

Portfolio for Economic Development and Asset Management Councillor M Radulovic MBE

Report to Council – 11 December 2024

Planning Policy

Strategic Plan

Consultation on the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan is currently being undertaken. The Plan has been produced in partnership with Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe Councils to ensure there is a strategic approach to meeting Greater Nottingham's development needs and delivering vital infrastructure to support growth. In Broxtowe, the Plan includes a large logistics allocation at the former Bennerley Coal Disposal Point and significant growth at Toton/ Chetwynd. The Plan will be submitted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate in late Spring 2025.

We have recently consulted on the Reduction of Carbon in New Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which 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 and is a key action identified within the Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy. The comments received are now being considered and the document will then be updated accordingly prior to the Council considering whether the SPD should be adopted.

Neighbourhood Plans

Four Neighbourhood Plans have now been adopted by Broxtowe Borough Council as the Chetwynd: The Toton and Chilwell Neighbourhood Plan was adopted by the Borough Council in May 2024 and the Cossall Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in March 2024. Both the Awsworth Neighbourhood Plan and the Nuthall Neighbourhood Plan were adopted in earlier years. The Borough Council is continuing to support Town and Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Forums in relation to their Neighbourhood Plans and is also working with a number of them in relation to other planning matters. It is anticipated that the next Neighbourhood Plans to come forward will be the Bramcote and Stapleford Neighbourhood Plans.

Economic Development

The Town Centre Initiatives and Contracts Manager, has now been appointed. The postholder has increased the capacity of the team to improve interaction with local businesses in the four Town Centres, and a series of business forums have taken place which has increased our engagement with local businesses in Town Centres.

The appointment of this role, has also meant that over time the team can do some more business as usual economic development work, which has not happened recently, due to the need to maintain momentum with the funding targets.

Stapleford Town Deal**Key Project Updates**

Programme update

Monitoring and reporting for H1 2024/2025 was submitted to the Government on the 20 November 2024

The Wheels and Skate park project is now funded by the Active Travel scheme within the Towns Fund funding envelope.

Library Learning Facility

The project was completed in July 2024 and outputs continue to exceed targets.

Community Pavillion Main Build

- GEDA started on site in August 2024, and are expected to handover the project in October 2025.
- The memorial bench relocation was completed
- The last trees were removed from the site to enable the carpark and substation works.
- Demolition of the old pavilion has been completed
- Foundations are in place with steel superstructure underway.

Football

- The Football Foundation (FF) Funding including MUGA has been approved at £1.415m, with an additional £66k from the Premier League Stadium Fund. Both the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) and Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) will be delivered by McArdles. Co-ordination work is in hand with GEDA and McArdles.
- McArdles are working to discharge planning conditions
- Quotes for Cricket pitch contractors have been assessed and a direct award (value £270k) granted to Talbot Landscapes.
- Significant issues around requirements and therefore costs of the temporary facilities Bowls and temporary relocation of Football club are being worked through.

Youth Centre and Community Centres

- A grant has been offered to the Youth Centre but no request for payment made as yet.
- Existing Community Groups have stated an intention to remain in their current buildings.

The Pencil Works

- RIBA 4 design is nearing completion.
- A planning application was submitted on the 1 October 2024 with a decision expected from 4 December 2024 Planning Committee.
- Procurement: Stage 1 tender has been completed, with Stage 2 closing date 18 November 2024. A preferred contractor will be identified by 25 November for appointment by 20 December 2024.
- Expected on site by end April 2025.

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

- GEDA appointed with Focus as the project managers .
- The contractor started on site on the 28 October. Carpark progressing well and is expected to open February 2025.
- A 44 space car park is replacing 51 spaces on Victoria Road.

Town Centre COVID-19 Recovery Grants and UKSPF

- The project is 98% complete with the remaining £53k being used to support the Grants being managed by UKSPF.

Street Improvement Scheme

- VIA have now produced a detailed feasibility study of the Walter Parker VC Memorial and Officers are waiting for a full cost breakdown for review.
- Focus is completing a street audit to declutter the Towns Centre. A report with costs and recommendations is expected by the end of November.

Active Travel Network and Associated Infrastructure

- The Skate park procurement is underway, (open tender 21 days), to appoint a design and build contractor. An application was submitted to FCC Communities Fund on the 20 November, and Officers are awaiting a response.
- Works on designs for Pastures Road improvements, including new Albany School crossing and pavement works, have been commissioned. This is being conducted through a service level agreement with the County Council
- Designs for Pasture Road Recreation Ground to Mill Road cycle route have been requested. Pit Lane is a contingency route.
- A consultant has been approached who works on promoting cycling to promote/increase cycling within Stapleford. The Cycle Hub has been very successful – completing 1159 bike repairs.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The UKSPF ends on 31 March 2025 so all projects must be completed by this time with a final report required due by 1 May 2025. There are 16 Broxtowe led projects still to be completed, most of which are in the final stages of delivery or are profiled to last throughout 2024/25. All projects have been graded and resources deployed to get as much completed as soon as possible. There is some funding likely to be devolved to Broxtowe via the EMCCA for next financial year but it will be reduced and there is no indication of when the funding will be announced and exactly what will be eligible.

Communities and Place

One of the projects which has recently been completed was the re-location of the statue in Beeston Square and decluttering which has improved the square for events and markets. Other projects which are doing exceptionally well are the Cost of living project, Communities and Place Green Doctor and Food Bank Co-ordination projects are well above target. 13 of the 15 grant funded projects delivered by Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations are also nearly complete.

People and Skills

The highlight of the work so far is the work on developing Start in South Notts Portal which launched earlier in the quarter. All projects are on course although a refresh of Skills Quest has been deferred till next year due to a key member of the team on long term illness. Work has been carrying on at pace on a proposal for a community hub in Eastwood which will allow local access to Job Centre Services currently only available outside the Borough.

Business Support

The highlight in this quarter is the release of all the UKSPF funding in the final round of grants to local businesses. Just under 50 businesses in total were awarded grants and all offer letters that have cleared due diligence should be completed by 25 November 2025. Retail Forums in Beeston, Kimberley, Stapleford and Eastwood were held and a proposal for Town Centre Business Support is nearly complete.

Last month the Team published a highlights and impact report which can soon be found on the Council's Web Site. Copies will be available for the meeting.

The Kimberley Means Business project (formerly Levelling Up Fund)**Bennerley**

There was a return of the soil settlement issues resulting in a crack appearing close to the top of the ramp. Parties appear confident this is simply settlement but may now need to wait until Spring for final remedial works. A temporary solution is being worked on to restore pedestrian access by the end of the month.

Contractors are on site and have started work on the Visitor Centre.

Industrial Units

Heads of Terms have been agreed and signed for the Harworth site north of Bennerley, with design now taking place. Discussions for another site are ongoing.

Active Travel

The project is now reduced to a section between Kimberley School and Bulwell and some other links in Kimberley. Designs are almost completed, including a concept piece for the Town Centre. Members should be aware that an LTN 1/20 compliant route would have had radical implications for traffic flow and parking in Kimberley Town Centre.

Parish Hub

There are some issues with tendering which we are working hard with Kimberley Town Council to resolve and hope to do so shortly.

Illuminations

The project is largely completed, Halloween, Christmas and Remembrance events have already been held.

Sports

Work is proceeding on the Stag Pavilion with a Project Manager appointed and designs nearly agreed. Funding was found for the Cricket Club with new nets, drainage, and car park provided. A seven to nine side pitch has now been agreed to be improved at Swingate.

Business Grants

This work has now largely been completed with only a few minor issues left to resolve on a few cases.

Streetscene

Improvements have been completed to Toll Bar Square and other locations in town. Feedback was largely positive, including from Kimberley Town Centre.

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 the backlog of major adaptation requests now dealt with.

Work Stream	Forecast	Ordered	Completed (Oct 24)
16910/9002 Heating Replacement and Energy Efficiency Works (Planned)	225	64	129
16910/9002 Heating Replacement and Energy Efficiency Works (Beyond economical repair and unplanned)	200	20	109

Work Stream	Forecast	Ordered	Completed (Oct 24)
16919/9002 Housing Modernisation Programme (Kitchens)	90	23	66
16919/9002 Housing Modernisation Programme (Bathrooms)	50	16	32
16919/9002 Housing Modernisation Programme (Roofs)	40	9	25
16946/9002 Window and Door Replacement (Doors)	150	44	74
16946/9002 Window and Door Replacement (Windows)	450	80	297

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 which the Council is due to receive by the end of November 2024. Fairhurst have provided a management plan which has identified risk areas of the trees in the wider quarry. Engagement has now started with contractors to obtain quotations for the identified works. 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

Whilst most of the works are complete, there has been delay to the installation of the new reception desk. The original supplier went into liquidation. An order has been placed through a new supplier and the new reception desk is scheduled for installation in January 2025.

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 invitation to tender 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

3,791 EPCs have been completed to date. Following the significant improvement of our EPC data, the Council can now report an improved average EPC score of 69/C. The Council now has two suppliers delivering EPCs. Alongside obtaining EPCs on the housing stock without an EPC, over 400 properties have been identified where a new EPC is required following improvement works. This will further improve the average EPC rating. A breakdown of the current EPCs by band is shown below.

EPC Band	Completed
A	2
B	66
C	2214
D	1357
E	139
F	9
G	2
Total	3791

Stock Control 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

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.
- ✓ The Basement concrete column is to be monitored at six monthly intervals rather than repaired following further advice from the Engineer.

Next Steps:

- Understand the cost and risk for future operation delivery of services at the centre (RAAC/Asbestos)
- Quotes have been obtained for the asbestos encapsulation and/or removal of asbestos in key areas of the plant room.
- Quotations have been sourced for roof and window repairs. The window repairs have been instructed and will commence in January, whilst options for the roofing repairs are being considered