



# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL

10<sup>th</sup> July 2019

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COUNCILLOR CHARLIE BRIGGS, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL .....	2
COUNCILLOR MAGGIE LISHMAN, DEPUTY LEADER AND EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE .....	5
COUNCILLOR IVOR EMO, EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND LEISURE .....	9
COUNCILLOR COSIMA TOWNELEY, EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES .....	13
COUNCILLOR GORDON BIRTWISTLE, EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ECONOMY AND GROWTH .....	16

## COUNCILLOR CHARLIE BRIGGS, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

### Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p><b>PE1-</b> We will work with partners to make the borough a place of aspiration, including supporting efforts to increase education attainment and skills development, and improve residents' health.</p>	<p><u>Education Summit</u></p> <p>Improving educational attainment is a long-standing objective for the borough. In June I attended a conference at the Prairie Complex hosted by Lancashire County Council (LCC) to explore how local authorities and schools from Burnley, Pendle and Hyndburn can work together to close the educational attainment gap. It is encouraging that this agenda is a priority and that partners are getting behind the council's aspiration strategy. The conference was the start of the process and LCC will now co-ordinate the development of a plan for future action.</p> <p><u>Children's University:</u></p> <p>We are now in the second year of supporting the Children's University programme with 16 primary schools and 1330 pupils engaging in the scheme, completing 31,262 hours of learning. There are over 70 learning destinations in Burnley and surrounding areas and additional learning events have been delivered including stargazing at Towneley Hall, Chinese culture days delivered through the Confucius institute UCLan, spooky science workshops through the young scientist centre UCLan and a British Science week pop-up event was held at Turf Moor in March, hosted by Burnley FC in the Community.</p> <p>572 children will graduate in July 2019.</p> <p><u>Primary and secondary engineers:</u></p> <p>We have continued to fund primary and secondary engineers to support schools. All Burnley primary schools have been engaged over the years with 10 schools engaging with a variety of courses this year including Structures and Mechanisms with Basic Electrics, Gears, Pulleys and Lifting devices and Game Coding for Game design. The celebration event will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> July at Burnley College and is open to all primary schools in Burnley that have completed the activity in 2018/19.</p> <p>4 of the secondary schools have taken part in the Secondary Engineer Bicycle Club this year.</p>

	<p>10 primary schools and 2 secondary schools have registered to take part in the Leaders Award competition for 2018/19. The Awards event for the competition will be held at Burnley College on the 8th July 2019 with the public exhibition on the 9th July 2019.</p> <p><u>Engagement with businesses</u></p> <p>We are supporting the careers hub in Burnley, developed and funded by The Careers &amp; Enterprise Company, and overseen by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership's skills and employment hub. All secondary schools are engaged working with colleges, universities, employers to improve careers education. All schools now, on average, meet 4 of the Gatsby benchmarks; a set of eight benchmarks that schools can use as a framework for improving their careers provision.</p>
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<b>Strategic commitment</b>	<b>Progress update</b>
<p><b>PR1-</b> 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><u>Lancashire LEP</u></p> <p>The Council is engaging with the Lancashire LEP to influence the direction of the Lancashire Industrial Strategy. The Council has responded to the consultation to ensure that it reflects the Council's growth plans based around the borough's key strengths in manufacturing and a growing digital technology base; building on the importance of UCLAN as an anchor Higher Education and Research institution in the East of the County and ensuring that residents have the skills to benefit from future growth.</p> <p><u>East Lancashire Unitary Council</u></p> <p>Along with other East Lancashire Council Leaders and the Leader of LCC, I recently attended a meeting with Rishi Sunak (Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) regarding the proposal for an East Lancashire Unitary Council. The Minister outlined the current and future processes for establishing Unitary Councils and stated that later this year he will be publishing the conditions that would need to be met for the Secretary of State to issue an invitation to Councils to put forward proposals for Local Government re-organisation under the Local Government and Public Involvement Act 2007.</p>

	<p>This is a very important matter for this Council, and I am keen that a full debate on the matter takes place at a future Council after the Secretary of State has published the conditions mentioned above.</p>
<p><b>PR5-</b> We will support UCLan's expansion, transforming Burnley into a University Town</p>	<p>The Council continues to support the growth of UCLAN. Significant investment has been made in new medical and science labs at Victoria Mill and recruitment figures for the next academic year are on target. Construction has commenced on a 136 bed Student Accommodation Scheme on Sandygate, ready for occupation in academic year 2020/21. The completion of this scheme will be a significant step forward in achieving the aim of attracting 4000 students by 2025 and for the longer-term development of the Weavers Triangle area.</p>

## COUNCILLOR MAGGIE LISHMAN, DEPUTY LEADER AND EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE

### Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p><b>PF1-</b> We will continue the successful partnership with Liberata.</p>	<p><b>Contractual Performance</b></p> <p>At year end 2018/19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80% of calls were answered within the target time. This compares with 78% at year-end in 17/18.</li> <li>• The face to face wait-time in the contact centre was also on target, averaging about 9 minutes in Q4 against a target of 10 mins. There has been considerable improvement in the wait time over the last 12 months: in 17/18 the average wait was 14 mins.</li> <li>• Reaching 95.11% by the end of Q4, the council tax collection rate is up on the result in 17/18 (94.57%), and above the target of 94.50%.</li> <li>• Regards business rates, 97.27% of total collectable debt was collected by year end, slightly lower than the 97.50% collected last year.</li> </ul> <p>Liberata also achieved its targets for environmental health delivery, IT services, and payroll accuracy and is on target for the number of jobs created. 64 jobs have been created through the contract so far.</p>

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p><b>PF2-</b> 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><b>Finance Update</b></p> <p>The end of the financial year 2018/19 marked the start of the period of preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts. Members will be aware that it is a statutory requirement for the Council to report on its financial activities and it summarises the financial position of Burnley during this accounting period. Although it is led by the finance team, significant amount of preparation and work goes into this by colleagues from across the Council.</p>

Once the statements are produced, the Council's auditors, Grant Thornton, will come on-site to conduct their audit, after which it is hoped to obtain formal approval of the accounts after Audit & Standards Committee in July 2019.

The future funding situation of the Council is uncertain. We await from Government the results of the spending review, fair funding review and the result of the business rates system redesign. It was expected that these would be announced in 2019/20, allowing for an indication of government funding for 2020/21 onwards.

Grant Thornton have communicated to all Local Authorities that they will not sign-off any authorities accounts by the 31st July statutory deadline, until a decision of the Government permission to appeal the outcome of the McCloud pension ruling is either granted or denied. Updates on the position shall be provided at future meetings.

The original timeline is set out below:

- Spring 2019 – Analysis of both Relative Needs & Resources and Business Rates Reforms Dec 2018 consultations
- Summer 2019 – The Spending Review process – will begin before Parliament's summer recess and will cover a three-year period
- Summer/Autumn 2019 – Government response to the Dec 2018 consultations and another round of consultations including details of implementation & transition
- Autumn 2019 – The results of the spending review will be reported at Autumn Budget 2019
- Winter 2019 – Reforms to be implemented & Local Government Finance Settlement

Work is on-going regarding the Financial Transformation Project. We are investing in systems to deliver long-term efficiency gains in accountancy support and to increase the Council's financial management capabilities. This recently included the approval of upgrades to the existing Finance System to comply with upcoming legislative requirements and deliver efficiencies.

## **Capital projects**

This calendar year saw the commencement of roof renewal works to the Town Hall. The works aim to address the significant issues to this Grade 2 listed building, to ensure that the building is wind and watertight, health and safety compliant and to prevent further outbreaks of dry rot, and to preserve this iconic heritage asset.

The original survey estimates were prepared with limited non-intrusive visual surveys due to areas of the roof being inaccessible without the erection of scaffolding. Since works commenced significant amounts of structural defects have been discovered whilst the contractors have obtained access to parts of the roof that has necessitated a much larger programme of repairs than originally envisaged.

This was detailed in a separate report that was considered by Scrutiny and approved by the Executive. The Executive asked the Council's Chief Executive to use urgency powers to approve the budget for these additional works to avoid unnecessary holding costs through a period of inactivity.

Going forward the Executive Member for Resources & Performance is committed to managing and monitoring the Town Hall restoration works on a monthly basis to completion and shall provide regular updates and briefings to members on progress.

## **Contact Centre relocation**

Members will be aware that the Contact Centre move is part of wider rationalisation of Council accommodation which will lead to savings. Contact Burnley will move from its existing offices on the corner of Parker Lane and Red Lion Street to new offices, just 50 yards along Parker Lane. The move is expected to be completed by September this year.

The move will take place over the weekend to avoid any disruption of services to the public. The move has been planned carefully so that the service to our residents is uninterrupted. It remains easily accessible and will provide the same face-to-face service. It is important that we maintain a face to face service for our residents that need it as well as promoting the Council's digital transformation.

	<p>Streetscene staff, who deal with issues such as household waste collection, street cleansing, dirty backyards and dog fouling, will move from their first-floor offices at Contact Burnley to Burnley Town Hall from the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2019.</p>
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<b>Strategic commitment</b>	<b>Progress update</b>
<p><b>PF4-</b> 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>	<p><b>Organisational Development Strategy</b></p> <p>The Council’s People and Development Team are currently preparing an Organisational Development Strategy that will be considered by the Council’s Executive in August.</p> <p>The staff survey has recently been sent out and seeks the views of employees on communication, Council values, management support, training and development, working conditions and well-being. The results of the survey are expected to be available in September.</p> <p>The Council’s sickness absence rate for 2018/19 was 5.69 average days per employee. This is a further reduction on the figure of 6.42 achieved in 2017/18 and we have recorded the best performance across authorities in Lancashire. This demonstrates the commitment of our workforce to continue to deliver high quality services to our residents.</p> <p><b>Committee System</b></p> <p>The Executive would like to see a more democratic system of governance being introduced that involves more councillors in the decision-making process. Officers are currently considering various proposals including changes to the current Executive system and the potential introduction of a committee system.</p> <p>A draft options paper is planned to be tabled at the next Member Structures Support Working Group in September for consideration by Members.</p>

## COUNCILLOR IVOR EMO, EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND LEISURE

### Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p><b>PL2-</b> We will improve the management and condition of private rented accommodation.</p>	<p><b>Selective Licensing: Trinity, Queensgate, Gannow, Daneshouse &amp; Stoneyholme 2019-2024</b></p> <p>The Council received confirmation from the Secretary of State on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019 that the above areas have been approved for designation as selective licensing areas. This will be the first-time selective licensing has been in operation in the Daneshouse &amp; Stoneyholme area. Officers are currently working through the legal notification process to inform relevant parties that the designations will come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019.</p> <p>The current Queensgate and Gannow designations come to an end in July 2019; currently 95% of licensable properties in Queensgate and 99% in Gannow have been licensed, demonstrating high levels of compliance with the scheme. We are now finalising legal action against the few remaining landlords who have not been licensed.</p> <p><b>Selective Licensing: Burnley Wood with Healey Wood, Leyland Road area, Ingham and Lawrence area 2016-2021</b></p> <p>The Selective Licensing Team has processed over 1200 applications to date for properties in these three areas that require a licence. Of the completed applications received, 93% are now licensed. The scheme has proved to be very successful in the Ingham and Lawrence Street area of Padiham, with 99% of licensable properties now licensed; this is expected to be at 100% in the very near future. The team received positive feedback about the scheme at a recent resident's event held at Padiham Town Hall. We continue to pursue applications from the remaining unlicensed properties across Burnley Wood with Healey Wood and the Leyland Road area (22 and 4 respectively) and are in the process of preparing a number of Civil Penalties for failure to licence properties in these areas.</p>

### **Housing Standards and Enforcement**

During 2018/19 we opened 487 new housing standard cases and closed 590, making a significant improvement to the condition of private rented property in the borough. Within the more serious cases we issued 12 prohibition orders which potentially prevent occupation of properties due to their condition and 7 formal improvement notices.

This demonstrates that in the vast majority of cases officers engage effectively with landlords and by working together use informal routes to address issues of disrepair.

<b>Strategic commitment</b>	<b>Progress update</b>
<p><b>PL3-</b> We will work with partners to improve quality and choice in the borough's housing stock.</p>	<p>Gleeson Homes are making good progress with their development at Manchester Road, Hapton and are report strong demand and health sales. McDermott Homes are now well underway with Kiddrow Lane following their successful development at Sycamore Avenue. These three locations will provide over 530 new family homes, improving the choice of house types and locations for current and future residents of the borough.</p> <p>Calico Homes development at Perseverance Mill won the award for best regeneration scheme in the North West at the RICS awards ceremony earlier this year. This well-deserved honour recognised the outstanding achievement at developing a high-quality affordable housing scheme on what was a very challenging brownfield site. On the back of this success Calico and Ringstones are now on site at Station Road developing 67 homes for affordable owner occupation that when complete will see the conclusion to this development and introduce new housing options for current and future residents of Padiham.</p> <p><b>Empty Homes Programme</b></p> <p>The programme for this financial year consists of bringing back in to use a further 80 properties. Alongside this we will be purchasing 20 properties by either CPO or agreement with the owners. We are again offering loans in the Selective Licensing areas to a maximum of £20k and have already had 16 enquiries to date.</p>

	<p>During 2018 the Council appointed a dedicated empty homes officer which has allowed us to double the number of empty properties we return in to use and double the number of properties we acquire and renovate.</p> <p>We have one painting scheme planned for this year on Thompson Street in Padiham and works on this scheme have started. We are also working in conjunction with Calico Homes in the Burnley Wood area to bring an additional 35 vacant properties back in to use.</p>
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<b>Strategic commitment</b>	<b>Progress update</b>
<p><b>PL4-</b> We will implement our 2015-25 Green Space Strategy.</p>	<p><b>Play Area Improvement Programme</b></p> <p>I'm also pleased to report that Towneley play area is now fully open following a major refurbishment which was part funded by a generous grant from Lancashire Environmental Fund together with funding from the Disabled Facilities Grant programme. The play area includes equipment specifically adapted for disabled users, including a wheelchair swing and additional sand and water play items and refurbished musical equipment.</p> <p>Improvements are complete at Faraday St, Whittlefield and the newly refurbished play area is open. The footpaths and steps across the site have been repaired and resurfaced with new handrails installed. Volunteers from Trees for Burnley have planted trees and an area of wildflower meadow has been sown by children from Whittlefield Primary School. I would express the Council's gratitude to Gannow Big Local for providing funding for this scheme</p> <p><b>Thompson Park</b></p> <p>Volunteers have been busy over recent weeks painting the paddling pool ready for the summer and repainting railings around the play area. Burnley Leisure are operating the boating lake and the new boat house café, together with the pavilion which will be available to hire for social functions.</p> <p>Unfortunately opening of the public car park is being delayed due to difficulties sorting out parking control systems that are essential to manage this pay car park effectively.</p>

Burnley Leisure has launched the Family Hub funded by Action for Children based at the Pavilion. This is a targeted programme that aims to encourage families with young children to engage in activities such as walks, cycle rides, kayaking, mountain biking and orienteering.

**Hargher Clough Park**

The contract to build the new wheeled sports area at Hargher Clough Park has started on site and the new facility, which will cater for skateboards, scooters, BMX and in-line skates, will be ready for the summer holidays. The project has been funded by Sport England, Calico and the Lancashire Environmental Fund.

**Towneley**

The current lease on the Stables café ends in early 2020 and officers are currently preparing documents so that a new lease can be tendered. The Council is looking for tenants who can provide a high quality and good value service in this popular café, with the potential to provide catering for the weddings and events that take place at the Hall.

I am delighted to report that the Friends of Towneley has been awarded the Queens Award for Voluntary Service. This is one of only 6 awards made for the whole of Lancashire and recognises the brilliant achievements of the Friends of Towneley over the last 15 years. They have raised tens of thousands of pounds for projects, organised dozens of events and enthused volunteers of all ages.

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p><b>PE2-</b> We will continue to develop the leisure and cultural offer of Burnley in partnership with Burnley Leisure.</p>	<p><b>Mechanics</b></p> <p>I am pleased to report that the National Lottery Heritage Fund has approved the Expression of Interest that was submitted for the MI:Space project at the Mechanics. A Stage 1 application for this £3 million scheme will be submitted by the end of this year.</p> <p>An Arts Council grant application for refurbishment of the Mechanics auditorium has been submitted for improvements to seating, lighting etc, with a value of £180K</p>

	<p><b>Towneley Golf Courses</b></p> <p>Burnley Leisure has appointed a new caterer, Bistro 197, to take over the hospitality offer at Towneley Golf Club. Bistro 197 has already established a strong reputation at its premises on Todmorden Road. The bar and restaurant at the Golf Club is open to golfers and the public.</p> <p><b>St Peter's Centre and Padiham Leisure Centre</b></p> <p>The spring has seen continued steady growth in membership of the gyms at both Padiham and St Peter's which are benefiting from the investment that has been made in new gym equipment.</p>

**COUNCILLOR COSIMA TOWNELEY, EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

**Progress against our strategic commitments**

<b>Strategic commitment</b>	<b>Progress update</b>
<p><b>PL1-</b> We will implement a range of initiatives to maintain a clean, safe, attractive and environmentally friendly borough.</p>	<p><b>Dog Fouling</b></p> <p>The Executive as part of its cleaner and greener agenda has established a cross-party working group to look at how the Council can strengthen its approach to promote socially responsible dog ownership and reduce dog fouling across the borough. All political groups are requested to participate in this discussion. It is expected that the Working Group will report to the Executive with their recommendations within 6 months.</p> <p><b>Climate Change</b></p> <p>The Executive has established a cross party working group to review the activities the Council can take as part of the current Climate Change Agenda. All political groups are requested to participate in this discussion.</p>

It is expected that the Working Group will report to the Executive with their recommendations within 6 months.

### **Garden Waste**

The subscriptions for garden waste re-opened on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019. The response has been overwhelming. Within 3,500 subscriptions in one week. The Council proactively notified all customers via SMS Text and Email to improve the customer experience in managing and maintaining subscriptions. The marketing campaign was extremely successful. Current subscription levels are over 9,000 with over 60% of customer subscribing online.

### **Recycling Scheme Enhancement**

Following the Government's recently published Waste Strategy and a public petition from local residents, to increase recycling across the Borough. The Executive has introduced an update of its recycling collections. The Council has been working to develop a scheme for the introduction of new collection equipment and review existing recycling rounds, to make it easier for residents to recycle. The adoption of a tailored service that reflects ward differences and the diversity of property stock and available bin storage will make future recycling easier. The proposed scheme could be in place as early as September 2019 and the implementation of the service improvement will be supported by a robust Publicity Plan to ensure residents of fully aware of the changes.

### **Ultra-Low Emission Taxi Infrastructure Scheme**

The Council in conjunction with a number of other Lancashire Authorities has been successful in a bid to secure funding that has been made available from the Department of Transport to implement electric charge points to encourage the take up of electric vehicles across town centre and city taxi fleets. Burnley will see 4 rapid charges being installed across the borough during in 2020. Until such time as there is local taxi electric vehicle charging point demand, the Council intends to allow wider public use. The implementation of the chargers will support the existing and planned provision across the town.

Lancashire County Council has already installed electric chargers on the highway near Bankfield and the Council is looking to extend its own provision at Burnley and Padiham.

### **Community Safety Activities**

There has been a review across the County regarding the delivery of activities to reduce re-offending. The Council will be working with the Police, Probation Services and other agencies to strengthen the pathways of enforcement and support to reduce re-offending, to manage offenders and to support local communities. A key Community Safety priority that aims to reduce re-offending is the seasonal publicity work the Council and partners undertake to remind residents and local businesses to ensure their property remains secure. This is a key message, particularly in the summer season when windows and property can be left unlocked. Key community safety messages will be promoted on the website and through social media.

A national campaign has been launched to reduce knife crime. Funding has been made available across the County via the Police Crime Commissioner to implement knife amnesty bins, as part of this national preventative initiative. Two knife amnesty bins within the Town and will be located at the Calico Offices on Centenary Way and Valley Street Community Centre.

A calendar of summer youth activities has been produced by a range of partners to inform young people and parents of organisations that are delivering youth intervention activities over the summer.

### **Demolition**

The Council and its specialist contractors have undertaken the £1.6m complex demolition of the old former cinema, open market complex and redundant bridges. The building demolition was completed by the end of June and the Bankfield bridge demolitions will be completed by the end of July. The overall scheme is due to be completed by the end of August. Due to the complex nature of the demolition the Health and Safety Executive has shadowed many stages of the work and full approval and compliance has been given.

<b>Strategic commitment</b>	<b>Progress update</b>
<b>PF3-</b> We will develop our digital strategy, so that more residents transact with us online and we will continue to deliver services more efficiently.	A new IT system for planning, housing, land charges and environmental health has started operation. The Idox Uniform system replaces two legacy systems. The system will be developed over the coming months, with improvements in customer self-service as well as process efficiencies in the back office.

# COUNCILLOR GORDON BIRTWISTLE, EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ECONOMY AND GROWTH

## Progress against our strategic commitments

Strategic commitment	Progress update
<p><b>PR2-</b> We will proactively support the borough's businesses to innovate and expand, and make the borough a natural choice for business relocation.</p>	<p><b>Business Support and Inward Investment</b></p> <p>The business support team have supported three businesses through the business growth programme. Between them the companies have invested £475,556 and will be creating 8 new jobs and safeguarding 4.</p> <p>The Business Support Team are currently working with 46 companies looking to relocate into the Borough or expand within it. Of these 46, 16 are inward investment enquiries with the remainder being existing Burnley based companies.</p> <p>The borough has recently benefited from new inward investment with 24/7 Home Rescue relocating to Parkhill Business Centre on Padiham Rd as their new base for operations. Their relocation will bring 80 new jobs to the borough with plans to increase to 120.</p> <p><b>Vision Park</b></p> <p>12 out of the 17 units are let, sold or under offer giving an occupancy level of 80%. The units range from 825-5,500 Sq. Ft and occupiers cover a range from sectors including Manufacturing, Aerospace, Textiles, Food and Drink and Creative &amp; Digital.</p> <p><b>Business Awards</b></p> <p>Last month I attended the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Burnley Business Awards at the Towneley Hall. The event, which is funded through sponsorship, was attended by over 500 business people. I was particularly impressed with the range and the quality of the shortlisted businesses representing all sectors and businesses from small to large. The strongly contested Business of the Year award went to Pipeline Induction Heat who from their impressive facility on Rossendale Road provide specialist pipeline engineering to the Oil and Gas Sector all over the world. They also scooped the Apprenticeship Scheme Award, recognising the amazing support and career opportunities that the business offer to young people.</p>

	<p>The event was a real representation of Burnley’s Brilliant businesses and I would particularly like to thank all of the sponsors without whom the event would not be possible.</p>
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<b>Strategic commitment</b>	<b>Progress update</b>
<p><b>PR3-</b> We will deliver the Town Centre and Canalside Masterplan, and strategic projects in Padiham Town Centre.</p>	<p><b>Lower St James Street Public Realm</b></p> <p>The Council has also secured funding to extend the Town Centre Public Realm works along Lower St James Street and LCC will start works in spring next year.</p> <p><b>Weavers Triangle</b></p> <p>The next phase of On the Banks is underway with a 136 bed student accommodation scheme.</p> <p><b>Town Centre Business Improvement District</b></p> <p>On the 27<sup>th</sup> of June the Council received formal notification from the Burnley Town Centre Bid Steering Group of their intention to hold a formal ballot to establish a Business Improvement District in the town centre. They have also issued a draft BID Plan for consultation. The plan proposes a range of marketing and events activities as well as environmental and safety improvements that could be implemented if businesses agree to the BID. The proposed BID would generate up to £1m of investment between 2020 and 2025.</p>

<b>Strategic commitment</b>	<b>Progress update</b>
<p><b>PR4-</b> We will implement the Local Plan, delivering new housing, employment sites, and infrastructure.</p>	<p><b>Supplementary Planning Documents</b></p> <p>The Executive has recently adopted a Shopfront and Advertisement Design Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This is an important planning document that will assist officers and members in making sure that our town centres and shopping parades are attractive places for shoppers and investors.</p>

## **Housing and Employment Sites**

In the year 2018/19 there were 251 new homes completed across the borough. Work is now well-underway on two of the largest local plan housing allocations the Former Hambleton Schools and William Blythe sites.

There is also a healthy pipeline of planning applications demonstrating a high degree of confidence in Burnley as a place to invest.

I am very pleased that work has also commenced on the final phase of Innovation Drive – a strategic employment site in the local plan. Over the last seven years this site has been transformed from a derelict tyre factory to high quality business space accommodating world leading engineering businesses, creating 246 new jobs