

Infrastructure Delivery Plan Working Group 15 December 2020

Members

Cyril Weber – Chair (Cumbria County Council)
John Mallinson (Cumbria County Council)
Paul Nedved (Carlisle City Council)
Nigel Christian (Carlisle City Council)

Officers

Leanne Beverley (Cumbria County Council)
David Haughian (Cumbria County Council)
Michael Barry (Cumbria County Council)
Susan Fawkes (Cumbria County Council)
Graeme Innes (Cumbria County Council)
Jason Kemp (Carlisle City Council)
Helen Renyard (Cumbria County Council)
Gareth Scott (Cumbria County Council)
Richard Wood (Carlisle City Council)
Steven Robinson (Carlisle City Council)

Apologies for absence was received from Guy Kenyon, Nicola Parker Cumbria County Council and Keith Poole Carlisle City Council.

Councillor Cyril Weber welcomed everyone to the meeting the minutes of the last meeting were noted.

(1) Carlisle Local Plan for St Cuthbert's Garden Village

The City Council are currently consulting on their Local Plan which started on 10 November running until 22 December. The next key milestone is working towards is the Regulation 19 Consultation in Spring 2021.

The County Council are currently finalising a response to this consultation providing comments on the draft policies of the Strategic Design SPD and the next steps of the development of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

The St Cuthbert's Garden Village Transport Improvement Study is currently out to tender and is due to commence January 2021 and will be completed by May 2021.

(2) Infrastructure Delivery Plan update

Members were given an update on the Infrastructure Delivery Plan detailing the key infrastructure improvements identified to support the Local Plan. It was noted that progress had been made in developing costings but further work was still required around deliverability. Following a discussion it was agreed to hold a specific session in January to focus on the IDP and to examine the scope of the IDP Working Group and its terms of reference as members were keen to ensure the group's focus is predominately the IDP.

(3) Transport Improvement Designs as Part of Transport Improvement Study

It was agreed to convene in the new year so that Members and Officers can discuss a strategy on how to move forward. A member requested a joint working meeting regarding linkage from the Garden Village and access routes into the city centre, Members were informed that the latest plans and cost estimates would be provided at the next meeting. A member requested if the B6264 road to Linstock roundabout could be taking into consideration for improvements.

(4) Sewell's Lonning

Members noted this was a scheme to widen the junction onto London Road to allow two-way traffic to help support future development of the Garden Village. Funding agreements have been finalised with Cumbria LEP (£437k), S106 agreement with the County, City and Homes England is now in place. A collaboration agreement has been put in place to set out the County and the City roles and responsibilities. DSD Construction have been appointed with work commencing on 23rd November, residents have been informed of the progress and the planned a 2-week shutdown of the site over the Christmas period. Completion is currently forecasted for March 2021 when the revised Traffic Regulation Order will be made to allow two-way traffic flow. A member asked if the scheme allowed for a footpath. Members were informed that it was hoped that the footpath would be in place by January 2021

(5) Carlisle Southern Link Road

Officers explained that in the last quarter a Deed of Variation has now been agreed for both agreements which hopefully be completed by Christmas. The Grant Determination agreement from Homes England includes a number of conditions that both councils need to meet to secure funding. An updated valuation of the site will be taken to the Strategic Partnering Board before it is submitted to Homes England before the end of this month. The next milestone will be a Refreshed Interim Housing Delivery Statement which will be submitted to Homes England by February 2021. The objection period ended in November with 17 objections being received, therefore a Public Enquiry will commence in Spring 2021. Members noted that progress has been made with utility providers, with ongoing dialogue with the Environment Agency, Highways England, Network Rail and Connect Roads. Members were informed that the procurement process has commenced for the Design and Build contractor, it is anticipated the contract will be awarded March 2021. Construction is planned to commence Spring 2022 to be completed by May 2024.

(6) Rail Update

Members noted that Energy Coast Rail Upgrade was in a formal Dft process and a Business Case is in development which should be ready by the Spring. Members also noted that procurement of Consultants to support the development of the strategic and economic cases to support the Cumbrian Economy working with the LEP and Network Rail. Members were informed that the project was at an important stage of the process. Currently at the Rail Network Enhancement Pipeline if the business case is successful then Network Rail would receive funding to prepare more detailed designs and move towards delivery.

(7) Community Rail Update

Members were informed the Community Rail Partnership have submitted a funding bid to Avanti Wear Coast for Improvements to Platform 2 at Carlisle Station, Community Rail Cumbria have been presented with four national Community Rail Awards. It was noted that there had been no further updates had been received on the progression of Gilsland Station.

(8) The Citadels Project

Members noted this was part of the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal with £50m allocated to bring new purpose to the iconic Citadels, a new home for the University of Cumbria and Transformational Gateway to the city centre. Members were informed that good progress was being made after a public consultation 90% agreed with project vision, objectives and design principles also supported by Historic England. RIBA Stage 2 design to be signed off by the Project Board in January 2021 and the Business Case to be submitted to MHCLG in February 2021

(9) Carlisle Station

It was noted that the final OBC was submitted to Government in July, as a result of Covid19 changes have been made to the Business Case. Government have confirmed that subject to a funding agreement with Northumberland County Council the government has allocated £20m towards the project, Cumbria County Council have also allocated £3.5m to support the project. An Implementation Agreement with Network Rail which means Network Rail will deliver the station interior Improvements. Members noted that the Implementation Agreement should be signed by the end of January. A requirement from Government is that we are contractually committed to the project to the sum of £60.9m by the end of March 2021. In January a tender will be going out to Design and Build contractors to deliver the Northern gateway and the first phase of the Southern gateway proposals. Members were informed the acquisition of the Matalan and Staples sites have now been acquired by the County Council which will form a part of the Southern gateway. It was noted that part of the Northern Gateway Design and Build contract Junction improvements have been included to the Viaduct, Crown Street and Water Street. A public consultation will take in place in January/February on the design as the Matalan Staples development site was not included in the initial consultation but now forms an important part of the Gateway project.

Members were informed that the City and County have commenced with surveys, heritage assessments and feasibility works towards the repurposing of the Turkish Baths building.

A member asked if anything would be built into contracts to ensure that contractors would have to employ an amount of local labour. It was noted that it was encouraged that the lead contractor would need to consider using the local supply chain and local labour.

(10) Carlisle Transport and Movement Plan

It was noted that the Plan is now completed and a briefing with Members has been undertaken

(11) Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

Members received details of the timescale for the Plan and noted it was anticipated this would be completed by February 2021. Stage 1 and Stage 2 have been completed and now at Stage 3 and 4 which would look at where the Networks. Further engagement is set in the new year to determine the list of priorities. It was noted that there was a working group in February which would be a good opportunity as all the members would be there.

(12) High Street Fund and Town Deal

The City Council have submitted the bids for the Future High Street Fund (£12m) and the Town Deal (£25m) to the Government and are still awaiting an outcome. Members were informed that Accelerated Town Deals Projects had been submitted and approved

- Bitts Park Pod Village - £150,00 the City Council will be responsible for the Development of the Pod Village

- Caldew Riverside Remediation - £850,00 Clearing Vegetation and radar survey on Caldew Site is underway now preparing to tender for remediation works

(13) **Carlisle Surface Water Mapping Programme**

It was noted that the Surface Water Mapping Programme was now completed it will be used to update flood mapping and basis for any potential surface water flood schemes in Carlisle. In addition, it also helps to determine suitability of development sites including the St Cuthbert's Garden Village.