

Meeting Date: 11th October 2022

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Economy, Enterprise & Housing Portfolio Holder's Report –
Councillor Marilyn Bowman**

CITADELS

Planning permission has also been granted for the redevelopment of the Citadels buildings (former Civil Court, Crown Court and Cumbria County Council offices) and adjacent area in Carlisle for a new University of Cumbria campus. This provides the opportunity to create a high-profile city centre location integrating services and facilities and provide room for expansion.

The Proposed Development will see the University of Cumbria relocated from its two Carlisle campuses into one city centre location. Just over 14,000 square metres of space ('Phase One') will be provided across refurbished Citadel buildings and new build provision. The majority of the Woolworth and Burton Buildings are being retained and refurbished with a new focal entrance point from English Street. An additional 6,000 square metres of space ('Phase Two') will be available on Site for future university expansion.

The proposals include the creation of extensive publicly accessible amenity space and new facilities such as multi-purpose 200 seat lecture theatre, café, exhibition space and a Business Interaction Centre and access to the Grade I and II designated heritage assets. The University proposes to open up both heritage assets and the new university facilities to the public in a managed way.

The Proposed Development will increase footfall to a key gateway site into Carlisle City Centre bringing with it an increase of the order of 400 FTE jobs, benefiting the city's economy and housing market. The scheme will increase the number of students and staff living in Carlisle and raise the overall economic footprint of UoC. The total direct investment into the University Campus will be £77.5 million and the granting of permission is a key milestone of delivery of this Borderlands project.

DPD DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

As part of the Kingmoor Park Enterprise Zone planning permission has now been given for a new Distribution Centre for DPD. The proposal will enable DPD to expand significantly compared with their existing local facility which means that the equivalent of a further 250 full time jobs will be created. The majority of these will be Carlisle jobs including those in the supply chain but also it will bring increased employment for the region.

The construction of the access road for this development brings with it the opening up of the site for additional employment opportunities.

ST CUTHBERT'S GARDEN VILAGE

Work on the St Cuthbert's Local Plan continues at pace with the evidential commissions due to report this Summer. Of note, Homes England have confirmed it will continue to fund the CSLR until the end September 2022. This will allow the County Council to procure the contractor to build the road. Utility providers have been on-site to carry out the necessary diversion works and the County Council continues to secure the land required for the alignment of the road. In November 2022, it will submit a new business case to Homes England to secure funding for the remaining phases.

HIGH STREET TASK FORCE

Carlisle was selected as part of the government's [announcement](#) of High Streets Task Force support for 68 locations across England. The aim is to help communities and local government transform high streets through advice on local plans, enabling development of best strategies for transformation and investment, and providing a range of local leadership and stakeholder sessions, training, data, and resources, tailored to the area.

As part of that High Streets Task Force programme of support, an 'Unlocking Your Place Potential' meeting was held on Thursday 28th July. The purpose was to determine what further technical and professional expertise could be provided to support strategic transformation plans by understanding the issues Carlisle is facing. Following the meeting a report has been produced which outlines the recommendations provided from the High Street Taskforce expert and suggested support services that they can offer- this includes further support from an expert specialising in place activation, alongside facilitating a Place Making Programme Workshop for local stakeholders and a number of online resources. The Regeneration Team are reviewing these recommendations and engaging with the High Street Taskforce to ensure Carlisle gets the most from the support offered through the High Streets Taskforce.

HOUSING ENFORCEMENT NOTICES

I am pleased to report that the First Tier Tribunal, who consider appeals against Housing Enforcement Notices, have upheld a decision by Carlisle City Council to serve a Fixed Penalty Notice against a Landlord for not having a required electrical safety certificate for a rental property. The Electrical Safety Standards in the Private Rented Sector (England) Regulations 2020 are intended to ensure that electrical safety standards are met in the

private rented sector; to prescribe how, when and by whom checks of electrical installations are carried out, and to ensure that certificates are provided confirming that standards are met.

RURAL ENGLAND PROSPERITY FUND

The Rural England Prosperity Fund was launched on 3rd September and builds on, and is complementary to, the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). The Rural Fund objectives sit within the UKSPF investment priorities for:

- Supporting Local Business
- Community and Place

The Rural Fund provides capital funding from April 2023 to March 2025 to:

- support new and existing rural businesses to develop new products and facilities that will be of wider benefit to the local economy
- support new and improved community infrastructure, providing essential community services and assets for local people and businesses to benefit the local economy

The Rural Fund must be used on capital projects, i.e. on 'assets' such as a building or equipment. The Fund cannot be used on revenue costs such as running costs or promotional activities.

Carlisle will receive an allocation of £474,841 that will be spread over the next two financial years, 2023 - 24 and 2024 - 25.

The timescales are:-

- 3rd October 2022 to 30th November 2022 - Rural Fund submissions
- November 2022 to January 2023 - Rural Fund assessment period
- January 2023 - anticipated date for approval of Rural Fund proposals