

INFORMATION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
HEAD OF PROJECTS AND REGENERATION	FINANCE AND DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE	28 SEPTEMBER 2022	9
UPDATE – WORK OF THE ST ANNES PROGRAMME BOARD			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

This report gives an update on the work of the St Annes Programme Board undertaken since its formation in June 2021.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Head of Projects and Regeneration

WHY IS THIS INFORMATION BEING GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE?

A request from the Chairman of Finance and Democracy to update the Finance and Democracy Committee on the work of the Programme Board.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. The St Annes Programme Board is a Working Group tasked with oversight of the strategic development of St Anne's Town Centre and the Island site. Terms of Reference for the Working Group were presented and agreed at the 7 December Programme Board meeting and can be found at Appendix A.
2. The Programme Board have met several times during 2022/2023 with published notes available to view by request to the Democratic Services team.

ST ANNES TOWN CENTRE AND ISLAND MASTERPLAN

3. A key focus of the Programme Board since its inception has been the development of a Masterplan for St Annes Town Centre and the Island site. The Programme Board oversaw the successful bid to LCC for Lancashire Economic Recovery Grant (LERG) funding (£108k), which was earmarked for the preparation of a Masterplan for the Island site. The LERG funding was combined with existing funding (£150k) already committed by the Council

to undertake a Town Centre health check and Masterplan for St Annes.

4. The Masterplan will shape long term development and investment within St Annes and will be used to lever private and public sector investment to achieve the coordinated vision set out in the final plan.
5. Following a comprehensive tender exercise, Building Design Partnership were appointed by the Council to lead the production of the Masterplan, with support from a multi-disciplinary team of business planners, transport consultants, programme and cost consultants, designers/engineers and property advisors.
6. The Programme Board have acted as a key stakeholder throughout all the key stages of the Masterplan development, including providing direction to the consultation strategy, providing feedback to the viability of options and ultimately steering the overall long-term vision for the development of St Annes.
7. The final draft of the Masterplan was presented to the Planning Committee on 27th July 2022 for adoption and is available to view at this [link](#).
8. Officers are currently preparing a formal launch of the Masterplan which will be published within the next few weeks with the approval of the Programme Board.

LEVELLING UP FUND

9. In April 2022 the Government published application guidance for Round 2 of the Levelling Up Fund (LUF), aimed at Town Centre and High Street Regeneration, local transport projects and support of cultural and heritage assets.
10. A detailed assessment of the guidance was undertaken by Amion Consulting and presented to the Programme Board on the 17th May. This is included at Appendix B. The Board agreed to progress a LUF bid in parallel to the Masterplan development based on a 6th July application deadline. Based on the professional advice provided by Amion, it was agreed that the parameters of the LUF bid would focus on the key public realm projects that had been identified within the emerging Masterplan. These included key interventions at: Station Gateway, Square Events Space, Active Travel Link, Pier Gateway, Promenade Gardens and the Fairhaven Road Car Park. The bid has been named “From the Station to the Sea; Revitalising St Anne’s Town Centre and the Promenade Gardens”.
11. The scope of the LUF application was then developed by the multi-disciplinary team into the required application format. The resultant scope was subject to a detailed viability assessment and cost estimate. The total value of the LUF bid is £14.6m.
12. The application deadline was extended by Government due to technical issues with the application portal. The Council submitted the completed application document on 27th July 2022.
13. Further information on the scope of the application can be found here [From the Station to the Sea: Fylde Council Submits Bid to Round 2 Levelling Up Fund To Revitalise St Annes Town Centre & Promenade Gardens – Fylde Council](#). The full LUF application document and supporting information can be made available by request.
14. Members of the Programme Board have also been involved in partnership discussions with the LCC Leadership and the Strategic Development team to align the strategic principles of the LUF bid with the wider regional strategy. This has resulted in a commitment by LCC to match fund Fylde’s LUF bid by £500,000 if successful, subject to agreement. The outcome of the LUF bid is expected in Autumn 2022. If successful a further report will be presented to this Committee to agree any financial contributions from Fylde Council to help deliver the projects, with the Programme Board monitoring and providing strategic direction in the delivery of the LUF project to its completion in March 2025.

ST ANNES SEAWALL PROJECT

15. The St Annes Seawall Project reports to the Programme Board to ensure that risk and opportunities are identified and managed in terms of the interface between the new Seawall and the vision for the regeneration of the Island.
16. The Programme Board have provided input and direction to the consultation strategy and delivery strategy for the new Seawall project and have made decisions regarding risk mitigation for addressing stakeholder concerns on the site, particularly regarding engagement with the RNLI.
17. The current high level delivery programme for the Seawall construction is as follows:
 - Submit outline design to RNLI – end October 2022;
 - RNLI approval of outline design – early December 2022;
 - Submit planning application – mid December 2022;
 - Planning determination – Spring 2023;
 - Phase 1 start on site – September 2023;
 - Phase 1 completion – Spring 2024;
 - Phase 2 start on site – September 2024;
 - Phase 2 completion – Spring 2025.
18. The Programme Board have also confirmed key personnel changes within the St Annes Seawall Project Board. The Project Executive is now the Head of Projects and Regeneration, replacing the Head of Technical Services who now acts as Senior User for the project within the PRINCE 2 methodology.

COMMUNICATIONS

19. The Programme Board is attended by a representative from the Communications Team to ensure the coordination of corporate communications associated with the Programme and to provide advice to the Board as and when required. The Communications team have supported the delivery team with the overall consultation and engagement for the Masterplan and will continue to provide strategic support throughout the duration of the Programme.