

Growth and Prosperity Projects			
Ref and Title	Project Manager	Q1, April - June 2023	Q2, July - September 2023
PGR1 - Status	Mark Fenton	<p>Green</p> <p>The Council continues to support the work of the EZ Board, providing a strategic direction for the EZ through regular meetings with key stakeholders. In addition the Council supports the work of NPL Ltd in facilitating a Hydrogen Steering Group for the EZ.</p> <p>Consultants WSP have produced an initial concept design for the Northern access route – incorporating the worse case cost option of a rail overbridge, and thereafter will likely be commissioned to undertake a full refresh of the masterplan.</p> <p>Hillhouse EZ was represented at the UK Real Estate and Inward Investment Forum (REiif) from 16-18 May 2023. The event welcomed around 8,500 delegates, specifically focused at developers and inward investment. Hillhouse was represented through the EZ delivery team, with its current masterplan and prospectus exhibited at the conference, along with a video shown at the stand throughout the conference explaining the details and opportunities at Hillhouse.</p> <p>In addition to Blackpool's presence at UK REiif, a consortium of Lancashire's Economic Development Directors exhibited a stand at the conference, and held one speaking panel, involving representatives from Lancashire County Council, Lancaster Council, Preston Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council, Burnley Council and UCLan. Hillhouse was also represented within the Lancashire 2050 Investment Prospectus.</p> <p>NPL and Additions, supported by Wyre Council, continue to develop proposals to establish an on-site training centre/centre of excellence for workplace development. The plan is to improve the availability of suitable candidates for job vacancies for all businesses in the area and the Hillhouse site. Initial meetings took place with the Lancashire Local Skills improvement and Lancashire Skills Hub in June and a potential property for the facility identified.</p>	<p>Green</p> <p>NPL are currently assessing the concept design produced by consultant WSP for the Northern access route.</p> <p>The brief for the refresh of the masterplan is being finalised with consultants WSP and will reflect the loss of Vinnolit and assumption that a rail bridge will be required as part of the Northern access route.</p> <p>NPL have reported that the new security gatehouse, funded by Getting Building Funding, Wyre Council and NPL is now complete.</p>
Continue to support business growth and job creation as accountable body for the Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zone			
PGR2 - Status	Mark Fenton	<p>Green</p> <p>Cleleys: Transport Study nearing completion with concepts for high street improvements reviewed and costed by Lancashire County Council Highways. Public consultation on the proposals is to be undertaken this summer.</p> <p>Garstang: Town Centre Study is in progress. The parking assessment was undertaken in May and the analysis report due to be returned in July. The public realm designers are due to start early July on proposals for specific areas along the high street, weinds and Cherestanc Square.</p> <p>Poulton: initial consultation work on the Town Centre Regeneration Framework was undertaken in June. Approximately 230 attended the drop in events, 90 questionnaires were returned plus comments and emails to the Economic Development Team and feedback from a workshop with the Poulton Partnership.</p>	<p>Green</p> <p>Cleleys: Transport Study proposals presented for public comment and feedback in September. The projects recommended for implementation using UKSPF monies will be the subject of a Portfolio Holder report due to be published in Q3.</p> <p>Garstang: Public realm proposals were received late September and due to be reviewed by the working group before public consultation is undertaken this autumn.</p> <p>Poulton: development of the Poulton Town Centre Regeneration Framework (PTCRF) is progressing well. Pursuit of public and stakeholder responses to the draft report and the projects contained within will be undertaken this autumn before adoption of the PTCRF is sought from Cabinet.</p> <p>Fleetwood: work on regeneration proposals for Fleetwood seafront is progressing well and consultation with the public and stakeholders commenced in September about potential improvements to the Leisure Centre and neighbouring outdoor space, as well as options for changing the offer and operating model at Marine Hall.</p>
Continue to support town centre recovery and explore investment and sustainable development opportunities for our key town centres and the visitor economy			
PGR3 - Status	Colm Healy	<p>Green</p> <p>Latest event focussing on Visitor Economy held on 27th April at the Flower Bowl Entertainment Centre was well attended and received. New branded promotional material purchased using UKSPF monies. Membership continuing to steadily increase (newsletter now reaches approx. 730 local businesses). Economic Development Team continuing to send out regular newsletters highlighting support services, news etc., including promotion of the recently launched Business Grants scheme as part of Rural England Prosperity Fund. The current campaign theme is Apprenticeships.</p>	<p>Green</p> <p>Latest event focussing on Business Growth and featuring the new Boost Lancashire programme of offerings held on 27 September at the Civic Centre was well attended and received. Membership continuing to steadily increase (newsletter now reaches over 780 local businesses). Economic Development Team continuing to send out monthly newsletters highlighting support, events, news etc., including promotion of the recently launched Chamber Low Carbon Programme as part of UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Next event is yet to be announced, but is scheduled to be held in January 2024.</p>
Support our business community to establish new start-ups, grow and create jobs through our Wyred Up business support programme.			
PGR4 - Status	Marianne Hesketh / CMT / Neil Turvey	<p>Amber</p> <p>The improvement works at Fleetwood Market are progressing well with the patent glazing in the main hall now complete and decoration work continuing. The existing slate roof is being removed and replaced. Stonework repairs and cleaning is being carried out to the North and South elevations. Nesting seagulls have hampered some of the roof work and as a result there is an overall slight delay to the programme. The project is now due to complete mid November 2023.</p>	<p>Amber</p> <p>Following cabinet approval in September a review of Marine Hall operations and to explore alternative providers is underway. GJG Consultancy have been appointed to progress the review. A soft market testing exercise is underway for Thornton Little Theatre. Deadline is end of October 2023.</p> <p>In the main hall of Fleetwood Market, the decoration to the inside roof space is complete. The slate roof replacement works with Penrhyn Heather Blue Welsh slate and new insulation has been delayed due to nesting gulls, the gull chicks have fledged, and the roof works recommenced on 7 August. The legal protection of the nests and gulls on the roof for six weeks clearly hampered the roof works. Temporary sheeting had been utilised to protect the roof and the new coverings can only be installed in-between the heavy rain showers and we have had heavy intense rain and high winds causing additional problems. The replacement doors, shutters and steelwork are underway for the Main Hall and concrete ground beams are being installed for the new doors and glazing to the Birdcage. In the Birdcage the temporary internal scaffolding deck was removed on Sun 10 September, two weeks ahead of time. The stonework repairs in Adelaide Street are complete and the scaffolding is due to come down. The total re-painting of the roof trusses in the Annex Hall is on-going. The project is now due to complete end November 2023.</p>
Explore external funding and investment opportunities for our key council assets including theatres, markets and leisure facilities.			
PGR5 - Status	Sara Ordonez	<p>Green</p> <p>The late start of the UKSPF nationally has impacted on the progress of the year one and two programme, and we are currently awaiting the 2023/24 payment from Government. The projects are however progressing well with fifteen of the thirty year one and two projects started. Nine of these are council officer led. One heritage project has successfully completed in early May, Fleetwood Celebration Day. Ten projects are delivering to schedule with no outstanding issues. Five are progressing but require some attention to ensure that risks do not threaten delivery. Of the projects that haven't started, eight are in the process of finalising grant agreements and they are expected to commence from quarter 3. Remaining projects are in the pipeline but at various stages from scoping to procurement.</p>	<p>Green</p> <p>Government confirmed Wyre's 2023/24 allocation on 11 July 2023, which enabled year two projects to move forward. Payment of £1,053,673 was received on 2 October.</p> <p>Nineteen of the thirty year one and two programme starts have commenced, two of which are complete. Eleven projects are currently delivering to schedule, with no outstanding issues. Six projects are progressing, but require attention/active management to ensure that risks do not materialise into major issues. We are pursuing the return of three grant agreement, along with progressing the plans for the remaining year 2 projects. A combination of delayed: a) works to Fleetwood market due to gulls nesting, followed by intense rainfall, b) return of grant agreements for projects starts and c) consultations, have all had a knock on effect on spend at end of Q2. However projects are being actively project managed and there is confidence in the project delivery currently taking place.</p>
Deliver the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund 2023-2025.			

Growth and Prosperity Measures		Reportee	Q1, April - June 2023			Q2, July - September 2023			Commentary
			Target	Actual	Cumulative	Target	Actual	Cumulative	
MGR1	Number of jobs created within the Enterprise Zone	Colm Healy	6			6	5	5	(Data source: NPL Estates/Thornton Facilities Management) Target of 137 jobs to be created Aug 2020 - Apr 2026 (137 jobs /67 months in the period = 2 x 3 months per quarter = 6 jobs per quarter)
MGR2.1	Increase footfall to town centres	Colm Healy	991k	939,857	939,857	940k	1,271,899	2,211,756	Target set as footfall from previous quarter (Data source - Huq Industries Ltd)
	Total visits to town centres		203k	250,274	250,274	250k	372,185	622,459	Target set as footfall from previous quarter (Data source - Huq Industries Ltd)
	* Fleetwood		363k	252,113	252,113	252k	412,208	664,321	Target set as footfall from previous quarter (Data source - Huq Industries Ltd)
	* Cleveleys		193k	214,834	214,834	215k	238,263	453,097	Target set as footfall from previous quarter (Data source - Huq Industries Ltd)
	* Poulton		233k	222,636	222,636	223k	249,243	471,879	Target set as footfall from previous quarter (Data source - Huq Industries Ltd)
MGR2.2	Reduce town centre vacancy rates to below 11%	Colm Healy	11.00%	8.92%	8.92%	11.00%	9.01%	9.01%	Total vacancy rate for 7 town centres monitored (Fleetwood, Cleveleys, Poulton, Garstang, Thornton, Knott-End, Great Eccleston)
	Town centre vacancy rates		11.00%	12.99%	12.99%	11.00%	14.57%	14.57%	Most recent monitoring took place July 2023 (due to resourcing this monitoring only takes place twice yearly). Ambitious target set and although reporting behind target, a significant amount of work is being undertaken to reduce vacancy rates e.g. HAZ improvements to shop fronts, provision of business support etc.)
	* Fleetwood		11.00%	8.06%	8.06%	11.00%	8.61%	8.61%	Most recent monitoring took place July 2023
	* Cleveleys		11.00%	2.83%	2.83%	11.00%	1.89%	1.89%	Most recent monitoring took place July 2023
	* Thornton		11.00%	9.14%	9.14%	11.00%	9.14%	9.14%	Most recent monitoring took place July 2023
	* Poulton		11.00%	10.06%	10.06%	11.00%	8.18%	8.18%	Most recent monitoring took place July 2023
* Garstang									
MGR2.3	Increase number of visitors to the borough each year	Emma Lyons							The model used is STEAM (Volume and Value of Tourism) these figures are provided from Marketing Lancashire and this data is only received annually at the end of the year. This data will therefore be reported in Q4.
MGR3.1	Increase number of businesses supported in Wyre.	Colm Healy	688	732	732	705	782	782	Target set as 738 by end of 2023-24, as this represents a 10% increase on the 671 as at April 2023, hence target increase set as approx. 17 additional businesses each quarter.
MGR3.2	80% of fledgling businesses surviving - 18 months	Colm Healy	80%	69%	69%	80%	68%	68%	Data source - BankSearch Consultancy Ltd (data correct as at August 2023). Forecasts are based on the annualised level of failure so far this year. As we progress through the year, and the actual level of failure becomes known, the updated projections will become closer to the actual 2023 survival level. The current projection of companies incorporated during 2022 is that 87% will survive to the end of 2023. This is better than the 77% one-year survival achieved by 2021 companies and is better than the 73% one-year survival achieved by 2020 companies. 2021 Wyre companies two-year survival forecast is 49%, this compares with 51% for businesses set up in 2020 and 61% for 2019 incorporations. We hope to be better able to support businesses in the borough navigate their start-up and growth phases by allocating £200k of UKSPF monies to Boost Lancashire who will deliver business support programmes over the next two years. It should be noted that the data we receive from Companies House is approximately 12-18 months old, so subsequently when we're looking at companies who've survived (or haven't survived) 18 months in business, we're seeing the businesses that were launched up to three years ago (i.e. at the height of the pandemic), so this could go some way in explaining the relatively low survival rate.
MGR4.1	Business rate collection target 97%	Andrew Robinson	32.96%	34.22%	34.22%	61.46%	60.68%	60.68%	Not a concern as only marginally down on target, will keep an eye on it going forward.
MGR4.2	Council tax collection target 97%	Andrew Robinson	28.07%	28.13%	28.13%	54.82%	54.41%	54.41%	Not a concern as only marginally down on target, will keep an eye on it going forward.
MGR5	Successful delivery of our UKSPF projects (% spent of available spending to date)	Sara Ordonez	20%	20%	20%	40%	10%	30%	Measures relate to spend. The programme has had to deliver 2 years of the programme in 9 months, i.e. from Government sign off. The programme has made great strides to catch up, however it has been reliant on third parties clarifying and signing off grant agreements to commence. Payment plans for each project have been carefully designed to enable efficient delivery and reduce associated risks to the council. As this measure is regarding the amount of funds spent for year one and two of the programme, it is expected that spending will increase in Q3 but will mostly be realised in Q4.