

Ebbsfleet Development Corporation

Board Meeting Part	One
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Date of meeting:	17 June 2020	Paper Number:	EDC 020/055
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Title of paper	Ebbsfleet Living – planning to support our local communities in response to Coronavirus
Presented by	Kevin McGeough; Head of Strategy and Placemaking Paul Boughen, Community Building Manager
Sub-committee	Not Applicable

Purpose of Paper and Executive Summary	
To update EDC Board on planning to support Ebbsfleet Garden City communities in response to Coronavirus pandemic	
EDC business plan and KPIs	Matters covered will impact on some or all the priorities within the business plan and associated KPIs
Recommendation	For Decision
Annexes	Supporting slide pack – Ebbsfleet Living - planning to support Ebbsfleet Garden City Communities in response to Coronavirus
Delegation	Not Applicable
Financial impact	Short-term activities proposed are generally funded by EDC from within existing approved budgets. However, some medium and longer-term actions will be subject to further development and business plan development to ensure they are affordable and deliverable within EDC resources
Legal impact	Not Applicable
Stakeholder impact	Paper discusses ways in which EDC can support activities and events across the Ebbsfleet Garden City in the context of social distancing and how we might support local communities in response to Coronavirus
Sponsor impact	Supports EDC delivery of our Garden City objectives.

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1. Introduction

1.1. During the May 2020 EDC Board meeting, members requested that we consider the impact that Coronavirus was having on our local communities and consider how EDC might support recovery beyond the current crisis.

1.2. EDC has had had significant success in supporting local neighbourhoods in Ebbsfleet Garden City to develop and grow a strong sense of community, supported through a range of activities:

- Delivered by residents and community champions themselves.
- Delivered by EDC directly for local residents
- Delivered by residents or local stakeholders themselves with EDC Funding
- Delivered in partnership with EDC for the benefit of local residents

The range and variety of activities, programmes and initiatives established and delivered have formed the content of the Ebbsfleet Living report to EDC Board over the past year.

1.3. EDC successfully set up the Ebbsfleet Garden City Community Board in February 2020, with a view to ensuring the voices of local residents informed the plans for future activities in the garden city, including the development of an appropriate portfolio of civic infrastructure.

2. The impact of Coronavirus on Community Building in Ebbsfleet Garden City

2.1 Community building activity in Ebbsfleet Garden City since March 2020 has been severely restricted as EDC and the Ebbsfleet Garden City communities have been complying with directives and guidance from Government, MHCLG and Public Health England in response to the current Coronavirus pandemic.

2.2 EDC does however remain open for business, and we are endeavouring to support the spirit of the evolving Ebbsfleet Garden City as much as we can within the current context. Our Community Investment Fund and our Creative Ideas Fund are open to ideas for activity which may be delivered virtually during the current crisis, or to plan for future delivery.

2.3 In developing this paper EDC officers have engaged as far as possible with local community champions to gain an insight into emerging issues and lessons learn.

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3. Learning from lock down survey

To support our learning from the current coronavirus crisis EDC have commissioned a 'learning for lockdown survey' to give local residents both the opportunity to tell us how well their homes, neighbourhoods and community has supported them during the current situation, but also to suggest ways in which we can improve the future planning of the garden city from a community building, environmental and economic perspective.

The accompanying slide pack summarises the results of the learning from lockdown survey and includes a series of action plans which sets out EDC's proposed direction of travel in responding to these issues. EDC propose to work closely with the EGC Community Board, residents, developers, land owners, local authority partners and other local stakeholders to address issues raised.

The draft action plans include short-term proposals which can generally be met within current EDC budgets, however medium and longer-term actions will be subject to business plan development and affordability and deliverability tests as appropriate.

4. Recommendations

EDC Board are asked to endorse EDC's proposed approach to developing action plans to address the issues of residents raised in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, subject to affordability and deliverability tests.