

Ebbsfleet Development Corporation

Board Meeting Part	One
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Date of meeting :	17 July 2019	Paper Number:	EDC 019/050
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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 that affect 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 contents of this paper and their impact on performance and progress.
Annexes	Annex A: Summary of project progress.
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 The uncertainty around the SR process remains, although MHCLG continue to proceed on the basis of a 4 year capital and 3 year revenue settlement, and we are engaging with the Ministry on that basis, although it could still transpire to be a 1 year 'roll over'. In Part 2 of this agenda, we provide a summary of the proposed EDC financial ask as it currently stands.
- 1.2 In the meantime, we continue our efforts to bring forward a wide range of projects and initiatives that will deliver the forecast financial budget for this year, and contribute to delivery of the Garden City.
- 1.3 Housing completions are also still meeting expectations. In the last month 92 new homes have been completed, bringing the total so far this year to 205. This represents 35.3% of our annual total of 580, therefore slightly ahead of required trajectory.

2. Thames Estuary Commission report and government response

- 2.1 Since the Government issued its response to Sir John Armitt's and the Commission's report, there has been considerable discussion amongst partners across North Kent as to how to take matters forward. As a member of the Thames Gateway and Kent Partnership, I have attended some of the sessions which have debated how best to respond. These discussions have culminated in a letter from the Chair of the TGKP sending a letter to the Secretary of State and this is to be followed up by an event in North Kent w/c 15th July.

3. Progress on Strategic Priorities

3.1 Central Area

Although we have maintained our engagement with the owners of the Central Area, and with interested parties across government, there is no significant change to report this month. An update will be provided in Part 2.

3.2 Swanscombe Peninsula

LRCH have announced a fresh agreement has been reached with Paramount studios, which will help secure world renowned brands for the theme park content. They have also announced the appointment of PY Gerbeau as their new Chief Executive.

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I am due to meet LRCH w/c 22 July when I will seek to understand the implications of these announcements and the company's current timetable for submission of the DCO.

3.3 Grove Road Regeneration

We continue our work to assemble the land required to deliver the comprehensive regeneration of the area. This includes further negotiations with landowners, and appointment of a professional team – which is now all in place.

We have arranged briefings with local ward members in liaison with GBC officers.

3.4 Milton Place

Work is progressing on the preparation of a Development Brief that will be submitted to Gravesham BC for consideration by their planning committee, that will shape and inform future development. The Board will receive a separate report covering some commercially sensitive matters in this respect under Part 2.

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Annex A: Project Delivery

Springhead Bridge

Work continues on Springhead Bridge to make sure the bridge supports are in place and ready the main bridge , which is going to be lifted into place during August, in preparation for the bridge being open for us in Spring next year.

The bridge supports include the Northern and Southern Abutment and the Central Pier. These have been constructed and the contractors are busy delivering the earth works around these and all the preparatory work for the bridge deck arrival. There may be some minor disruption on the local road network as the bridge deck is brought to the site, however this will be kept to a minimum.

We have had numerous work experience students across all ages from under 16 to post university placements, so far we have had 10 students from Gravesend Grammar School, Northfleet Technology College and University of Greenwich. All of the students who have been over 16 years of age have had 1-2 work experience placements on site, where they have been experienced all aspects of the bridge construction.

In addition, our contractor Balfour Beatty have engaged (either site visits or a visit from Balfour Beatty staff) with Ebbsfleet Academy, Science Museum, University of Portsmouth, Wilmington Academy, The Leigh UTC, Ebbsfleet Academy, St Johns School, Royal School of Military Engineering, Northfleet School for Girls and Thamesview School. In total 2,140 students have been engaged as part of the project.

Northern Bridge Support (Abutment) – concrete being poured



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Central Bridge Supports (Piers)



Electricity upgrade

Work to deliver a new electricity grid site adjacent to the A2 at the side of the Ebbsfleet Green development is now well underway, with the earth works nearing completion.

Work is also underway at the existing electricity grid site between the A2 and Sainsbury's to add in another transformer which will provide further electricity capacity.

