

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL

Internal link to previous report

PORTFOLIO: REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** COUNCILLOR SUE GRAHAM

**DATE OF REPORT:** 27/09/2017

Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
PR2- We will proactively support the borough's businesses to innovate and expand, and make the	Burnley Bridge Phase 1 is now completed and fully occupied with Fagan & Whalley taking occupation of their new 92,000 square feet distribution hub.
borough a natural choice for business relocation.	The Business Support team has recently assisted Holker IT to relocate into 3,000 Sq ft of office space at Pendle House on Phoenix Way. The company employ 15.5 staff and expect to create an additional 9.5 jobs. The company specialise in IT solutions and Cybersecurity, building on the Borough's growing digital sector.
	The Team are currently working with 48 live property enquiries for companies looking to relocate into the Borough or expand within. Of these; 27 are inward investment enquiries with 21 business expansion enquiries.
	The first business loan has been awarded to one of our growing digital companies. Together with LCC's Rosebud fund the company has been awarded a loan of £100,000 to invest in additional R&D with the aim of creating new products and income streams. The investment will lead to the creation of new 8 skilled jobs.
PR3- We will make the borough attractive to retail and leisure developers, and	Burnley Town Centre Masterplan - The Council, in partnership with UCLan and Burnley FC, have appointed BDP as lead consultants to develop the new masterplan for

will identify a sustainable future for the Burnley Market.

Burnley Town Centre and Weavers' Triangle. The plan is also part funded by One Public Estate and will seek to identify how public sector owned assets can be utilised to bring forward new development opportunities. A preferred option for wider consideration will be available early in 2018.

Work has commenced on junction improvements at the bottom of Westgate and Active Way. The works are funded by the Growth Deal, Lancashire County Council and Burnley Borough Council and will alleviate existing congestion and provide capacity for future developments.

The town centre management team supported the second annual Padiham on Parade (24 & 25 June 2017). It was very successful and exceeded the number of visitors attending last year. Very positive feedback was received from visitors and those taking part.

Financial support & conservation advice has been provided to a new business towards the refurbishment of a prominent, large, heritage shopfront on Church St.

In recent months there has been an increase in enquiries from new businesses wanting to open or expand into Burnley town centre. The Council is currently supporting two new businesses to open in empty premises on St James's Street.

**PR4-** We will develop and deliver the Local Plan. This will act as the key supporting framework for encouraging future employment and investment in a range of housing stock.

The Local Plan Submission document was submitted to the Secretary of State for examination on the 20<sup>th</sup> July. An Independent Planning Inspector and Programme Officer have been appointed and hearings are scheduled to take place in November.