

Report of:	To:	Date	Item No.
Cllr Michael Vincent, Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder	Council	18 October 2018	7(d)

Executive Report: Planning 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 and Economic Development Portfolio, as set out below.

2. Coastal Community Teams Cleveleys

- 2.1 The community notice board which was donated by engineering company WEC has been installed in a busy pedestrian thoroughfare in the town centre.
- 2.2 The paintwork on the clock shelter has been stripped off and HMP Kirkham have commenced re-painting it with heritage colours to match the rest of the painting works taking place in the town centre.
- 2.3 The trial market in Cleveleys commenced on Wednesday 29 August has proved popular with local retailers and residents increasing footfall. The location on the promenade has proved challenging and future markets will be located off Derby Road West.

3. Hillhouse Enterprise Zone (EZ)

- 3.1 The Mott MacDonald led master planning consultancy team are continuing to develop the Hillhouse Masterplan and Baseline Report. HOW Planning have been appointed by NPL Group to revise both documents to ensure they align with the emerging Local Plan and to then offer recommendations to Mott MacDonald to make the necessary changes.
- 3.2 Public consultation commenced in early October for three weeks. An open day was held at Thornton FC during this time on Friday 12 October. The Masterplan is expected to be adopted at Cabinet on 28 November.
- 3.3 New site signage will be installed at three locations around the EZ boundary. Ground surveys have now been undertaken and installation can commence once advertisement consent has been granted.

- 3.4** A stakeholder workshop took place on Monday 10 September at County Hall, Preston. Marketing Lancashire led the workshop around the LAMEC branded EZ websites. A number of actions were identified to evolve and populate the new websites.

4. Business support

- 4.1** A Wyred Up Steering Group is currently being established. It will be made up of representatives who are experts in their fields and will drive forward the new priorities for Wyred Up, supported by an action plan.
- 4.2** 'Accelerating Wyre' took place on Thursday 27 September at the Marine Hall, Fleetwood. This event was the first 'Accelerating Wyre' event pulling together local partners and support services to enable businesses to access support in one place. Partners who came to support on the day included, Boost Business Lancashire, Positive Footprints, UCLAN, Lancaster University and The Growing Hub.
- 4.3** In early November we will hold 'Building Wyre', which will provide a one stop shop for all potential and existing contractors to help them understand all the housing activity that will be taking place over the next few years.
- 4.4** The Wyre Business Survey is in the final stages and we will be launching this in mid-October to run for six weeks. This exercise has not been undertaken before. The results of this survey will help inform the priorities of our Economic Development Strategy and give us a valuable insight into the needs and wants of our business community. It will also enable us to strengthen our relationship with the private sector by engaging with them on local and regional issues, potential growth barriers and business support.

5. Coastal Community Fund 5 (CCF 5)

- 5.1** On Saturday 22 September it was announced that Disability First was successful in receiving £985,522 from the CCF 5 fund, in partnership with Wyre, Fylde and Blackpool Councils.
- 5.2** The funding is for the Access Fylde Coast Project, which aims to improve the experience of people living with disabilities visiting the Fylde Coast. The project was the highest awarded scheme out of the 16 awarded projects across the UK. It is hoped that the scheme will boost tourism by improving the experience as well as making the area more accessible for residents.
- 5.3** The project includes training courses for local businesses to support people with disabilities, new events and the creation of a new app which will highlight the existing promenade cultural assets and artworks. The project will run for three years and the team will be developing the first aspects of the projects in Autumn.

6. Planning policy

Local Plan

- 6.1** A consolidated Schedule of Main Modifications (MM) and an Addendum to the Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal (SA) was published for a six week public consultation starting on the 12 September 2018. Accompanying the MM and SA Addendum, a number of other documents have been published including a Housing Implementation Strategy, an updated Infrastructure Delivery Plan and a revised Habitat Regulation Assessment.

- 6.2** Following the consultation we will summarise and be responding to the representations and both the representations and our responses will go to the Local Plan Inspector, who will decide whether or not any of the issues raised require a new hearing. If not, the inspector will consider the representations before issuing his final report which, without any additional hearings, would be expected to be sent to us in December. In these circumstances, the Local Plan could be adopted early in 2019.

7. Comments and questions

- 7.1** 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.