

# ‘Improving our communities together’

## North Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 – 2026 Summary



Welcome

Welcome to this summary of ‘Improving our communities together’ – the North Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy 2008–2026. The Strategy provides a vision for the future and a plan that will lead to better opportunities and quality of life for everyone in North Somerset. The North Somerset Partnership (NSP) has developed this Strategy with the active involvement of local people.

Through our partnership efforts we have already shown that we can achieve more by working together. But there is more that needs to be done.

We are grateful to everyone who helped create the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) by sharing their views and aspirations for the future.

We look forward to continuing to work with you.

The North Somerset Partnership

### What is the NSP?

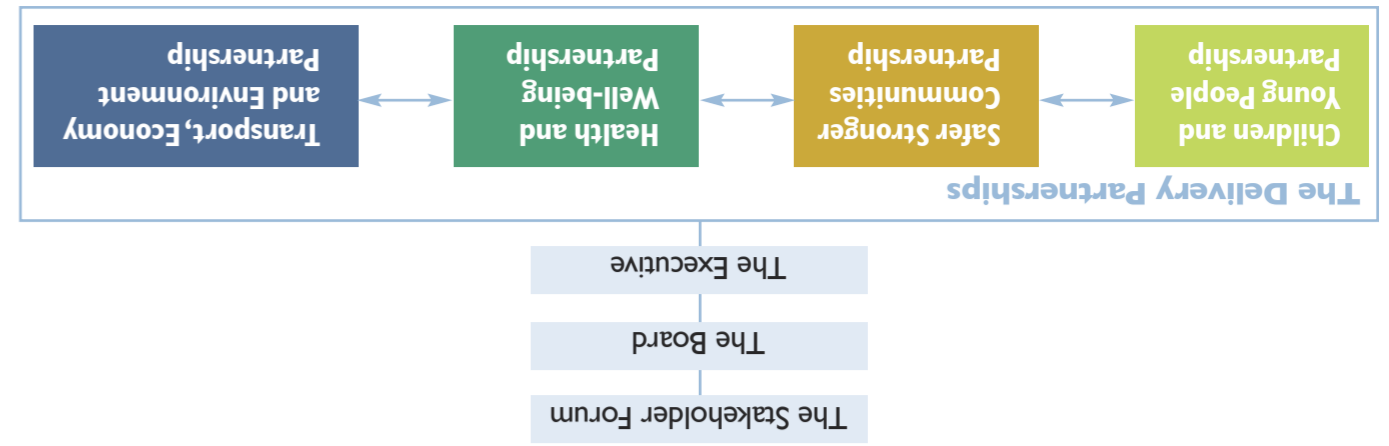
The North Somerset Partnership is the ‘Local Strategic Partnership’ for the area. It brings together senior representatives from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors to plan together for the future of the area.

The partnership board meets quarterly and is supported by an Executive which monitors and challenges progress. There are four delivery partnerships to coordinate delivery of the shared priorities in the strategy. We also have a Stakeholder Forum that holds the partnership to account and influences future work programmes.

The four delivery partnerships will focus on specific areas of work. These are:

- Safer Stronger Communities
- Health and Wellbeing
- Children and Young People
- Transport, Economy and Environment

### Our Structure



### What is a Sustainable Community Strategy?

A Sustainable Community Strategy sets out the long-term vision and priorities to improve the economic, social and environmental well being of an area. It clearly shows how partners will work together to develop sustainable communities.

### SCS – What you said

To develop the SCS we undertook a wide-ranging consultation across the area to find out what was important to people in their areas and communities. Over 1,100 people took part, many of who were young people. To find out more about what they said visit our website [www.northsomersetpartnership.org.uk](http://www.northsomersetpartnership.org.uk)

Our results have also been used to support other initiatives and projects, such as: developing Delivery Partnership action plans, the development of the Local Area Agreement, the Play Strategy lottery bid, Naissea School application, the Older People’s Strategy, the Gateways Project and information to Parish Planning teams across the district.

### The North Somerset Vision

‘Sustainable, inclusive, safe, healthy, prosperous communities thriving in a quality environment’

‘Improving our communities together’, the North Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2026, sets out our long-term vision and six shared priority outcomes. These are broad priorities that reflect what local people have told us matters most to them and what they would like our communities to be like in the future:

- Tackling disadvantage and promoting equality of opportunity (as a priority threading through all the others)
- Developing strong inclusive communities
- Ensuring safer communities
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Developing a prosperous economy and enterprising community
- Living within environmental limits

### How will the SCS be delivered?

The NSP Board will manage the delivery of the Strategy, monitoring and evaluating progress. With limited resources of our own to deliver the strategy we will need to work with partners as well as sub-regional and regional agencies to maximise our opportunities. There are a number of ways in which the strategy will be delivered. These include:

- Delivery partnership action plans
- Partners including relevant areas of this strategy in their own business plans
- The Local Area Agreement (LAA) a three-year agreement between a local area and central government containing targets to achieve key elements of the SCS and deliver improvements for the area.
- The Local Development Framework (LDF) the area’s planning policy framework that will guide the physical development needed to support our objectives for the area.
- The Joint Strategic Need Assessment identifying current and future needs for health and social care services in North Somerset.

For more information and to read the full Sustainable Community Strategy please see our website [www.northsomersetpartnership.org.uk](http://www.northsomersetpartnership.org.uk) or contact us at:

**North Somerset Partnership  
Policy and Partnership Team  
North Somerset Council  
Town Hall  
Walliscote Grove Road  
Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ**

Tel: 01934 634 888

Email: [northsomersetpartnership@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:northsomersetpartnership@n-somerset.gov.uk)

Website: [www.northsomersetpartnership.org.uk](http://www.northsomersetpartnership.org.uk)

This publication is available in large print, Braille or audio formats on request.

If you require information in a language other than English, please contact: 01275 884 379

# Sustainable Community Strategy Summary

## Developing Strong Inclusive Communities

### Our Aspirations for 2026 are:

- All North Somerset residents are satisfied with their local area
- Everyone in North Somerset has the opportunity to influence and participate in their community
- All North Somerset communities are cohesive and inclusive
- Every community has access to a full range of essential facilities and services

### To deliver our Aspirations the following Aims have been identified:

- Enable the development of successful neighbourhoods in North Somerset
- Support the development of the voluntary and community sectors
- Ensure all people are able to make a positive contribution to their communities
- Meet the learning, social and cultural needs of North Somerset communities

### Tackling disadvantage and promoting equality of opportunity

- Deliver community regeneration and increase capacity in areas of need
- Address social isolation within our urban and rural communities
- Encourage community cohesion within our urban and rural neighbourhoods

## Ensuring Safer Communities

### Our Aspirations for 2026 are:

- By 2026 crime levels in North Somerset are in the lowest 25% of all areas nationally
- The number of accidental deaths and injuries in our homes and on the roads are reduced by half
- 90% of people feel safe in their homes and street
- People do not feel discriminated against as a result of their age, gender, sexual orientation, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, disability or caring responsibilities

### To deliver our Aspirations the following Aims have been identified:

- Reduce and prevent violent crime and support victims
- Reduce and prevent criminal activity including anti-social behaviour, criminal damage and theft
- Reduce alcohol and drug misuse and drug related crime
- Reduce public safety risks

### Tackling disadvantage and promoting equality of opportunity

- Increase public reassurance and community participation including supporting vulnerable people
- Improve community safety and reduce the disproportionate levels of crime within our most disadvantaged neighbourhoods
- Promote respect and tackle discrimination

## The North Somerset vision is:

‘Sustainable, inclusive, safe, healthy, prosperous communities thriving in a quality environment’

### North Somerset Partnership Shared Priorities

- Tackling disadvantage and promoting equality of opportunity (as a priority threading through all the others)
- Developing strong inclusive communities
- Ensuring safer communities
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Developing a prosperous economy and enterprising community
- Living within environmental limits

## Improving Health and Wellbeing

### Our Aspirations for 2026 are:

- All young people are achieving above the national average outcomes
- All people to live healthy, active and independent lives
- Sufficient supply, across all tenure types, of sustainable and affordable homes
- The gap between our most affluent and more deprived areas is substantially narrowed

### To deliver our Aspirations the following Aims have been identified:

- Reduce the number of early deaths from heart disease, cancer, stroke, chronic liver disease and preventable accidents
- Improve mental health promotion and treatment services for people with mental health problems
- Full access to appropriate high quality health services and facilities
- Encourage children and young people to lead healthier lives
- Meet the health and social needs of older people
- Ensure older people and vulnerable groups have access to a range of housing and housing related services

### Tackling disadvantage and promoting equality of opportunity

- Increase life expectancy in areas where health outcomes are the poorest
- Develop preventative, appropriate, accessible services for people who are at higher risk of poor health
- Improve the life chances of vulnerable children, including looked after children and young people
- Better access to quality homes
- Increase supply and access to affordable housing
- Prevent and tackle homelessness
- Adequate housing and appropriate health care is available for our black, minority ethnic, gypsy and traveller communities

## Developing a Prosperous Economy and Enterprising Community

### Our Aspirations for 2026 are:

- Increased business confidence in the area
- The number of residents out-commuting from North Somerset has reduced by 25%
- The skills available locally meet local employers needs
- Everyone in North Somerset has access to appropriate employment and skills opportunities locally

### To deliver our Aspirations the following Aims have been identified:

- Development of the infrastructure needed to support sustainable economic growth
- Grow and develop business and enterprise
- Develop the knowledge economy to support efficiency, competitiveness and innovation
- Develop learning and skills within communities and business sectors
- Regenerate main town centres as locations for retail, civic and cultural activity with employment and housing
- Climate change issues addressed with businesses and environmental agencies

### Tackling disadvantage and promoting equality of opportunity

- Eradicate economic exclusion
- Full access to learning, training and employment

## Living Within Environmental Limits

### Our Aspirations for 2026 are:

- North Somerset has taken steps to meet Government's highest standards for adapting to climate change
- District wide emissions have been reduced by 35% (on 1990 levels) by 2026
- No waste to landfill by 2026
- All North Somerset residents feel they have equal access to quality green spaces

### To deliver our Aspirations the following Aims have been identified:

- Tackle climate change by reducing emissions of greenhouse gases
- Assist service providers, businesses and communities to adapt to the effects of unavoidable climate change and to increasing energy costs
- Conserve resources and reduce waste
- Maintain and improve environmental quality in urban areas
- Sustain and enhance North Somerset's natural environment
- Encourage more sustainable patterns of travel and tackle road congestion

### Tackling disadvantage and promoting equality of opportunity

- Develop understanding and action on environmental inequalities in North Somerset
- Ensure access to open spaces and a quality environment for all

A number of improvements, which will help to deliver these aims, have also been identified.

For more information about our Shared Priorities, Aims and Improvements please see the full Strategy or go to our website [www.northsomersetpartnership.org.uk](http://www.northsomersetpartnership.org.uk)