

Initial Ideas

- 1) Starting business. business growth, inward investment, providing workspace, training, mentoring, information, grants, managed workspace to support small business.
- 2) Transport to Jobs
  - Issue across all age groups especially older people
    - To get to amenities
    - Rural areas
    - Commercial developments
    - One off investment to 'lift' struggling services
    - Volunteers + community initiatives → support  
→ drivers licences + capital invest in new buses.
  - Travel smart project
    - Personal info to individuals re: options available
    - Similar project with businesses
    - Time table availability
    - Drop off parking
    - Worle Parkway lengthening and infrastructure
- 3) Retail Support Scheme (capital + revenue mix)
  - Grants for shop front enhancements
  - Business mentoring, business planning, training, marketing
  - Across North Somerset including rural shops
  - Community shops scheme  
→ Community Action, NSEA, Rural Shops Alliance
  - Local produce + shop local
  - Local purchasing – travel less, local employment, local economic benefits
- 4) Employment Planning Applications
  - Support, guidance, information
  - Business rates
- 5) Role of Town and Parish Councils
  - Money for computers
  - Financial support
  - Parish planning
- 6) Energy saving in business
  - Wind turbines
  - Solar panels
  - Heat pumps
  - Audits and mentoring

## Final Ideas

### 1) Retail Support Scheme

- Grants for physical improvements – match funded 50%
- Admin support
- Business support and mentoring

#### **To develop further - NSC and NSEA**

Inc. Community Action, RSA

### 2) Managed workspace and business support

NSEA lead → working with NSC

Capital + revenue = fit out

= Business support - ongoing + enhanced  
- gaps in provision

#### **To develop further NSEA and NSC**

### 3) Transport – possibly across TEE (wild card) – Joint bids across partnership.

Travel smart scheme – could form part of schemes 1+2.

Employment planning applications – could run through schemes 1+2.

Initial Ideas

- Wheels to work }
- Supporting social enterprise } Rural
- What sort of training? –  
Training for new businesses + opportunities? Sustainable technology/green skills
  - Leadership skills programme
  - Business advisor outreach
  - Open apprenticeship events
- BARRIERS – what is stopping us? –
  - RAISING ASPIRATIONS
  - How do we communicate to the 'Learning Community'
  - Can we make more interesting –  
Construct a portal
- Focus of green tech/interactive events
- Schools = competition → innovation and tech. How would you market this?
- Free broadband in e.g. Weston town centre (example Swindon) accessing knowledge and info
- High level broadband hubs
- Gateway into learning portal
- Employer able to access portal to look up where the skills they need are
- Westonworks – physical 'shop' – range of organisations/info/access to skills/training/employment
  - RURAL
    - Community Rural Sector – business skills (14 – 19 years).
    - Rural Businesses – Village shops etc. Access to learning and skills – wider range of opportunities.
    - Transport.
    - Persistent re-offenders – accrediting of training/new opportunities. Helping local business access and fund apprenticeships.
  - A need for helping people through maze of options available. No one place to find that your options + choices are.
- Small business - a real need for a neutral 'clearing house' service.



3) Ex offenders and other vulnerable groups – wrap around programme.

- Support/training/housing

**To develop further: Weston College**

Initial Ideas

Training in renewables

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| → Communities                    | ● Information   |
| → Link with schools – ecoschools | ● Education of benefits                               |
| → Businesses.                    | ● Market development installation service manufacture |
- Link to multi – skill centre → loans/banks

Energy Efficiency

- Awareness
- Information – alternative ways to promote
- Technology available to help – disabled/elderly
- Schools – curriculum
- HIP links
- Community based energy audits

Community Transport

- Car clubs
  - electric cars – sockets around area to recharge.
  - Encourage use of alternatives to car.
- Bike banks
- 'Feeder' buses
  - Transport NSC
  - Community Action
  - Parish Council (ALCA)
  - Bristol
  - Safe routes to bus stops especially rural.
  - General ensure accessibility to transport points/rail/bus
  - Encourage use of alternatives to car.
  - especially where no convenient bus/local transport available

Transition Towns

'Empty the sink'

- carbon reducing householders impact and emissions
- Best practice for homes, gardens and business.

## Final Ideas

### 1. Energy Efficiency and Renewables

- Renewables → Information  
Research  
Manufacturing, installation  
Maintenance
- Information/awareness → Information/awareness  
Technology to help
- Links

- Communities
- Schools
- HIP
- Community based
- Business

- Weston College – multi skills centre
- Ecoschools
- NSC – various services
- Energy Advisors = HIPS
- Business Link
- Environment Agency

**To develop further NSC ( Housing and Sustainability)**

### 2. Community Transport

- Car clubs
- Bike banks
- 'Feeder' buses

**To develop further ALCA and NSC**