

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Environmental Sustainability Partnership Board (ESP) Board</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> December</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>14:30 start 16:30 finish</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>Brunswick Room, Guildhall, Bath</b>

### Attendees

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Position</b>
Chair - Cllr Bob Goodman	Cabinet Member for Development & Neighbourhoods, Combe Down Ward Councillor, B&NES Council
Cllr Patrick Anketell-Jones	Lansdown Ward Councillor, Conservative Group, B&NES Council
Cllr John Bull	Paulton Ward Councillor, Labour Group, B&NES Council
Cllr June Player	Westmoreland Ward Councillor, Independent, B&NES Council
Cllr Richard Samuel*	Walcot Ward Councillor, Liberal Democrat Group (standing in for Cllr Crossley)
Peter Andrews	Community Board Member, Transition Bath and other community initiatives.
Bruce Laurence	Director of Public Health, B&NES Council
David Trethewey	Director, Partnerships & Corporate Services, B&NES Council

<b>Board Advisors</b>	<b>Position</b>
Barry Smith	Sustainable Places Team Leader, Environment Agency
Peter Capener	Independent Sustainable Energy Consultant

<b>Guests</b>	<b>Position</b>
Sarah Jackson	B&NES Council
Sara Grimes	Sustainability Officer, B&NES Council

<b>Standing Officers</b>	<b>Position</b>
Jane Wildblood	Corporate & Community Sustainability Manager, B&NES Council
Micaela Basford	Sustainability Officer, B&NES Council

<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Position</b>
Mandy Bishop	Director, Environmental Services, B&NES Council
Cllr Paul Crossley*	Southdown Ward Councillor, Liberal Democrat Group, Member Advocate for The Sustainable Environment, B&NES Council.
Shaun Carr	Executive Director of Property Service, Curo Housing Association
Chair Cllr Mark Shelford	Conservative Deputy Group Leader, Cabinet Member for Transport & Environment, Lyncombe Ward Councillor, Conservative, B&NES Council.



# Note of the meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Partnership (ESP) Board

Held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018  
Kaposvar Room, Guildhall, Bath.

Board Members	Position
Chair Cllr Mark Shelford	Conservative Deputy Group Leader Bath, Cabinet Member for Transport & Environment, Lyncombe Ward Councillor, Conservative, B&NES Council.
Cllr Bob Goodman <i>(Attended first part of meeting)</i>	Cabinet Member for Development & Neighbourhoods, Combe Down Ward Councillor, B&NES Council
Cllr Patrick Anketell-Jones	Lansdown Ward Councillor, Conservative Group, B&NES Council
Cllr John Bull	Paulton Ward Councillor, Labour Group, B&NES Council
Bruce Laurence	Director of Public Health, B&NES Council
David Trethewey	Divisional Director, Strategy & Performance, B&NES Council
Board Advisors	Position
Barry Smith	Sustainable Places Team Leader, Environment Agency
Peter Capener	Independent Sustainable Energy Consultant
Guests	Position
Sara Grimes	Sustainability Officer, B&NES Council
Gary Peacock	Deputy Group Manager, Highways & Traffic, B&NES Council
Alasdair Yule	Observer from the Highways & Traffic team, B&NES Council
Standing Officers	Position
Jane Wildblood	Corporate & Community Sustainability Manager, B&NES Council
Micaela Basford	Sustainability Officer, B&NES Council
Apologies	Position
Cllr June Player	Westmoreland Ward Councillor, Independent, B&NES Council
Cllr Paul Crossley	Southdown Ward Councillor, Liberal Democrat Group, Member Advocate for The Sustainable Environment, B&NES Council.
Peter Andrews	Community Board Member, Transition Bath and other community initiatives.
Shaun Carr	Executive Director of Property Service, Curo Housing Association

## 1. Welcome, Introductions and Declarations of Interest

- Introductions were made.
- Pete Capener declared an interest as Managing Director of Bath & West Community Energy
- Cllr Shelford & Cllr Bull declared an interest that they are shareholders in Bath & West Community Energy

## 2. Minutes & Actions from the last Board Meeting

It was agreed the minutes were accurate and a true reflection of the meeting.

The following updates on actions were provided:

1.

No.	Action Update
1	Carbon Farming – we've asked for this to be covered at the October Board Meeting as part of the focus on Natural Environment.
2	Action complete.
3	JW has fed the Board's views on the Energy Strategy development. The Board will be consulted further when WECA provides the draft strategy, timetable unclear.
4	SG developing a visit, to include a wind turbine and sustainable housing development – expected November 2018
5	Revisit wider partnerships beyond the WoE boundary as part of the October Board Meeting.
6	Action complete.
7	Stakeholder event proposal to be circulated to the ESP Board for input. Likely date end of September 2018.

## 3. Community Leadership updates

### a) The Motion

The Chair thanked all the Cllrs for their support on taking the motion to Council and for their positive response on the evening.

JW explained next steps regarding the communications work planned as follow up, which includes the stakeholder event in September.

### b) Plastics

JW provided an update.

- Council is performing a leadership role, good action happening across services.
- FAQs being prepared for public & staff so that people are aware of what the real solutions and to avoid greenwash.
- Investigating refill points with the water companies and the BID.
- Waste Services enforcement campaign across B&NES.
- Agreed to include examples of good practice in our communications.

### c) Our Power in B&NES tariff

JW provided update on the Our Power In B&NES tariffs. The Council procured the fully licenced (regulated by OFGEM) energy supplier Our Power, via a thorough EU compliant procurement process in order to deliver both green and more affordable energy in B&NES, to the benefit of the community and the local economy. Bath & West Community Energy are working with Our

Power & the Council to deliver community marketing and access to the energy generated from their local, community-owned energy schemes. Refer to the table below for actions.

#### **4. B&NES Transport Policy & Projects**

GP & SG presented to Board.

Items covered included:

- Strategic overview, WoE coordination and policy harmonisation
- Local Plan development with a particular focus on EV charging infrastructure
- Summary of a range of active projects delivering more sustainable transport
- Explanation of the role of WECA in cross-boundary working and through the gateway funding available
- Demonstrating the contribution of this work to air quality improvement and carbon reduction.

During the discussion the following was noted:

- Grid capacity and the definition of passive provision in new build developments were both issues that need to be considered. This has been noted in the WoE Energy Study.
- B&NES should be aspirational with regard to the approach for passive provision.
- It was reported that current supply of public EV charging points in B&NES is sufficient to meet current demand for charging.
- It was confirmed that the learning from the city bike rental scheme (currently run by Next Bike) is being taken into account in future procurement through the Go Ultra Low West project. For example, in future schemes it is intended that bike starting point locations will be at the top of hills.
- Transport Team noted that in the Go Ultra Low West projects, they will take account of the different circumstances in B&NES in regard to local energy and the provision of power to active EV charging points in the WoE.
- Noted that the Council will be promoting the car sharing and lift sharing to the public in the autumn.
- Members and officers are working hard within West of England Combined Authority (WECA) to maximise funding for sustainable travel.
- It was confirmed that the JLTP is subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment
- GP explained that WECA has £30m per annum to spend on transport. This is gateway funding, i.e. to pump-prime projects which are then used to unlock greater funding, e.g. in B&NES for our Local Cycle & Walking Infrastructure Plan.

Refer to the table below for actions.

## 5. Summary of Actions

Summary of Actions agreed at this meeting.

No.	Action and person responsible	Detail
1	Action (MB)	Circulate proposal to ESP Board about the Stakeholder event in September
2	Action (BL)	To produce a one page note on ways to move forward on the food issue, ref the reference in the vision.
3	Action (MB/JW)	Explore the potential from community enterprise in the Local Food arena, at the Stakeholder Event.
4	Action (BS)	Liaise with Environment agency Plastics work group to share learning, BS to provide introduction
5	Action (MB/CH)	Provide an information package for Board members to enable them to promote the scheme.
6	Action (PC)	Explore potential for community enterprise models for EV charging infrastructure.
7	Action (SG)	Consider the different local energy circumstances for the GUL projects, in B&NES especially given the relation with Our Power and BWCE.

## 6. AOB & Next meeting

No AOBs.

Next meeting confirmed:

Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018, Community Space, Keynsham.

**Agenda theme:** Government's 25 Year Environment Plan

End

**Environmental  
Sustainability  
Partnership**

**Agenda Item 3.1**

**Title: UK 25 Year Environment Plan**

**Date**

**4<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

<b>Desired outcomes:</b>	<b>To provide the Board with an overview of the UK 25 Year Environment Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>To provide an opportunity to consider what the Plan means for B&amp;NES</b></li></ul>
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- ESP Board Advisor, Barry Smith, Sustainable Places Team Leader for the Environment Agency, will present his take on the government's 25 Year Environment Plan
- He will cover what's in the plan overall and then focus on a selection of policy areas that are most relevant to a local area like Bath & North East Somerset and will highlight potential opportunities and challenges for the Board to consider
- There will be an opportunity for the Board to discuss some of the questions Barry raises and how they relate to existing and planned work in Bath & North East Somerset

November 2018

<b>Desired outcomes:</b>	<b>a. Awareness of the environment partnerships B&amp;NES are engaged with and b. their role in delivering B&amp;NES priorities and the 25 yr Environment Plan goals and actions in B&amp;NES and West of England</b>
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## **1. Background**

Presentation previously made to the ESP on the 25 year Environment Plan promoted request to understand current B&NES engagement with environment partnerships and their work associated with the 25 year Environment Plan. Goals listed in the 25yr plan need to be addressed at local level to ensure healthy communities.

The 25 Year Environment Plan introduction states that we *'draw from the planet all the raw materials we need to live – food, water, air and energy for growth. So protecting and enhancing the environment, as this Plan lays out, is about more than respecting nature. It is critical if the next generation is to flourish'*

B&NES Council has three priorities: Protecting and caring for the most vulnerable; Nurturing residents' health, safety and well-being; providing ways for everyone in the community to reach their full potential. Protecting and enhancing the environment is intrinsically linked to these. A healthy environment is key to people's mental and physical wellbeing. Inequalities in access to the natural environment and populations at risk of flooding and heat are some of the environmental issues that need to be addressed. A quality environment is also key to economic growth and sustainable place making. Many of the partnership initiatives listed below are addressing these issues and providing opportunities for people to reach their full potential through training, volunteering and participation in their local environment.

## **2. Summary**

This report lists the environment partnerships - with references to most relevant 25 year Environment Plan goals (*italics*).

**Bathscape Landscape Partnership** – (B&NES lead partner) November 2018 launched 5 year programme funded by HLF (*Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment*)

**Waterspace** – (B&NES lead partner) RTP1 awarded – programme of projects including River Avon Park (*Clean and plentiful water; reduced risk from environmental hazards; Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment; Mitigating and adapting to climate change*).

**WoE Green Infrastructure Working Group** (B&NES Project managing) – development of WoE GI plan to support delivery of JSP (*Using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently; Clean and plentiful water; reduced risk from*

*environmental hazards; Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment Mitigating and adapting to climate change)*

**Natural History Consortium** – coordinates Festival of Nature and City Nature Challenge, and Communicate – networking and sharing research and best practice to Connect, Protect and Enhance (*25 yr Plan Goals and 3 themes of Year of Action*). Parks Foundation for Bristol and Bath Parks.

**Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership** – catchment approach to prioritising/funding projects to improve the water environment (*Clean and plentiful water; Reduced risk from environmental hazards such as flooding and drought*);

**West of England Nature Partnership** – WoE Pollinator Strategy launched 2018, assisting WoE GI plan, Access to Greenspace mapping (*Thriving plants and animals; Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment; Mitigating and adapting to climate change*)

**Mendip Hills AONB Partnership/Cotswold Conservation Board** –AONB Management Plan (*Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment, Glover review of AONBs/National Parks*)

**Bristol Region Environmental Record Centre** – partnership reviewing environmental records centre and need for wider engagement with environment records to encourage action – assist/improve reporting and monitoring(*Thriving plants and animals*)

**Local Wildlife Sites group** – designating and reporting on condition of local wildlife sites (Sites of Nature Conservation Interest) – liaising with Defra to review approach to management reporting. (*Thriving plants and animals*)

Sarah Jackson, B&NES Green Infrastructure Officer 23.11.18

End

4<sup>th</sup> December 2018

<b>Desired outcomes:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>To update the Board on the plastic pollution issue</b></li><li>• <b>To seek the Board's input to and support for the proposal to launch a pledging campaign in Bath &amp; North East Somerset to increase public engagement, stimulate greater action, with a view to seeking Plastic Free Community status</b></li></ul>
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## Background

- Over the last year the issue of plastic pollution has shot up the public agenda and triggered a wave of action in B&NES by the community, especially in Bath and Keynsham, some of which we have been able to extend via the Community Empowerment Fund. This includes a range of different types of activity, from local litter picks to the campaign to encourage more cafes to offer free water bottle refills.
- At the February Council meeting, the Council stated its intention to continue to press central government to enable more action at local level, and to work to avoid single use plastics in our own business and to find ways to support local businesses and local voluntary organisations to enable them to take more action in the community.
- The Council continues to encourage and enable the community to recycle plastics and to avoid littering, including up to date information from Waste Services on the range of plastics that can now be recycled in B&NES and what are and are not viable alternatives to plastics, especially single use items.
- A cross-departmental group of officers has been working together to respond to this issue, looking at in-house operations, public services, business and community aspects in terms of specific single use items, but also more broadly at how we could increase public engagement and stimulate greater action.

## The Proposal

- Following research into action being taken by communities and local authorities across the UK, the team has concluded that the best approach is to set up a pledge campaign in early 2019 aimed primarily at engaging local businesses, public sector and community organisations.
- Organisations would pledge to take action on at least three single use plastic items and commit to work on the following key principles:
  - **Avoid** – to drive an immediate reduction in single use plastic consumption
  - **Recycle** – to enable plastic products to be reused or recycled while alternatives are developed

- **Innovate** – to harness local expertise and work together across sectors to seek new ways of doing things or new alternatives to remove the need for or to replace plastics
- **Connect** – to bring local community action together to enable local learning and to broaden out to other parts of the community
- This campaign would be delivered under the auspices of the B&NES Environmental Sustainability Partnership, utilising the Stakeholder Network and working in partnership with those local businesses, public sector and community organisations who have already been taking the lead on this issue.
- If we can sign up a minimum of 38 businesses and organisations, we will be able to apply for Plastic Free Community status (run by Surfers Against Sewage). We aim to achieve this during 2019, which in turn would help to stimulate further engagement and action.
- Further detail will be presented at the Board meeting.

Jane Wildblood

November 2018

END