

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council

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Cabinet Lead for Regeneration and Estates

Havant Regeneration Strategy

The Regeneration and Economy Strategy which is due to come to Cabinet and full council this month, sets out the Council's ambitions to create Sustainable Places, Successful People and Better Businesses across the Borough. Its aim is to ensure all our communities can share in our future economic growth and prosperity. This will align with the Corporate Strategy that was approved by Council in February.

Havant Town Centre

Work continues to progress regeneration proposals across the town centre, including key sites such as Plaza car park and the public sector uses nearby. The outline business case for the redevelopment of Civic Plaza car park site and Bulbeck road car park was presented to Cabinet for approval earlier this month. Additionally, a package of public realm projects and works have been proposed to enhance the town centre and encourage further investment.

Waterloo Village

Work continues to discuss with landowners of prominent vacant sites in the town centre their intentions for the site and co-ordination needed to bring the sites into productive longer-term use.

Leigh Park

Economies for Healthier Lives funding has now been awarded to Havant Borough Council as one of four projects chosen. The funding will be used for Leigh Park. This project will entail forming a partnership to deliver training/apprenticeships/employment to 18–25-year-olds in Leigh Park who would otherwise be unemployed. The funding agreement has been signed and work is underway to finalise partnership agreements with University of Portsmouth and Havant and South Downs College. Officers continue to develop a wider regeneration plan for Leigh Park, exploring opportunities to link with the Economies for Healthier Lives work.

Welcome Back Fund (WBF)

Officers across the Borough Council are working to conclude the Welcome Back Fund programme. Several projects continue to be delivered across the borough and will be closed by the end of March 2022. Recent projects across the borough include half term activities at Meridian Shopping Centre and steam cleaning at Greywell precinct in Leigh Park.

The business engagement consultancy work has completed. The findings will inform future work.

Havant Thicket Reservoir

The tree felling works, which had paused, will restart in Spring 2022. The stakeholder groups consist of six subgroups being established for Access, Local Economy, Environment, Recreation, Education and Pipeline. The focus currently being on the northern access of the site which will be installed first to enable construction access. Procurement for this is expected to begin soon.

Economy

Havant Business Partnership

The next Havant Business Partnership event takes place on Wed 9 March. The partnership is a joint initiative with Havant & South Downs College and is one of the principal ways in which the Council engages with leading employers in the Borough. The next event will provide an opportunity to showcase the ambitions of the Havant Regeneration and Economy refresh along with contributions from local businesses, KSM Communications and Cybrid Havant outlining their success with training and recruitment, supported by Havant and South Downs College. The event will be hosted by Spectrum Workspace, based in Marples Way, Havant.

Business Focus Group

As part of the Regeneration & Economy Strategy refresh, we have recently hosted 2 very successful business focus groups through which local businesses have been able to contribute to the development of the strategy. Key issues and opportunities identified by the businesses included infrastructure investment, station improvements, sustainable transport, improving the housing mix along with addressing skills shortages and supporting young people into work. The detailed feedback from the businesses is reflected in the final version of the strategy and there is an encouraging level of commitment from participants to working with the Council moving forward.

Economic profiles

Over the last few months, the Economy team have been working with the Insights team to make economic profile data for the borough more easily accessible to businesses and residents. Published in a new user-friendly and interactive format, the profiles contain a range of datasets including unemployment claimant counts, job density, business counts and business survival rates, for example. This information is now live on the council's website <https://www.havant.gov.uk/economic-profiles>.

Civil Engineering and Landscape Team

Warblington Footbridge Feasibility – HBC CIL Funded

The Disability Impact Assessment is under way and engagement with Network Rail to progress the design.

Havant Park – HBC Revenue Funded

Works on Havant Park walls have now been completed. We are chasing Norse to rectify the issues with loose slabs on top of walls. NORSE are due to complete the work by the end of February.

Bushy Lease Cycle Route – HBC CIL Funded

The report detailing the findings of the ecological survey is now expected in March 2022 and detailed design is ongoing. Design for Phase 1 (Park House Farm Way to the Hermitage stream) is still on course to be completed by April 2022.

Hobby Close, Waterlooville – drainage: CIL neighbourhood fund & WeBig Local

The tender documentation for the CIL scheme is being drawn up with legal team being instructed to assist with drawing up this unusual contract format. We still plan to be on site in early summer this year and have advised the local community stakeholders accordingly. Access will be via Chaffinch Green using Portsmouth City Council land.

Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton recreation ground – unfunded

Following implementation of the similar Hobby Close scheme (above) we will use our experience as empirical evidence of the proposed access arrangements to progress a planning application. However, depending on Hobby Close, this may trigger a decision not to proceed with the current proposal of creating a new land form to address the drainage issues naturally. If the current proposal is then not to proceed, a capital bid will be made in 2023/24 for more conventional drainage works to address the long standing issues.

Transforming Cities Fund – HCC / DfT Funded

The CELT team has been commissioned to assist HCC designing and implementing schemes along the east-west corridor through Havant town centre (walking and cycling improvements in Centenary Gardens and Havant Station forecourt and southern car park), along with bus stop improvements in Purbrook Way and Botley Drive. Delivery on-site required by the end of March 2023. The three schemes are now designed, with costings and assessments now developed. Local members have recently been briefed about the bus stop schemes.

Elmleigh Road, Havant Off road cycle route – HBC CIL / HCC / DfT Funded

CELT is developing the detailed design for the scheme under commission from HCC. Detail design is progressing. Major problems with the drainage system in the area have been identified as part of the surveys and will be added to the scheme to resolve. Delivery on-site is planned for autumn / winter 2022/23.

Bedhampton TCF – HCC funded

CELT is in the process of being commissioned to undertake detailed design for the scheme near the Bedhampton Hill / Bedhampton Road / Maylands Road roundabout in Bedhampton. This follows preliminary design by Atkins. The scheme involves improvements to the bus stops east of the junction to improve punctuality and facilities for pedestrians.

Rusty Cutter Link Road congestion scheme – HBC CIL Funded

Design work has restarted on this scheme which will provide congestion relief to this important link. The details of overlap with S278 works have been identified and will be incorporated into the design.

Jubilee Park, north drainage – HBC funded

Works are complete for phase 2, some minor adjustments need to be made to the ramps, this will be undertaken by the end of February.

Emsworth Town Centre Accessibility - HCC Funded

Emsworth Town Centre Accessibility comprises 3 schemes: 1. Havant Road (Improving accessibility for cyclists), 2. Victoria Road (Safer routes to school) and 3. Bridge Road (Improving accessibility for pedestrians). We are still awaiting further instruction from the client following the provision of cost estimate for the Havant Road scheme. The scheme is likely to be implemented in Q3 2022 due to the timescales involved in the revoking the TRO for the mandatory cycle lane between Highland Road and Bridge Road. Pre design of the Victoria Road scheme is ongoing, and we are still on course to commence construction during the summer holiday. The Bridge Road scheme is on hold until such time as both the Havant Road and the Victoria Road schemes are implemented.

Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) – HCC Funded

We are awaiting the outcome of the public consultation.

Milton Road Bus layby and Elettra Avenue HBC CIL Funded

HCC Asset Management comments are still being incorporated into the design and we would expect to resubmit the scheme for approval in March 2022.

Hambledon Road – HBC CIL & WCC Funded

ITS have provided comments on the part of the scheme that interfaces with the Puffin crossing on Hambledon Road. A vehicle speed survey to determine how to replace the southbound vehicle detection will need to be carried out. We would expect to submit the design for approval in March 2022.

Havant Rugby Football Club – HBC CIL Funded

Quotations received in September were higher than budget. Client Manager seeking more funding through CIL to progress the project.

Hooks Row, Leigh Park Shared Path – HBC CIL Funded

Scheme near completion with small outstanding works required including signage and lining, awaiting HCC approval as within highway.

Havant Park Feasibility Project – HBC CIL Funded

CIL funded project to draw up a master plan incorporating all the future aspirations for Havant Park. The plan will illustrate what the park will look like in 20 years' time. The project has now been incorporated into the Regeneration Report which includes the wider aspirations of the town centre and surrounding infrastructure. Regeneration Report is due to go to Cabinet in March 2022.

Future Role of Hayling Route, Billy Trial

A second draft has been forwarded to various other teams including Coastal Partners, the Council's Climate, Environment Officer and Portfolio Holder. Waiting for feedback from teams and will incorporate comments moving forward. It is expected that a further draft of the study will be more widely available in February/ March, with the full study not finalised until late spring 2022.

Emsworth, The Promenade - HBC Funded

The final draft report has been issued internally for comment. This will clarify potential costs and timeframes to deliver works identified. Once we have all this information, we will passing the report on to the portfolio holder and local councillors for comment.

Hayling Island Access Improvements Phase 2 – HCC Funded

Construction completed, barriers and bollards to be completed by the end of March 2022

Havant wide memorial bench project

Bench supplier added to Integra this week – order placed – anticipated delivery mid-April for installation by Norse.

Mengham Park

Estates project to create bund / physical barrier in Mengham Park to stop illegal access. Site plan and design principal has been approved by Estates. The works require planning permission and will need to carry out a tree impact assessment. Tree consultant has been appointed and has requested a topographical survey to carry out report.

Emsworth SINC (Lead Estates)

Section 106 funded project to mitigate the loss of grassland meadow to allow for housing on site north of Emsworth Rec. Estates have request CELT to manage the implementation and management of a site of importance for nature conservation in Emsworth Rec. The draft site plan has been drawn up which seeks to fence off (using post and wire fencing) a 5.9HA area of open space in the north west corner of Emsworth Rec to allow for the creation of the SINC. The design includes mown footpaths and social spots to allow residents to still use and enjoy the area of the park. We will also install an Interpretation board to inform and help manage users' behaviour of the SINC and HBC Marketing team have been lined up to do the work. Next stage is to engage with all relevant stake holders to get everyone on board with the scheme and then go out to tender for the work.