

Ebbsfleet Development Corporation

Board Meeting Part	One
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Date of meeting :	21 November 2018	Paper Number:	EDC 018-085
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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	<p>FOR INFORMATION and DECISION</p> <p>The Board is asked to NOTE the matters identified and their impact on performance and progress.</p> <p>The Board is asked to APPROVE the appointment of Sandra Fryer as the Chair of the Planning Committee.</p> <p>The Board is asked to APPROVE the appointment of Louise Hardy as an interim member of the Remuneration Committee, pending a fuller review of board member roles on appointment to the two vacancies.</p>
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 Kit Malthouse MP, the Minister for Housing and Planning, visited the Garden City on 18 October. As well as being given a brief introduction to our work at the Information Centre, and on the viewing platform of the Observatory, the Minister met with the Board to discuss our current priorities. Following this the Minister had a brief site tour and met with representatives of Clarion Housing. There was a clear message to us and the developers the Minister met, that Ebbsfleet Garden City can play an important part in helping the government meet its priority of delivering more new homes, faster and better.

2. 2018/19 Performance

2.1 For the year to the end of October there have been 430 homes completed in the Garden City, and a start has been made on a further 296 homes. There are now 1,281 completed homes in the Garden City.

3 Stakeholder Engagement

3.1 Since the launch of the Community Investment Fund in April, we have allocated approximately £30,000 to local projects that meet the criteria, ranging from supporting a local horticultural charity to deliver a new garden space in Northfleet to supporting local community events over the summer months. The latest projects to be funded will bring a youth engagement project to the Northfleet area and will see new equipment purchased for a local performing arts charity.

3.2 We have continued to engage with local community groups and residents across the Garden City and in particular in the period the Community Building Manager has attended meetings and events in Swanscombe, Greenhithe and Castle Hill. Updates were provided at these meetings on housing delivery in the area and discussions held around community activation, community gardening and health provision.

3.3 The Ebbsfleet Community Partners Group met again in November and a positive conversation took place around a study which EDC is commissioning to look at innovating around community spaces. Clarion Housing and Bluewater presented to the group regarding their work to invest in the community and a number of new connections were made.

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3.4 An engagement event was held on the Wallis Park estate in Northfleet to talk to residents about some potential environmental improvements to external communal areas and the Community Building Manager attended a meeting of Northfleet Big Local to look at their ambitions for the Garden City in the future.

4 Progress on Strategic Priorities

4.1 Swanscombe Peninsula

There have been two announcements from LRCH in the last month. The first concerned the formation of a joint venture with contractor Keltbray, and it was reported that Keltbray have agreed to put £25m into the project. From the information we were given prior to this announcement, it is understood that this is not in itself sufficient for LRCH (or the new joint venture) to complete the work for the DCO.

The second announcement concerned the fact that Dr Abdulla Al-Humaidi will now take a personal role in leading the development of the project.

5. Staff Matters

5.1 Following a recent interview process we have made an appointment to the post of Planning Technical Officer.

5.2 Following a full review of our budget situation for the rest of this year and next, we have reviewed our resource requirements and, where we feel it is necessary, taken steps to fill any emerging gaps.

6 Governance

6.1 Following the resignation of David Lock from the Board, it is proposed to work with MHCLG toward the recruitment of both a replacement for David, and a further board member to fill the already existing vacancy.

6.2 It is proposed that the current Deputy Chair of the Planning Committee, Sandra Fryer, be appointed as the Chair of the Planning Committee. The second board member attendee will be one of the other 'non-LA representative' members according to availability, until such time as a new board member is appointed.

6.2 It is proposed to appoint Louise Hardy as an interim member of the Remuneration Committee, pending a fuller review of board member roles on appointment to the two vacancies.