

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR REGENERATION

COUNCILLOR: PHIL RILEY

**PORTFOLIO CO-ORDINATING
DIRECTOR: DENISE PARK
DATE: 4 OCTOBER 2018**

LANESIDE CPO

The Laneside CPO was made on 26th July and submitted to the Secretary of State for confirmation on 2nd August 2018. The owner has objected to the Council's application for confirmation of the CPO and the planning inspectorate will determine whether the objection is to be dealt with by way of written representations or public local inquiry. If a public local inquiry is to be held, it is likely that it will take place early 2019.

ROE LEE

Persimmon Homes have now concluded further surveys and assessment of the Roe Lee site and have submitted a full planning application to build 151 new large family homes on the site. The Council's highways team has also started the highways access works to allow full access onto the site from Ramsgreave Drive.

CATHEDRAL QUARTER (PHASE 2)

Maple Grove have developed detailed plans for Phase 2 of the Cathedral Quarter Scheme. No.2 Cathedral Square will comprise a modern 6-storey office building with a gross floor area of 45,000 sqft, incorporating a food and beverage offer within the ground floor, to complete Cathedral Square. Pre-application planning meetings have taken place with key stakeholders, including English Heritage, to ensure that the second phase will enhance and build on the success of the established Cathedral Quarter developments. The detailed planning application was expected by the end of September, for consideration by the Planning & Highways Committee in due course.

FORMER BLACKBURN MARKETS SITE

The Council is seeking a developer to provide a high quality retail led mixed use scheme on the site of the former Blackburn Market. A tender pack and marketing particulars have been prepared and the site is now ready to be offered to market. All bids received will be closely scrutinised to ensure development is completed in time, to the required quality standard, and with the correct mix of uses to complement the surrounding area and retail offer.

MILKING LANE DEVELOPMENT SITE

Barnfield Blackburn Ltd (BBL), a joint venture between Barnfield and the Council, completed the purchase of the Milking Lane development site in July. A prior notification planning application has been submitted for approval to demolish the two derelict office blocks with demolition to be undertaken in November. BBL are engaging with businesses interested in the site with an outline planning application to be submitted by the end of October 2018.

BLACKBURN CINEMA & UNDERCROFT CARPARK

Barnfield Construction Ltd have taken formal possession of the development site and hoardings have been erected. The Council is developing an artwork

strategy which will be implemented across the cinema hoardings and the Blakey Moor terrace development. Construction of the cinema is scheduled for 66 weeks with practical completion programmed for December 2019. Reel Cinema will open in Easter 2020 following a fit out period. A separate procurement process is to be undertaken in Spring 2019 for the Jubilee square project with construction scheduled for Summer 2019.

WINTER MAINTENANCE AND POTHOLE UPDATE

In readiness for the Winter season 18/19 the salt barn is now at capacity at 3,000 tonnes. We have eight gritting routes in total, 4 primary and 4 secondary which will continue to be treated. Winter 17/18 has seen a dramatic increase in pothole repairs. We will continue to repair the defects recorded in line with our policy.

GROWTH DEAL TRANSPORT SCHEMES

The Council is moving forward on the Growth Deal 3 funded major transport schemes. On-ground activity to the Furthergate / Burnley Road Link Road has commenced with the site compound set-up and removal of invasive species of Cotoneaster paving the way for main construction works. Eric Wright Civil Engineering are the main contractor to deliver the new section of road between Red Lion Roundabout and Gorse Street, which will improve access between Blackburn Town Centre and M65 Junction 6 and open up sites for development and employment opportunities. The scheme is programmed to complete by Summer 2019.

A recent exhibition relating to the Growth Deal North Blackburn project was attended by 100+ residents and businesses, where plans to upgrade traffic signals at Brownhill Roundabout, Pleckgate Road and Whalley Old Road junctions were discussed in detail with Council Officers and Members. The Council is now progressing procurement, business case and detailed design with a view to works commencing in February 2019.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS

The first of the Council's Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Points are now on site and available for public use. The project will see EV drivers benefit from more available charging installations and will contribute to the Council's wider objectives on local Air Quality. The Council has procured Swarco UK (branded as eVolt) to deliver thirteen EV Charging Points across the Borough. The sites installed in phase one include:

- Feilden Street Multi-storey Car Park, Blackburn - three 22kW AC sockets
- Market Rooftop Car Park, Darwen – two 22kW AC sockets

There is no membership fee, the charge tariff is currently set at 25p per kWh and parking will be free for EV drivers whilst charging in these locations until April 2019. Further roll out of EV charging sites will continue in 2018/19 in Darwen and Blackburn Town Centres.