


Council Plan Project Progress Q2

1.1 Our Priority – to make Chesterfield a thriving borough

Key Project	RAG	Progress
1 - Apprenticeships Town		<p>We are continuing to develop a memorandum of understanding with Chesterfield College for a launch at the end of 2015. We are working with other partners to develop opportunities for apprenticeships in the Borough. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 'Skills Made Easy' Programme providing SMEs across the city region with access to apprenticeships and bespoke training for their existing workforce. So far, over 160 Chesterfield based employers have engaged in the process with 270 training plans agreed. • Two programmes (Ambition SCR and Talent Match) to support 18-24 year olds not in training, education or employment to enter the labour market. Both schemes operate via a local delivery model, with each providing a key worker / coach in Chesterfield to offer intensive support to individuals.
2 - Local employment and skills plan for Peak resort		We have had the first Strategic Board meeting for the Peak Gateway and are working with Peak Resorts and other public and private sector partners to develop connectivity and employment and skills plan, and the business case for the infrastructure funding.
3 - Dedicated business support advisers	✓	Funding has been secured via D2N2 to make the existing business advisor post, which is currently part-time, into a full time position. We have now recruited into the post.
4 - Canal infrastructure at Waterside		The Lavers bridge planning application is now approved however the uncertainty surrounding the level of committed sum continues. Various

		<p>meetings have been held with DCC to try and impress upon them the wider benefits the scheme unlocks. This uncertainty, combined with the lack of certainty regarding the future acquisition of the DCC depot meant that bids did not come forward from house builders at this stage. Once these issues are resolved the site will be re-marketed to house builders.</p> <p>The GPF Loan is in place and Civic Engineers are preparing detailed designs for the canal infrastructure to inform a planning application to confirm the route of the canal. Land & Water has now been instructed by Arnold Laver (they are experts in canal delivery) and they are carrying out detailed surveys to move the proposed route of the canal forward. The riparian landowners of the canal remain engaged in the process. It is still the intention that this work will be carried out under licence.</p> <p>A reserved matters planning application is expected before December 2015 to fix the layout of the first phase of Basin Square to include a hotel, 310 private rented sector units, a 6 storey office block, MSCP and associated restaurants and retail use. The detailed permissions will then come forward once this is in place for the individual end users. The SCRIF grant funding to put in place the essential infrastructure for this first phase continues to progress through the SCR business case process.</p>
<p>5 - Develop regeneration plans for Staveley and Rother Valley Corridor</p>		<p>Meetings are being held with the key landowners to discuss co-operation on key issues, and the delivery of housing. A meeting has been arranged with DCC to discuss their role in delivering the required infrastructure. A proposal for a board structure, including terms of reference, arrangements and membership to oversee development and implementation of the project is</p>

		being prepared.
6 - New development partner for Northern Gateway		<p>Cabinet set aside £100k to enable the Council to seek external legal and commercial expertise to guide us through a further competitive dialogue procurement process to seek a development partner for the Northern Gateway. Since that time, the Council has been working with developers who are interested in developing the Co-op building for a leisure led scheme and in order to assist them in bringing the scheme forward the Council has 'parked' the competitive dialogue procurement process so as to avoid creating uncertainty for potential occupiers. A planning application for the Co-op scheme is expected to be submitted in October, following a public launch of the scheme. In tandem with parking the procurement process, we have been exploring a potential scheme with the existing landowners (Chelverton) within the Northern Gateway site. Initial legal advice suggests that there could be a mechanism which could enable the Council to work directly with these landowners without a procurement exercise. On this basis we have asked the landowners to propose a scheme to the Council and we will take further advice. Chelverton is currently in negotiation with a major retail anchor.</p> <p>The Council has appointed property consultants Cushman and Wakefield to carry out an options appraisal for the Northern Gateway, this will enable the Council to understand what mix of uses may work in viability terms (and demand) if the Co-op development comes forward with a leisure scheme as anticipated. This work will be complete by mid-December.</p>
7 - Develop plan for market upgrade		After consulting with market traders and members of the public, the IBI Group presented several options with various

		<p>levels of intervention, from low to high. The options addressed the key principles and priorities that were identified by the various consultees. The cost of these options, and their individual component elements, are being finalised by the consultants. Officers are now working on a business case for the reconfiguration projects which will include the potential income that could be earned from the remodelled market place plus the economic impact of the market on the town centre. Once both of these strands of work are completed a second phase of the consultation process will take place early in the New Year. The outcome of this will be presented to Cabinet and Council for a final decision on the preferred option and agreement on a funding package.</p>
8 - Adopt masterplan for town centre		<p>The revised masterplan was adopted by Cabinet on 14th July. An implementation plan is now in place to move the priority projects forward including the reconfiguration of the outdoor market, public realm strategy, digital strategy etc. This includes dialogue and liaison with other stakeholders.</p>
9 - Programme of events		<p>A programme of events that enhance the visitor experience have been delivered on time and within budget. Events have included a walking festival, a well dressing and the establishment of a monthly artisan market. More events are planned for the rest of the year. An agreement with Derbyshire County Cricket Club has also been approved which will secure the future of a week long Festival of Cricket at Queen's Park.</p>
10 - Digital connectivity in Council buildings and innovation centres		<p>The works are under way to upgrade the digital connectivity at the Innovation Centres. It will provide world class digital connectivity to our tenants. A model and business case is being developed to progress other sites.</p>

11 - Improvements to Council website		<p>Phase one of the website redevelopment project, which will see a responsive design introduced so the website can be viewed on mobiles and tablets, is due for completion in mid-November. This is a month behind schedule due to a delay in arvato signing a contract with the hosting company. The basic website shell has been built and work is about to begin on migrating content from the existing website to the new one.</p> <p>Phase two of the project, which will focus on improving content and navigation, will begin soon afterwards.</p> <p>A digital content editor started working for the council in October, which will help us to deliver content improvements and mitigate some of the project risks.</p>
12 - Develop digital inclusion strategy		A consultant has been commissioned using ERDF funds and consultation has begun with other stakeholders representing a range of sectors. A summit is being planned for November to present the draft strategy.

1.2 Our Priority – to improve the quality of life for local people

Key Project	RAG	Progress
13 - Complete and let Parkside Housing scheme		Parkside will be complete and occupied by March 2016. However progress on site has slipped, current completion date looking at 6th November (but having been on site this is not going to happen – I think we are looking at a completion prior to Christmas with occupancy in the new year). There have been issues with a mis-measure by the external QS Team, which meant the contractor was building something bigger than he put his project plan in for.
14 - Invest £32 million in Council Housing		Work is very much progressing to schedule, with an underspend against

		profile of only £629,000 at the end of August (2.5%).
15 - Agree a strategic approach to enable the Council to build housing for sale and rent		This has slipped, although we have taken some advice from HCA recently and they have refocused us on site viability. We should still be able to agree an approach by March 2016.
16 - Open Eastwood Park sports pavilion	✓	This project is now complete.
17 - Estate regeneration in Barrow Hill		<p>Estate improvement consultation with community has taken place and draft proposals developed for the CBC Housing areas. Development on site is expected in January 2016.</p> <p>Update report due to Cabinet hopefully 3rd or 17th November. In light of the rent reduction we are proposing taking £1 million out of budget and phasing work over two full financial years.</p> <p>The planning application will be submitted shortly.</p>
18 - Improve play areas at Circular Rd park and Stand Rd park	✓	<p>The improvements to Circular Rd play area are now complete.</p> <p>Currently working Friends of Group and Bowls Club to develop a scheme and secure funding. Some setbacks with regards to attracting external funding however further applications for funding have been made. Notification of funding outcomes is expected in December 2015 so the project is unlikely to be completed during 2015/16.</p>
19 - Masterplan for King George V		Initial consultation stage is complete and a draft masterplan has been developed.
20 - Open new Queen's Park Sports Centre		The project is on track and on budget for planned handover in late December. Soft opening planned for 5th January, official stakeholder event 7th January and a public celebration event 9th January. Current risks are managed other than inclement weather which could have an impact on car park and

		final landscaping completion but due to current stages of works the premise would still be able to open.
21 - New outdoor gym at Langer field	✓	The new accessible outdoor gym was completed in September 2015 and the community opening day has taken place.
22 - Membership of Healthy Communities Network		DCC have been successful with their application to become a member of the healthy communities' network. The CBC Health Group are currently developing our affiliate membership application to be submitted in December 2015.
23 - Promote "Time to Change" mental health campaign		<p>Mental health issues have been a key focus of the Equality and Diversity Forum during 2015/16. So far this has included mental health awareness and dementia friend's events and training.</p> <p>CBC occupational health contract is being revised to put more emphasis on mental health. Work is currently underway on the healthy workplaces initiative to proactively respond to health and mental health challenges within our workforce.</p> <p>Our European Health and Safety Week 2015 campaign focused on mental health awareness and five steps to wellbeing. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health awareness training for key officers and members • Five ways to wellbeing interactive display • Borough Bulletin promotion • Management behaviour style self-assessment with a particular focus on reduce stress
24 - Intensive support and financial advice in four key areas		A successful partnership programme has been delivered to one of the four areas – St. Helens. The Grangewood project will be taking place in November 2015 followed by Holmehall and Middlecroft in early 2016.

		Areas are being specifically targeted using the last 2015 indices of multiple deprivation information.
25 - Assess applicants ability to pay rent before home allocation		New allocations policy and procedures agreed in April 2015. The current restructure taking place within the Housing Customer Division will allocate resource to applicant assessments starting in Autumn 2015.
26 - Increased support for homeless people	✓	The “no second night out” service is commissioned for the whole of Derbyshire by Derby City Council. We have worked with Derby City and provided additional funding secure increased provision for Chesterfield Borough from Autumn 2015.
27 - Paying all Council staff a living wage		Work has been undertaken to assess the numbers of staff affected by introducing the living wage and the costs associated. Further work is being undertaken regarding pay differentials for other staff. Consideration also needs to be given to the impact of the summer budget wage rate announcements.

1.3 Our Priority – to provide value for money services

Key Project	RAG	Progress
28 - Freeze council tax	✓	This project is now complete.
29 - Consult on options for current Queen’s Park Sports Centre land		Further scoping and impact work is being undertaken for demolition of the existing Queen’s Park Sports Centre. While consultation remains a commitment – it is unlikely to be possible during 2015/16.
30 - Great Place: Great Service transformation programme		The GPGS programme has been thoroughly reviewed and refreshed during 2015, and a revised plan is due to cabinet in November 2015 for approval.

		<p>The revised plan ensures that GPGS continues to have the correct focus to meet the council's priority transformational needs and to ensure compliance with the corporate plan priorities.</p> <p>As part of this review the councils governance arrangements and cost model relating to the project have also been reviewed to provide greater clarity to the decision making process and reporting / accountability processes associated with the programme of work.</p> <p>There has been significant progress during 2015, but it's the next 6 -12 months that will see the effect of that work with vast changes expected in the Town Hall and the way we work in general.</p>
31 - On-line booking facilities	✓	Online booking facilities are now available for the Winding Wheel, Pomegranate and the majority of sport centre provision.
32 - Maintain Investors in People standard and develop a new Workforce Strategy		The IIP bronze standard was achieved in June 2015. A draft Workforce Strategy has been developed and is currently out for consultation with the Workforce Strategy group including Trade Unions.
33 - Develop a new operating model for the council		<p>This is progressing swiftly. Key stakeholder engagement has begun with the Leader and Deputy Leader and the Senior Leadership Team taking part in development interviews in September 2015. A Corporate Cabinet/CMT workshop has taken place in October 2015.</p> <p>Development of recommendations and the draft TOM will then take place. These will be presented at the Corporate Cabinet/CMT away day in November 2015.</p>