Dear Sir / Madam

**Options to strengthen community representation and civic governance in Bath**

I am writing to personally thank you for responding with your views on the options to strengthen community representation and civic governance in Bath.

As you are aware, a cross-party working group has been meeting since May 2014 to discuss various options. On September 11th 2014 there was a report to Council that explained the progress that has been made so far and explains what we intend to do next.

**What happens next?**

Council agreed that the working group will continue to meet. Its aim will be to provide the incoming administration in May 2015 with a body of evidence that can be used to decide on future direction.

There is a strong view that we will need to engage further in order to find the most appropriate option, both for Bath and for the existing parishes in North East Somerset. I will therefore be looking for opportunities to engage with residents and businesses in Bath and the existing parishes.

Looking ahead, I see the fourth Bath City Conference and the proposed first North East Somerset Conference - scheduled to take place next summer - as opportunities to engage more widely.

I will continue to make sure that you are kept informed as the discussion progresses and we will continue to post the notes of any meetings and updates on the Bath City Conference Website www.bathcityconference.net

Yours sincerely

Paul

Councillor Paul Crossley

Leader of Bath & North East Somerset Council

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