

Report of:	Meeting	Date
Councillor Alice Collinson Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder and Marianne Hesketh, Corporate Director Communities	Cabinet	1 June 2022

Garstang Town Centre Regeneration Framework

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek adoption of the Garstang Town Centre Regeneration Framework (GTCRF).

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 An adopted GTCRF will set strategic objectives for investment and sustainable development and act as an essential tool in securing grant funding.
- 2.2 An adopted GTCRF will set strategic projects, the development of which will be championed by the relevant theme lead from the Greater Garstang Partnership Board.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the council adopt the GTCRF.
- 3.2 That the Head of Planning Services be authorised to make amendments and corrections to the GTCRF in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning Policy and Economic Development. Such changes may include but are not limited to editorial corrections, typographical errors, changed local circumstances or investment opportunities.

4. Background

- 4.1 In recognition of the damaging impact the pandemic has had on our high streets, £300,000 of Covid-19 emergency funding has been set aside within the council budget as part of a new one-off Town Centre Strategy Fund.

- 4.2** Monies from the fund have been used to commission the GTCRF which sets out a framework to guide the development of Garstang Town Centre over the next 10 to 15 years.
- 4.3** Engaging with key stakeholders to ensure local support for the GTCRF has been established through the formation of the Greater Garstang Partnership Board. The report is the culmination of a process involving public and stakeholder engagement, a baseline context review and the subsequent development and refinement of a vision, objectives and key strategic project interventions.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** Representations received during the consultation with the public and stakeholders have been considered and where appropriate, the GTCRF amended.
- 5.2** The strategic project interventions have been categorised by themes which combine to form a single holistic plan:

The High Street

- Pedestrian Priority along High Street
- Public realm improvements
- Cherestanc Square improvements

Heritage and Culture

- Develop a shared brand narrative/values to guide interventions and collaboration
- A Heritage Centre/Archive
- Update the Market offer
- Develop the town centre food and beverage offer
- Develop an 'outdoors hub'
- A signature arts event / review of events calendar

Transport and Linkage

- Promote active travel
- A community led transport service that connects to the surrounding villages
- Town Centre parking strategy

Community

- A Multi-Purpose space for community use
- Support for the development of the Garstang Sports and Social Club
- A 'young people's market'

Sustainability and Low Carbon

- Explore the establishment of a Community Energy Trust
- Develop a 'Low Carbon Strategy'
- Develop an 'Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy'
- Develop a 'High Street Sustainability Calculator'

Health and Wellbeing

- Establish a carer support group
- Measures to make Garstang a more dementia friendly town
- Implement Wyre Moving More priorities
- Promote opportunities for social prescribing

Technology and Digital

- Development of a 'Smart Place Strategy'
- Improving digital connectivity
- Develop a Town Centre 'Digital Support Hub'

Business and Economy

- Formulate a plan for the land near Brockholes Industrial Estate at Catterall
- Support for key third party projects

Education, Skills and Employment

- A digital forum to link schools, colleges and businesses
- Raise future aspirations of primary school children
- Garstang and Greater Garstang Local Business offer

5.3 From time to time there may be a need to make minor editorial amendments and updates to the GTCRF strategic projects to ensure that the framework reflects changes in local priorities, funding or investment opportunities.

5.4 Where the revisions may alter the strategic objectives, it may be appropriate to carry out further proportionate stakeholder or public consultations on the proposed revisions. This will be at the discretion of the Head of Planning Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning Policy and Economic Development.

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Should any further public consultation be required, the cost will be met from the existing Wyre Town Centre Strategy Fund revenue budget.

Legal	There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.
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Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
sustainability	✓
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
climate change	✓
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

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List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None		

List of appendices

Appendix 1 Garstang Town Centre Regeneration Framework