

CORPORATE PRIORITIES 2014/15 PROGRESS REPORT

Committee: Corporate Governance and Finance Committee

Date: 25 September 2014

Author: Chief Executive

[P85]

1.0 **ISSUE**

1.1 Progress against agreed 2014/15 corporate priorities.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 Members are requested to note progress against the 2014/15 corporate priorities as detailed in Appendix 1.

3.0 **BACKGROUND**

3.1 Annual Council on 15 May 2014 agreed revised corporate priorities for 2014/15. Progress against these priorities are detailed in Appendix 1 together with milestones for October 2014-January 2015 for Members attention.

3.2 Under the revised Committee arrangements agreed by Special Council on 15 May 2014, the agreement of corporate priorities is a reserved matter for full Council. This Committee will be responsible for regular monitoring of these priorities.

4.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

4.1 Any financial implications arising from the implementation of the 2014/15 priorities, not included in the Council's agreed budget, will be subject to the formal Member process.

4.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) not required at this stage.

5.0 **APPENDICES**

5.1 Appendix 1 – 2014/15 Corporate Priorities Performance Update.

Background Documents

Annual Council, 15 May
2014 – Agenda Item 16

Location

Room 103,
The Grange,
Ely

Contact Officer

John Hill
Position: Chief Executive
(01353) 616271
E-mail: john.hill@eastcambs.gov.uk

**2014/15 CORPORATE PRIORITIES
PERFORMANCE UPDATE**

APPENDIX 1

CORPORATE PRIORITY		LEAD OFFICER/ MEMBER	PERFORMANCE AGAINST MILESTONES APRIL – SEPT 2014	MILESTONES OCT – JAN 2014 – 2015
1.	To facilitate the commencement of the Southern Link Road by 2015	John Hill Emma Grima Councillor James Palmer	CCC have been working to overcome issues raised by English Heritage, namely why this proposal is the only available option. 8 September 2014 – County Council Planning Committee unanimously agreed application. Awaiting decision on call-in by Secretary of State.	CCC discussions to finalise funding package for the bypass including inclusion of project on CIL Regulation 123 list – Council October 2014.
2.	To promote and deliver Community Land Trusts as the preferred mechanism to enable people to live and work locally.	Karen Freya Councillor Charles Roberts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with interested 3 parties to discuss CLT development • 3 parish meetings arranged to discuss potential CLT projects • A peer-to-peer visit for Thrift CLT for Soham to meet Stretham & Wilburton CLT undertaken • Planning permission achieved for Swaffham 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer to Peer visit for Thrift to Hythe Forward, Colchester • Provide project plan timetable for the formation of 3 additional CLTs • Draw down funding for one of the new CLTs • Develop 'Pick & Mix' Allocation Policy template • Promotion at Soham Library –Oct

			<p>Prior CLT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of rural housing CLT promotional pack • Rural housing exhibition ran for a week- July • Planning permission achieved for S&WCLT • Hosted Australian fact finding tour-Aug • Promotion at Parish Conference –Sept • Request to extend CLT support programme to 2015/16 (recommendation to Corporate Governance and Finance Committee) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop CLT clauses for s106 agreements • Promote CLT development partnerships with 2 'sensitive' Housing Associations • Add affordable housing funding to the East Cambs Local Investment Plan
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CORPORATE PRIORITY		LEAD OFFICER/ MEMBER	PERFORMANCE AGAINST MILESTONES APRIL – SEPT 2014	MILESTONES OCT – JAN 2014 – 2015
3.	To facilitate the opening of a cinema at Downham Road/A10 by 2015	John Hill Allison Conder Councillor Richard Hobbs	July/Aug – Turnstone pre application consultation. April-Sept – ongoing discussions with third party landowners to secure access arrangements. Aug – memorandum of understanding with City of Ely Football Club.	November – Submission of planning application for cinema and associated users including outline leisure centre. Oct-Jan – finalise access legal agreements with third party landowners.
4.	To commence the construction of a new District Leisure facility by end of 2015	Allison Conder Councillor Richard Hobbs	1. The Sports Consultancy appointed to undertake feasibility and business planning work for the new Ely leisure centre facility, and District wide leisure facility strategy – 18 th June 2014 2. Steering group established to oversee progress which includes Cllr Richard Hobbs, Cllr Josh Schumann and cross departmental ECDC Officers 3. Three steering group meetings held:-	1. December 2015 – funding strategy to inform preferred option. Corporate Governance and Finance Committee. 2. Final Business plan and preferred option to Commercial Services Committee January 2015. 3. District wide leisure facility strategy to be completed 24 th December 2014 and report and action plan to Commercial Services Committee on 13 th January 2015

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 30th June to sign off project plan b. 5th Aug to review findings of needs assessment and develop all facility mix options c. 26th Aug to select two preferred options for more refinement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Initial procurement advice sought on 21st Aug 2014 5. Valuation of the Paradise pool asset commissioned and due to report Sept 2014 	
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5.	To keep tax as low as possible through prudent budgetary control	Linda Grinnell Councillor Kevin Ellis	25 September 2014 – Annual Governance Report and Statement. Annual Financial Report 2013/14 £191,000 u/spend transferred to Surplus Savings Reserve	Dec/Jan 2014/156 – confirmation of grant settlement 2015/16 and details of Council Tax Freeze grant for 2015/16. 29 January 2015 – Corporate Governance and Finance Committee and draft budget 2015/16 and MTFS projections.
6.	To develop Littleport	Darren Hill Maggie Camp Sarah Steed Councillor David Ambrose-Smith	Lead Member and ECDC Economic Development team assisting in a number of enquiries with regard to the expansion and relocation of indigenous companies (commercial in confidence) Additional car parking spaces for the station currently dependant on outcome of relocation of e-space north as new site will accommodate current site plus provide additional parking for the station.	Assessment of the viability and options of potential relocations/expansions and specific role of the Council to be defined

			<p>Asset Development Committee agreed transfer subject to variation of s106 agreement to Littleport Parish Council .</p> <p>Draft transfers and s106 agreement agreed by developer and County Council, currently awaiting comments from Littleport Parish Council.</p> <p>By December 2013 to transfer land at Littleport known as the Paddocks to Littleport Parish Council.</p>	<p>To complete transfer of open space by January 2015 subject to co-operation by all parties.</p>
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CORPORATE PRIORITY		LEAD OFFICER/ MEMBER	PERFORMANCE AGAINST MILESTONES APRIL – SEPT 2014	MILESTONES OCT – JAN 2014 – 2015
7.	To develop an exceptional Station Gateway for Ely	Katie Child Councillor Bill Hunt	6 May – draft SPD assessed by Cambs Design Quality Panel.	Revised SPD and responses to consultation – report to full Council Jan 2015. Establishment of Project Board Jan 2015.
8.	To develop an Eastern Gateway for Soham	Katie Child Councillor Joshua Schumann	Landowner meetings held in Summer 2014 working towards a landowner agreement.	Ongoing liaison with County Council to establish clear project plan.

CORPORATE PRIORITY		LEAD OFFICER/ MEMBER	PERFORMANCE AGAINST MILESTONES APRIL – SEPT 2014	MILESTONES OCT – JAN 2014 – 2015
9.	To facilitate the re-opening of Soham Railway Station, including the Newmarket link	Darren Hill Councillor James Palmer	Commencement of GRIP 3 study delayed to Network Rail re-organisation and knock on effects for Ely-Soham double tracking scheme. No funding available for Soham Station as part of GCGP LEP Local Growth Funds for 2015/16.	ECDC/CCC to discuss funding options for GRIP 3 Decision on GRIP 3 process (CCC to progress with consultant or Network Rail delivers) Establishment of Soham Station Project Board Identify any further funding opportunities via GCGP LEP/ New Stations Fund
10.	To facilitate economic growth including jobs growth and apprenticeships.	Darren Hill Councillor Lis Every	ECDC apprenticeship scheme phase 2 launched 15 expressions of interest for new apprenticeships received 41 broadband cabinets connected upgrading 11974 premises. Soham agri-tech centre pre-application advice and supporting studies undertaken Development of GCGP LEP	ECDC skills fair 16 th October 5 new apprenticeship starts 19 further cabinets upgraded during phase 3 (upto Dec 2014) Planning application determined for Soham agri-tech centre

			<p>funded schemes for Lancaster way Business Park starter units and Littleport Eco-Business Park</p> <p>BRES data for 2013 shows an annual jobs increase of 1300 between 2012/13 significantly above target of 460 highlighted in draft local plan. 3 year average shows an increase of 533 per annum.</p>	<p>Construction started for Lancaster Way Starter units and Littleport Eco-Park Business Park.</p>
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11.	To ensure appropriate development throughout the District by planning well for infrastructure, (including alternative means of transport) employment and high quality design utilising North Ely as an exemplar project.	John Hill Councillor Kevin Ellis	June 2014 – Progress report to Planning Committee (North Ely). June-Sept 2014 – finalising draft S106 and obligations agreements with developers and other public bodies. June-Sept 2014 – finalising viability assessment to inform S106/obligations.	Oct 2014 – North Ely (consideration of outline application including conditions and draft S106 agreement).

The adoption of 'can do' attitude and 'open for business' mantra has been incorporated into the Core Values of the Council through the Service Delivery Plans