



BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

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COUNCILLOR AFRASIAB ANWAR, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PR1- We will contribute to the strategic direction of local, sub-regional and regional partnerships, and will position the borough for economic development investment.</p>	<p>Members will note that the three upper tier authorities in Lancashire have contacted the Government to consider forming a non-Mayoral combined authority without consulting with the district councils. All district leaders have put forward their concerns and asks to the three upper tier authorities and we await a response. Members will agree that districts should be meaningfully engaged and represented as part of this process. I will report back on discussions going forward.</p> <p>On 22 June, I gave a presentation to the Federation of Built Environment’s Lancashire Branch. It attracted approximately 30 Built Environment Professionals - surveyors, architects, planners etc. and it was a great way to get people to Burnley to hear about our exciting developments. The focus for the event was to showcase our heritage development projects, including our Heritage Action Zone and Newtown Mill. I am pleased to report that all participants were impressed with the work we are doing in Burnley.</p> <p>Members will note the fantastic progress made on our major development schemes such as Pioneer Place, Town2Turf and Newtown Mill that the Council is leading on. I would like to thank all the officers and partners for their continued dedication in bringing these schemes forward. Further details on the progress of these schemes can be found in my Executive Member’s reports and it is great to see Burnley continue to develop as a major force within Lancashire.</p> <p>Members will be aware that following two detailed recruitment exercises, we have appointed Lukman Patel as our new Chief Executive and Rob Dobson as our new Chief Operating Officer. I would like to thank all Members who were involved in the recruitment process, and I feel that we have managed the process extremely well to ensure a seamless transition of managerial leadership within the Council.</p>

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PE1- We will continue to work with partners to</p>	<p>The borough’s summer holiday activities and food (HAF) programme will shortly be underway.</p>

<p>make the borough a place of aspiration and pride. This will include supporting efforts to increase education attainment and skills development.</p>	<p>Activities are available for 4-16 year olds. The scheme is primarily targeted at children eligible for free school meals.</p> <p>757 young people enjoyed our Easter programme. The programme is delivered in partnership with the county council and a large range of providers from the Voluntary Community and Faith (VCF) sector.</p> <p>I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in the borough who recently took their exams the best of luck with their forthcoming results.</p>
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COUNCILLOR SUE GRAHAM, DEPUTY LEADER AND EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE

Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PL5- We will implement our Climate Change Strategy.</p>	<p>The Council's Carbon Budget report has been completed, measuring the Council's complete scope 1 and 2 emissions, and partial scope 3 emissions. The carbon budget will monitor</p>

areas of highest emissions and continue to identify areas of focus for climate actions.

The Council has committed to being carbon neutral by 2030. Whilst becoming carbon neutral is an important part of the journey, the Council is also committed to continuously working towards net zero and monitoring annual emission reductions. The UK target is net zero by 2050, with an emissions reduction of 78% by 2035. The Council is working alongside this target but are also carrying out further analysis and modelling works to determine if an earlier net zero target is feasible for their direct and indirect emissions (scope 1, 2, and 3).

The Climate Change Strategy Progress Updates have also been completed, outlining the work undertaken throughout the Council, and the progress that has been made towards each climate action.

A Revised Climate Change Action Plan has also been produced with completed climate actions removed, actions amended where needed, and new actions added. This is to ensure the action plan remains relevant and demonstrates the Council's ongoing commitment towards climate change.

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PF1- We will manage our contract with Liberata robustly, so it delivers value for money and good services.</p>	<p>At the end of quarter 4, 81% of calls were answered within time against the target of 80% by the contact centre. There has been improvement in three consecutive quarters regards this indicator. In addition, the caller abandonment rate was low, at 2%, against a target of >5%.</p> <p>The benefits team achieved their target for the average number of days to process new claims and change of circumstances for benefits. Against a target of 9 days, the Q4 result was 1.8 days. The result in the same quarter of last year was 2.3 days. The latest available data for comparison with other areas is from Q3 22/23 (this measures housing benefit processing only) and shows that Burnley's housing benefit processing time overall was 4 days. This was the fastest in the North West, where the average time taken was 7 days.</p> <p>The environmental health team just missed that target of 93% of compliance inspections and interventions delivered in line with statutory targets, achieving 91%. However, both IT services and payroll services achieved their targets.</p>

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PF2- We will adopt a Medium Term Financial Strategy that will put the Council on a sustainable financial footing. This strategy will set the framework for preparing annual budgets, ensuring the annual budget strategy is set within the context of the longer-term outlook.</p>	<p>Revenue Budget 2022/23 The Council is reporting a net underspend position of £61k for the 2022/23 financial year. This compares with an underspend of £9k that was reported at the end of quarter 3. The Council has also made a net £2.4m contribution to specific earmarked reserves during the year to support planned future initiatives.</p> <p>Revenue Budget 2023/24 The Council’s 2023/24 revenue budget was approved at Full Council in February 2023. The first round of monitoring has commenced and will be reported during the next committee cycle.</p> <p>Medium Term Financial Strategy The Medium-Term Financial strategy for the period 2024-2028 was also approved at Full Council in February 2023. A potential budget gap of £2.1m has been identified for the four-year period 2024-28 which is 14% of the 2022/23 net budget of £15.322m. A range of savings options is currently being considered to meet the potential budget gap and an update will be provided, together with a revised MTFS, throughout the financial year.</p> <p>Statement of Accounts The 2022/23 draft Statement of Accounts was published by the statutory deadline of 31st May 2023. This is two months earlier than the statutory deadline for the previous financial year. Only 35% of local authorities managed to achieve the earlier statutory deadline, partly due to delays in auditing previous years’ accounts. Grant Thornton are due to commence the audit of the draft accounts in July and will continue until September. The deadline for approval of the audited 2022/23 Statement of Accounts is 30th September 2023.</p> <p>Council Tax and Business Rates Collection Rates Council Tax collection rates at 31st May were 18.35% which is slightly ahead of the target of 16.77% but is around the levels</p>

	<p>collected for the same period in the previous three financial years.</p> <p>Business Rates collection rates at 31st May were 20.52% against a target of 16.18%. Collection rates are ahead of those for the same period during the previous three years after taking into account one-off reliefs granted last year.</p>
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Strategic commitment	Progress update
PF3- We will develop our digital strategy, so that more residents transact with us online and we will continue to deliver services more efficiently.	<p>In 22/23, 61% of "report it" and "request it" transactions in were made through self-serve and on average 44,000 residents' used our website each quarter, and council social media content got on average 40,000 engagements each quarter.</p> <p>Projects are currently underway to review the council's online payment system to make it more user friendly and to replace the building control system.</p>
Strategic commitment	Progress update
PF4- We will deliver our Organisational Development strategy, ensuring we plan for the structures and capabilities that the organisation needs, and empowering our workforce to deliver the objectives of the Strategic Plan.	<p>One aspect of the council's organisational development is to recognise excellent performance by colleagues. On 20th July, Victoria Mill will host the team awards in recognition of those staff members that have strongly demonstrated the council's values (team work, showing enterprise, being ambitious for Burnley, and meeting customer needs).</p>
PL6- We will invest in our heritage assets for the benefit of this, and future, generations.	<p>Council Chamber</p> <p>Reinstatement works are progressing well despite more historic dry rot requiring further remedial action. The anticipated completion date for the reinstatement works of the 30th September when work can commence on the replacement of the audio-visual equipment and accessibility adaptations. Specifications are being finalised and will go out to tender shortly to enable works to commence.</p>

COUNCILLOR LUBNA KHAN, EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PE4- We will continue to work on the wider determinants of poor health. This will include reducing food insecurity and responding to the cost of living crisis with practical support. We will work closely with the Integrated Care Board and ensure that the Borough Council plays an active role on the proposed placed based partnerships.</p>	<p>Following the recent opening of the new community grocery at Down Town in charter walk, I am pleased to report that the new facility is already having an impact in reducing food insecurity. Since opening in May, it has 70 customers a day. Shoppers pay £5 for yearly membership, then each shop costs £5 and you can shop multiple times every week. In each shop you can get: bread, fruit and vegetables, tinned or boxed items, freezer items, fridge items and non food items. A promotion of the opening is underway to raise awareness amongst lower income households.</p> <p>In addition, Burnley Leisure has now opened the Community Kitchen, Cafe and Cookery School at Down Town. Customers can enjoy breakfast, lunch, soft and hot drinks at the café which is open to everyone. All profits are going back to the community supporting cookery classes, emergency food parcels and feeding those in need. The Monday to Friday 10.30am–2.30pm</p> <p>Down Town is open Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4.30pm (café, 10.30am-2.30pm).</p> <p>The council has launched round 4 of the household support fund. Nearly 7000 residents of working age on council tax support have received a £90 voucher to help with the cost of living. An open application process for residents that are not on benefits but who have limited savings will open in August.</p> <p>As part of closer working with the Integrated Care Board, a council officer from the housing unit will be working from Burnley General Hospital one day a week. This pilot will test whether co-location with hospital discharge staff can improve the discharge experience for people with housing and adaptations related needs in order to relieve pressure on hospital bed space.</p>
<p>PL1- We will implement a range of initiatives to maintain a clean, safe, attractive and environmentally friendly borough. This will include community engagement and cleansing in ‘hotspot’</p>	<p>Waste & Cleansing Update</p> <p>The Government consulted all local authorities back in 2021 regarding the implementation of its waste strategy and reforms. Unfortunately, the announcement of the proposed national changes that are expected to radically change the sector continue to be delayed. The Council however continues to work with County Council Officers and others to help to plan for the Council’s forthcoming waste and cleansing</p>

areas

arrangements post 2025 and also to confirm its future waste disposal arrangements.

The recent 'service change' that has seen some areas of the borough move from a Friday collection to a Monday collection has been successful, with all areas of the borough now receiving their refuse the day following their refuse/recycling collection. Along with 'service change' there have been upgrades to the fleet which will increase capacity for bulky/flytipping removal which in turn will see service improvement for residents of the borough.

Streetscene maintain the Council's address data set (Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG)) and have been awarded Gold Standard for 2022 at the annual Geoplace Exemplar Awards for the high quality of the information held. This is the 2nd consecutive year that the Council have obtained this accreditation and the maintaining of this data set is vital to ensure that residents and businesses across the borough can access Council and other public services.

Enforcement Update

The Council's Enforcement Officers continue to work across the borough with residents and local businesses to promote the Council's waste and cleansing service. The Education & Enforcement Officer recently represented the Council at a health and wellbeing event at one of the borough's largest employers to provide advice and assistance to help to ensure that all our Borough's businesses and residents can access our services and help the Borough in meeting its commitments to recycling better and to keep our streets clean. In May and June 2023, the Enforcement Team successfully prosecuted 2 individuals for fly tipping offences and 1 for failing to provide the correct commercial waste documentation.

Council Enforcement Officers along with the Council's litter enforcement contractor have issued 238 FPN's (Fixed Penalty Notices) for litter and dog foul offences and 13 FPN's for fly tipping and commercial waste offences. They have also served over 600 legal notices and warning letters to residents and businesses regarding correct waste management.

Burnley Community Alcohol Partnership

Burnley's Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) has been recognised at this year's CAP Awards, hosted by Yvette Cooper MP at the Houses of Parliament, as the most improved locality.

The award recognises the work that local partners put in during 2022 to address the significant youth related ASB in Burnley Town Centre during the early months of the year. Partners co-ordinated through the CAP/Youth Panel to ensure that there was a presence from youth outreach services every evening to engage with young people in support of police activity. Through these organisations' hard work the problems sparking the disorder were addressed, provisions put in place, and incidents reduced.

A lasting legacy of this work is the permanent locating of a youth service stand in the market hall that agencies can work from at key times to engage with youngsters and provide help where needed.

Alley Gates

Working with long term partners SMILE Mediation, a review of the alley gate program is being conducted. SMILE are engaging with residents across the borough to canvass views on the impact of gating as part of an approach to tackling ASB, while officers are identifying schemes that fall below the expected standard with a view to removal.

MATAC update

May 2023 recorded a 9.3% reduction in ALL CRIME when compared to May 2022. Although between April and May 2023 showed a 1.8% increase, this is below the county-wide average of 3.7%.

May 2023 saw a 1% reduction in Serious Acquisitive Crime with significant falls in Burglary offences. Reports of Violence Against the Person (-2.8%) and Domestic Violence (-5.8%) fell from April to May, while ASB rose by 8.4%.

With regards to ASB, it should be noted that the youth related ASB fell by 18% over the same period and, when compared to May 2022, fell by 38%.

ASB Action Plan and Operation Centurion

Back in April 2023, the Government launched its anti-social behaviour commitments and action plan for delivery by local authorities, the Police and other key partners. As part of the Government's Action Plan and commitment to increase resources to tackle ASB, Lancashire Constabulary was chosen as one of 10 'pilot' police forces to receive extra funding for hotspot patrolling. This funding (approximately £2m over 2 years for the whole of Lancashire) will provide additional policing of identified ASB hotspots, and Burnley has been chosen to receive this extra resource for the first 6 months of the operation.

Electric Vehicle Charge Points

The installation of charging points at eight car parks within the borough is ongoing, with the project due to be completed later this summer. These units are to be provided with the aim of encouraging the use of more energy efficient vehicles by the general public.

COUNCILLOR JOHN HARBOUR, EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND LEISURE

Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PL2- We will improve the management and condition of rented accommodation in the private and social sectors and enforce standards in a robust way.</p>	<p>Selective Licensing</p> <p>Selective Licensing: Trinity, Queensgate with Duke Bar, Gannow and Daneshouse & Stoneyholme areas 2019-2024</p> <p>The total number of properties that are required to be licensed is 2639 across all four areas. We have received over 2,733 applications since the start of these designations. 83% of these properties are currently licensed, a further 171 applications are being processed by the licensing team.</p> <p>Further reminders were sent to those landlords who are non-compliant in May. So far civil penalties have been served in relation to eleven non-compliant properties in these areas. The team are now gathering evidence to serve further civil penalties and prosecutions for non-compliant landlords and agents.</p> <p>The team completed area audits in April focusing on Cog Lane in Trinity and an area of Daneshouse covering parts of Whalley Street, Abel Street Ardwick Street and Colville Street up to Colne Road. We are now taking legal action against those licence holders who have failed to provide relevant certificates for their property or have failed to obtain a licence. Full reports are available on our website.</p> <p>The next area audits have also begun, in the Wordsworth Street, Gannow Lane and Adamson Street area of Gannow, and Brennand Street, Fraser Street and Randall Street areas of Queensgate. These audits will be completed by the end of July and reports on the outcomes will be published on our website.</p> <p>Selective Licensing: Burnley Wood with Healey Wood and the Leyland Road area 2022-2027</p> <p>The designations for the above areas came into force on 21st July 2022. Since this date we have received 715 applications (79% of licensable properties). 55% of those properties that require a license have been licensed, with the licensing team processing a further 164 applications.</p> <p>Reminder letters were sent to all non-compliant landlords and agents in June; the deadline for applications has now</p>

passed and officers have begun gathering evidence to prepare civil penalties and/or prosecutions.

The team will also begin audits in these areas from August.

Landlord and Agent Training Days

After undertaking market testing, the team have appointed the National Residential Landlord Association to deliver the next series of landlord and agent training days to those operating in the licensing areas. The first event will be held in September, with a series of online and face to face events planned for the next two years including additional training on damp and mould.

Private Rented Disrepair

Since the start of April 2023, the Council has received and dealt with 95 new disrepair complaints from private rented sector tenants. The Housing Standards Team has a current caseload of 190 open/ongoing private rented sector disrepair/proactive inspection cases. Since April 2023, the Housing Standards Team have served 4 formal improvement notices requiring owners to complete specified repairs within a given timescale, as well as 2 emergency remedial action notices, and 2 prohibition orders. The Housing Standards Team (previously known as the Housing Enforcement Team) has been successful in recruiting an additional Housing Standards Team Leader, and two Housing Standards Officers.

Strategic commitment	Progress update
PL3- We will work with partners to improve quality and choice in the borough's housing stock, and reduce the blight of empty properties	Home Improvement Agency The Home Improvement Agency (HIA) continues to work in partnership with health colleagues on a range of different grants that improves the resident's quality of life. During 2022/23 the HIA delivered 498 grants and the good work continues in to 2023/24. So far this financial year the HIA have completed 35 Disability Facilities Grant adaptations. 8 Emergency Works Grant where the property was deemed a Category 1 hazard or a high category 2. 20 Safe and Secure Grants 1 Hospital Discharge Grant 52 Handyperson jobs completed 10 Energy Efficiency Grants which include first time central heating and boiler replacements. 62 residents have been supported though the Affordable Warmth Fund with energy efficiency measures. This includes

putting low energy LED lightbulbs in properties which is especially important to residents with the current cost of living.

To help promote the work of the HIA team we have produced an annual report highlighting the work that the team have done.

Empty Homes Programme

All recent Council led renovations have achieved a B rating for the EPC as we now install solar pv on the properties.

The compulsory purchase programme is progressing with a further report at the July Executive. Renovations are underway at three properties with one out to tender and another four being prepared.

The facelifting scheme is underway to the rears of Windsor and Ivory Streets. The Piccadilly Road scheme has been tendered and works will start in late July/early August. Enquiries for the loans scheme are slow at the moment, we will be advising landlords in the next Selective Licensing newsletter of the availability of the loans in order to try to increase the numbers.

New Housing

New properties continue to come to the market across the borough offering residents a broad choice of homes and locations. All our sites at Kiddrow Lane, Manchester Road Hapton, Red Lees Road, Cliviger and Brownside Road, Worsthorne are progressing well, with the majority of properties either sold or reserved.

McDermott Homes are now underway with their development at Harrogate Crescent that will see a disused building demolished to make way for 44 family homes and Barrett Homes are developing out their planning permission for 87 2, 3 and 4 bedroom homes off Rossendale Road.

Calico continue to press ahead with their development programme offering a range of affordable homes for Burnley's residents, with their current focus on the development of 93 extra care apartments at Burnley General Hospital, which are expected to be ready for occupation late summer 2024. The development is on track with all the steel work complete and the masonry work progressing well. This scheme will see a clear link between Burnley's housing and healthy living offer to create safe and sustainable homes for older residents. Calico's other current housing development at Kinross Street is ahead of schedule with phase 1 expected to complete in December 2023 and phase 2 in July 2023. Once complete there will be a range of 2 and 3 bedroom homes and 3 bungalows for affordable rent.

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PE2- We will continue to develop the leisure and cultural offer in partnership with Burnley Leisure.</p>	<p>Beat the Street</p> <p>The second edition of the Beat the Street Programme ran for a 6-week period in May and June and attracted more than 12,300 individual participants, which is a phenomenal level of engagement representing 13% of the borough's population. Participants were able to take part as individuals or to compete as teams to win points and the number of points earned through playing BTS equates to 2,298 trees, which BTS participants will be invited to help plant at locations in each of the 15 wards between November and March.</p> <p>Mechanics</p> <p>An expression of interest has been submitted by Burnley Leisure to the Arts Council for a £400K capital investment grant towards a £958K for improvement to facilities including provision of new toilets, (including a changing places toilet) and improvements to the auditorium and bringing the underutilised ground floor area of the building back into use as a collaborative working space to drive innovation, together with repairs to the envelope of the building.</p>

<p>PL4- We will implement our 2015-25 Green Space Strategy.</p>	<p>Crematorium</p> <p>I am pleased to report that extensive work to refurbish the crematorium chapel and waiting room has been completed on schedule. The Council employed an interior design specialist to develop a co-ordinated scheme to redecorate and re-carpet the chapel and install new curtains and a disability compliant lectern as well as improving the waiting room. The response from service users has been very positive.</p> <p>The next phase of crematorium improvements will be to improve parking provision and access.</p> <p>Towneley Hall</p> <p>Work to re-roof the Great Hall (West Wing) and repair external stonework is progressing well following the initial delays with the delivery of roofing slates.</p> <p>The Regency rooms and Long Gallery have been emptied of artwork and furniture ahead of work starting on the South Wing in August, with the items being placed in secure storage with a specialist art storage firm.</p> <p>A programme of engagement activities is being planned for the Heritage Open Weekend (8th – 10th Sept) at which there will be hands-on demonstrations of the craftsmanship being used to repair the hall (stonework, leaded glass, roofing and lead work), together with scaffold tours and illustrated talks.</p> <p>Stables Café</p> <p>I am pleased to report that work on the internal fit out of the café is planned to commence 17th July and is expected to be</p>
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completed in 6 weeks, with the café re-opening to the public shortly thereafter.

Towneley Park Masterplan

The Council has employed Cass Design Consultants to prepare a long-term vision for Towneley Park to ensure that the heritage, ecology, recreational and economic potential of the park is developed over the next 10 years.

Consultation with park users and stakeholders will take place over the coming months to ensure that the development of the masterplan is well informed and ambitious.

Play Area Strategy

Work on the refurbishment of Healywood and Memorial Park play areas has started on site, with work at Clifton St play area to follow, with the aim of completing by the end of July.

The refurbishment of Queens Park play area will commence on site immediately after the school holidays.

Consultation on the design of schemes for Barden Lane , Picadilly Gardens and Underly Street play areas will take place during the school holidays ward councillors will be kept updated on these schemes.

Green Flag Park Award

I am delighted to report that all of Burnley's six main parks have all retained their Green Flag Awards this year, thanks to the hard work of staff and park friend's groups. The green flag judges assess parks against the eight [Green Flag Award criteria](#) and provide a written report that makes recommendations for future improvement.

A number of gardening staff will attend the worth west award ceremony at Chorley Town Hall.

Memorial Park Wheeled Sports Area

The new wheeled sports area on Park Road has been officially opened and the Council is very grateful to the generous support from the Lancashire Environmental Fund, Padiham Town Council and the RWE Hambledon Hill Windfarm Community Fund which helped fund this scheme.

Off-road motorcycle ASB

There has been an upsurge in off-road motorcycle nuisance in areas of greenspace and on the extensive greenway network. The Council is working with the Police and Calico on this issue and is developing a plan that combines some physical interventions to deter motorcycle access with enforcement action by the Police.

PE3- We will continue to work with partners to provide necessary support systems to reduce homelessness and to end rough sleeping in the borough.

We continue to accommodate rough sleepers and homeless households who have a connection to the borough. We have 16 ABEN (A bed every night) accommodation spaces in the Borough providing accommodation and support for people sleeping rough or at risk of sleeping rough. Over the last month we have increased the properties we manage for temporary accommodation from 13 to 15 making of 31 housing units within Burnley with the flexibility to accommodate both families and single people. We also have access to a small B&B in Burnley if all our accommodation is full. In addition to the 31

units, we now have four of the six RSAP (Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme). properties in use with the remaining 2 expected to be occupied by the end of July 2023. Between 1st April 2023 and 30th June 2023, we received 582 enquiries around homelessness, 131 were opened as homeless cases. We have successfully prevented or relieved 56 households' homelessness so far this financial year and provided temporary accommodation for 86 households.

COUNCILLOR MARK TOWNSEND, EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ECONOMY AND GROWTH

Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PR2- We will proactively support the borough’s businesses to innovate and expand, and make the borough a natural choice for business relocation.</p>	<p>The Business Team are currently working with two companies on growth projects which will complete soon. One of the projects is bringing a long-disused building back into use and the other is assisting with the expansion of a growing engineering company. Both projects combined will see 10 new FTE jobs created and investment of over £500,000.</p> <p>The final “Go For It” workshop will take place on the 29th of June which will conclude the series of three start-up events aimed at helping new and pre-start businesses. The events have focused on Marketing, Finance and Practicalities of starting a business.</p> <p>Vision Park</p> <p>Vision Park remains at 100% occupancy with a waiting list should any units become available. There has been one more recent lease renewal for a five-year period.</p> <p>Padiham Town Hall</p> <p>The fixed office space remains at full occupancy with leases recently renewed and a waiting list for the offices. The Co-Working hub now has 16 members.</p> <p>Burnley Brand and Burnley Bondholders</p> <p>Since last full council there have been:5 pieces of positive news on Burnley.co.uk. Burnley has featured in 705 pieces of online, print and broadcast news with a combined AVE of £592,000 and reach of 228 million. Notable press coverage includes a feature in Cycling Plus magazine and 2 features in the Manchester Evening News after the Brand team actively facilitated visits by the Journalists. More recently Burnley featured in an article in the Guardian promoting Lancashire Holidays. In May 2,500 editions of InBusiness Burnley were distributed across Lancashire.</p>

Strategic commitment	Progress update
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PR3- We will deliver the Town Centre and Canalside Masterplan, and strategic projects in Padiham Town Centre.

Pioneer Place

Work on the project reached the key milestone of practical completion on 2nd June, when it was handed over to the Council. Since then, the Council has taken over security and site supervision to allow tenants to fit out their units and for the Council to install various pieces of its own equipment. As is standard for a project of this size, Maple Grove and Eric Wright have, since handover, been rectifying work that hadn't met the required standards or had suffered slight damage during construction.

Work has continued to sign up tenants for the last two units with one at a very advanced stage.

The Council's Managing Agent Monroe K has been working with the tenants to ensure services are in place ready for opening.

The first unit, Icaro Lounge opened on the 28th June and has been well received by customers.

Town 2 Turf Public Realm Transformation

Works to the south side of Harry Potts Way are complete and have moved to the north side. A road closure is in now place to allow for works to the aqueduct. Works to the roundabout/Yorkshire St junction are being planned for/procured and are expected to commence in August.

Overall programme is approx. 8 weeks behind schedule due to some challenging ground conditions and supply chain, but areas within the programme where this can be mitigated are being reviewed by LCC.

Lower Saint James's Street Heritage Action Zone

Restoration works to 160 are now completed. Externally the building has benefit from a new traditional shopfront, reinstatement of the original bay windows to the upper floors, rainwater goods, repair of architectural features to the facades along with internal conversion works.

Restoration work to 156 Lower St James Street is underway including the reinstatement of a traditional shop front, bay windows, rainwater goods and architectural repairs. This is due to be completed end of July.

158 St James Street is currently at grant application stages and if approved delivered by September 23.

153 St James Street is at Planning stages and works have been tendered out.

One Sixty is now rebranded as The Salon and has been a fantastic Cultural hub space for the Burnley Words festival.

Four Cultural events have taken place at The Salon as the HSHAZ Cultural Program merged with the Burnley Words festival bringing new life and footfall to the street. The Voices of the Counter Culture free to attend Exhibition continues at The Salon until the 30th July.

Historic England visited the HS Area on the 30th June and were delighted with the progress that has been made since their visit earlier this year and commended the Council and its contractors on the quality of the work.

The HSHAZ social media pages have seen a significant increase in new followers and interactions with 1.3K reach within the last 28 days.

Padiham Town Centre

On Saturday 13th May the Town Centre Officer delivered the Painting Padiham event which featured 70 artists painting throughout the town centre and provided a variety of free activities for visitors.

In June the officer supported local organisations with the planning and delivery of the Padiham on Parade event 24th & 25th which has received positive feedback from the public and local businesses who have benefitted from the event through promotion and increased custom.

The Padiham Town Centre social media platform on Facebook has seen a significant increase of engagement that has reached over 25,000 people in the last 28 days alone.

Padiham Townscape Heritage

Exemplar Project (33-35 Burnley Rd) - Building works are complete. Both apartments are now tenanted. The Council/Liberata are in discussion with potential tenants which have expressed an interest in occupying the retail units.

Grant has been awarded to 25 & 27 Burnley Rd (Party Glitz and Woof & Tumble) for external repair and restoration works and commenced on site 19th June.

A grant has also been awarded to 12-14 Burnley Rd (vacant) for a Phase 1 focussing on external/essential repairs. This will be the final TH building scheme and is expected to utilise remaining funds and is due to mobilise on site within the next two weeks.

The Gable Art Project has completed to incorporate two artworks to building gables in the town centre. Feedback from the local community and publicity has been extremely positive and the steering group are exploring future opportunities for public art/cultural projects. The works have also featured in national and regional press.

	<p>Padiham Flood Management Scheme</p> <p>Works on the existing flood defence wall on the right-hand bank to the rear of the Town Hall are complete to increase the height of the wall and provide an increased standard of protection.</p> <p>Works are now moving to the Bendwood Close section to construct a new defence wall in front of the existing retaining wall. A new 'flood hub' has been established to keep residents and businesses up to date on plans and progress. Padiham Flood Risk Management Scheme The Flood Hub</p>
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Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PR4- We will implement the Local Plan, delivering new housing, employment sites, and infrastructure.</p>	<p>Local Plan Review and Local Development Scheme</p> <p>Burnley's Local Plan, having been adopted on 31 July 2018, will reach its fifth anniversary on 31 July 2023 and its first five-year review is therefore required.</p> <p>Additionally, the Local Development Scheme (LDS), which sets out the timetable for preparing Burnley's local planning framework, is also required to be updated with the previous version having been adopted on 17 February 2020.</p> <p>A report and decision on both these matters will be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 12 July 2023, following consideration by Scrutiny Committee on 5 July 2023.</p> <p>AMR and Housing Statistics Release</p> <p>Scrutiny Committee will consider a report on the 2021/22 annual authority Monitoring Report (AMR) at its meeting on 5 July 2023.</p> <p>Pending the production of the next AMR for 2022/23 later this year, a separate Housing Statistics Release has been published. The June 2023 release sets out some key housing development statistics to 31 March 2023. It shows that 256 net additional dwellings were completed in 2022/23 and permission for 517 homes granted.</p> <p>Allocated Housing Sites:</p> <p><i>Completed Sites:</i></p> <p>The Calico scheme for 34 affordable dwelling at Site HS1/19 Land NE of Sycamore Ave is now complete (for housing monitoring purposes) as is site HS1/26 Land adj 250 Brownside Road, Worsthorne (18 homes Millers Green, Boyes Homes – 7 detached properties reserved or sold).</p> <p><i>Sites Under Construction:</i></p>

Build-out continues at site HS1/1 Former Hambledon School site (Valour Park, McDermott Homes - over 96% reserved or sold), site HS1/3 Former Blythe's Site (Canal Walk, Gleeson - over 93% reserved or sold), site HS1/8 Red Lees Road (The Calders, Miller Homes - over 62% reserved or sold), and part of site HS1/4 Rossendale Road (Barratt Homes - Brun Lea Heights – 4 detached properties sold).

Applications and Approvals:

An application for 36 age-restricted build-to-rent bungalows for site HS1/22 Former Dexter Paints, Gannow Lane (FUL/2022/0136) was approved on 12 June 2023.

The application for site HS1/2 Hollins Cross Farm for the erection of 200 dwellings was deferred at a Full Council meeting on 7 June 2023 (FUL/2022/0149)). A reserved matters application has been received for 73 affordable homes at site HS1/29 Lodge Mill (REM/2023/0169). An outline planning application has been received for part of Site HS1/5 Former Baxi site for up to 40 dwellings (OUT/2023/0294) An earlier outline planning permission granted was on 18 May 2020 which has now lapsed (APP/2018/0598).

Allocated Employment Sites:

Sites under Construction

Following the outline approval in September 2022 at site EMP1/5 Land South of Network 65 ('Burnley Bridge South') (OUT/2020/0366), and the approval of a reserved matters application for Phase 1 of the site (REM/2022/0568), construction has now commenced.

Following the approval of a hybrid application in Nov 2022 for the expansion of Burnley College on part of site EMP1/3 Vision Park (FUL/2021/0270), a number of applications for discharge of conditions have been received/approved and a variation applied for to allow a phased submission of reserved matters and delivery of the outline development - Phase 2 (VAR/2023/0259.)

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p>PR5- We will support UCLan's expansion, transforming Burnley into a University Town</p>	<p>UCLan Campus Expansion – Newtown Mill</p> <p>Works on Newtown Mill continue. The structural steel frame to the south mill is fully installed and tied into the existing structure allowing the progression of the metal floor deck and concrete slab to the upper ground floor level. Works to the stone façade are progressing with the remodeling of the Canal Street elevation parapet rebuilding, pointing and doff clean.</p>

The north mill structural steel frame is now making good progress. The pre-cast concrete staircases have commenced along with the stadium seating to the auditorium. Current programme shows completion in June 2024.

PR6- We will work with partners to ensure that residents are able and ready to participate in the workforce.

Burnley Employment & Skills Group (BSEG)

The steering group of BSEG met on 29th June – brief update of the new sub-groups below:-

Over 50's - BFC in the Community will lead this group and in discussions with the organisations that already work with this group

BAME Communities – Youth Futures have agreed to fund a specific research piece working with existing BAME community groups in Burnley.

Women's - core organisations identified, and terms of reference agreed which include understanding barriers, changing mindsets and improving outcomes for women accessing work.

Young People (including Thrive Youth Hub) has a current caseload of 216 active young people. The DWP currently see around 146 per week at Thrive with the majority being in the 18 – 24 age group. The Thrive network continue to report that young people are more likely to return to meet with service providers due to the co-location of services in the hub.

A cross section of 700 young people have been engaged with as part of the Connected Futures project to understand their barriers to employment, initial areas highlighted include, health/anxiety, cultural, criminality as well as a lack of awareness of the jobs available in Burnley.

The last “Get Into Hospital Services” course run by the Princes Trust received 14 referrals from Thrive of which 10 completed the course and gained employment in the NHS.

Claimant Count

The claimant count rate in Burnley as of March 23 was 5.6% above the Lancashire (4.2%) and GB (3.8%) rates. This remains high in the 18 – 24 age group at 9.1% compared to a Lancashire rate of 6% and a GB rate of 4.9%.

The economic inactivity rate at Dec 22 was 28.7%, compared to a Lancashire rate of 23.9% and a GB rate of 21.5% It's important to note that almost 86% of those classed as economically inactive are made up of students (43%) retired (12%) and long-term sick (31%).

Of the 28.7% - only 30% of these say they want to work – this group are the focus of the project that the UKSPF is funding under the People & Skills theme.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Communities & Place

- Burnley Leisure - £75k of funding approved to support repairs & maintenance of Barden Track
- Greenspaces - £65k funding to refurbish Barden Lane/Disraeli St & Underley Street play areas.

- Small grants programme - £121,366k awarded to 8 applicants to support a range of community projects from creative/cultural activities to digital inclusion, mental health projects and sports facilities.

Supporting Local Business

- 13 businesses supported with decarbonisation plans
- 15 businesses supported with international trade including topics such as Brexit, cultural aspects, and the physical export of goods
- Year 2 projects to provide specialist manufacturing & business innovation support were approved and delivery commences in quarter 2.

People & Skills

- Marketing literature is out now, and a launch event took place in May.
- A successful drop in took pace at Downtown on 30th June as part of National Employability Day and all 7 delivery partners, including Burnley College, Calico and The Princes Trust took part
- 15 individuals engaged with support in March including 2 who had previously felt socially excluded. Outcomes of the 15 individuals include being connected to healthcare services, benefits support and actively taking part in job searching & volunteering.

