomer Norton and Radstock there is not a business case for off-site storage in these areas. The Strategy recommends that these sites proceed on a site-by-site basis.

Coal Authority

The Coal Authority defined Development High Risk Area and the Surface Coal Resource plans provided to the LPA.

Potential problems in Bath & North East Somerset and surrounding area with respect to hydrocarbon and other exploration and production (2012) *British Geological Survey*

This report describes the potential for problems for the B&NES area caused by hydrocarbon, geothermal and other exploration in the vicinity.

The greatest threat is posed by near-field exploration within Bath, by drilling wells which divert the flow of the Bath hot springs or other works which might allow coldwater dilution. The timescale of these effects would be relatively rapid. These events have happened in the past. Geothermal exploration would pose the most direct risk to the springs from the far-field area, as it would be targeting areas of hot water within the Carboniferous Limestone in the Radstock-Coalpit Heath Syncline. Any such wells might escape licensing control (DECC licenses for hydrocarbon exploration but there is no equivalent system for geothermal exploration unlike other countries, although this might be about to change with the Energy Bill or in the future) and requirements for notification to the British Geological Survey, but would still need planning permission. The timescale of the effects from such exploration are unknown but expected to be in thousands of years. Exploration activity for coalbed methane (CBM) and shale gas, with seismic reflection profiles and vertical cored wells is not considered likely to have any measurable effect on the springs and minor effects to the population and infrastructure. In fact this would lead to greater knowledge of the subsurface and more data relevant to the Carboniferous near Bath. Field development of CBM should not pose a significant risk as the stratigraphic level of interest (Westphalian coals) has not been traversed by the hot spring water. Migration of these waters is in strata underlying the Westphalian. However, any hydraulic fracturing needs to be confined to the target coals. Coalbed methane exploration and production is more low-key than shale gas operations and economically successful fields have not been established in the UK yet. The effects on the population, traffic flows and air emissions are therefore difficult to predict. Field development of shale gas, however, would be a potential risk if the hydraulic fracturing, high gas flow, high density wells (HVHF) model is applied. Both the Courceyan Lower Limestone Shale Group and early Namurian targets are close enough to the probable formations in which the waters are migrating to pose an undefinable risk to the springs. If a slower, low gas flow, cottage-industry type development was allowed and the gas flowed freely from fractures this is considered no risk to the springs. Providing best practices are followed with regard to the position of legacy shafts and boreholes, well completions, abandonment and monitoring, recently defined in several publications for the European Commission, Environment Agency and DECC, earthquakes and pollution of aquifers are not considered to present a risk any higher than in the rest of the UK. There are no regionally important aquifers like the Sherwood Sandstone or Chalk groups in the area.

Safer and Stronger Communities

International
European Spatial Development Perspective European commission 1999
<p>The European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) is a document approved by the Informal Council of Ministers of Spatial Planning of European Commission in Potsdam in 1999. It is a legally non-binding document forming a policy framework with 60 policy options for all tiers of administration with a planning responsibility. The strategic aim is to achieve a balanced and sustainable spatial development strategy.</p> <p>Development of a polycentric and balanced urban system, and strengthening of the partnership between urban and rural areas, so as to create a new urban-rural relationship.</p> <p>Promotion of integrated transport and communication concepts, which support the polycentric development of the EU territory, so that there is gradual progress towards parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge.</p> <p>Wise management of the natural and cultural heritage, which will help conserve regional identities and cultural diversity in the face of globalisation.</p>
National
Learning to Last – Sustainable Development Education Strategy (Draft 2003)
The Aim of this strategy is to ensure that all aspects of lifelong learning are fully engaged in the provision of effective education for sustainable development.
Regional
Regional and sub-Regional Economic Strategies
See Economy section
Regional Housing Strategy
See Housing section
Regional Sustainable Communities Plan
See General section
Skill Strategies
See Economy section
Local
Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2026 (Bath & North East Somerset Strategic Partnership, 2009)
<p>The Sustainable Community Strategy is high level and aspirational. It sits above the Core Strategy and the Regeneration Development Plans and will inform them. The Strategy reflects the views of the public and other stakeholders within the district.</p> <p>The vision for the district, as set out within the Sustainable Community Strategy, is for the district to be a distinctive place with vibrant, sustainable communities where everyone fulfils their potential.</p> <p>This means working towards ensuring that the following is achieved:</p> <p>A distinctive place that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains and enhances its outstanding built and natural environment; Has a dynamic, low carbon economy; Achieves connectivity; and Has world class arts and culture. <p>Vibrant sustainable communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That are lively and inclusive; Places where people feel safe, take responsibility and make a contribution; That are carbon neutral; Where the disadvantaged are supported; Where the vulnerable are protected. <p>Where people feel proud to live Communities where everyone fulfils their potential by having an equal opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn and develop skills; Enjoy a healthy, low carbon lifestyle; Influence the future of their area; Contribute to the economy and society.
Bath and North East Somerset Play Policy
http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/bath_and_north_east_somerset_full_play_policy.pdf

This policy sets out Bath & North East Somerset's understanding of play and confirms its commitment to ensuring that quality play environments are available to all its children. The policy is underpinned by the principles outlined in the Council's statement of vision and values and its equality policies.

This document aims to be a practical working tool, to be referred to whenever decisions about play need to be made. It is therefore applicable to **all** forms of children's services whose objectives include the provision of play opportunities. These include, for example, after-school clubs, nurseries, playgroups, holiday play schemes, non-supervised fixed-equipment playgrounds, schools (in breaktime), play centres and adventure playgrounds.

Green Space Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset March 2007

This strategy brings together a number of pieces of research that have been carried out over the past two years and analyses the current provision of green space based on their findings. Its focus is on all publicly accessible green space, regardless of owner or manager.

The strategy considers a number of key factors across different types of green space, it looks at issues of:

- 1. Quantity – how much green space is there in the district ;
- 2. Distribution – where is the space located in relation to people;
- 3. Quality – what is the current quality of the green spaces ;
- 4. Value – how important are the green spaces;
- 5. Need – what do the people of the district need in terms of green spaces; and
- 6. Policy – what is the policy context for green spaces nationally, regionally and locally.

Specific benefits of this strategy include:

1. It identifies where the supply or quality of green space is deficient, so that resources and funding bids can be concentrated into those areas.
2. It assists the Council in protecting existing green space from development, and ensures that where development does take place, an appropriate level of community facilities are provided. This may often involve improving existing facilities rather than simply providing new ones.
3. It provides a management framework to enable the owners of all publicly accessible green space to manage their spaces to the full benefit of all users and for the benefit of biodiversity.

Transport
International
EU Manual on Strategic Environmental Assessment of Transport Infrastructure Plans
<p>This document presents guidance on how to carry out strategic environmental assessment (SEA) for transport plans and programmes in England in accordance with the requirements of European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, also known as the SEA Directive¹. The Directive was transposed in England through The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (Statutory Instrument 2004, no. 1633). It integrates the Directive's requirements with existing transport appraisal processes – the New Approach to Appraisal (NATA).</p> <p>To prevent unnecessary environmental complications and delays at the project level (the level at which environmental impact assessment (EIA) is applied);</p> <p>To consider environmentally friendly alternatives that are no longer feasible at the project level, and prevent expensive mitigation measures; and</p> <p>To reduce public resistance to transport infrastructure projects, and raise environmental awareness in the transport sector.</p>
National
National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)
<p>The NPPF states that transport policies have an important role to play in facilitating sustainable development but also in contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives. Smarter use of technologies can reduce the need to travel. The transport system needs to be balanced in favour of sustainable transport modes, giving people a real choice about how they travel. However, the Government recognises that different policies and measures will be required in different communities and opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary from urban to rural areas.</p> <p>Encouragement should be given to solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion. In preparing Local Plans, local planning authorities should therefore support a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>Local authorities should work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development, including large scale facilities such as rail freight interchanges, roadside facilities for motorists or transport investment necessary to support strategies for the growth of ports, airports or other major generators of travel demand in their areas. The primary function of roadside facilities for motorists should be to support the safety and welfare of the road user.</p>
Manual for Streets I and II (DoT, 2010)
<p>Manual for Streets is expected to be used predominantly for the design, construction, adoption and maintenance of new residential streets, but it is also applicable to existing residential streets subject to re-design. Or new streets, it advocates a return to more traditional patterns which are easier to assimilate into existing built-up areas and which have been proven to stand the test of time in many ways. The Manual aims to assist in the creation of streets that: help to build and strengthen the communities they serve; meet the needs of all users, by embodying the principles of inclusive design; form part of a well-connected network; are attractive and have their own distinctive identity; are cost-effective to construct and maintain; and are safe.</p>
Streets for All (English Heritage, 2004)
<p>Sets out principles of good practice for street management – such as reducing clutter, co-ordinating design and reinforcing local character whilst maintaining safety for all. The guide is intended as a reference manual of good practice for all concerned in the long chain of decision making, including councillors, highway engineers, landscape and urban designers, town planning and conservation staff, amenity societies, contractors and utility companies. It sets out a comprehensive list of general principles for Ground Surfaces, Street Furniture, Traffic Management and Environmental Improvements respectively.</p>
Regional
West of England Joint Transport Study (2015 consultation document) <i>West of England Local Enterprise Partnership</i>
<p>Considers issues, challenges, opportunities and actions for transport across the West of England area.</p>

Bath and North East Somerset (2011). Joint Local Transport Plan (JLTP) 2011-2026

<http://www.travelplus.org.uk>

A Local Transport Plan (LTP) is a five-year document setting out the Local Authorities' objectives for improving transport and detailing the ways in which this is to be achieved. The four councils of Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol City, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire have joined up to deliver transport improvements in the West of England. The new Joint Local Transport Plan (JLTP3) covers the period from 2011 to 2026.

The vision is of an affordable, low carbon, accessible, integrated, efficient and reliable transport network through which we can achieve a more competitive economy and better connected, more active and healthy communities.

The vision will be delivered through a Joint Local Transport Plan based around five key transport goals:

- Reduce carbon emissions; Support economic growth; Promote accessibility; Contribute to better safety, security and health; Improve quality of life and a healthy natural environment

West of England JLTP 3 Delivery Plan 2012/13-2014/15 March 2012

<http://www.travelplus.org.uk>

The headline figures for the next three years:

DfT funding: £107m for major transport schemes, £68m grant for other transport schemes, £32m from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) if our current bid is accepted and other government funding

Local funding: £181m of council resources and £33m from other sources.

Local

Review of Cycling Infrastructure for Bath & North East Somerset Council (November 2014)

This document presents the findings of Sustrans' cycle network review of Bath and North East Somerset. The information contained within presents:

- Key findings of the study
- Key recommendations of the study
- Results of consultation
- Recommendations for priority routes
- Maps of the complete proposed routes

This report has been compiled using information gathered from various processes. These are:

- Sustrans desktop study
- Direct engagement with informed local groups
- Online consultation via a mapping website
- Public consultation sessions
- Sustrans site inspections

Bath and North East Somerset Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2015-2019

The Health and Wellbeing Board is the body responsible for improving the health and wellbeing of people in Bath and North East Somerset. It provides strong and shared

leadership and is the centre point of our local health and social care system. The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy sets out how the Health and Wellbeing Board will improve local health; by assessing the evidence, setting the strategic direction and deciding how to make the best use of collective resources. It also ensures that local commissioning plans are coordinated and coherent and that we work together with our communities to deliver outstanding care and health services to local people.

Three themes and 11 priorities set the framework for targeted action in the Strategy. They are not an exhaustive list of everything that the Council and NHS are doing; but rather a set of priorities for the Health and Wellbeing Board to really focus on and make a difference over the next few years. The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy sits collaboratively alongside the NHS Bath and North East Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group's 5 Year Strategy 'Seizing Opportunities'.

Waste

International

Waste Framework Directive (2006/12/EC)

The EU is aiming for a significant cut in the amount of rubbish generated, through new waste prevention initiatives, better use of resources, and encouraging a shift to more sustainable consumption patterns.

Member States shall take appropriate measures, in cooperation with other Member States where this is necessary or advisable, to establish an integrated and adequate network of disposal installations, taking account of the best available technology not involving excessive costs. The network must enable the Community as a whole to become self-sufficient in waste disposal and the Member States to move towards that aim individually, taking into account geographical circumstances or the need for specialised installations for certain types of waste.

It sets out the basic principles such as the waste hierarchy and the polluter pays.

Europe Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC)

The Directive is intended to prevent or reduce the adverse effects of the landfill of waste on the environment, in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health. It defines the different categories of waste (municipal waste, hazardous waste, non-hazardous waste and inert waste) and applies to all landfills, defined as waste disposal sites for the deposit of waste onto or into land.

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (WEEE) (2012/19/EU)

The Directive aims to minimise the impact of electrical and electronic goods on the environment, by increasing re-use and recycling and reducing the amount of WEEE going to landfill by making producers responsible for financing the collection, treatment, and recovery of waste electrical equipment, and by obliging distributors to allow consumers to return their waste equipment free of charge (came into force by 13 August 2005). (The UK Regulations implementing the WEEE Directive were laid before Parliament on 12 December 2006 and enter into force on 2 January 2007. Non-Statutory Guidance was published on 28 February 2007).

National

National Planning Policy for Waste, DCLG (October 2014)

The Waste Management Plan for England¹ sets out the Government's ambition to work towards a more sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and management. Positive planning plays a pivotal role in delivering this country's waste ambitions through:

- delivery of sustainable development and resource efficiency, including provision of modern infrastructure, local employment opportunities and wider climate change benefits, by driving waste management up the waste hierarchy (see Appendix A);
- ensuring that waste management is considered alongside other spatial planning concerns, such as housing and transport, recognising the positive contribution that waste management can make to the development of sustainable communities;
- providing a framework in which communities and businesses are engaged with and take more responsibility for their own waste, including by enabling waste to be disposed of or, in the case of mixed municipal waste from households, recovered, in line with the proximity principle²;

- helping to secure the re-use, recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment; and
- ensuring the design and layout of new residential and commercial development and other infrastructure (such as safe and reliable transport links) complements sustainable waste management, including the provision of appropriate storage and segregation facilities to facilitate high quality collections of waste

Waste Management Plan for England DEFRA (December 2014)

This document sets out where we are now in terms of the waste we generate in England and how we manage those materials. It records some impressive progress since the Waste Strategy for England 2007. We recycle more as householders than we did in the past. Businesses generate much less waste and reuse or recycle more than before. However, we need to do more as we rebalance our economy to achieve strong, lasting growth and widely shared prosperity. This means ensuring that we use the resources we have as efficiently as possible, minimising the impact of waste on our country and supporting the industries of the future.

This Plan explains the measures that we have already in hand, starting with the Government's waste review in 2011. Since then, we have continued the Courtauld Commitment setting new targets to reduce waste from the grocery sector by 1.1 million tonnes by 2015 with potential savings to industry and consumers of £1.6 billion. We have set new packaging targets, for example to increase recycling of plastic packaging to 42% by 2017. We are regulating to improve quality at the Materials Recycling Facilities that deal with much of the waste we generate. High quality recyclates will improve the market for such materials to replace virgin raw materials.

Regional

West of England Joint Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document (adopted March 2011)

Councils in the West of England (Bath & North East Somerset, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, and Bristol) have produced the Joint Waste Core Strategy, a Development Plan to set out the vision and objectives for sustainable waste management, which sets the planning framework up to 2026 reflecting the waste hierarchy. It contains Development Management Policies and has superseded most of the Local Plan waste management policies.

Local

TOWARDS ZERO WASTE 2020; A Waste Strategy for Bath & North East Somerset Waste Strategy Review 2014

The strategy provides an overview of the steps we need to take now and over the next few years to ensure that the service we provide continues to keep up with legal requirements and to contribute to achieving national waste management objectives. Our aims are to:

- maintain and improve the service we offer;
- keep the costs of waste and recycling down;
- help our residents to prevent waste, and to reduce the amount of waste that is produced in our area;
- continue the progress we have made on recycling, and increase the proportion of waste that is recycled; and
- make appropriate use of new ways of treating the remaining waste to maximise its value and divert it from landfill.

By pursuing these aims we will achieve the best results for our residents while reducing the impact that our waste has on the environment.

