

Meeting Date: 4th January 2022

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Leader's Portfolio Holder Report –
Councillor John Mallinson**

BORDERLANDS INCLUSIVE GROWTH DEAL

Carlisle Projects

Good progress continues to be made on Carlisle projects - Carlisle Station and Citadels:

Carlisle Station

- Following the public consultation between 22nd September – 3rd November the design options are being finalised for the necessary approvals and consents
- The County Council are due to publish the feedback report imminently that will summarise the public views and how this has been used to finalise the scheme designs

Citadels

- The Full Business Case (FBC) for a new campus for the University of Cumbria on the Citadels site has been approved by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). £50m of Borderlands Growth Deal funding has been allocated to the project

Caldew Riverside

- The second stage of detailed site investigations works, monitoring and sampling has now concluded. An Interpretative Report is now being produced, which will set out the nature and location of the contamination
- A Remediation Strategy will be produced in early 2022 and the first phase will be implemented shortly after and will involve the removal of underground storage tanks from the site

Central Plaza

- Plans for the redevelopment of the former Central Plaza site continue to be progressed as part of the Future High Street Fund.

- Detailed site investigation, archaeological surveys, topographical surveys and structural surveys have now been undertaken. This has enabled a better understanding of the condition of the site and any potential constraints to redevelopment
- Specialists are now undertaking further due diligence, design and feasibility work to identify development options that could be delivered by the City Council using the FHSF funding and within the timeframe of the programme, which is March 2024

CARLISLE AMBASSADORS

The next scheduled meeting of Carlisle Ambassadors will take place on 1st March 2022 and will be held at the Halston Aparthotel. The theme will be related to Business Growth and there are eight business showcase stands already confirmed with the event open for bookings in the New Year.

The membership has continued to grow with the number of businesses now at 326.

The regular 'e' newsletter also continues to grow with 1,775 subscribers. The content is put together in collaboration with Economic Development and Communications colleagues in the City Council who provide updates and information on a daily basis. A new newsletter is now being worked on in partnership with the University of Cumbria and Lancaster, Digital Cumbria, LEP, Cumbria Tourism, Cumbria Chamber etc. to send out a monthly newsletter covering events and programmes for the following month.

Place Led Organisations / Ambassador Programmes Nationally

Carlisle led the way and hosted the first meeting of a group of UK place led organisations on Wednesday, 24th November 2021. Attendees included: Carlisle Ambassadors, Invest in Hemel, We Are Staffordshire, We Are Medway, Redcar & Cleveland, Lets Talk Skelmersdale and Burnley Bond Holders.

Representatives came together to share best practice and learning from their experiences working with local business communities to promote their place.

ENGLAND'S HISTORIC CITIES CONSORTIA

The latest meeting of the Consortia was held on Tuesday, 30th November 2021 in Greenwich. The 13 member cities came together with Visit Britain to review the evaluation of the Discover England Funded project 'England Originals' and forward plan to ensure that the work continues to build on the legacy of the project to attract visitors to our historic cities.

An action plan for future collaboration and to support domestic as well as international trade recovery of the visitor economy is underway. The Consortia felt it was important to have a plan to implement the legacy of England Originals and support our EHC partners until March 2022 and beyond.

The Consortia continue to compare Benchmarking Data, sharing economic data around the visitor economy. The Consortia also discussed the outcome of the Nick DeBois report on the review of Destination Management Organisations and the potential impact on our historic cities of the proposed tier model for future Government funding to Destination Management Organisations. Visit Britain advised Consortia Members to await further information in the New Year.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Warehouse Fire At Rockcliffe Industrial Estate – Monday, 6th December

A Cumbria Local Resilience Forum debrief for the Rockcliffe Fire will be held in early January. All the agencies that responded to the incident will participate in the debrief, with any recommendations being taken forward by the Local Resilience Forum.

<https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/rockcliffefire/>

Storm Arwen

Storm Arwen hit Cumbria on the weekend commencing Friday, 26th November. A Major Incident was declared by Cumbria Constabulary. Carlisle District was not as badly impacted as other districts, but we stood up our response and participated in numerous Strategic Coordinating Group and Tactical Coordinating Group meetings over the weekend. We responded to a request for mutual aid from Eden District Council by placing William Howard School, Brampton and our staff on standby to host an Emergency Assistance Centre for residents of the Alston area who were without power.