

Chesterfield Economic Recovery Plan

Introduction

The Chesterfield Economic Recovery Plan sets out the role of the Council in responding to the local economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The plan is based on the strategic framework provided by the Economic Programme in the Council's Growth Strategy (2019-23) and is structured around three thematic headings (businesses, places and people) and seven key objectives: provision of business support; attracting investment; investment in infrastructure; Chesterfield town centre; development of the visitor economy; a skilled workforce; and economic inclusion. Under each of these objectives, the plan sets out how our existing programmes and activities can contribute towards the Covid-19 response, and the additional actions the Council will undertake in support of this response. Collectively, these activities will support local businesses and people as we emerge from the lockdown period, whilst also looking ahead to help secure the long-term growth and regeneration of Chesterfield borough.

Given the high level of uncertainty about the future scale of the economic impact of Covid-19, it is difficult to define specific outcome and output measures for the Recovery Plan. It is possible however, to consider the following as successful outcomes as a result of the Economic Recovery Plan:

- Minimise the negative impact of Covid-19 in terms of business closures and jobs lost

- Businesses are able to continue to operate in the short term and create the conditions for entrepreneurial activity and the development of a more resilient economy.
- Support the reskilling of our residents to be home grown talent and to be able to compete in the changed economy.
- Town Centre is enabled to progress through recovery phases and is able to thrive, maintaining high level of occupancy.
- Support the Council's Climate Change programme and the continuing modal shift to cycling and walking (active travel) and public transport.
- Continue to deliver against agreed programmes for Chesterfield's key economic projects.

1. Work with partners to increase business start-ups and support the expansion of the existing business base					
Activity Area:	Covid-19 Response				
	Existing activity supports Covid-19 response?	Additional Covid-19 response? Timeframe (months)	Specify activity Key: Existing Resource Additional Resource Idea	Priority: 1-3 (3-highest)	Resource implications: - Existing - Reallocation - Staffing - Finance
Provide a Land and Property Information Service to support the growth of the business base	Yes – ongoing provision of service to help businesses find the right premises	0-3	Contact all agents to promote properties on LPIS.	3	Existing
		0-3	Pro-active engagement with 'at-risk' businesses	3	Existing
		0-3	Monitor enquiries for any changes in profile of property requirements	1	Existing
Deliver a Business Support Programme to help new start-ups and improve the competitiveness of local businesses	Yes – ongoing delivery of Innovation Support Programme (ISP) which provides 1-to-1 support to businesses.	0-3	Update 'Doing business in Chesterfield' web-site content to increase awareness of all existing support programmes and share with businesses	3	Existing
		3-6	Work with Chamber, DiT and Growth Hub to promote new market opportunities for businesses	1	Existing
		0-3	Deliver additional events on recovery related issues	3	Existing
		3-6	Increase capacity to provide one-to-one support to businesses (potential to share staffing with start-up programme)	3	Finance/Staffing (BRRF)

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		3-6	Develop business start-up programme / incubator provision in innovation / enterprise centre, including start-up grants and business mentoring support via Destination Chesterfield	3	Finance/Staffing (BRRF)
Work closely with the D2N2 Growth Hub to ensure a co-ordinated approach, and local access, to business support delivery	Yes – ISP Manager works in partnership with the Growth Hub and will promote local access to any new D2N2 / national Covid-19 response business support programmes.	6-12	Provision of free local venues to host events through ISP	2	Finance
Maximise the role of Dunston and Tapton Park Innovation Centres as a focus for the growth of knowledge based businesses	<p>Yes - Deferred rental payment (3 months) option for tenants</p> <p>Flexible lease terms, completely scalable to business needs, including virtual office provision</p> <p>Tender for new telephone system which better supports agile working.</p> <p>Develop new “Enterprise Chesterfield” website to include three centres and feature a tenant hub to encourage networking, knowledge sharing and collaboration.</p>	0-3	<p>Enhance support available to tenants to aid recovery, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey tenants to gauge requirements and develop a tailored programme of support - Sharing opportunities - Work with partners to deliver workshops/webinars 	3	Existing
Provide advice on a range of business related services delivered by the	Yes – provision of business email ‘hotline’ for enquiries	0-3	Support delivery of Business Support Grant Discretionary Fund	3	Existing

Council including pre-planning application advice to support new development.	Updated business content on Council's website	0-3	As part of Council wide response (eg a one-stop-shop recovery support group), provide support to businesses to ensure compliance with Covid-19 recovery phase measures.	3	Existing
	Administration of Business Support Grants via Business Rates Team	0-3	Put in place communications plan to ensure consistent messaging to businesses	3	Opening Town Centres Fund
Encourage local supply chain opportunities as part of Council contracts and in relation to new developments.	Yes – CBC provides guidance to developers on local labour clauses and will amend to include information on CBC existing procurement policies and improve signposting	3-6	Peer to Peer procurement campaign with Destination Chesterfield	3	Skills Budget
		6-12	Review of Council procurement policy to better support local sourcing opportunities.	3	Existing

2. Undertake a range of marketing activities to raise the profile of the borough as a business location and attract new business investment

Activity Area:	Covid-19 Response				
	Existing activity supports Covid-19 response?	Additional Covid-19 response? Timescale (months)	Specify activity	Priority: 1-3 (3 – highest)	Resources: Existing Reallocation Staffing Finance
Promote the availability of commercial property in Chesterfield	Yes – ongoing marketing programme via various media	0-3	Pro-active engagement with 'at-risk' tenants	3	Existing

Support the delivery of the Destination Chesterfield place marketing initiative and provide input to relevant marketing initiatives undertaken by the LEP	Yes – EDU supports the delivery of a range of Destination Chesterfield initiatives including the 'Invest in Chesterfield 2' programme	0-3	Support delivery of Destination Chesterfield Recovery Plan	3	Existing
Respond proactively to investor enquiries including those received via the Invest in Derbyshire project and Destination Chesterfield.	Yes – EDU will continue to respond proactively to all new investor enquiries				
Strengthen relationships with local and foreign owned companies via a process of Key Account Management.	Yes – EDU has an ongoing programme of KAM	3-6	Increase number of company contacts / visits, including engaging with local FDIs in any review of business location	3	Existing / Staffing

3. Secure investment in infrastructure that enables employment and housing growth and delivers a high quality of place

Activity Area:	Covid-19 Response				
	Existing activity supports Covid-19 response?	Additional Covid-19 response? Timeframe (months)	Specify activity	Priority: 1-3 (3 – highest)	Resources: Existing Reallocation Staffing Finance
On-going investment and management of the Council's commercial	Yes - Rent deferrals for a 3 month period available to tenants	0-3	Consideration of additional measures to support tenants on a case by case basis	3	Existing

property portfolio to support business start-ups and growth	Construction of industrial units at Calow Lane Industrial Estate				
Ensure the provision of a sufficient range of employment and housing sites in the borough and seek to positively enable growth through the local planning framework / process	Yes – ongoing engagement with developers on the delivery of employment and housing development				
Proactively engage with relevant organisations (including D2N2 and DCC) to secure investment in local transport and business infrastructure	Yes - CBC currently working with the LEP and DCC to secure funding for key developments including Hollis Lane Link Road and RHOC2.				
As a partner in Chesterfield Waterside Ltd, support the delivery of the first phases of residential and commercial development on the Waterside site	<p>Yes - Avant Homes commenced delivery of 173 homes on former Lavers timber yard (scheme currently paused).</p> <p>CBC to undertake development of first office building at Basin Square providing 35,000 sqft of Grade A office space. This will act as catalyst to first phase development of Basin Square.</p> <p>Negotiations (CWL) on-going to bring forward first phase of development at Basin Square.</p>				

<p>Work with DCC to secure the implementation of the Chesterfield HS2 Masterplan to develop the station area as a vibrant HS2 gateway and unlock significant commercial and residential development</p>	<p>Yes - Delivery of HS2 Strategic Sites Project.</p> <p>Consultation and approval of HS2 Masterplan</p>				
<p>Enable the regeneration of the Staveley and Rother Valley Corridor (including the Staveley HS2 IMD), working closely with the landowners to ensure that development phases are brought forward in a co-ordinated and comprehensive manner</p>	<p>Yes – SRVC includes a number of scheme elements:</p> <p>The Hartington Industrial Park is being prepared for development (Suon Ltd).</p> <p>Development of the DRIVe project to support the growth of a local rail cluster at Barrow Hill.</p> <p>SRVC will be the location of the HS2 Infrastructure Maintenance Depot</p> <p>DCC has secured DfT funding to take forward the design of the Staveley Regeneration Route</p> <p>Planning applications have been submitted for the redevelopment of the Staveley Works site (Chatsworth Estates / Saint Gobain)</p>	0-3	<p>Staveley Town Deal provides funding to enable key scheme delivery and support the development of new projects</p>	3	Staveley Town Deal

	Restoration of Chesterfield Canal including the further development of Hartington Basin (Chesterfield Canal Trust)				
Work with landowners, developers and Homes England (including through the establishment of a Developer Forum) to accelerate the delivery of housing development sites across the borough	<p>Yes - Site investigations currently being completed for the Allen & Orr site.</p> <p>The Housing Delivery Manager is actively engaging with housebuilders to help facilitate recommencement of construction activity on housing sites (all of which had been temporarily closed).</p>				
Make the best use of public sector land assets to deliver new housing	<p>Yes - it is anticipated that a detailed planning application will be submitted for the Walton Hospital site (Homes England site) in the next few weeks.</p> <p>Future development of the Council's Linacre site for housing.</p>				
Support wider improvements to community infrastructure and quality of place, making use of CIL, S106 agreements, Percent for Art scheme and other funding sources.	Yes – on-going engagement with developers to secure community and quality of place benefits as part of development proposals.				

Support the delivery of the Staveley Town Deal	Funding allocated by Govt to develop Town Deal Investment Plan and undertake capacity building and community engagement	0-3	Ensuring Town Deal proposals take account of Covid-19 as they are developed	3	Staveley Town Deal
Promoting a sustainable economic recovery	Sustainability measures implemented in response to Covid-19 including cycle infrastructure, increased home-working and improved pedestrian access.	0-12	Activities to include: Development of an Integrated Transport Plan. Cycle Infrastructure. 'Low Carbon' business support	3	Finance (Climate Change Action Plan, Active Transport Funding)

4. Strengthen the distinctive role of Chesterfield town centre to ensure its longer term vitality and viability

Activity Area:	Covid-19 Response				
	Existing activity supports Covid-19 response?	Additional Covid-19 response? Timeframe (months)	Specify activity	Priority: 1-3 (3 – highest)	Resources: Existing Reallocation Staffing Finance
Secure on-going investment and development of the town centre, building on the town's core functions and historic character, and guided by proposals set	Yes - extension of Northern Gateway public realm improvements to include Packers Row (CBC).		Continue to deliver Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield project.		

out in the Chesterfield Town Centre Masterplan					
Implement the Northern Gateway scheme to include the construction of a new enterprise centre, the rebuild of the Saltergate MSCP and the provision of enhanced public realm to Elder Way and Knifemithgate	<p>Yes - site works commenced on enterprise centre.</p> <p>Elder Way public realm out to tender.</p> <p>Progress Skills and Employment Plans agreed for NG Enterprise Centre/Woodhead</p>	6-12	<p>Opportunity to bring forward a skills/education project about civil engineering linked to HS2/station area. Engage with University of Derby Civil Engineering degree apprenticeship and AECOM to promote careers in this area.</p>	1	Skills Budget
Encourage improvements to the range and quality of the town centre leisure offer, including supporting the private sector in the redevelopment of the former Co-op building	Yes - CBC working with developer to secure occupiers for the Elder Way scheme.				
Seek to sustain and enhance the important role played by the outdoor market as the key asset in the town centre, including the introduction of additional evening and event markets	Yes - External funding secured to support redevelopment of the Outdoor Market. Consultant's brief for development of design options has been prepared for tender.				
Provide a positive town centre experience for residents and visitors through the effective co-	Yes – ongoing management and coordination of services to support overall quality of town centre offer.	0-3	<p>Restoration Phase</p> <p>Seek to ensure effective and safe functioning of town centre as guided by Town Centre Framework;</p>	3	Existing / Finance (Reopening of Town Centre funding /

5. Support the growth of Chesterfield as both a visitor destination and hub					
Activity Area:	Existing activity supports Covid-19 response?	Additional Covid-19 response? Timeframe (months)	Specify activity	Priority: 1-3 (3 – highest)	Resources: Existing Reallocation Staffing Finance
Provide a high quality Visitor Information Service	Yes – VIC temporarily closed but maintenance of telephone and on-line service				
Raise the profile of Chesterfield as both a visitor destination and hub, through a range of marketing activities, working in partnership with the Visit Peak District and Derbyshire DMO and neighbouring authorities	Yes – via the Visit Chesterfield website	0-3	Free business entry for 2020/21 on the Visit Chesterfield website (A Barnes)	2	Existing
		3-6	Mini-conference for businesses (venue or virtual depending on timescales) to highlight support available and move into recovery phase (A Barnes)	1	Reallocation / Finance (BRRF)
		0-3	Work in partnership with the DMO on additional marketing campaigns in response to Covid-19	2	Existing
Support the further development of the borough's visitor product and infrastructure, with a particular focus on the quality of the town centre offer	Yes - Delivery of RHOC scheme improves quality of public realm and revitalises the outdoor market as a key visitor attraction Redevelopment proposals for Stephenson Memorial Hall				

Deliver an enhanced programme of festivals and events to attract more visitors to the town	No - assume social distancing requirements restrict events programme in short term	6-12	Delivery of additional events following lifting of social distancing restrictions	2	Financing (BRRF)
Work with the private sector to help enable the successful delivery of the Peak Resort development	Yes - Commence construction of David Lloyd Adrenaline World (private sector)				
Prepare a Visitor Economy Action Plan to help realise opportunities to grow both the number and value of visits to Chesterfield.	Yes – Preparation of VEAP provides opportunity to identify measures to support visitor economy in the recovery and growth phase				

6. Work to raise the level of workforce skills to support future business growth

Activity Area:	Covid-19 Response				
	Existing activity supports Covid-19 response?	Additional Covid-19 response? Timeframe (months)	Specify activity	Priority: 1-3 (3 – highest)	Resources: Existing Reallocation Staffing Finance
Deliver Apprentice Town activity with Chesterfield College and other partners to raise awareness of, and	Yes – on-going promotion of current and future apprenticeship opportunities	0-3	Establishment of Education and Training provider network to deliver a joined-up approach to supporting businesses through recovery period and	3	Additional apprentice resource (Skills Budget)

increase participation in, apprenticeships		0-3	ensure future alignment with growth priorities. Development & delivery of virtual skills & careers platform to provide a platform to ensure that people and businesses have virtual access to information on skills, education, employment support and job opportunities, as well as a showcase for apprenticeship provision.	3	Finance (Skills Budget)
Encourage the further development of higher education provision in Chesterfield	Yes - Ongoing engagement with HE providers, businesses and North Derbyshire Careers Hub to promote and raise awareness of current HE programmes and progression routes in schools.	3-6	Work with HE providers to support: - Upskilling for a resilient workforce campaign - Developing an entrepreneurial mindset campaign - Development of virtual skills and careers platform	2	Existing staff Finance (Skills Budget) to support upskilling campaigns
Work with D2N2 LEP to facilitate local business access to training that will up-skill the workforce via	Yes – continue to work with the LEP to ensure that businesses can access upskilling programmes and align current	0-3 0-3	Develop MoU with University of Derby to increase HE provision in Chesterfield Increase campaigning around building skills for resilient future workforces	2 3 3	Finance (Skills Budget)

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programmes including Skills Support for the Workforce	funding streams to Covid response		Development and Delivery of virtual skills and careers platform		Finance (Skills Budget)
Engage with businesses through key account management to enable a bespoke response to the specific skills needs of the business	Yes - target KAM support to businesses impacted (i.e. where we know there are job losses, downsizing or opportunities to diversify)				
Work with businesses, education and training providers, and other key stakeholders to ensure that skills provision evolves in line with future business sector growth opportunities, including the delivery of HS2	Yes – ongoing engagement with LEP, education partners and Careers Hub to influence and shape future provision in line with growth plans and align provision with key sites and regeneration projects including the current 'HS2 & You' programme. Working with businesses, Apprentice Town Ambassadors and others to develop case studies to support upskilling and enterprise campaigns	0-3	Establishment of Education and Training Provider Network	3	Finance (Skills Budget)
		3-6	Develop a training/ workshop resource to support enterprise and start-ups	3	Existing Finance (Skills Budget)
		0-3	Development and delivery of virtual skills and careers platform	3	(Skills Budget)
		6-12	Development & Delivery of a 'Youth Resilience Programme'	3	
Foster links between the local business community and schools / education providers to raise awareness of future career pathways	Yes – continue to work with D2N2 Careers Hub to align future growth opportunities with development of future workforce – continue to co-fund enterprise adviser co-ordinator	3-6	Developing an entrepreneurial mindset campaign aligned with expanded Destination Chesterfield MADE campaign	2	Marketing resource (Skills Budget)

Deliver an annual skills conference and maintain up to date information to signpost people and businesses to appropriate training programmes.	Yes - provision of information and signposting to current training programmes Skills conference – future delivery may be impacted by on-going social distancing measures. Consider virtual event / use of virtual platform				Additional marketing resource to support campaigns including skills conference (Skills Budget)
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7. Ensure that all local people are in a position to benefit from the growth which takes place in the borough

Activity Area:	Covid-19 response				
	Existing activity supports Covid-19 response?	Additional Covid-19 response? Timeframe (months)	Specify activity	Priority: 1-3 (3 – highest)	Resources: Existing Reallocation Staffing Finance
Work with partners to ensure that work readiness, skills and employment support programmes are fully accessible to local people, and seek to direct provision to the communities where it is most needed	Yes - continue to closely work with LEP and education partners to ensure funding streams are re-purposed/aligned to needs of priority groups and communities.	0-3	Staveley Town Deal provides opportunity to deliver bespoke programmes for residents and workforce in Staveley area, for example the potential development of a 'Construction Skills Village' initiative.		
	On-going engagement with partners including the LEP and DWP in co-ordination of redundancy support activities.	0-3	Development and delivery of virtual skills and careers platform	3	(Skills Budget)

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Support the delivery of local programmes that provide targeted support to 16-24 year olds including Youth Engagement programmes	Yes - work with D2N2 LEP and education partners to shape existing and future programmes to support 16-24 year olds, with potential to add additional local value with funding from the Skills Budget	3-6	Development of a specific youth enterprise programme linked to CBC start-up initiative	2/3	Additional apprentice resource (Skills Budget)
		6-12	'Young Champions' programme	2	Finance (Skills Budget)
		6-12	Development & Delivery of a 'Youth Resilience' Programme	2	(Skills Budget)
Agree local labour clauses on 100% of new eligible major developments, and in relation to the most appropriate opportunities, work with applicants to bring forward skills and employment plans.	Yes - existing activity but will need to consider alternatives to some of the current outputs (i.e. work experience in a world of social distancing – are there virtual alternatives?)	0-3	Development and delivery of virtual skills and careers platform	3	Additional apprentice resource to support with tracking and monitoring of local labour clauses (Skills Budget)