

Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Alice Collinson, Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder	Council	2 December 2021

Executive Report: Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform Council of progress on key objectives and the current position on issues within the Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio, as set out below.

2. Local Plan Partial Review

- 2.1 Consultation on the publication draft of the Local Plan Partial Review will take place on 29 November 2021 and run to 18 January 2022. Following this the submission of the Partial Review to Government is planned to be put before the Full Council in April 2022.

3. Fleetwood Levelling Up Fund Bid

- 3.1 Unfortunately the council was not awarded funding in Round 1 of the Levelling Up Fund. The council had prepared a bid with Associated British Ports, Fleetwood Museum and Fleetwood Market for £8.6m. Officers are awaiting a feedback session with government to provide more detail on the decision and to inform the council on the merits of making an application in future rounds.
- 3.2 In Round 1 a total of £1.7bn was allocated to 105 projects. There were two awards in Lancashire; Burnley and Pendle councils for £19.9m and £6.5m respectively.

4. Welcome Back Fund

- 4.1 The delivery of the action plan is progressing well. Key action includes supporting Christmas lights switch on events, working with the artists from Market House studios to commission some artwork relevant to our towns to showcase in vacant shop units and a 'Welcome to Wyre' digital campaign to showcase what Wyre has to offer including new photography and a video.

5. Planning Enforcement

- 5.1** To date this year 253 planning Enforcement complaints have been received with 150 current open cases (i.e. those still under investigation).
- 5.2** The agency Enforcement contractor joined us on 11 October and has taken on some time consuming work streams including dealing with a public Inquiry (in respect of an appeal against an Enforcement Notice), and drafting a number of Enforcement Notices in respect of cases where the investigation has been completed. This will allow the permanent Enforcement Officers to spend more time on investigating other pending cases. So far the employment of the contractor has resulted in the number of pending cases reducing from 162 as was reported at last full council to 150.

6. Comments and questions

- 6.1** In accordance with procedure rule 11.3 any member of Council will be able to ask me a question or make a comment on the contents of my report or on any issue, which falls within my area of responsibility. I will respond to any such questions or comments in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.5.