



REPORT OF: HOUSING, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES MANAGER

TO: EXECUTIVE

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PENDLE JOBS AND GROWTH STRATEGY ACTION PLAN 2013/17

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide an update on our progress in delivering the Pendle Jobs and Growth Strategy and to inform members of the proposed programme of activity for 2015/17.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To note progress and the proposed 2015/17 action plan.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To keep the Executive informed of progress in delivering the strategy.

ISSUE

In November 2013 the Council approved the Pendle Jobs and Growth Strategy. The Strategy was also supported by the Pendle Vision Board. Now nearly two years on the attached Action Plan shows what has been achieved in delivering the Strategy and what is proposed for the next two years.

The Strategy shows how Pendle's growth plans meet the regional (Lancashire Strategic Economic Plan) and national objectives and this co-ordinated approach should provide the best opportunity for Pendle to access any available funding to stimulate further growth coming through the LEP and European programmes.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None directly arising from this report

Financial: None directly arising from this report

Legal: None directly arising from this report

Risk Management: None directly arising from this report

Health and Safety: None directly arising from this report

Sustainability: None directly arising from this report

Community Safety: None directly arising from this report

Equality and Diversity: None directly arising from this report

APPENDICES

Pendle Jobs and Growth Strategy Action Plan

Jobs and Growth Strategy Progress Report October 2015

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Pendle Jobs and Growth Strategy

Pendle Jobs and Growth Strategy 2013- 2023 Action Plan 2013 - 2017

Action taken in year one and two (2013-15)	Action proposed in years three and four (2016-17)
Our Business – more thriving businesses	
Provide suitable sites to accommodate business growth	
<p>Open a new strategic site in the M65 growth corridor by extending Lomeshaye Industrial Estate</p> <p>Our Core Strategy identifies the extension of Lomeshaye as a strategic employment site with a gross area of 30.59ha which could accommodate over 1500 jobs. The Examination Hearing Sessions for the Core Strategy concluded on Tuesday 28th April 2015. We now await the inspector's report which is due on the 23 October 2015.</p>	<p>Once the Core Strategy has been adopted, site investigations will be carried out before we submit a planning application for the site.</p> <p>In the meantime we are encouraging private investment on a number of employment sites in Pendle, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • filling the remaining plots at Barrowford Business Park • redeveloping the former Reedyford Mill site, Nelson • creation of a garden centre at Greenfield, Colne
<p>Help to develop Northlight in line with the masterplan</p> <p>We've secured development partners for housing, hotel and leisure uses and a complex funding package has been put in place to help secure further development.</p>	<p>Now the funding package has been secured, We will progress the acquisition of some adjoining pieces of land which will be needed to deliver the proposed redevelopment of the mill complex.</p> <p>We will continue to work with development partners to ensure the elements of the development are delivered in a co-ordinated way.</p>
<p>Strengthen commercial activity in our town centres</p> <p>Our purchase of the former Colne Health Centre is progressing. A working group has been formed to oversee the development of this site and other key sites in the area.</p> <p>The Nelson Portas Pilot is almost completed. Vacancy rates have been reduced faster in Nelson than in the rest of England. The last commission by the Town Team was the Nelson Food Festival which was held in September 2015 and was a great success. Estimates of 6000-8000 thousand people flocked to the town and over half of the businesses surveyed post event reported an upturn in trade on the event day.</p> <p>We are working on a regeneration strategy for Brierfield.</p>	<p>We will continue to develop a regeneration strategy for Colne, Nelson and Brierfield to ensure future investment is targeted effectively.</p>

Encourage diversity and innovation in our existing and new businesses and support growth sectors particularly advanced manufacturing	
In 2013-15 we invested £488,649 into the Gearing Up For Growth programme to support and strengthen the local economy, resulting in around £1.8m of private sector investment. The programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * supported 66 start-up businesses * awarded 34 growth grants * created 172 actual jobs (a further 126 are projected) * safeguarded 68 jobs (a further 88 safeguarded jobs are projected) * supported 24 graduate placements 	We will continue to support local business through an annual targeted business support programme - Gearing Up For Growth.
Provide effective business support service stimulating innovation and private sector investment	
We have ensured that our companies benefit from available external support, particularly through the Growth Hub facilitated by Regenerate Pennine Lancashire. Pendle received the second highest level of investment from the Regional Growth Fund (Rounds 2 to 4) resulting in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 21 businesses receiving support * £1.2m public investment * £5.7m levered private investment * 138 new jobs * 99 jobs safeguarded. 	We will continue to run our popular Focus on Your Business Month, a month long programme of free seminars, workshops and drop in sessions aimed to aid Pendle businesses develop various aspects of their business. It targets businesses at various stages of operating from pre-start-up businesses right the way through to sector leading companies. Some funding streams have now finished such as Start-up Lancashire and Accelerating Business Growth but there is a new Regional Growth Fund scheme called Lancashire Business Growth Fund. We will continue to maximise the benefit for local companies seeking to invest.
Our People - A highly employable workforce	
Increase jobs in the higher skilled managerial, technical or professional roles	
To increase skill levels in local companies, 17 graduate placements have been supported with a subsidy for a placement with a local employer over the past two years.	We will work with partners to help local school leavers to become more 'work ready' and to understand the opportunities available with local employers

More effective links between education and work – employer engagement	
As part of our work with Nelson & Colne College and local schools to raise the profile of local employers, we've delivered an annual work inspiration event to around 900 pupils. More than 20 businesses attended our latest event. In the past 12 months we have engaged with 150 businesses.	We will continue to meet regularly with local companies and will maintain our partnership work to hold events such as the annual work inspiration event. We will continue to support an active Vision Board which will address the changing needs of local companies. We will engage with at least 100 Pendle companies per annum to identify and meet their needs.
Improve youth employment. Reduce NEET's and increase apprenticeships	
In 2013, in partnership with Nelson & Colne College, we turned a former Lancashire County Council property in Nelson town centre into a Youth and Apprenticeship Training Centre. In 2014/15, with support from Jobcentre Plus, the Centre helped 276 young unemployed people to improve their skills to enhance their prospects of getting into employment.	We will continue to work with Nelson & Colne College and support the Training Centre to help more young people get into work.
Our Connectivity - Improved road rail and digital networks	
Lobby for LCC to deliver the Colne Foulridge Bypass	
The M65 Yorkshire Corridor study was commissioned by Lancashire County Council to investigate whether a bypass remains an appropriate solution to Colne's current congestion. The results were published as part of the East Lancashire Highways Transport Masterplan. The report concluded that further detailed traffic modelling is required to identify and take forward proposals. The report explained that it is not possible at this stage to categorically state that any one specific corridor should be the primary focus. The report proposes further work to continue to identify options to relieve congestion in and around Colne, including whether the case continues for a bypass of Colne to the Northwest of the town to link the M65 and A56.	We will continue to lobby and make a strong economic case for funding the Colne Foulridge bypass.

Lobby LCC to deliver the Route Management Strategy for North Valley corridor Junction 14 to A56/A6068	
We have successfully lobbied for investigations in to route management in north valley. Funding has been secured to carry out upgrades to signals on the North Valley corridor and a further report to investigate the issue is currently underway.	Based upon the findings of the report We will continue to lobby to ensure everything can be done to relieve congestion in Colne.
Lobby LCC to deliver the signalisation of Junction 12(Brierfield), Churchill Way/Kenyon Road (Lomeshaye Industrial Estate)and Junction 11 (Nelson) and Junction 13 on M65	
We participated in the Burnley/Pendle Growth Corridor Study and the East Lancashire Accessibility Study to look at what needs to be done to make sure our roads can support planned economic growth. LCC started improvements to junction 12 and 13 of the M65 and adjacent roads in August 2015 as part of the Burnley Pendle Growth Corridor Investment Programme. This is part of the £250m Growth Deal secured from government by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership.	Completion of work is expected before summer in 2016.
Lobby for improved rail service to Colne	
We have actively participated in the rail connectivity study improving links between East Lancashire and the growth areas of Preston and central Lancashire.	A study is underway and .We will ensure Pendle's views are inputted in to the study to make a strong case to improve the rail service in to Pendle.
Work with LCC to maximise the number of businesses linked to superfast broadband	
Pendle Vision Board successfully promoted and lobbied for broadband networks which were rolled out in Pendle ahead of the planned schedule. We publicised the benefits and availability of the business support package LCC provided for companies interested in superfast broadband.	Pendle Vision will continue lobbying Superfast Lancashire for suitable business networks and coverage to meet expectations.
Our Place - Improved Housing and Image	
Continue to work towards a balanced housing market	
Our Core Strategy identifies Trough Laithe in Barrowford as a strategic housing site. The site extends to 12ha which could accommodate 500 dwellings. The Examination Hearing Sessions for the Core Strategy were	We will seek planning approval for the development of our site at Further Clough Head and determine the best way to take this housing development forward.

<p>concluded on Tuesday 28th April 2015. We now await the inspector's report which is due on the 23 October 2015.</p> <p>Through our joint venture company PEARL, we have completed 14 new dwellings in Whitefield, Nelson. We have also refurbished 18 houses for a mix of affordable rent and shared ownership.</p> <p>We have carried out survey work to determine the best layout for our site at Further Clough Head, Nelson</p> <p>Pearl developed eight houses for Together Housing on Phase 1 of the Bunkers Hill site at Colne. Through the Empty Homes Programme we've awarded loans to bring houses back into use and we've completed a range of high quality public realm and streetscape work in Brierfield and Bradley.</p>	<p>Pearl2 will continue to progress the development of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 houses on Bunkers Hill Phase 2, Colne, • the development of 48 apartments at Northlight, Brierfield • 46 houses off Clitheroe Road, Brierfield • 14 houses on Bright Street, Colne • 32 houses on Carry Lane, Colne
<p>Raise the profile of Pendle as a place to live work and play.</p>	
<p>In September 2015 we co-hosted Stage Two of the Aviva Tour of Britain Cycle race with Ribbles Valley Borough Council. The event attracted 200,000 spectators and achieved wide participation with local schools, towns, businesses and communities. The event was widely covered by the media, including the BBC TV reports and ITV4's live and highlights package. The area benefited from the huge exposure achieved by the coverage of Pendle's spectacular landscape.</p> <p>Pendle Council and our partners Pendle Vision Board are incredibly proud to recently be awarded with a Judges Highly Commended Award for Promoting Entrepreneurial Spirit in the Enterprising Britain Awards 2015.</p> <p>In 2014 we held the 4th bi-annual Pendle Business Awards which is jointly organised by Pendle Council and Pendle Vision Board. More than 340 people attended the glamorous black-tie event in 2014.</p>	<p>We will continue to capitalise on the event success and media exposure. We will produce a Tourism Action Plan for Pendle which plans this work and aligns to the Regional Visitor Economy Strategy.</p> <p>We will promote and capitalise on the recent Enterprising Britain Awards</p> <p>We aim to grow this successful event and host a Pendle Business Awards in Pendle in 2016.</p>