

Growth and Prosperity Projects		Q1, April - June 2023	Q2, July - September 2023	Q3, October - Dec 2023	Following the Council Plan refresh a number of projects have been amended, added or removed and therefore not all projects will be monitored in Qtr 4, please see below for information regarding which projects will continue to be monitored.
Ref and Title	Project Manager				
PGR1 - Status		Green	Green	Green	
Continue to support business growth and job creation as accountable body for the Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zone	Mark Fenton	<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>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>	<p>Refresh of the masterplan is to be instructed in Q4 with the work estimated to take 2-3 months to complete.</p> <p>In November a proposal, incorporating Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zone, was put forward for the Lancashire Strategic Development Sites. It is anticipated that the assessment outcome and any next steps will be received in Q4.</p>	This project has not been carried forward into the new Council Plan and will therefore no longer be monitored and reported through O&S. Instead this project will be moved to the service plan and progress will be monitored within the service.
PGR2 - Status		Green	Green	Green	
Continue to support town centre recovery and explore investment and sustainable development opportunities for our key town centres and the visitor economy	Mark Fenton	<p>Cleveleys: 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>Cleveleys: 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>	<p>Cleveleys: Portfolio Holder approval to grant Lancashire County Council UKSPF to design and deliver the Cleveleys public realm works (taking forward the priorities from the Transport Study).</p> <p>Garstang: Public realm proposals required further development during Q3. As a result the working group agreed to delay public consultation until Q4.</p> <p>Poulton: public and stakeholder consultation on the Poulton Town Centre Regeneration Framework completed and adoption of the report to be sought from Cabinet 10 January 2024.</p> <p>Fleetwood: consultation on proposals for Fleetwood seafront and analysis to inform the preferred option completed. A number of 'opportunity' projects have been identified and refined following a workshop and feedback from CMT and SLT.</p>	This project has been reworded and carried forward into the new Council Plan and will therefore continue to be monitored and reported through O&S.
PGR3 - Status		Green	Green	Green	
Support our business community to establish new start-ups, grow and create jobs through our Wyred Up business support programme.	Colin Healy	<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>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>	<p>Membership is continuing to steadily increase (newsletter now reaches over 800 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. No in-person event held in Q3 due to capacity issues/time constraints as Wyre Business Awards took place on Nov 7th. Next event, focussing on Starting A Business due to be held on 21st Feb and will feature speakers from Sustainable Talent, winners of the New Business Award at the 2023 Wyre Business Awards, Dr. Jonathan Mann, Head of Digital and Learning Resource Centres at Blackpool and the Fylde College, and Alistair Clarke MBE, Flying Start (Boost Lancashire). Venue Fleetwood Nautical College</p>	This project has been reworded and carried forward into the new Council Plan and will therefore continue to be monitored and reported through O&S.
PGR4 - Status		Amber	Amber	Amber	
Explore external funding and investment opportunities for our key council assets including theatres, markets and leisure facilities.	Marianne Hesketh / CMT / Neil Turvey	<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>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>	<p>The refurbishment works at Fleetwood Market are progressing and the project is now due to complete in February 2024. Delays have been caused by consistently poor weather conditions and the significant impact of several named storms. The new heating system is functioning but not at maximum capacity and discussions are ongoing with the main contractor to resolve the issues. It is likely that the heating system will not be performing at 100% until mid February 2024 at the earliest. In the meantime the contractor Parkinsons will provide temporary heating. Following Cabinet approval in September 2023 a review of Marine Hall operations to explore alternative providers has been completed following the appointment of GJG Consultancy who have fully reviewed the operations. A further Cabinet report with recommendations is pending. The soft market testing exercise for Thornton Little Theatre has been completed and parties that have expressed interest will be asked to submit their proposals for a new internal repairing lease of the premises. The intention is to complete that lease before the end of the current financial year.</p>	This project has not been carried forward into the new Council Plan and will therefore no longer be monitored and reported through O&S. Instead this project will be moved to the service plan and progress will be monitored within the service.
PGR5 - Status		Green	Green	Amber	
Deliver the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund 2023-2025.	Sara Ordóñez	<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>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>	<p>There are 24 active projects, which is an increase on the 19 in quarter 2. All are working hard to accelerate delivery as per programme timeframes, but there has been slippage with most projects which has affected spend progress in quarter 3. Two projects have now completed, one of which, the HAZ Fleetwood Lights event, finalised in December 2023. The REPF business grant was successfully awarded to two rural businesses, and the REPF community infrastructure grant was awarded to two village hall projects, all of which are set to complete early in the new financial year. A UKSPF measures and progress workshop was held in December with a variety of community led project leads, as it was identified that more work was required around the understanding of outputs and outcomes defining and reporting. This was welcomed and another is planned for up and coming projects mid quarter 4.</p>	This project has been carried forward into the new Council Plan and will therefore continue to be monitored and reported through O&S.