



Report to:  
**Council**

Agenda  
Item  
**10(b)(i)**

Meeting Date: 16 July 2013

Public/Private\*: Public

Title: **Economy & Enterprise Portfolio Holder's Report –  
Councillor Colin Glover**

---

## **PLANNING**

### **Local Plan**

Work on the preparation of the Local Plan for Carlisle is progressing well with the team working hard to ensure that it meets the target of both the policies and allocations to be presented to Full Council today, ready for public consultation in the summer. The Local Plan is a key Council document and the team are working closely with the communications team to ensure that the document is accessible to as many people as possible, maximising opportunities to publicise it during the consultation period (29<sup>th</sup> July-16<sup>th</sup> September).

Please note the link below which takes you to the Local Plan web pages:

[www.carlisle.gov.uk/planning-and-buildings/local-development-framework.aspx](http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/planning-and-buildings/local-development-framework.aspx)

## **BUILDING CONTROL**

### **LABC Partnership Scheme**

Building Control has received a number of applications under the LABC Partnership scheme and consequently is dealing with applications outside Carlisle. They have carried out plan examinations on health care building within Cumbria, work on an infrastructure servicing building in Cheshire, a food distribution warehouse in the north east and on a number of Cumbria County Council buildings within the County.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Carlisle Design Week**

We picked up positive feedback regarding this week which culminated in a variety of displays and exhibitions at Dickinson's, whose owner, Steve Travis, was the principal organiser. The Design Week web site, which included a feature and link to Discover Carlisle, attracted nearly 1000 unique visits and the business who were more proactively involved have already benefit from the interest generated. The event is an excellent example of a private sector led initiative, supported by the Council, which will form the basis for future partnership working. The organisers are already planning next year's event.

### **Start-Up Britain Bus – Carlisle Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July**

The double-decker bus is part of a national enterprise campaign to help boost the number of businesses started in the UK. Whilst this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> tour throughout the UK, it is the first time that the bus has been anywhere in Cumbria.

The bus will be located outside House of Fraser on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July from 9am – 5pm. There will business advisors on and around the bus to provide free advice and help regarding starting a business. Local advice and support will be provided by the Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of the Council, as part of the BSUS programme, which is accessible through the newly launched Cumbria Growth Hub.

Other partners include the University of Cumbria, Carlisle College and local secondary schools which will be involved in promotion of the event and have a presence on the day. As part of the promotional activity attendees will be offered the chance to win enterprise related prizes. Carlisle City Council's 'prize' contribution is for a new business to have a 3 month rent free period at the Enterprise Centre (subject to terms and conditions).

### **City Centre Business Group**

I was invited to attend the June meeting of the City Centre Business Group along with Jane Meek and Angela Culleton. A variety of issues were discussed during a question and answer session and the group identified priorities for action to improve the city centre including car parking, city centre cleanliness and business engagement.

### **Kingmoor Park Launch**

On 6<sup>th</sup> June 2013, the Director of Economic Development and I attended an event hosted by John Stevenson MP in the House of Commons to promote the opportunities for development at Kingmoor Park. The event was attended by many key agents from the

London property scene as well as businesses and MPs from other areas of the country. It was a great opportunity to tell them about Carlisle, our plans for the future and convince them that Carlisle is very definitely open for business.

### **Sense of Place Launch**

Carlisle is a great place to live, work and have fun. We have world renowned attractions, fantastic scenery, an amazing history, loads of sports and activities to get involved with; great businesses and we're well connected.

We've been working hard with stakeholders to capture this and more in a 'new story' for Carlisle and the surrounding area to raise our profile, highlight why we are special and help us better compete nationally and internationally. We want to grow our economy and create new jobs but we need help to get our message out there and heard.

The launch event was held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July where leading figures from the area such as: Fred Story, Story Homes; Moira Tattersall, Carlisle College; Alan Wilson, Pirelli UK (Carlisle); Jason Gooding, Carlisle City Council and David Helliwell; CN Group outlined the shared ambition and 'story' for our city and region.

## **ACTING LEADER UPDATE**

### **Policy & Communications**

A new internal group was launched in June to look at developing the use of Social Media, the Digital Champions Group, will be looking at new ways of communication using the full range of social media tools.

Policy & Communications have been working closely with the Local Plan Team to prepare the publicity and consultation materials for the Local Plan.

### **Carlisle Partnership**

The Carlisle Partnership Executive's most recent meeting was held last month and focused on Health priorities and the transition of public health into the County Council. The meeting was well attended by partners and thematic group chairs, who continue to report back on the work taking place within the district and subgroups.

The Healthy Communities group will now link with the Healthy City Steering Group to become the single feed in group to the Partnership Executive. Whilst being an independent entity, it is intended that its work will compliment and challenge the Countywide Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB).

Carlisle Partnership has submitted the Annual Healthy City Reporting Template to the World Health Organisation. This will form part of the phase V evaluation of their programme. The themes of phase VI are due to be announced and link timely to the revised structure of the Carlisle Healthy City Steering Group. A new Terms Of Reference has been produced and new partners engaged. Subgroups are currently exploring the Active Carlisle and Older people (Mrs Carlisle) links.

Following the completion of the Economic Review of Carlisle, subgroups have been tasked with advancing the four priority areas (Business, Skills and Employment, Infrastructure and Image). In addition the Digital Carlisle Group is currently developing the city centre WiFi project group.

The Cumbria Growth hub launch took place in mid May and was well attended. 420 businesses made contact and data will be collected to assist in evaluation and the evidence base.

The Carlisle and Eden Community Safety Partnership have recently developed their draft Partnership Plan for 2013/14, which outlines the priorities and action plans being delivered over the coming year.

The Carlisle East and City West PSG's (Problem Solving Group) continue to work well and provide early interventions to ensure a quick response to community issues. Noise nuisance still remains one of the key priorities across the west of the City. The City Council's Environmental Health Team is working closely with partners (Police and Housing Providers) to ensure issues are tackled quickly and efficiently. Further details are contained in Cllr Riddle's report.

The Carlisle Housing Partnership continues to advance the Housing Strategy. Information discussed at the last Partnership Executive (focus on housing) has been used to feedback to the subgroups and further actions. Strong links with the LEP continue to be maintained. The promotion of low cost home ownership is a key action for the Housing Market subgroup.

The Rural support group is exploring locality working, which featured at a special joint RSG and Carlisle Parish Council Association meeting. A paper has gone out to consultation with the Parishes.