

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO
COUNCILLOR M RADULOVIC MBE****Report to Council – 11 October 2023****Borough Toilet Strategy**

A draft strategy was presented to Policy Overview Working Group on 7 September 2023. The Group gave their feedback and requested that mapping of toilet provision within public buildings in the Borough be undertaken as well as a public consultation. Once the consultation and mapping is complete, the Strategy will be modified to incorporate the new information and re-presented to the Policy Overview Working Group for their comments.

Durban House Community Group

The costs for the works required to make Durban House safe before it can be let to the Community Hub are more expensive than previously thought, an increase of £7,000 taking the total amount to £19,000. A report will be brought to December's Cabinet requesting additional funding to complete the works.

In the meantime, work is continuing on other areas of the project:

- Planning permission is required for a “change of use” and a planning application was submitted on 13 September 2023. As Durban House is a Council owned building, the planning application will need to go before Council. It has been advised that the process could take up to twelve weeks.
- Heads of Terms for a Licence are currently being drafted so that the Community Hub can access the building by way of a Licence agreement after completion of pre let compliance works. This will enable them to prepare for full access when a Lease is signed. It is anticipated that the Hub should be able to access Durban House via the Licence in January 2024.
- Drafting Heads of Terms for agreeing terms for the Lease is being undertaken by the Estates Team. The Lease will be drafted by Broxtowe Legal Services. A report requesting Cabinet approval for the Lease is expected to go to the February 2024 Cabinet with the aim that the Community Hub fully occupy the building in April 2024.

Economic Development:**STAPLEFORD TOWN DEAL****Town Centre Grant Funding Project**

All but six outstanding schemes complete from 74 businesses. Four schemes were granted an extension until 31 October 2023, two schemes were granted an extension

until the end of the year due to special circumstances. Town Centre Grant Funding celebration and networking event scheduled for 25 September at 20 Derby Road, 5-7pm. Broxtowe will be represented by Councillor R E Bofinger.

Library Learning Facility

Internal works are complete. Improvements to the external building are now a priority. Design proposals which are within budget for the external building façade was agreed at Delivery Board in August. Works are due to be completed in February 2024.

Enterprise Hub Building

Detailed design of the car park on old Tiles UK site nearly complete, An Architect has been appointed for the design of the Enterprise Hub Building. Working at pace to ensure successful delivery within timeframe of March 2026.

Community Pavilion and Young People's Centre

Currently out to tender for construction of main build. Submission deadline is 2 October 2023. Currently due to complete April 2025.

Football Foundation application submitted. Currently awaiting tender construction proposals. The Football Foundation grant application submission is due April 2024. with planning permission for the site to be granted ahead of this date.

A skate park build engagement event with community and interested parties took place 19 August 2023. Hugely successful and lots of survey responses. Crowd funder page to launch imminently to raise £6k which will hopefully be match funded by Sport England. Top viable sites at present are Archers Field and Central Avenue.

Cricket re-location

Potential site being explored but commercially sensitive at present. Cricket are engaging with Broxtowe Borough Council.

New Stapleford Community Centre/Cliffe Hill Community Centre

Engaging with key Group Members discussions on-going.

Cycle Network and Associated Infrastructure Feasibility report from VIA received this week. Meeting ensued between VIA, Nottinghamshire County Council and Broxtowe Borough Council which was positive. Continuing to engage with Nottinghamshire County Council and future meeting scheduled. Delivery remains a challenge. Chris Boardman opened the Cycle track on 3 July - solution to the vandalism has been identified.

Street Improvement Scheme

Beginning to look into design and feasibility of this project. However, this work is behind some of the other projects.

UKSPF

We are completing spending on all our Year 1 projects (internal and grant-funded) in September and collecting reports on their delivery, ready for a six-monthly reporting round in October. Some revenue-funded projects will continue to deliver activity to March. We issued a celebratory press release in August, highlighting all our 'Good Ideas Fund' projects and featuring Imagine Artsdem's activities for people with dementia and their carers, and have further publicity planned. We are now busy instigating our Year 2 projects, which include various active travel, cost-of-living and energy-reduction and other communities projects; a set of targeted people and skills projects; business support delivered through our 'Joint Commissioning' process with other Notts authorities and a set of business grants. Finally, we are also beginning work on our Year 3 programme, including developing a process for our Year 3 'Communities and Place Grants', which we'll take back to our cabinet panel in October.

Levelling Up

The newly constituted strategic board for Kimberley Levelling Up Fund (LUF) will meet at the end of September and each project is developing. The second round of business grants have been advertised over July and August; a workshop was held in Kimberley on 10 August with over 30 local businesses attending, and the scheme closed on 16 September, with an excellent response to the calls for applications. The Bennerley Viaduct works for the eastern ramp, car park and visitors' centre have been submitted for planning consent and we've just come to the end of the consultation period. Agreements are in place with Harworth estates to start earth moving work there as soon as planning consent has been received and contractors have been procured. We have employed an interim cycling project manager and the cycle paths project is moving forward. The survey work at the Digby Street football pitch continues, and we're meeting with a number of people, including the landowners at Digby Street and the Stag Football Ground, the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO), to discuss ways forward.

Wilkos

The Economic Development Team are also looking into ways in which the Council can help staff caught up in the sad demise of Wilkos. The Council have attended (and advertised our current vacancies) at the redundancy event that Bassetlaw District Council put on in Worksop and are working with the Department of Work and Pensions, Citizens Advice and Inspire Libraries to put together an advice, training and jobs event, which will probably take place in Kimberley Library.

Planning Policy

Broxtowe's Cabinet recently approved a 'Preferred Approach' consultation document regarding strategic distribution development ('logistics'), including a possible site at Bennerley. Subject to approval by the other Greater Nottingham authorities, this consultation is likely to start in late September or early October.

Various additional studies have been recommended by the Planning Inspectorate and the Planning Advisory Service, and these are currently in progress or about to be commissioned. They include transport modelling, an update on housing needs, a study of town centres and retailing, and a Habitats Regulations Assessment (regarding any possible impacts on the protected Sherwood Forest).

We anticipate that a full draft of the Strategic Plan (the 'Publication' or 'Regulation 19' version) will be produced in about April 2024. There will then be a further public consultation, following which the Plan, together with responses to the consultation, will be submitted to the Government. The examination is expected to start later in 2024 and, all being well, the Plan will be adopted by early 2025.

Housing Delivery

We have identified opportunities to increase our housing delivery through the acquisition of five houses and three blocks of flats and will be submitting four housing acquisition reports to October's Cabinet. This is a positive outcome and reinforces our commitment to provide affordable housing in the borough.