



Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Peter Le Marinel Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder	Council	14 September 2023

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. UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF)

- 2.1** The Council's 2023/24 UKSPF and REPF allocations were confirmed on 11 July by the Department of Levelling UP, Housing and Communities. Since July many projects are now underway. Delivery includes the commencement of Cleveleys multiple arts and creative programme with a community event held at Jubilee Gardens showcasing the mural developed by well known artist Christian Fenn, the Fleetwood Blue Plaque Heritage project, the launch of Garstang Carers Group, the launch of a rural community infrastructure grant programme and the start of the Boost for business support programme.
- 2.2** Public consultations are underway for the Fleetwood Seafront Masterplan Project which focusses on the Marine Hall, Leisure Centre and surrounding area. Whilst consultation will commence for projects in Garstang and Cleveleys town centres. Sadly one of the festivals support by UKSPF, Tram Sunday, had to be cancelled due to the weather.

3. Conservation Area Appraisals

- 3.1** A contract for the provision of conservation area appraisals for Garstang, Poulton-le-Fylde, Scorton, Churchtown, Calder Vale and Lower Dolphinhome has been awarded to Growth Lancashire following a competitive quotation process earlier this year. This contract forms part of a wider programme for the review of all Conservation Areas and the programme covers a period of two years. The Growth Lancashire contract value was £27,250.

- 3.2 As part of the review programme, work on Fleetwood Conservation Area will be undertaken 'in-house' and will align with the wider review timetable. These reviews will form part of the evidence base for the Local Plan.
- 3.3 Numerous public consultations will be required and will be undertaken 'in-house' with the objective of adoption by Full Council, on or before June 2025. This will take the form of a single report containing all the appraisal and management plan documents for each Conservation Area.
- 3.4 Currently work is well advanced on surveys for Fleetwood, Garstang and Lower Dolphinholme and work has recently started on Poulton-le-Fylde.

4. Wyre Local Validation Checklist

- 4.1 Consultation on the draft Wyre Local Validation checklist has been completed and the Council implemented the new procedure on 17 July 2023. This new approach should ensure that the council has the right level of information submitted with a planning application at the start of the process and so avoids unnecessary delay and work.
- 4.2 The adopted checklist must be reviewed at least every two years, ensuring that it remains up to date. Implementation of the checklist has had a short term impact upon the time taken to validate applications, as the new process is embedded, but this should not adversely impact our annual statutory performance measures.

5. Comments and questions

- 5.1 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.