

Economic Development and Asset Management Portfolio Councillor M Radulovic

Report to Council – 14 October 2026

Economic Development & Regeneration:

Core Work

Further contributions have been made in response to consultations on concept documents being worked on by Nottinghamshire County Council colleagues, to release funding via the EMCCA's Investment Board. This includes actions such as business support, the visitor economy and skills interventions. Our objective, as ever is to influence county wide funding initiatives that will support local businesses and residents. Some funding through LGF has been released to both the constituent councils and the EM Chamber of Commerce, the latter as the result of a successful tender to provide the main business support contract. Another area of work has been to influence the Heartlands Area place-based strategy. Work has commenced on 4 town centre plans which look to build on the investment from funding and indeed look at opportunities where possible.

The Team continues to work closely with local business property agencies and owners and monitor vacancies in high streets and other industrial and commercial areas. These are recorded for KPI purposes and also to support businesses looking to invest or expand in Broxtowe. Vacancies are also an important feature of High Street Rental Auctions where Broxtowe has become the first authority in the country to complete a refurbishment project and advertise a property at auction. The government have recently confirmed that HRSA will go forwards and there will be a future round of funding this autumn. A property in Eastwood has been identified and a notice served.

CEDARS continues to flourish with the Ministry of Justice, the DWP and most recently the CAB taking space there to deliver multi-agency services. The latter has occurred following the closure of the Library due to structural issues. This development brings sharply into the focus the ongoing work on the main Health Hub project at Walker Street. Work has continued with the consultancy and partner team to achieve a RIBA Stage 2. Also, in Eastwood officers responded to Raleigh entering into administration. Rapid redundancy support was offered to the company's former employees, and an approach has been made to Heritage Lottery to acquire some of the heritage bicycles and historic artefacts.

UKSPF

Broxtowe has spent its full 2025/26 UKSPF allocation, funded through the East Midlands Combined Council Authority. The work has been supported by the Members Advisory Panel who have fed views into the process by written procedures. The works

programme has supported nearly 40 projects across community initiatives, town centre activity, employability and business support. Recent delivery includes jobs fairs held in partnership with DWP, the launch of Pits to Pints Heritage trail in Eastwood, and grant support for pre-start and growing businesses. Works along Nottingham Canal are complete.

The programme closes on 30 September 2026, when a pilot Freshers Evening Market is planned for Beeston Square. Final activity also includes the CAB Financial Resilience programme and the Beeston Square big screen. End of programme reporting will confirm the final expenditure, outputs and outcomes achieved and needs to be reported to the funders this month.

LRF Project Updates

The Council's LRF programme still follows the plans and governance of the Stapleford Town Deal and Kimberley Means Business (KMB), both must be completed by March 2028 at the latest.

KMB Project One Active Travel & Bennerley Viaduct:

The Active Travel elements of the project have been suspended with funding diverted into other schemes. A small element of the project for a nature trail on the former railway line remains and is in the process of delivery through Via. The Bennerley Viaduct project is now completed. The ramp re-opened to the public in the spring, with the new Visitor Centre opening in July. Over a thousand people used the viaduct to observe the solar eclipse.

KMB Project Two Sports facilities and Industrial Units

The sports facilities at North Street are now finished within budget, providing a new hireable sports pitch for the town as well for the local primary school. The Stag Ground has seen several improvements, including drainage, floodlights, and barrier infills. Most importantly, the new pavilion has officially opened. Again, this supports matchday experience and another hireable community facility. With the Bennerley industrial units complete and tenants being secured work has been stepped up on the phase II units at Giltway.

KMB Project Three Town Centre Regeneration

Most aspects of this project stream have now completed. The project has issued more than £650,000 in grants for local businesses, together with match funding over £1million has been invested to improve businesses and create employment. Development of the Kimberley Parish Hub is continuing, with officers providing support. Although delayed this permanent home for the Town Council, and new office space should be finished at the turn of the year.

STD Programme Review

The Stapleford Town Deal Executive Board reviewed, works for all non-contractually committed funding. There is a desire to ensure as much of the original programme is accelerated and completed. There are some limited opportunities to provide more benefit through additional activities, subject to formal board approval and proof that they can be delivered by the deadline.

STD Community Pavilion and Steven Gerrard Academy

The Pavilion continues to be fully operational, with all indoor facilities, pitches and courts available for community use. A 12-month review resulted in identified snagging works, of which 43% have already resolved. Additional off-site parking options have been proposed together with and restrictions on Hickings Lane, working together with VIA EM and NCC members. 120 young people attend the Steven Gerrard academy on a weekly basis and the pitches support growth in football especially women and girls where activity has doubled from last year. 1 new business spin-out and 3 new jobs have been created this quarter. The replacement cricket pitch works have continued since commencement in June and are nearing completion, with establishment and growing-in periods to follow. In addition, Trowell Junior F.C. have been assisted with the demolition and replacement of their facilities.

STD Pencil Works Enterprise Hub and Makers Space

Construction of the Pencil Works Enterprise Hub is approaching completion, with practical completion anticipated November 2026. Significant progress has been made over the summer on internal fit-out, external works and utility connections. The additional £320,000 secured from EMCCA for the Makers Space element is being incorporated into the final delivery programme and will provide specialist facilities aimed at supporting creative industries, start-up businesses and circular economy initiatives. A procurement exercise is underway to identify a suitable operator. Discussions regarding additional off-site staff and tenant parking have also advanced, helping to maximise public parking availability within the site.

STD Town Centre Recovery Grant Funding Project

There is no further update on the Town Centre Recovery Grant Programme. The main grant programme remains closed to new applications, although earmarked resources continue to support High Street Rental Auction initiatives.

STD Cycle Network and Associated Infrastructure Scheme

The Cycle Hub, Circuit and Cycling Training Track on Ilkeston Road continue to demonstrate strong levels of usage and community engagement. The enhanced facilities for visually impaired users have attracted positive regional attention. The All Wheels and Skate Park at Pasture Road Recreation Ground has experienced high

levels of use since opening, with the Skate Nottingham's programme attracting 452 participants of which 45% were female ranging from age 7 to 47. Works to improve paths and accessibility within Pasture Road Recreation Ground are nearing completion. The Albany Road School puffin crossing and associated footpath improvements were completed in August, providing long overdue road safety for pedestrians and cyclists. The official opening took place on 4 September.

Street Improvement Scheme

The Derby Road Car Park continues to support town centre businesses by improving visitor access and parking provision, particularly at the lower end of Derby Road. The Walter Parker VC Square project has progressed significantly since contract award. Concept designs and options have been developed, and key stakeholder engagement activities have been undertaken, with construction planning carefully coordinated around key town centre events and Christmas activities. Public Engagement is taking place from 28 September through to October.

Local Plans

The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan examination is still ongoing, with hearing sessions taking place in July. We are now waiting for the Inspectors' post hearing letter to advise us on the next steps.

We are also starting early scoping work on the new Broxtowe Local Plan which will replace the existing Part 1 and Part 2 Local Plans. It will guide how Broxtowe grows and develops over the coming years, setting out the Council's vision and priorities for future development, including the location of new homes, employment, infrastructure and services. It will also establish how high-quality, well-designed places will be created, while protecting and enhancing Broxtowe's natural environment, biodiversity and green infrastructure. We want to make sure as many groups, organisations and residents get involved in this process as possible.