

Ebbsfleet Development Corporation

Board Meeting Part One

Date of meeting :	18 October 2018	Paper Number:	EDC 018-076
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Title of paper	Strategic Priorities Update
Presented by	Ian Piper, Chief Executive
Sub-committee	Not applicable

Purpose of Paper and Executive Summary	
To provide the Board with an update on key matters affecting the Corporation's priorities and performance since the last meeting.	
EDC business plan and KPIs	Matters covered will impact on some or all of the priorities within the business plan and associated KPIs
Recommendation	FOR INFORMATION The Board is asked to NOTE the matters identified and their impact on performance and progress.
Annexes	None
Delegation	Not applicable.

Financial impact	Not applicable.
Legal impact	There are no legal implications associated with this paper.
Stakeholder impact	Not applicable.
Sponsor impact	MHCLG have been engaged in agreeing the strategic priorities, Corporate and Business Plan.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Following approval by the Minister, as reported last month, our updated Corporate Plan covering the period 2016-21 has now been published on our website, along with a summary of our Business Plan priorities for this year. These documents reflect the revised set of KPIs and associated targets that have been agreed with Government following the Tailored Review in 2017.
- 1.2 We are now at the mid-point of that 5 year plan and our challenges ahead are clear. Good progress has been made in delivering new homes at Eastern Quarry and Springhead Park, and there is renewed market interest in other sites across the Garden City. A priority for us over the remaining half of the Corporate Plan period is to unlock delivery of the Central Area and to find a solution to the uncertainty of delivery on Swanscombe Peninsula. Ensuring that we facilitate delivery of a great place to live and work, benefitting from Garden City principles on matters such as long term stewardship, are also very important and will be a constant focus for us going forward.

2. 2018/19 Performance

- 2.1 We are also at the mid-point of this financial year and delivery performance is strong with us on track to deliver the housing KPIs. For the year to the end of September there have been 323 homes completed in the Garden City, and a start has been made on a further 219 homes. There are now 1,174 completed homes in the Garden City.

3 Stakeholder Engagement

- 3.1 I attended the Board of the South East Local Enterprise Partnership on 28 September where I delivered an update on our progress in delivering the Garden City and outlined the challenges ahead.
- 3.2 At the meeting the LEP Board also discussed the Government's review of LEPs and their intended submission. There appeared to be unanimous support for retaining the geography of the current SELEP. The Government will be considering this position along with that of all the other 37 LEPs across England. We will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates to the Board.

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3.3 On the 18 September I gave a presentation to the North Kent Enterprise Zone Board on progress generally and with the EZ more specifically. I then attended the launch of the Medway Innovation Park by Medway Council.

3.4 Also on the 18th, I attended a dinner hosted by the Kent Developers Group which included remarks from the Leader of KCC, Cllr Paul Carter, and a broader discussion regarding the current state of the property market and what more can be done to overcome some of the current barriers to economic growth across the County.

4 Lower Thames Crossing

4.1 The Lower Thames Crossing formal consultation starts on the 10th October and runs to the 20th December 2018. The consultation will include 60 events across the South east, 30 mobile centres and 8 awareness events. Following the consultation, a Consultation Report will be written which will be part of the DCO application for the project. The application is expected to be submitted in 2019 to PINS.

4.2 A wealth of documentation will be available during the consultation which includes scheme details, preliminary environmental information and construction information.

5. Progress on Strategic Priorities

5.1 Swanscombe Peninsula

There has been no further news from LRCH in respect of their progress. We are not aware that work on preparing the DCO has re-started as they had previously indicated would be the case by September.

5.2 Northfleet Embankment West (incorporating Grove Road)

Our work to assemble land within the regeneration area continues and we expect to submit a Business Case for approval to the required expenditure next month.

5.3 Central Area

We have continued to develop our strategy for unlocking delivery of the Central Area with the assistance of GVA, and have presented progress to date to the Cross Whitehall Group that was formed following the recommendation of the Tailored Review. We are reporting in more detail on this matter in Part 2 of the agenda this month.

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5.4 SR19 Preparation

As we reported last month, we are continuing to prepare for the expected Spending Review process in 2019. We have procured economic development consultants to assist in preparing the required Business Case and have held the appropriate inception meetings

6 Staff Matters

6.1 Following external recruitment campaigns, we have made an appointment to the post of Design Advisor and to the post of Community & Health Project Manager for the Healthy New Town programme. Following a recent resignation we have also begun the process of replacing the Planning Technical Officer.