NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL



Appendix A – 2019/2020 Reporting Against Projects Identified in the Corporate Plan – as at 17/12/2019

For Q2 2019/2020 North Hertfordshire District Council is reporting against 8 Projects identified in the Corporate Plan 2019 - 24

Key for the Report

Status key
Project Halted / Funding not available / Extremely Late
Project behind original due date/ unlikely to hit original due date.
Project not due for completion in year or has not reached due
date
 Project Pending
Project Completed.

Status	Q2	Q1	Summary of Movement this Qtr.
	1	1	
	3	2	Local Plan moved from Green to Amber
	2	3	
	1	1	Churchgate moved to pending
②	0	2	Bancroft MUGA / Great Ashby District Park Renovation removed from report
Total	7	9	·

• Where projects are carried over from previous years, their status is retained until they are complete – to ensure transparency

Description in	Corporate	Portfolio	Milestones – current	Due Date	Overall	Comments
Corporate Plan	Objective		year and beyond		Status	
Status - RED - 1						
Complete the fit out and open the North Hertfordshire Museum and Community Facility	Prosper & Protect	Leisure	Continue to negotiate on possible acquisition of 14/15 Brand Street.	Original due date 30 September 2015		The Panel Review has now been completed and findings were reported to O&S Committee on 23 October 2019 and Cabinet on 17 December 2019. The Service Director - Commercial is now working with the former Project Executive (John Robinson) to put together a closure report, including any lessons learned.
Date of Last Project Board – 18 July 2017. Exception report since last Quarter – None.			Report to Cabinet on proposed way forward. Complete fit out of Museum.	September 2018		
Status - AMBER -	3					
Development of a Crematorium in North Hertfordshire - subject to approval by	Prosper & Protect	Waste, Recycling & Env	Obtain outline planning permission from Central Beds.	July 2018		Central Bedfordshire refused the outline planning application in March 2019. Cabinet approved funding for an appeal on 26 March 2019
Cabinet March 2017 NOT Prince II			Agree the Heads of Terms and Options Agreements with our nominated partner.	July 2018 🥏		The appeal was submitted in September 2019 and Officers are still waiting for confirmation of the date of the appeal.
			Prospective tenant exercises the option and	31 Dec 2018		

		7			
			enters into an agreement for lease (the prospective tenant will be responsible for applying for detailed planning permission).		If planning permission is granted, Officers will assess any planning conditions and the options for progressing development.
			The prospective tenant enters into a lease, in accordance with the Heads of Terms, following the grant of detailed planning permission	31 Mar 2019	-
			Practical Completion of Crematorium	December 2020	
Investigating a range of options to improve use of Council assets	Responsive & Efficient	Various	Report to Cabinet Shareholder Sub- Committee on potential options	15 March 2018	Officers continue to work through the details to ensure a viable business plan. Regulations / Council Constitution, require the Council to complete and approve
NOT Prince II Project spans more than one year.			Obtain Cabinet approval to establish a Property Company	31 Mar 2018	the business plan prior to company registration. Officers presented a progress report to the Cabinet Sub-Committee (Local Authority Trading
			Set up Property Company	Mid 2018	Companies' Shareholder) in September 2019. Following completion of relevant works in 2019/20, the letting of the redeveloped Harkness Court is now expected to commence in

					early 2020/21.
Submission of a Local Plan for North Herts Project spans	Prosper & Protect	Planning & Enterprise	Consultation on major modifications (timescale dependant upon Planning Inspectorate)	Jan - April 2019	The Council responded to the Inspector's letters at the end of September 2019. This set out the Council's intention to respond to his queries by Friday
more than one year.			Response to the Inspectors questions with regard the modifications	Dec 2019	29 November 2019. Officers, in consultation with the Local Plan Project Board, have submitted the Council's responses and
			Additional Hearing dates to discuss modifications	TBC	these have been published on the website.
			Publication of Inspectors Report (timescale dependant upon Planning Inspectorate)	TBC	Additional Hearing dates are yet to be announced by the Inspector
			Adoption of the new local plan report to Full Council (timescale dependant upon Planning Inspectorate)	TBC	
Status - GREEN -	2				
Brexit (Preparation for Brexit - deal or no deal) and implementation /	Prosper & Protect	Leader of Council	Working with regional lead and Local resilience forums to prepare for Brexit (deal or no deal).		NB Rating relates to the Council's actions, rather than the national issue of Brexit. Reviewed on 16.12.19 with
management of those impacts, challenges and risks).			Work with strategically important contractors to understand the risks they will potentially face and to ensure plans are being taken to mitigate those		Leader and Deputy Leader of Council. Brexit Project Board meetings to commence in January (meeting scheduled for 6). Monitoring and preparation

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risks if possible.

Contribute to countywide preparations for managing potential emergency incidents associated with Brexit, e.g. local food resilience/ strategic co-ordination group and local resilience forums

Work with LLG and MHCLG on process mapping for governance/secondary legislation process mapping.
Constitution/delegation and warrant checks being undertaken.
Relevant managers to check policies for compliance and enforcement post Brexit issues.

Draft contract clause to cover data transfer – use of change of law provision to impose

Exceptions and tension monitoring reports to be sent and received.

Elections Board

based on deal recommenced (Withdrawal Bill 2019 no 2 amended on 20.12.19). Further scrutiny in January by Parliament (7-9.1.20).

Lead Officer has further meetings now with government on Settlement Scheme - County level and Central (9 & 15.1.20). Defra organised for readiness assessment at NHDC (will visit relevant food officers/SD Regulatory and lead Brexit officer - SD Legal & Community to assess and advise via workshop). Brexit lead officers to start weekly conference calls on 9.1.20. Herts food resilience forum group to consider bidding for business liaison officer (funding from central government) - either as a group or individual authority.

Brexit page will go live again in January. Posters for Settlement Scheme been put up in DCO/gone to local minority groups, to NHDC Libraries, to go to Member Surgeries - and

			preparation for snap election/further referendum considerations (September 2019).		assistance can be provided by Customer Services via We Are Digital referral from government. To review again prior to Brexit day on 31 January 2020.
Designating air quality management areas in Hitchin to address the improvement of the air quality – Stevenage Road and Paynes Park. (5 Year Plan commenced 2018) Not Prince II	Attractive & Thriving	Housing & Env Health	•Development of ECO stars scheme for business to reduce emissions from freight deliveries •Investigate options for extending and improving electric vehicle recharging facilities in the district	To be confirmed On-going	The Council were unsuccessful with a bid to DEFRA for a grant to progress this scheme. Officers are reviewing alternative funding options and have created a new milestone, "Work with businesses to reduce emissions from freight deliveries and buses/coaches" for 2019/20. Officers are negotiating with developers through the planning process to implement charging points within new homes. Officers are currently drafting an Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy.

•Anti-idling campaign to encourage drivers to	Spring/Summer	An initial survey of Hitchin town centre was completed in
switch off when stationary, including investigation of enforcement options	2019	February 2019. Due to resource issues and conflicting priorities, it is now anticipated that this action will be completed in 2020/21. However, Legal are currently looking at the enforcement options relating to vehicle idling, the outcome of which will help to inform any associated campaign.
•Review of on-street parking in air quality management areas	TBC subject to Parking strategy Action Plan	Will be co-ordinated with next general review of parking in Hitchin and adoption of the Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy - date to be confirmed
•Participate in National Clean Air Day	Annual •	Due to other work priorities, it was not possible to undertake any activity around National Clean Air Day in June 2019

			•Contribute development of Air Alert texting scheme with HCC and other partners	2019	Air Alert texting scheme launched 1 March 2019.
Status – PENDING Churchgate	G - 1 Attractive &	Commercial	Further work to be	Tbc	F. II O
Project will span more than one financial year	Thriving	Commercial	undertaken to be undertaken to explore potential options prior to reporting back to Full Council at a future date	TDG	 Full Council on 7 February 2019 approved the principle of purchasing the Churchgate Shopping Centre, subject to the economic case. It also confirmed that any regeneration must be a viable investment that maintains a return to the Council.
Once actual project commences will be Prince II			A .		Full Council on 20 March 2019 voted to put Hitchin forward for a "Future High Streets Fund" bid. MHCLG have announced the 100 bids to be taken forward.
Date of Last Project Board n/a					Hitchin was not successful. Officers continue to explore the options around Churchgate with a report back to Full Council in

					due course.
Status – COMPLE					