



**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL**

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PORTFOLIO: REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: COUNCILLOR SUE GRAHAM

DATE OF REPORT: 12/04/2017

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 first phase of Burnley Bridge is now complete; with Fagan & Whalley taking the high profile 6 acre plot adjacent to the M65. The acquisition will see this Burnley company invest over £10m. In addition the group have acquired and comprehensively upgraded the former HML office facility on Shuttleworth Mead to provide Head Office facilities for the Fagan & Whalley group, along with a brand new bespoke training facility. They are to create a further 24 jobs through this expansion.</p> <p>Enquiries The business support team are currently supporting 37 companies looking to relocate into the Borough or expand within it. Of these 37; 23 are inward investment enquiries and 14 business expansion enquiries.</p> <p>Vision Park There has been significant interest in the larger units (Blocks D & E) from businesses and the Council is in advanced discussions with two occupiers. We anticipate as work progresses further interest will be generated in the site and in particular for Block C which consists of grow-on units.</p> <p>Burnley Business & Innovation Awards The Burnley Business & Innovation awards will once again be taking place at Towneley Hall, on 29th June.</p>

	<p>Digital Degree Apprenticeships The Council is working closely with UCLan & Burnley College to develop a Degree level Apprenticeship, a BSc in Digital & Technology Solutions, to be taught from the Burnley campus from September 2017. Over 25 businesses from Lancashire have expressed an interest in recruiting an apprentice for the programme.</p> <p>The team are also working with UCLan to develop employer interest in three other degree apprenticeships, (advanced manufacturing, management and construction) also to be taught from Burnley</p> <p>Business Growth Programme £45,000 of funding has been awarded to 9 companies to support them with their investments in new machinery and consultancy support. Together they are to create an additional 20 new jobs.</p> <p>Business Loans In November last year the Executive approved the use of funding from the Business Growth Programme to enhance the range of support the Council has to offer to support businesses with their investments and growth plans. Lancashire County Developments Ltd will be delivering the loans on the Council's behalf. To date, three requests for loan funding have been received.</p>
<p>PR3- We will make the borough attractive to retail and leisure developers, and will identify a sustainable future for the Burnley Market.</p>	<p>Burnley's first Teenage Market took place in Burnley town centre on Saturday 25 March and was a joint event organised by Burnley Markets and Town Centre Management. The event provided a platform for young people to showcase their talents through either having a free stall to sell products they have made, designed, upcycled, curated, or performing (singing, dancing, playing). The market has received a hugely positive response.</p> <p>Burnley Town Centre Quarter 4 in 2016 saw an increase in town centre footfall of over 10% compared with the same quarter in 2015. Vacant units were at 15.8%, a decrease from 16.7% in the previous quarter.</p> <p>Padiham Town Centre Padiham town centre vacancies are at 9% and have remained at this level for Quarters 2, 3 and 4 of 2016.</p> <p>Flood Resilience To date 48 applications have been received from Padiham</p>

	<p>town centre businesses, 37 of which have been approved, to a value of £162,556.65. The closing date for new applications for the Flood Resilience Grant is 31st March 2017.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>The Proposed Submission version of the Local Plan was approved at last Full Council. If people are unhappy with the proposed submission plan (ie consider it 'unsound' or not legally compliant) or, indeed, if they support the plan, they can make representations in writing by the deadline of 26th May 2017 so that they have the opportunity for their comments to be considered by the independent inspector. Comments can be made online at: www.burnley.gov.uk, by email to: localplan@burnley.gov.uk or in writing to Burnley Borough Council. The council will be making available specially designed online and printed comments forms so that people can set out their comments in the best way for the inspector to consider at the Examination.</p> <p>Looking ahead, the intention is to submit the document for Examination by the independent Inspector in July 2017. The Examination begins immediately the plan is submitted.</p> <p>As part of the Examination process there will be public hearing sessions with the Inspector and these are likely to take place in the autumn. Only those who have made representations at this proposed submission stage and within the six-week consultation period can participate in the Examination.</p>