

<b>Report of:</b>	<b>To:</b>	<b>Date</b>
Councillor Alice Collinson Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder	Council	14 April 2022

**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**

- 2.1** Consultation on the publication draft of the Local Plan Partial Review closed on 18 January and the council received 24 submissions. The final report is on this agenda recommending approval for submission of the Partial Review to the Government for Examination.
- 2.2** Work on the Full Review of the Local Plan commenced on 27 January and is planned to take approximately two years to complete. The council received approximately 100 responses to the consultation, of which 67 related to the call for sites and 33 were concerned with the scope of the Full Review. Officers are considering these in detail and further reports and summaries will be prepared in due course.

**3. Fleetwood – Project Neptune**

- 3.1** Project Neptune, the new fish and food processing facility, on Fleetwood docks is progressing well. The development comprises of three new buildings, containing 10 individual units and is over 40,000 sq ft of floorspace. This development is due for 'practical completion' in May 2022. At this point the council will purchase the site and buildings and begin the process of 'fit-out' with tenants. At present the development will have only one small vacant unit with all others being fully let. Fish and food processing operations at the site will hopefully commence in summer 2022.
- 3.2** The wider project/site received grant funding from Government (Getting Building Fund). Demolition and site preparation works will continue elsewhere on the fish dock site in advance of further development to be pursued by ABP.

#### **4. Fleetwood Heritage Action Zone**

- 4.1** In the last quarter grants totalling approximately £195,000 have been paid to property owners to undertake repairs and design work.
- 4.2** Opposite Fleetwood Market the construction of 'Custom House Square' has commenced and is scheduled for completion in late Spring. Design and preparation of tender documents is also underway for a project focussing on the replacement of the Victorian Market Hall roof.

#### **5. Planning Enforcement**

- 5.1** To date this calendar year 34 planning enforcement complaints have been received with 109 open cases (i.e. those still under investigation). This is down from 145 current open cases previously reported. To date this year four Enforcement Notices have been served.
- 5.2** The agency Enforcement contractor joined us on 11 October and has taken on some time absorbing 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 has allowed the permanent Enforcement Officers to spend more time on investigating other older pending cases which were part of the backlog. The contract for this officer will end at Easter (14 April) at which point it is expected the substantive team will have sufficient capacity to deal with the caseload.

#### **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.