Future Ambition Bath with North East Somerset

Prospectus for Independent Chair



# What we are seeking

We are seeking an Independent Chair of the Future Ambition Board, which provides governance and leadership to Future Ambition Bath with North East Somerset. This is a voluntary partnership that brings together our ‘anchor organisations’- the Royal United Hospitals, Bath; Curo; the University of Bath; Bath Spa University; and Bath & North East Somerset Council- as well as business and other networks. Other organisations are also involved across the wider partnership through a series of sub-groups reflecting the pillars of our Economic Strategy.

# What is Future Ambition Bath with North East Somerset?

Our partnership began in 2020, initially as a way of providing a joint response to the challenges our economy and communities faced during the pandemic.

As we did this, we recognised that we needed to think beyond the pandemic and this led to our ‘One Shared Vision’ document [Ambitious together for a fair, green, creative and connected city region](https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Ambitious%20Together_Digital%20Report_Update%2021.06_7_Accessibility%20checked_Compressed_1.pdf).

Since then we have jointly agreed a ground-breaking new [Economic Strategy](https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/B%26NES-Economic-Strategy-2024-2034.pdf) for our area, with higher wages, boosted productivity, greener businesses and more affordable housing at its heart. In addition, our [Future Ambition Civic Agreement](https://civicuniversitynetwork.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/CM_UOB_125-Civic-Agreement-A4-brochure_v7_WEB_ACCESSIBLE_15.5.24.pdf) sets out our ambitious approach to collaboration to address the key challenges and opportunities for our area.

The Future Ambition Board meets quarterly and we have established a series of sub-groups to help deliver our Economic Strategy as well as a ground-breaking Housing Delivery Mission Board, supported by a [Housing Summit](https://www.curo-group.co.uk/news/news-stories/focus-on-housing-crisis-at-curo-and-bath-north-east-somerset-s-first-housing-summit/) at which Wayne Hemingway was keynote speaker.

More information can be found at <https://futureambitionbath.com/>

# Why we are seeking an Independent Chair

For these arrangements to have real impact in shaping our places and ensuring our area has voice and influence at regional and national level, the Board needs a Chair who is independent of the organisations that comprise our partnership, and who can bring additional inspiration, challenge and leadership to our work. Above all, we are seeking someone who will bring imagination, passion and energy to the role and enable our partners to make a real difference to people’s lives in our area.

# The role

The role provides a unique opportunity to work in a creative and collaborative environment with key partners and organisations committed to improving the lives of people in the area. We are seeking someone who can inspire, energise, stimulate and challenge our partnership so that it meets its full potential.

The Chair will:

* Promote a positive and creative environment for partner involvement
* Ensure all involved in the partnership are valued
* Seek to involve new participants in the partnership’s work
* Embrace and promote the contribution of SMEs, not-for-profits and volunteering in our area
* Help the partnership articulate our vision and purpose within the region and beyond
* Represent the partnership externally, as agreed
* Help further develop the shape, structure and delivery arrangements for the partnership
* Help the partnership maintain its strategic focus around the One Shared vision and Economic Strategy
* Help foster a culture of transparency, accountability, and inclusion.
* Build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders, including community groups, businesses and regional and national bodies, championing the partnership’s work
* Provide constructive challenge and feedback and work with partners to unlock solutions

The Chair will agree agendas for and chair the meetings of the Future Ambition Board, which meets quarterly. You will be supported by the partner organisations to carry out your role. Curo will provide secretariat support for meetings.

We are seeking someone

* With a passion for improving outcomes for local communities
* With demonstrable experience in a leadership, convening or chairing role
* With a strong understanding of economic and community development, local governance, and stakeholder engagement.
* With excellent communication and interpersonal skills and the ability to build relationships, inspire and motivate
* With a strong and demonstrable commitment to championing equality and diversity and promoting inclusion
* With strong ethical standards and integrity.

An understanding of our area and its needs would also be useful, gained through working or living here.

We expect that the time commitment for this role will be approximately two days a month.

# Remuneration

£5000 per annum.

# Term of appointment

We are looking to appoint for a term of 3 years from April 2025.

# Interested?

If you would like to know more or discuss the role, please email FabChair@bathnes.gov.uk

Please send Expressions of Interest, setting out your suitability for the role, including examples of where your experience would meet the requirements set out above, with your CV, to the above email address.

Following submission, it is planned that presentation will be made to a panel who will confirm the appointment on behalf of the Partnership.

The closing date is Friday January 31 2025

