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We Are Colchester Board Meeting

25 May 2023, 1200-1330 - Microsoft Teams

Agenda

1. Chair's introduction including apologies and declarations of interest
- Simon Blaxill
2. Progress report & engagement update - Simon Thorp
3. Levelling Up and City Centre master plan update – Matt Sterling
4. Issues, risks & mitigations - 'you said, we did' - Lindsay Barker,
Rory Doyle, Matt Sterling
5. Project spotlight – Heart of Greenstead community hub - Dan
Barton
6. Decisions - Simon Blaxill
7. Next meeting



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Chair's Introduction

Simon Blaxill



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Progress Report & Engagement Update

Simon Thorp, Programme and Performance Manager



Progress highlights

- Jumbo (HLF bid and Balcerne Gate synergies),
- Holy Trinity Church (repairs underway, HLF EOI, architect appointment),
- Holy Trinity Square (public consultation),
- Essex County Hospital (contractor appointment and on site works start),
- Greenstead Tamarisk Way (architect appointment for community hub and site masterplan),
- Essex Pedal Power (resident sign up and planned bike handout),
- Liveable Neighbourhood (engagement on early design options),
- Digital Skills Hub (on site works due to complete August),
- Digital Working Hub Queen Street (out to tender, contractor appointment soon),
- 5G (telco consultation re co-funding options, tourism VR content design starting July/August),
- Transformed Youth Facilities (contractor award due, on site works Stanway/Highwoods youth centres July/August and Townhouse from September),
- Walking and Cycling LCWIP4 (Colne Causeway to Uni tender expected back soon, Haddon Park/Hythe Station Bridge at feasibility stage, improvement to materials planned for City Centre sections close to listed buildings).

PROGRAMME & UMBRELLA PROJECT RAG STATUS (APRIL 2023)

	Overall	Cost	Time
Programme	AMBER	AMBER	AMBER
Digital Connectivity	AMBER	AMBER	AMBER
Heart of Greenstead	AMBER	AMBER	GREEN
Town Centre & Gateways	AMBER	AMBER	AMBER
Transformed Youth Facilities	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN
Physical Connectivity	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN

Delivery, Time, Cost RAG headlines

Programme RAG status – **AMBER**


Overall – good progress across programme; issues and risks (Highways and Lion Walk permissions (public realm – eg. St Nicholas Square), land ownership (Greenstead), cost escalation (general, not exclusive to Colchester) being actively managed.

Time – the majority of projects are currently expected to be delivered in line with timebox plans.

Cost - Spend v budget £3.8m (on track). Part of Colchester's 2023-24 c£8m DLUHC payment (£287k) due in April. The balance is expected in June. Timing of funding is linked to overall RAG rating in monitoring returns. Management of near proximity cost risks is important. DLUHC reassure that any payment issues will be discussed / explained.

Monitoring – Next DLUHC return due June 2023 (Oct 22-Mar 23 reporting period). Second Line of Defence deep dive also being managed. Working closely with S151.

RAG AND UMBRELLA PROJECT DELIVERY OVERVIEW TO DATE

Project	RAG		April-June 2023			July-September 2023			October-December 2023			January-March 2024				
	Last meeting	This meeting														
Project 1: Town Centre & Gateways	Yellow	Yellow	Delivery Phase Started August 2022 	St Nicholas Sq / Essex County Hospital on site works	★					St Nicholas Square completion	★			Essex County Hospital completion	★	
Project 2: Heart of Greenstead	Yellow	Yellow		Essex Podal Power training and bike handout	★											
Project 3: Transformed Youth Facilities	Yellow	Green					Stanway and Highwoods completion	★						Townhouse completion	★	
Project 4: Digital connectivity	Yellow	Yellow					Digital Skills Hub completion	★								
Project 5: Physical connectivity	Green	Green					Colne Causeway works commence	★								
Engagement Plan – project level	Green	Green														
Monitoring outcomes	Green	Green	Return made December 2023			Next Return due June 2023										



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Engagement update

- *Jumbo Teacher CPD event*
- *Project overview to new Emmaus Manager for Colchester (federation of UK-based charities working together to end homelessness)*
- *Queen Street Archaeology*
 - *x 3 stakeholder visits (BID, Civic Society, WAC Board & CCC Cllrs)*
 - *x2 public days*
- *Cllr Jumbo climb*
- *Civic Society 'Alternative Masterplan'*
- *Presentation to ECC Sustainable Growth Team*
- *Ward Cllr updates 30th March & 15th May*
- *Trinity Square Consultation*



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Levelling Up and City Centre Masterplan Update

Matt Sterling, Strategic Economic Growth Manager



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City Centre Master Plan and Levelling Up Programme update

- Team Colchester meeting regularly to govern these programmes
- Masterplan and St Botolph's changes out to public consultation in June. This will include:
 - 6-week digital based consultation
 - In-person drop-in sessions
 - Focus groups with key stakeholders
- Work underway to bring the detailed programmes for each strand together to identify synergies and avoid clashes
- PIDS underway for St Botolph's, Kerbles and Shopfront grants
- Work to appoint delivery partners for other schemes started



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Issues, Risks & Mitigations – you said, we did

Lindsay Barker, Strategic Director Place & Deputy Chief
Executive

Rory Doyle, Strategic Director
Matt Sterling

Issues, Risks, Mitigations

You said, we did ...

- **Town Centre & Gateways**
- **St Nicholas Square**
- **Jumbo & Balcerne Gate phase 2**
- **Holy Trinity Church**

- **Heart of Greenstead**

- **Programme-wide cost monitoring and mitigation**

- **DLUHC Monitoring Returns**



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Project Spotlight

Heart of Greenstead Community Hub

Dan Barton, Project Manager

Community Hub:

- Architect tender is nearing completion.
- Architect interviews were held on 26 April 2023
- 3 members of the Community Taskforce joined the interview selection panel alongside representatives from CCC, NHS and Amphora Trading.
- Architects were asked to present on how they would engage with the community and ensure residents are able to feed into the design process.
- The architect contract is due to be awarded on 22 May 2023.

Essex Pedal Power:

- Formal application process to go live on 10 May 2023.
- First Cycle training day will be on 20 May 2023.
- First bike giveaway to take place on 17 June 2023.
- All staff now in post, including coordinator, mechanic, etc.

Liveable Neighbourhoods:

- The blueprint designs are still being worked on, with a view to a bid to the Active Travel Fund in summer 2024.
- In the interim period, several quick-wins will be implemented to introduce residents to the concept of liveable neighbourhood, including speeds reduction measures.



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Decisions & Next Meeting

Simon Blaxill, Chair

Decisions

No decisions were sought at this meeting.

Next meeting

Thursday 17 August 2023 – 1045 – MS Teams

Future meetings

Thursday 17 August 2023 - 1045

Thursday 16 November 2023 – 1000 (in person planned)

29 February 2024 – 1000

30 May 2024 – 1000

22 August 2024 - 1000