

Ebbsfleet Development Corporation

Board Meeting Part	One
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Date of meeting:	17 June 2020	Paper Number:	EDC 020/054
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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 – LRCH Press Release Annex B – Springhead Bridge progress photographs
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. Dealing with the COVID-19 Pandemic

- 1.1. As per the government guidance (at the time of writing) all staff are continuing to work from home. However, given the apparent general direction of easing the restrictions, we have been undertaking further work to prepare us for the possibility of being able to re-occupy the Observatory, at least on a limited basis. We have prepared a draft detailed risk assessment and will be consulting staff, as required on this, prior to any re-occupation. There is now a considerable body of advice and examples from other organisations of the measures that will be required to observe current social distancing protocols and we will be learning and adopting these where appropriate.

Importantly for us, we have recently appointed an interim Asset and Facilities Manager who will play a key role in helping to guide us through this process, as well as managing our land and property assets.

- 1.2. Most of the developers have now started construction on site under new social distancing protocols. Inevitably the pace of production will be well down on pre-pandemic levels but we are now starting to see house completions flow again, but no starts.

Most house builders have also re-opened their sales offices and report a strong level of reservations. This is tempered with some cancellations but overall the sales picture is optimistic.

- 1.3. In respect of our own sites, work has recommenced on Springhead Bridge and the Electricity Site also. Some recent photographs of the bridge site are included at **Annex B**.

2. Progress on Strategic Priorities

2.1. Ebbsfleet Central

Three of the four appointments to our consultant team have now passed through the standstill period and been confirmed. We plan to make an announcement when the final appointment has been confirmed.

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A private session with the Board will take place prior to the meeting to discuss the Board's objectives for the Ebbsfleet Central master planning process.

We have had further meetings with DfT and HS1 regarding landowner agreements.

2.2. Grove Road

The formation of the planning application for the Riverside Quarter continues apace, despite some ongoing access problems. The second phase of community consultation is programmed for late summer 2020 with submission of the application itself in November 2020. Finally, we have commenced the process of refining the construction strategy for the enabling works. The Board will be kept up to date on progress with this key work stream

2.3. London Resort

As reported last month, there has been an increase in activity from LRCH during the last couple of months and the latest press release is attached (Annex A). This indicates a consultation period late summer/early autumn, with a DCO submission before the end of the calendar year.

2.4. Fastrack

Planning consent has now been given by KCC for the tunnel works that will allow the Fastrack Route to pass form Whitecliffe (Eastern Quarry) through to Bluewater, under the B255. We are currently in the process of finalising the legal agreements that will enable the works to commence.

2.5. A2 Improvements

The Secretary of State has now approved the scheme to improve the junctions at Ebbsfleet and Bean on the A2, including the required CPOs. This has triggered the next instalment of our funding contribution.

2.6. Asset Management

The contract for the outsourced organisation has not yet be signed but is now nearing conclusion.