

Report of:	To:	Date
Councillor Michael Vincent, Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder	Council	6 December 2018

<b>Executive Report: Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder</b>
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**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 unveiling of the new map at Cleveleys Bus Station took place on 7 November. The new map which welcomes people into the town was unveiled with the help of children from Northfold Primary School and Manor Beach Primary School. Cllr Andrea Kay and Paul Maynard MP attended the event and congratulated the team.

**3. Hillhouse Enterprise Zone (EZ)**

- 3.1 The Statutory Consultation period on the Hillhouse EZ Masterplan finished on 1 November 2018. Comments on the Masterplan have been analysed and a final plan will be considered by Cabinet in due course.

**4. Business support**

- 4.1 Work to revise the Wyred Up Steering Group is ongoing and the new Group will agree the priorities for Wyred Up and develop an action plan.
- 4.2 On Friday 2 November a 'Building Wyre' event took place at Blackpool and The Fylde College. It was organised in partnership with their Construction Hub and presentations were delivered from our Chief Executive, Regenda Homes, Bardsley Construction and Blackpool & The Fylde College. Attendance was good and we will be repeating this event next year along with more sector specific networking events.
- 4.3 The Wyre Business Survey went live at the end of October and will run through until mid-December. 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, identifying potential growth barriers and business support.

- 4.4** The 5<sup>th</sup> Wyre Business Awards will take place on 29 November at the Marine Hall. This year is the first year we have announced finalists. Sally Naden, BBC Radio Lancashire presenter will co-host the event with Garry Payne, Chief Executive..

## **5. Coastal Community Funds (CCF)**

- 5.1** We are working closely with Disability First and Blackpool and Fylde Councils to deliver the £985,522 CCF 5 grant. 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.
- 5.3** We have worked closely with The Lancashire Wildlife Trust to secure a £71,000 grant from Coastal Communities Fund 5 to help transform coastal communities on the Fylde by bringing them closer to nature on the coast. It is one of only two projects in Lancashire, and 16 across the UK, to be awarded funds from the scheme. The Lancashire's Living Seas project will include a wide range of initiatives including events, workshops and trails including the Wyre Coast and Wyre Estuary.
- 5.4** We have also supported a Morecambe Bay Coastal Community Team application to Coastal Communities Funds, which includes the Bay Cycle Way extension and electric bikes programme in Wyre.
- 5.5** We are also pleased to have been invited to apply to the next stage in the Coastal Communities Fund Round 5 application process. The bid is aimed at boosting the Wyre coastline economy by joining up the Cleveleys to Fleetwood coastline with digital signage, an interactive app offering incentives and the redevelopment and modernisation of Fleetwood Market to provide space for new business start-ups, create 50 jobs and increase visitor numbers to the town. The next stage bid has to be submitted by mid-January 2019.

## **6. Planning policy**

### **Local Plan**

- 6.1** The consultation period on the Schedule of Main Modifications closed on 24 October. We received representations from 46 individuals and these representations, together with our formal response, were sent to the Local Plan Inspector on 12 November. The Inspector has since responded stating that he anticipates drafting the final report before the Christmas break. The report will then be subject to an internal quality assurance process within the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). It is therefore considered that the report may be issued to the Council in the latter part of January. We then have a two week period to 'fact check' the report after which PINS should be able to issue the final report.

## **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.

Dem/cou/cr/18/06127(d) Planning