

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

Report to Council – 15 October 2025

UKSPF Funding

UKSPF funding from EM Combined Counties Authority for Year 4 was received by the Borough early in July. Broxtowe's allocation being £1,056,720, of which £462,975 is capital funding and £593,745 is revenue funding. 32 Projects and activities have been approved for support through the programme this year. 13 community grants have been issued and around 30 businesses have had grant offers made through the Members Advisory Panel and S151 Officer which convened on the 19th September 2025. The pace and breadth of activity will vary between the different schemes and officers are preparing the first monitoring report to be submitted in early October. Firm commitments, actual funds defrayed and contractually committed payments are totalling around 70% - 75%.

Careful monitoring of the programme will take place to ensure the economic and place-based benefits to the Borough are maximised. One area of identified underspend has been re-allocated to a project which supports the strengthening of the community in the most deprived super output areas (estates and neighbourhoods within wards). Projects in Inham Nook and St Mary's in Eastwood are set to receive funds. Other new initiatives recently launched include town centre independent business promotions in Beeston including a bee trail and a business promotion initiative at the University freshers fair to showcase the best of the town centre. A scheme for new entrepreneurs will launch this autumn). Work has started on a scheme to improve part of the Nottingham Canal.

Stapleford Town Deal Funding

The Town Deal is more than halfway to being completed with three of the six original projects being completed. Library Learning Centre, High Street Recovery Fund and now the Community Pavilion. At the Pavillion there is still some minor snagging works being undertaken on the grounds and to the area around the 3G pitch. The pitch has received approvals from the governing bodies and the Steven Gerrard Academy and Stapleford Town FC have started to use the facilities. The additional padel courts are being constructed and should open during October. A centre launch is being planned later this month, and a number of rooms and facilities will be named after local people including the community garden which will be named to honour the late Cllr Bofinger and the main pitch which will be named after Dave Watson. The cricket pitch designs are to go to November Planning Committee; the pavilion designs are looking to go to Planning Committee early next year.

The Pencil Works & Makers Space Enterprise Centre contract has been signed but unfortunately the main build has been delayed due to asbestos discovery. The skate park at Pasture Road Recreation Ground is on course for completion before

Christmas and has received £100,000 of additional FCC funding. Work on improving the Albany School crossing and Walter Parker VC Square are likely to move forwards in this quarter. Non-motorised user routes for walking and cycling have been taken through procurement and are in a position to proceed to the final stages of project development.

Kimberley Means Business

There has been much progress across the summer. The industrial units at Shilo Way (Viaduct Enterprise Park), are now well into the construction phase with the steel structures already up. The Visitor Centre is substantially complete and works on a total rebuild of the section of ramp that had structural issues has been commenced. These works are weather dependent, and whilst they had been ahead of schedule and the recent wet weather has pulled this back slightly. The land sale and relocation of the sewer has created a second development site at Giltbrook, and work is on-going to secure planning and procurement.

In the town itself the grants scheme is nearing completion with the final few claims still to be processed. Match funding targets have been exceeded, and all output measures complete. The Town's lights, screens and animations are in preparation for their second Halloween and Christmas and work progresses on the Hub. There had been delays due to a Victorian cellar structure being discovered and remedied. Works on the Stag Ground and Kimberley Institute Cricket Club are well underway, and work has been undertaken on Kimberley Primary school football pitch. The non-motorised user routes have been scaled back to take into consideration the technical difficulties that this part of the project has encountered and to in part compensate for the construction price inflation that all areas of the project have encountered since the award was made in 2022. This quarter is projected to see the largest net outflow of spending with just over £3.5 million being defrayed. The Government has also responded to feedback in making regeneration schemes less bureaucratic and have more local control. MHCLG are therefore consolidating the Levelling Up Fund, Town Deals and Simplification Pathfinders Pilot Fund together into a single funding with increased flexibility to adapt schemes to local needs allowing "spades in the ground".

Other Economic Development & Regeneration Activity

The High Street Rental Auctions initiative has been deployed in Eastwood where the consultation phase is soon to be completed along with the vacancy register. In Stapleford 12 notices are being issued and engagement has been undertaken with a number of landlords and interested parties. Two properties have now come back into use with one featured in recent press activity. The government has started to outline other policy initiatives which work along similar lines giving even further powers to localities to address high street decline. At the time of writing the government was about to launch a new programme and has discussed "Pride in Place". The Service will be exploring this development very carefully.

In Eastwood a paper has been taken to Cabinet to explore the opportunities for regenerating the Walker Street site, revisiting the Health and Lifestyles proposal which was the centre of the LUF bid. Eastwood CEDARS has started operationally

and is delivering health improvement measures into the community. Work continues around engagement with EMCCA and seeking out further opportunities to collaborate on key strategic approaches and pipeline funding initiatives.

Planning Policy

We are in the final stages of preparing the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan in advance of seeking approval to submit it for examination by the end of the year. We are also looking at evidence in relation to HMOs and will be reporting on options to extend the existing Article 4 area.

With regard to Development control, we have received 3 large major applications for the sites around the Toton Park and ride and are expecting/have received a large-scale application for the Bennerly Employment Site. Two planners have recently left to move to pastures new, and we are currently looking to recruit to both these posts.

