

Economy Projects					
Ref and Title	Project Manager	Q1, April - June 2021	Q2, July - September 2021	Q3, October - Dec 2021	Q4, January - March 2022
PEC1 - Status		Amber	Amber	Amber	
Support business growth at the Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zone	Steve Smith	<p>The Council continues to support the work of the EZ Board in providing a strategic direction for the EZ.</p> <p>The Council and the Lancashire LEP have provided grant funding of £63k and £505k respectively to improve access arrangement and infrastructure on site. This project is now underway and being delivered by NPL Estates.</p> <p>Forsa Energy development site is now complete -total investment totalling £17m. Majority landowner NPL Estates have completed the purchase of the vacant property of the former Vinnolit site and are seeking planning consent to demolish with work likely to take up to 12 months releasing new sites for development resulting in increased long term employment. A purchaser for the former Sainsbury retail site has been identified and their intention is to secure a planning consent for up to 250 homes and a smaller district retail centre which will support employment and provide some retained business rates growth. BXB have attended most recent Hillhouse EZ Board meeting to give overview of plans.</p> <p>Scheme in pre-planning for spec 60,000 sq ft commercial development. Risk Register updated regularly by Project Board.</p> <p>Works to extend the local full fibre network to the gatehouse of the site is now complete and awaiting proposals as to how and when this will be rolled out across the site. Outline planning application validated for housing development Thornton FC grounds.</p>	<p>The Council continues to support the work of the EZ Board in providing a strategic direction for the EZ and monthly meetings are now taking place with key partners.</p> <p>The Council has made a first grant payment to support NPL Estates in delivering infrastructure improvements at the gatehouse. Total grant offer is £63k, first payment of £1.3k made. Other funding is from the Lancashire LEP.</p>	<p>The Council continues to support the work of the EZ Board in providing a strategic direction for the EZ and monthly meetings are now taking place with key partners.</p> <p>The Council has made a total of two grant payments to support NPL Estates in delivering infrastructure improvements at the gatehouse. Total grant offer is £63k. Other funding is from the Lancashire LEP. This project is on course to complete early 2022.</p>	
PEC2 - Status		Amber	Green	Green	
Collaborate with partners to develop strategic economic plans such as the Greater Lancashire Plan	Marianne Hesketh	<p>IBI Group appointed to develop and produce Regeneration Frameworks for Thornton Cleveleys, Poulton & Garstang. Workshops and consultation activities to develop the frameworks will commence from July onwards. Establishing a Poulton partnership board postponed until autumn.</p> <p>Meetings held with Blackpool & Fylde ED teams to discuss funding opportunities and potential collaborative projects.</p>	<p>An evidence base has been commissioned to inform the development of the Greater Lancashire Plan, an overarching place and people strategy for Lancashire. The Independent Economic Review and Environment Commission reports, together with the recommendations of the Independent Panel of experts scrutinising the evidence, are collectively due to be reported to Lancashire Leaders on 11 October 2021. It is intended that the Lancashire Plan itself will then be developed around the key priorities and consulted on with final publication/adoption anticipated in Summer 2022</p>	<p>Over the last quarter, Lancashire Leaders have been working together to progress development of a County Deal. A report is being presented to Full Council on 27 January 2022, which outlines "Our Deal for a Greater Lancashire". The report provides an update on work undertaken towards the development of strengthened joint working across Lancashire, a long-term strategic plan (now called Lancashire 2050 plan) and a County Deal for the Lancashire area and to seek agreement to progress this work.</p>	
PEC3 - Status		Green	Green	Green	
Work with our partners to increase access for residents and businesses to high speed internet and Wi-Fi wherever possible	Marianne Hesketh	<p>We continue to link in with partners across the Fylde Coast to develop opportunities. Our assets including Marine Hall and Fleetwood market are now benefiting from better wi-fi.</p>	<p>A piece of work has been commissioned by TNP which looks at immediate Full Fibre opportunities for Wyre. The report sets out some initial opportunities where schemes could be developed for the installation of fibre optic ducting and cabling which will complement the Council's current asset base, stimulate the local economy and offer businesses and residents greater access to high speed internet connectivity. No analysis has been made at this point as to the economic viability of these schemes. The report will be used to bid for external funding when opportunities arise.</p>	<p>No further update this quarter.</p>	
PEC4 - Status		Amber	Amber	Amber	

Develop the Fleetwood Regeneration Framework and explore external funding opportunities to support the future options to transform Fleetwood over the next 20 years	Mark Fenton	<p>Through a partnership approach a series of projects have been developed out of the draft Regeneration Framework that will comprehensively kick-start the sustainable regeneration of Fleetwood's town centre. Our bid submitted to government for £8.56million consists of a programme of investment.</p> <p>Three parts are; 1. Port Residential Redevelopment (£5.68m), Fleetwood Market (£900k), Fleetwood Museum (£1.79m). Feedback from Government expected in autumn this year.</p> <p>Fleetwood Heritage Action Zone: Surveys and proposals for properties on Lord St, Adelaide St, North Albert St completed and owner's invited to submit grant applications. Landscape Projects (Landscape Architecture Consultants) developing final design for Custom House Square project following consultation with residents, Future Fleetwood and Historic England. Repairs to the southern gable end of the Fleetwood Museum delayed by nesting gulls. Draft project plan for public realm in the HAZ completed and ThinkingPlace visual narrative and imagery for the Fleetwood narrative presented to Future Fleetwood. Extensive condition surveys and valuation of Store 21 completed and discussions with the agent are to take place in July. Feasibility and business planning study for Fleetwood Market commenced. Application received for works to St Mary's RC Church Presbytery and St Mary's RC Church. £100,000 HE Cultural Programme grant awarded to deliver a programme of events celebrating the town's rich heritage - the programme will be delivered between March 2021 and March 2024 by a consortium of local arts and community groups working in partnership (With Fleetwood Museum as Lead).</p>	<p>A decision on the Levelling Up Fund application for the £8.56m programme of investment in Fleetwood is still pending and is expected by end of October.</p> <p>Fleetwood Heritage Action Zone: Tender documents for construction of the Custom House Square have been sent for pricing. Feasibility and business planning study for Fleetwood Market is on-going and further funding awarded for condition and site surveys. Grants approved for The Steamer Public House (£18,582) and St Mary's RC Church Presbytery and St Mary's RC Church (£81,590). 'Finding Fleetwood Trails' commission awarded to 'This Great Adventure' and initial engagement activities and project planning completed in readiness for launch of the first trail in October '21.</p>	<p>Officers attended a feedback session with government on 14 December about the Round 1 bid to the Levelling Up Fund. The fund had been unsuccessful subscribed with a grant award rate of 4 to 1 in terms of the available funding. Feedback was provided under three areas: strategic fit; value for money and deliverability. Unfortunately the high-level approach adopted in providing feedback lacked any real detail from which to encourage the council to make an application in future rounds. Government Advisors were unable to advise as to the design and launch of Levelling Up Fund Round 2.</p> <p>Good progress is being made in delivering the Fleetwood Heritage Action Zone: Contractor appointed to construct Custom House Square. Condition Surveys at Fleetwood Market completed. Grants totalling approximately £36,000 have been awarded to property owners to undertake specialist surveys; design and feasibility work with a view to these progressing to significant applications in 2022 for grants to undertake the works to improve the buildings. Works are underway to repair St Mary's Presbytery church to create a welcoming space for the community. Smaller grant awards totalling approximately £10,000 have also been awarded to property owners to undertake property repairs early 2022. Trails were launched in October and December as part of the 'Finding Fleetwood Trails' project.</p>	
PE5 - Status	Amber	Green	Green	Green	
Explore investment and development opportunities for our other town centres in Poulton, Garstang and Cleveleys	Steve Smith / Mark Fenton	<p>Garstang and Cleveleys Partnership Boards established. The establishment of Poulton to begin in later in 2021.</p> <p>Lead consultants have been appointed (IBI Group) and have commenced work. A slight delay to the first public meeting for the work in Garstang has occurred owing to the continuation of COVID restrictions, meeting now scheduled for 19 July.</p>	<p>Work is progressing well on the development of regeneration frameworks.</p> <p>Garstang Regeneration Framework: baseline work completed and initial consultation undertaken with residents seeking their views on the type of changes they'd like to see in the future.</p> <p>Greatergarstangpartnership.co.uk setup by the board to promote their work and local involvement in the development of the framework.</p> <p>Cleveleys Regeneration Framework: baseline work underway and 121s undertaken with Cleveleys Together board members, Blackpool Council Officers as well as workshops with the board and council officers.</p>	<p>Garstang Regeneration Framework: workshops and public feedback invited on the proposed vision; objectives; interventions.</p> <p>Cleveleys Regeneration Framework: baseline work completed and initial consultation undertaken with residents seeking their perceptions of the town and how they'd like it to be improved.</p>	
PEC6 - Status	Green	Amber	Amber	Amber	
Work with partners to explore the feasibility of a Fylde Coast tramway / rail loop	Steve Smith	<p>Lancashire County Council have issued a final report - Strategic Outline Business Case.</p> <p>A report has been presented to Management Board, Lancashire County Council are now awaiting feedback from DfT and agreement on next steps.</p>	No further update this quarter.	No further update this quarter.	
PEC7 - Status	Green	Green	Green	Green	
Explore investment opportunities for our key council assets	Maria Blundy	<p>Work officially started on Project Neptune on 30 June. This project will see the development of 40,000 sq ft commercial space on Fleetwood Docks. The 2 new buildings will accommodate 11 food and fish processing businesses. The council will acquire the development on completion. Cabinet approved a report to declare the site at Bourne Hill surplus and proceed with appointing Land Agents to market the site. Expressions of interest for Land Agents to apply close 23/07/21.</p>	<p>Erection of steel framework on Project Neptune has commenced. Leases with the potential tenants are still to be signed. Presently, one unit remains vacant and is being marketed through a commercial agent. Land Agent has been appointed and started work on the disposal of Bourne Hill.</p>	<p>Bids have been received and shortlisted for the site at Bourne Hill. Disposal will now progress with the highest bidder on an unconditional sale basis with a Cabinet report planned for February's meeting.</p> <p>Project Neptune is progressing well with a slight delay to the completion date due to delays by Electricity North West (ENW).</p>	
PEC8 - Status	Green	Green	Green	Green	
Proactively support business recovery following the pandemic	Marianne Hesketh/Claire James	<p>Town Centre Partnership Boards have been developed - in which there are Economy & High Street Theme Leads. As well as continued communication with local businesses through Wyred Up network, on business support initiatives promoted via Boost Lancashire we are now channelling communication directly to these Theme Leads to share at a local level (e.g the KickStart Scheme). ED Team carry out retail monitoring and Business Health Checks quarterly, and send a fortnightly newsletter to businesses within the borough. ED Team have also been responsible for the latest iteration of the ARG, to aid vacant properties on our High Streets to become occupied by new start-ups, providing grants of up to £25k for shop frontage, equipment and fit-out.</p>	<p>A covid recovery plan has been developed which links closely to the business plan and has three themes - Renew, Reconnect and Rediscover. The purpose of the recovery plan is to support the recovery of Wyre's economy and to help our communities build back stronger. Much has already been done to support the business community in Wyre including paying out over £50m in grants to over 3000 businesses.</p> <p>Key action over this quarter has been supporting the town centre boards in Cleveleys and Garstang as mentioned above. We have also been working with all town centres to utilise the Welcome Back funding and we are supporting enhanced christmas lights switch on events in each town.</p>	<p>The current ARG scheme has just been refreshed and re-promoted in December following restrictions from the 13th. The vacant premises/High street grant has been extended to the end of January 2022.</p>	