

## **Portfolio for Economic Development and Asset Management Councillor M Radulovic MBE**

**Report to Council – 9 October 2024**

### **Planning Policy**

#### **Strategic Plan**

The Council is currently consulting on a Reduction of Carbon in New Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The SPD has been produced in conjunction with Nottingham City Council. The SPD sets out how new developments can meet low carbon requirements through energy and carbon reduction and sustainable construction. The comments received will be considered and the document will then be updated accordingly prior to the Council considering whether the SPD should be adopted.

The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan is progressing with a consultation on the Publication Draft due to take place this autumn. Following this consultation, the aim is to submit the Strategic Plan for examination in late spring 2025. The Strategic Plan has had to be updated based on recent proposed planning reforms announced by the Government. The Council has responded separately to these proposed reforms.

#### **Economic Development**

The vacancy of the Town Centre Initiatives and Contracts Manager, has now been filled. This should increase the capacity of the team to improve interaction with local businesses in the four town centres, events programs and work with regard to markets, and do a little more business as usual economic development work.

The Council is launching a series of business forums to strengthen and increase engagement with local businesses. A forum will take place in each town centre offering the opportunity for businesses to network, increasing engagement, identifying priorities for business support and tackling issues affecting businesses in town centres and to hear more about how the Council can help their business.

There will be a guest speaker and opportunity to tell the Council about local business requirements. Initial meetings have been arranged for October.

#### **Stapleford Town Deal**

##### **Key Project Updates**

The Project Adjustment Request to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has been approved with newly adjusted budgets, moving Derby Road into the Street Improvement Scheme. The cycle network has become 'Active Travel'.

The Library Learning Facility phase two is now complete and the year one anniversary celebration was held at the end of July.

### **Community Pavilion**

GEDA won the construction contract and the Pavilion contract has been signed. There will be an alternative route through the park to the rear while demolition and construction is ongoing, as the footpath to the front will form part of the site enclosure. The appointment of an additional Ecologist to support with removal of last tree is to be considered.

The Football Foundation (FF) application submitted for a 3G AGP (artificial grass pitch) has now been approved. The Football Foundation required a multi-use games area to be included in the application and to be completed by McArdles.

The Cricket land purchase has been completed with a coordinated communication to go out with support of Stapleford Cricket Club and England Cricket Board.

Issues around the temporary facilities for football and bowls continue to be considered.

There have been meetings with a number of partners regarding the designs for the Cricket Club and concerns about flooding.

### **Pencil Works**

The Royal Institute of British Architects stage two design has been adjusted to avoid the Nottinghamshire County Council adopted land area, in order for the project to move into stage 3 in July, with the application to go to Planning Committee in November.

A two stage tender process will be undertaken with support from Welland procurement, with an aim to appoint a contractor by December and to be on site by February 2025. Public engagement is planned for the 11 July, with feedback required from residents following sharing updated designs.

### **Derby Road Car Park (131-133, Derby Road)**

The contractor is in receipt of site details and the current proposal is to go for a direct award of contract to GEDA to get this project moving quickly. There is to be a 44 space car park replacing 51 spaces lost at this site on Victoria Road.

### **Town Centre COVID-19 Recovery Grants and UKSPF**

Open - on hold until Post Office comes forward and DDA ramps completed by VIA.

### **Street Improvement Scheme**

The brief including adjustments regarding the adopted land issue to be distributed to contractors to get comparable quotes for works.

## **Active Travel Network and Associated Infrastructure**

The changes to outputs and outcomes with ATE (Active Travel England) were discussed, and Nottinghamshire County Council agreed to progress with an integrated approach to including pedestrians and cyclists. The adjusted brief had been confirmed with Nottinghamshire County Council and ATE and sent to VIA and to other prospecting contractors for comparable quotes.

## **UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)**

The Government's UKSPF contract for the current £1.6 million into Broxtowe Borough Council will end on 31 March 2025. All project expenditure must be completed by this time, to avoid any possibility of clawback, with a final report required due by 1 May 2025. The meeting of the East Midlands Combined County Authority Board, on 16 September 2024 agreed a twelve-month extension for the funding review and that Business Support will be dealt with regionally. Some local projects will continue for this period and discussions are ongoing for this new funding mechanism for future years.

There is less than six months left to deliver on the current programme.

The commissioned services continuing to deliver are:

- Communities and Place - Citizens Advice Bureau Financial Resilience Project
- People and Skills – Transform Your Future
- Business Support - Broxtowe Accelerator.

The Council is committed to deliver the programme as approved at Cabinet on 6 February 2024.

## **The Kimberley Means Business Project (formerly Levelling Up Fund)**

The eastern ramp of the Bennerley Viaduct has been constructed, although a delay in opening occurred due to the settlement of top soil. Contractors are now satisfied that the soil movement has slowed to such an extent that final touches, such as path edging, can now be completed.

A value engineering exercise has taken place on phase two of the Bennerley project, namely to construct a Visitor Centre. The Council has taken the view that the centre should be constructed to a high specification in order to provide an exciting new tourism offer for the north of the Borough.

Negotiations with Harworth Estates for the construction of industrial units on land to the north of Bennerley Viaduct, although complicated, are nearing a completion thanks to hard work on behalf of all parties. Revised heads of terms are now agreed in a draft format and following legal overview will be in a position to be signed.

The active travel work remains a challenge. Sustrans are working with the Economic Development team to provide design and concept for Local Transport Note (LTN

1/20) compliant routes linking Bennerley with Phoenix Park. However, housing development sites at either end of the project are a consideration. In addition, working on Nottinghamshire County Highways assets is also proving challenging to secure agreement.

Work in Kimberley Town Centre is continuing apace. A revitalised Toll Bar Square with new cycle parking is now complete, and a living wall showing historic Kimberley is also open. In addition, work with the Town Council on the illuminations project is nearing completion with the expectation of the first major light show taking place this Halloween. Work also continues with the Town Council on the demolition of the existing Parish Rooms and the construction of the new Kimberley Hub.

The Council continues to work with Kimberley Town Council and other partners to improve sporting provision in the town. A planning application has now been submitted for a new sporting pavilion at The Stag Ground.

Finally, over 38 grants have been issued to businesses in Kimberley to support trade vibrancy in the town. Furthermore, the Council has been proactive in supporting Kimberley businesses through the recent Cadent gas works on Main Street with a series of relief grants.

## Asset Management

### 2024/25 Delivery Performance

A one-year planned maintenance programme has been produced for this financial year which aligns with the extended contract period with current suppliers.

The core work streams are shown in the table below. All works identified as requiring replacement are undergoing sense checks and validation through physical inspection by our Modernisation Officers so the work in progress can be managed, with attritions and additions to the programme.

This work will be further supported by the recently commissioned stock condition survey of our properties which will continue to inform the ongoing programme of planned maintenance over future years.

The Council has also recently recruited to the vacant Disabled Adaptation Officer role and they have been working through the backlog of aids and adaptations with the majority of major adaptation requests now dealt with.

Work Stream	Forecast	Ordered	Completed (Aug 24)
16910/9002 Heating Replacement and Energy Efficiency Works (Planned)	135	135	83
16910/9002 Heating Replacement and Energy Efficiency Works (Beyond economical repair and unplanned)	100	13	81

Work Stream	Forecast	Ordered	Completed (Aug 24)
16919/9002 Housing Modernisation Programme (Kitchens)	75	58	47
16919/9002 Housing Modernisation Programme (Bathrooms)	75	23	16
16919/9002 Housing Modernisation Programme (Roofs)	45	0	23
16946/9002 Window and Door Replacement (Doors)	18	51	16
16946/9002 Window and Door Replacement (Windows)	252	252	206

## Major Projects Executive Summary

### Chilwell Quarry

Derbyshire Geo-Technical were appointed to carry out remedial works which commenced in July 2024. The stabilisation of the collapsed cliff is now largely complete within the programmed timeframe. Positive feedback has been received from the residents including on how the contractors have communicated the works to residents. Fairhurst, the Council's employer's agent, are currently undertaking an assessment of the wider quarry including the trees. They will be producing a management plan which includes how to treat the trees, some of which may need removing and other pruning. The Council is currently within the approved budget for works and this will continue to be monitored. There is still capacity within the existing agreed budget to implement recommendations from the management plan. Once the recommendations from the management plan and associated costs are understood, Cabinet will be updated further on the budget position.

### Beeston Council Offices update.

Reception refurbishment works at the Council Offices are progressing well. With completion by October 2024.

### Procurement on Capital Works Contracts

After carrying out a market testing exercise to identify a procurement approach, the Council has decided to progress with Procure Plus, who are a framework provider to help to carry out a procurement exercise on all Capital Works activities to ensure there is demonstration of Value for Money.

The ITT is now live and will close in October with a target to enter into new contracts by the end of the year.

## Energy Performing Certificates(EPC) Programme

Although 3576 EPC's have been completed the Council is experiencing some delivery issues with the current contractor. To ensure the meeting of the delivery target, the Council has appointed Nottingham City Council to undertake EPC's A breakdown of the current EPCs by band is shown below.

EPC Band	Completed
A	2
B	61
C	2,068
D	1,288
E	141
F	13
G	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,576</b>

## Stock Condition Programme

The Council has instructed Michael Dyson Associates to undertake the stock condition survey and the first 1,000 properties will be completed by October 2024. The stock condition template has been agreed and surveys will be uploaded to systems upon internal validation.

## Bramcote Leisure Centre Works

The below works that have taken place since Cabinet approval.

- ✓ RAAC exposure works and surveys
- ✓ Roof works to clear debris to allow for inspection
- ✓ Concrete repair works for the training pool
- ✓ Additional design works to support the defective RAAC
- ✓ Multiple asbestos surveys and instruction of a management plan.

Next Steps:

- Understand the cost and risk for future operation delivery of services at the centre (RAAC/Asbestos)
- Obtain quotations for the asbestos encapsulation and/or removal
- Obtain repair costs for RAAC support
- Decide on the approach to the basement concrete repair or inspection
- Source quotations for roof and window repairs