

Economy Projects			
Ref and Title	Project Manager	Q3, October - Dec 2021	Q4, January - March 2022
PEC1 - Status		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 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>	<p>The Council continues to support the work of the EZ Board, providing a strategic direction for the EZ through monthly meetings with key stakeholders. In addition the Council supports the work of NPL Ltd in facilitating a Hydrogen Steering Group for the EZ. It had its first meeting for two years (covid disruption) in March 2022.</p> <p>It was agreed at the last board meeting that the Council would scope work to refresh and update the masterplan and also produce a suite of documents to support investment enquiries for the wider site.</p> <p>Amber rating as business growth (as measured by NNDR retained) is relatively unchanged at present.</p>
PEC2 - Status		Green	Green
Collaborate with partners to develop strategic economic plans such as the Greater Lancashire Plan	Marianne Hesketh	<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>	<p>On 2 February, Government issued the Levelling Up White Paper. The White Paper sets out a complete 'system change' of how government works that will be implemented to level up the UK. At the heart of this will be 12 bold, national missions to be achieved by 2030. The initial County Deal proposals are broadly in line with these missions. The white paper sets out a devolution framework providing an indication of the types of powers and functions that will be considered for each devolution level. Discussions have started with Government to determine if Lancashire's County Deal proposals can be taken forward. In the meantime, Leaders will work together to develop the Lancashire 2050 plan which is a strategic plan for Lancashire. A workshop is planned for 6 April.</p>
PEC3 - Status		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>No further update this quarter.</p>	<p>The Garstang Partnership Board had a presentation from B4RN, a non-profit community benefit organisation who are rolling out a fibre optic broadband network in rural areas. They particularly focus on areas that have poor broadband connectivity. It was identified that Forton is a potential area for future development.</p>
PEC4 - Status		Amber	Green
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>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>	<p>The Fleetwood Regeneration Framework has been updated to incorporate additional projects. IBI provided a presentation to the Future Fleetwood Board about the background to the document and to outline the key changes in the update. The Board are due to provide feedback in advance of the document being considered by Management Team and published for final public comment.</p> <p>Fleetwood Heritage Action Zone: Works have commenced on site to construct Custom House Square. Tender documents have been prepared for replacement of the roof at Fleetwood Market. Grants totalling approximately £198,000 were paid for design proposals (19-23 Adelaide St, 45-47 Lord St and the former HSBC) and repair works (The Steamer Public House, 13 North Albert Street, Fleetwood Museum and St Mary's Church Presbytery).</p>
PEC5 - Status		Green	Amber
Explore investment and development opportunities for our other town centres in Poulton, Garstang and Cleveleys	Steve Smith / Mark Fenton	<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>	<p>Garstang Regeneration Framework: final version of the document published for comment prior to proposed adoption by Cabinet.</p> <p>Cleveleys Regeneration Framework: final version of the document delayed (due to impact of covid on the consultancy team). Anticipate receipt of the document mid-April. Task and finish group set up to explore commissioning a transport study for Cleveleys in partnership with Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Transport - a skeleton scope of work has now been drafted.</p> <p>Poulton town centre: Economic baseline study completed.</p>
PEC6 - Status		Amber	Amber

Work with partners to explore the feasibility of a Fylde Coast tramway / rail loop	Steve Smith	No further update this quarter.	No further update this quarter. Government responses still awaited.
PEC7 - Status Explore investment opportunities for our key council assets	Maria Blundy	<p>Green</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>	<p>Green</p> <p>Cabinet approved the disposal of the Bourne Hill site at their February Cabinet meeting. Site investigations have now commenced and the outcome is awaited. Some contamination has been found affecting approximately 1 acre of the site and the impact of this on the value is being assessed. A further meeting with the Land Agents is scheduled in mid April.</p> <p>Practical completion for Project Neptune is planned for the end of May 2022. Work is progressing to complete leases with the new tenants.</p>
PEC8 - Status Proactively support business recovery following the pandemic	Marianne Hesketh/Clare James	<p>Green</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>	<p>Green</p> <p>All Business Grants must be paid out by 31 March 2022. We are on track to spend all ARG monies and the majority of the Omicron fund awarded. All other schemes have already closed.</p> <p>A review of Wyred Up has been commissioned and a consultation is planned with local businesses to determine what business support they require from the council.</p>