



Cabinet Member Report for Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning

Northampton Borough Council

16th September 2019

Economic Development and Regeneration

- On July 4th we were contacted by MHCLG to inform us that we have been successful in getting through to the next stage of the Future High Street Fund. Northampton was one of 50 areas selected from over 300 expressions of interest made into the fund. We are now reviewing the guidance that has been issued in order to set up our project team to develop the full business case.
- Consultation on the Town centre Masterplan closed on the 30th June, with 742 detailed responses being received as well as over 1000 people attending the consultation events. The responses from the consultation is now being used by the architects to start to inform the next phase of design.
- A new call for proposals was launched under the Future High Street Fund banner. This fund is called the High Streets Heritage Action Zones and Expression of interest were requested before the closing date of 12th July. NBC worked with its partners on Northampton Forward to submit a EoI and we expect to find the outcome of this in Autumn.
- The Vulcan Works project continues to progress with the planning conditions now discharged. Work on a specification for the operator of the Vulcan Works has begun in order to get an operator appointed during 2020.
- Work on Upton Country Park Phase 2 has commenced with work on the site starting at either side of the site to speed up delivery. This project continues on time and within budget.
- Architects and commercial agents have been commissioned to undertake a masterplan and for FOUR Waterside to enable this key site to come forwards. Soft market testing with developers has taken place and a variety of studies are underway to assess ground conditions in order to inform the design development.
- The delivery of the Museum continues, with slight delays experienced due to the fabrication and install of the steel frame. Installation of the roof is now complete, and the installation of the curtain walling has begun.

Asset Management

The following capital schemes are complete;

1. Grosvenor car park ramp value c£81,000
2. Removal of 3 barges from river to allow EA dredging scheme c £10,000

The following capital schemes are ready to get into contract; (Should be in contract by end of Sept)

1. Street Lights
2. Billing Brook Lakes
3. Rectory Farm Community Centre

Ridge and partners have started condition surveys on the first 30 properties, it is envisaged that the 120 properties will be complete for the end of Dec to feed into budget setting in January.

Emergency works are underway at the following;

- Mounts Baths Califiers and pumps
- Derrigate Sprinkler repairs

Queen Eleanor Cross

The work is progressing well.

The contractors held a very successful public workshop, with two sessions on 16th August. The sessions were fully booked, despite appalling weather.

They were able to demonstrate some of the techniques involved, and to describe the problems that they had encountered.

Councillor Tim Hadland
Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise