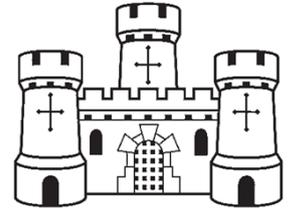


# Public Document Pack

Date of meeting Thursday, 19th March, 2026  
Time 7.00 pm  
Venue Astley Room - Castle  
Contact Geoff Durham - 742222



**NEWCASTLE  
UNDER LYME**  
**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Castle House  
Barracks Road  
Newcastle-under-Lyme  
Staffordshire  
ST5 1BL

## Economy and Place Scrutiny Committee

### AGENDA

#### OPEN AGENDA

- 1 APOLOGIES
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
- 3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 3 - 6)  
To consider the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee.
- 4 NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN 2040 (Pages 7 - 12)
- 5 TOWN DEAL AND FUTURE HIGH STREET FUNDS UPDATE (Pages 13 - 26)
- 6 WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 27 - 32)
- 7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME  
Any member of the public wishing to submit a question must serve two clear days' notice, in writing, of any such question to the Borough Council.
- 8 URGENT BUSINESS  
To consider any business which is urgent within the meaning of Section 100B (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**Members:** Councillors Berrisford (Vice-Chair), Bettley-Smith, Bryan, Burnett-Faulkner, Casey-Hulme, Edgington-Plunkett, Gorton, Grocott, Parker (Chair), J Tagg and J Waring

**Members of the Council:** If you identify any personal training/development requirements from any of the items included in this agenda or through issues raised during the meeting, please bring them to the attention of the Democratic Services Officer at the close of the meeting.

**Meeting Quorum:** The meeting quorum for Scrutiny Committees is 4 of the 11 members.

**SUBSTITUTE MEMBER SCHEME** (Section B5 – Rule 2 of Constitution)

The Constitution provides for the appointment of Substitute members to attend Committees. The named Substitutes for this meeting are listed below:-

Substitute Members:	Adcock	S Jones
	Crisp	Reece
	Dymond	Stubbs
	Holland	Whieldon
	D Jones	Whitmore

**If you are unable to attend this meeting and wish to appoint a Substitute to attend on your place you need to identify a Substitute member from the list above who is able to attend on your behalf**

Officers will be in attendance prior to the meeting for informal discussions on agenda items.

**NOTE:** IF THE FIRE ALARM SOUNDS, PLEASE LEAVE THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY THROUGH THE FIRE EXIT DOORS.

ON EXITING THE BUILDING, PLEASE ASSEMBLE AT THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING BY THE STATUE OF QUEEN VICTORIA. DO NOT RE-ENTER THE BUILDING UNTIL ADVISED TO DO SO.

# Agenda Item 3

*Economy and Place Scrutiny Committee - 15/12/25*

## ECONOMY AND PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 15th December, 2025  
Time of Commencement: 7.00 pm

[View the agenda here](#)

[Watch the meeting here](#)

<b>Present:</b>	Councillor Andrew Parker (Chair)		
Councillors:	Berrisford Casey-Hulme	Gorton Grocott	J Tagg J Waring
Apologies:	Councillor(s) Bettley-Smith, Bryan, Burnett-Faulkner and Edgington-Plunkett		
Substitutes:	Councillor Nicholas Crisp Councillor Mark Holland		
Officers:	Craig Jordan Simon McEneny	Service Director - Planning Deputy Chief Executive	
Also in attendance:	Councillor Andrew Fear Councillor Stephen Sweeney	Portfolio Holder - Strategic Planning Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder - Finance, Town Centres and Growth	

### 1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were shared as listed above.

### 2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest stated.

### 3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Chair noted that Cllr Gorton's name had been misspelt in the minutes of the previous meeting, item 4 paragraph 6.

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025 be agreed as a true and accurate record with Cllr Gorton's name spelling corrected in item 4 paragraph 6.

[Watch the debate here](#)

### 4. **PLANNING ENFORCEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

The Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning introduced the report on the past 12 months planning enforcement regime and related performance, highlighting this had

## **Economy and Place Scrutiny Committee - 15/12/25**

been streamlined and did not repeat background information provided in previous reports.

The Portfolio Holder emphasised that investigations into claimed breaches of planning control also did not always lead to enforcement action. He also referenced a dashboard that was being developed to help identify problem areas and help inform activity within the planning service.

Invited to speak, the Service Director for Planning added that the dashboard was providing an overview of complaints data such as the nature of claimed breaches and their geographical location in the borough as well as progress made in terms of investigation and any subsequent actions.

Cllr Gorton asked how the number of breaches reported compared to the one of the previous year as well as examples of actions to improve performance.

The Service Director for Planning advised that between 250 and 300 breaches were on average reported every year with a slightly upwards trend which showed that people were very aware of their surroundings and wanted things to be done properly.

In relation to performance, this was a reflection of the nature and complexity of breaches reported. Some of the cases could be quickly dismissed, while others could take up to twenty days to look into and determine next steps.

**Resolved:** That the contents of the report be noted.

[Watch the debate here](#)

### **5. NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN 2040**

The Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning introduced the report on the progress made in developing a new Local Plan which was reaching the end of its current stage i.e. the consultation on the modifications / changes to the plan as suggested by the inspector.

The Service Director for Planning advised that at the time of the meeting 64 comments had been received with the deadline being the 17<sup>th</sup> December. All comments received by then would be forwarded on to the inspector.

The Service Director added that the changes had been recommended to make the plan sound and that the Council had successfully fulfilled its legal duty to cooperate.

**Resolved:** That the update on the progress of developing a new Local Plan for the Borough be noted.

[Watch the debate here](#)

### **6. TOWN DEAL AND FUTURE HIGH STREET FUNDS UPDATE**

The Deputy Leader / Portfolio Holder for Finance, Town Centres and Growth introduced the report on the delivery of projects funded or part funded through Newcastle and Kidsgrove Town Deals as well as the Future High Street Funds for Newcastle Town Centre.

## ***Economy and Place Scrutiny Committee - 15/12/25***

Cllr Grocott wished to thank officers especially for what was happening in Chesterton and the pictures included in the report which were appreciated.

Cllr Gorton asked if the works were on track in Astley Place.

The Deputy Chief Executive said these would be completed by the end of 2026.

Cllr Gorton added that the Keele project was a good example of successful partnership and a real asset for the town centre.

The Deputy Leader asked if works were on track in Keele.

The Deputy Chief Executive responded these would be completed by this time next year.

**Resolved:** That the report on the delivery of the Town Deal and Future High Street Funds projects be noted.

[Watch the debate here](#)

### **7. WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chair went through the items scheduled for the next meetings.

**Resolved:** That the work programme be noted.

### **8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions received from members of the public.

### **9. URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

**Councillor Andrew Parker  
Chair**

Meeting concluded at 7.22 pm

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## NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

### CORPORATE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S REPORT TO ECONOMY & PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE: 19 March 2026

**Report Title: Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Local Plan 2040**

**Submitted by: Deputy Chief Executive**

**Portfolios: Strategic Planning**

**Ward(s) affected: All**

<u>Purpose of the Report</u>	<u>Key Decision</u>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To provide an update on the emerging Borough Local Plan.			
<b><u>Recommendation</u></b>			
That the Committee notes the update on the progress of developing a new Local Plan for the Borough.			
<b><u>Reasons</u></b>			
To provide an update on the progress of developing a new Local Plan. To ensure that the process of adopting a Local Plan is undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended).			

## 1. **Background**

- 1.1 The Local Plan sets the vision and framework for how the Borough will grow up to 2040. It sets out targets for the number of jobs and homes to be delivered in the Borough and provides a spatial strategy to guide development to the most sustainable locations. On its adoption, the Plan will form part of the statutory Development Plan for the Borough.
- 1.2 The Economy and Place Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting on the 12 December 2022, requested that a standing item be added to future meeting agendas to provide an update on the current position with regards to the preparation of the emerging Borough Local Plan.
- 1.3 The Borough Council submitted the Local Plan for examination on the 20 December 2024. Inspector Anne Jordan (BA Hons) MRTPI has been appointed to examine the Local Plan.
- 1.4 All comments received at the Final Draft Local Plan (at Regulation 19 stage) were sent to the Secretary of State on the submission of the Plan for consideration. The Inspector holding the examination considers the evidence

provided by the Council to support the Plan and any representations which have been put forward by local people and interested parties.

- 1.5** There are three potential outcomes to the examination process:
- a) The Plan as submitted by the Council is found to be sound and legally compliant.
  - b) Changes (known as ‘main modifications’) to the Plan are considered necessary to make it legally compliant and sound; or
  - c) The Plan is deemed unsound and/or not legally compliant with any deficiency (ies) unable to be remedied through main modifications. In this outcome, the Council is asked to withdraw the Plan from examination.
- 1.6** The outcome for a large proportion of plan examinations is (b), involving ‘main modifications – changes to the plan deemed necessary to make the Plan sound. Proposed main modifications that the Inspector considers necessary are subject to public consultation for a period of six weeks during the examination. At the end of the examination, the Inspector will normally send a report to the Council with their findings including confirming final recommended main modifications. After that, the Plan, incorporating the main modifications, can be adopted by the Council. Upon adoption the Plan would become part of the statutory development plan for the Borough and would replace most policies in the Joint Core Strategy 2009 and legacy Newcastle-under-Lyme Local Plan 2003.

## **2. Issues**

- 2.1** A Local Plan ‘examination library’ webpage has been created: - [Local plan examination – Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council](#). The examination library provides regular updates on the examination. The Inspector and Programme Officer, appointed to assist the Inspector with the running of the examination maintain the library. Any updates to the website are facilitated by the Council. The examination library contains documents submitted to the Inspector on the submission of the Local Plan and then regular updates on the Local Plan examination, including letters and correspondence that the Inspector issues to the Council and formal responses by the Council in return.
- 2.2** Further to responses being made by the Council to information requests from the Inspector, public examination hearing sessions were confirmed and held from the 20 May to 26 June 2025.
- 2.3** The Inspector issued her post hearing views on the 1 August 2025 and asked the Council to undertake some additional work. The Council duly responded to the Inspector and additional matters raised on the 22 September and the 3 October 2025 respectively.
- 2.4** Following correspondence from the Inspector, on the 27 October 2025, the Council then moved onto the Main Modifications consultation stage. Here, the Council consulted on a schedule of modifications required to the Local Plan following the outcomes of the examination process. Other consultation documents included a list of additional minor modifications (focused on non-material matters such as formatting) and supporting documentation including Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment. Changes to

the Policies Map are also consulted upon at this stage, which are necessary to reflect the implications of changes being proposed to the Local Plan.

- 2.5** The technical consultation on Main Modifications commenced on the 5 November 2025 and ended on the 17 December 2025. A total of 197 representations were received from 71 respondents during the consultation on the schedule of Main Modifications. The consultation responses received and consultation report from the Council (which summarised the responses received and includes views/comments by the Council on issues raised in consultation responses) have been sent to the Inspector and are published on the local plan examination library. The Council now awaits further instructions from the Inspector on next steps.

### **3. Recommendation**

- 3.1** That the Committee notes the update on the progress of developing a new Local Plan for the Borough.

### **4. Reasons**

- 4.1** To provide an update on the progress of developing a new Local Plan. To ensure that the process of adopting a Local Plan is undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

### **5. Options Considered**

- 5.1** The Council has expressed its clear intention through the approval of a Local Development Scheme (Local Plan Timetable) to adopt a new Local Plan providing a comprehensive set of up-to date planning policies for the Borough.

### **6. Legal and Statutory Implications**

- 6.1** In accordance with Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) ('the 2004 Act'), the Council has a statutory duty to prepare planning policies and maintain an up-to-date development plan.
- 6.2** Secondary legislation relating to the preparation of development plan documents is set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

### **7. Equality Impact Assessment**

- 7.1** The Local Plan is supported by an Equality Impact Assessment as part of its Sustainability Appraisal. This will consider how development proposed and planning policies impact on different groups in the community.

### **8. Financial and Resource Implications**

- 8.1 The preparation of the Local Plan is resourced through the Planning Policy budget and full use of the Local Plan reserve.

## 9. **Major Risks & Mitigation**

- 9.1 In line with the transitional provisions of the December 2024 National Planning Policy Framework (paragraphs 234b & 236 respectively) for Local Plan making, where a Local Plan has been submitted for examination on or before the 12 March 2025 and the emerging Plan provides for less than 80% of local housing need, the Local Planning Authority will be expected to begin work on a new plan, under the revised plan-making system provided for under the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 in order to address any shortfall in housing need. This is the position faced by the Council following the publication of the National Planning Policy Framework in December 2024.
- 9.2 The Government have also recently published a consultation version of changes that they would like to make to the National Planning Policy Framework alongside draft guidance on how to produce a new local plan. The new draft guidance for producing a local plan suggests that the Council has to produce a notification of commencement (essentially to publish a timetable of production of the new local plan) through the new local plan system by the 30 June 2026 and further information (called a Gateway 1 assessment) by the end of October 2026. Additional guidance is awaited from Government on the new local plan system and its operation. Reports to subsequent Economy and Place Committees will outline obligations in respect of the new local plan process.
- 9.3 Changes in National Policy, Legislation and Guidance - The Planning and Infrastructure Act received Royal Assent in late 2025. This may also have a future impact on Planning and Local Plan making once regulations are published and further information is known.

## 10. **UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG)**

- 10.1 As the Local Plan is primarily focused on the use of land and the achievement of sustainable development, overall levels of growth and the relationship to the environment and infrastructure then several of the UN Sustainable Development Goals will overlap with the aims of the Plan.



**11. One Council**

Please confirm that consideration has been given to the following programmes of work:

**One Commercial Council**

*We will make investment to diversify our income and think entrepreneurially.*

- Site allocations in the Local Plan will support sustainable development in the Local Plan up to 2040, including sites in the Council’s ownership

**One Digital Council**

*We will develop and implement a digital approach which makes it easy for all residents and businesses to engage with the Council, with our customers at the heart of every interaction.*

- Consultation on the Local Plan has included appropriate references to online and digital platforms to engage with the consultation

**One Sustainable Council**

*We will deliver on our commitments to a net zero future and make all decisions with sustainability as a driving principle*

- The Local Plan includes policies to support the Council’s urban tree planting schemes and policies in relation to energy efficiency and renewable energy

**12. Key Decision Information**

**12.1** This report and the recommendations contained within it relate to the preparation of a new Borough Local Plan. Decision reports associated with the formal consultation and submission of the Local Plan will affect all wards in the Borough.

**13. Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

**13.1** Cabinet – 02 September 2025 - [Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday, 2nd September, 2025, 2.00 pm – Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council](#)

- 13.2** Cabinet – 4 February 2025 – Local Development Scheme - [Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday, 4th February, 2025, 2.00 pm – Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council](#)
- 13.3** Cabinet – 15 October 2024 – Cabinet Decision Funding the Local Plan Examination - [Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday, 15th October, 2024, 2.00 pm – Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council](#)
- 13.4** Council – 24 July – Council decision to consult on the Final Draft Local Plan - [Agenda for Council on Wednesday, 24th July, 2024, 7.00 pm – Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council](#)

**14. List of Appendices**

**14.1** None

**15. Background Papers**

**15.1** The Local Plan examination website can be viewed here: - [Local plan examination – Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council](#)

**NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CORPORATE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S  
REPORT TO  
ECONOMY AND PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**19<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**Report Title:** Town Deal and Future High Street Funds Update

**Submitted by:** Deputy Chief Executive

**Portfolios:** Portfolio Holders - Finance, Town Centres and Growth

**Ward(s) affected:** All

<b><u>Purpose of the Report</u></b>	<b><u>Key Decision</u></b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To update Scrutiny Committee on the Town Deal and Future High Street Funds projects.	
<b><u>Recommendation</u></b>	
That:-	
1. <b>Scrutiny Committee notes this report on the delivery of the Town Deal and Future High Street Funds projects.</b>	
<b><u>Reasons</u></b>	
To update the Scrutiny Committee on the progress with the various projects that are being funded or part funded through the two Town Deals – Newcastle and Kidsgrove, and the Future High Street Funds for Newcastle Town Centre.	

**1. Background**

1.1 As reported to previous Scrutiny meetings, the Council has secured Future High Street Funding and Town Deal Funds for the redevelopment of several key regeneration sites across the Town Centre and the wider Borough.

**2. Updates**

2.1 Future High Street Fund

Work across this programme has now completed and the fund is spent. The current position regarding the projects that are following on from the funding as stand along projects is as follows:

2.1.1 Astley Place

Capital&Centric and their contractor AC1 commenced works (November 2025) with the development due to be completed in January 2027 (13 month build period). Works are ongoing with drainage and concrete frame preparation works currently underway.



## RyePark

### 2.1.2 McCarthy and Stone Residential Development

It is now anticipated that the works will commence in the summer of 2026 with completion in late 2027 to coincide with the adjacent Capital&Centric works.



### 2.1.3 Capital & Centric Ryepark Development

Capital&Centric have now appointed Henry Boot to undertake the Ryepark constructions works. Site clearance and ground works commenced in November 2025 and completion is expected in early 2028 (27 month build period). Drainage and foundation preparation works are currently underway.



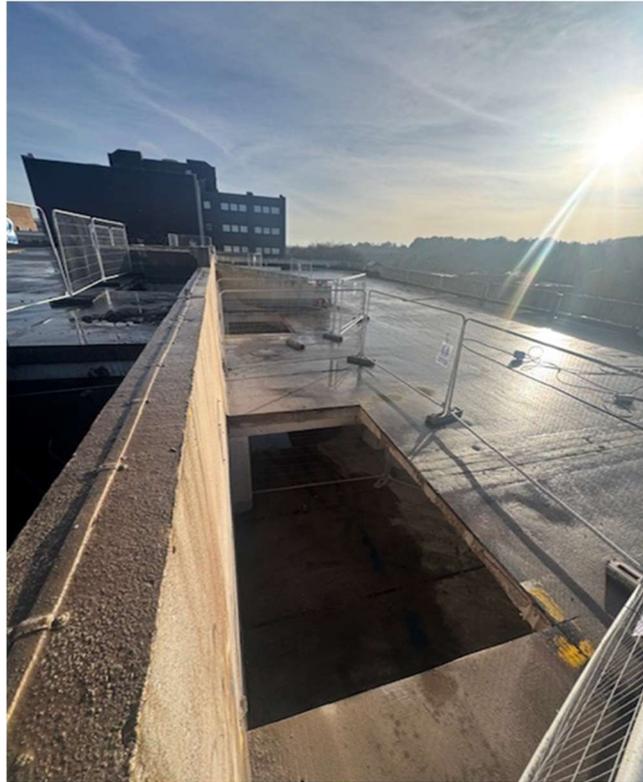


## 2.2 Newcastle Town Deal

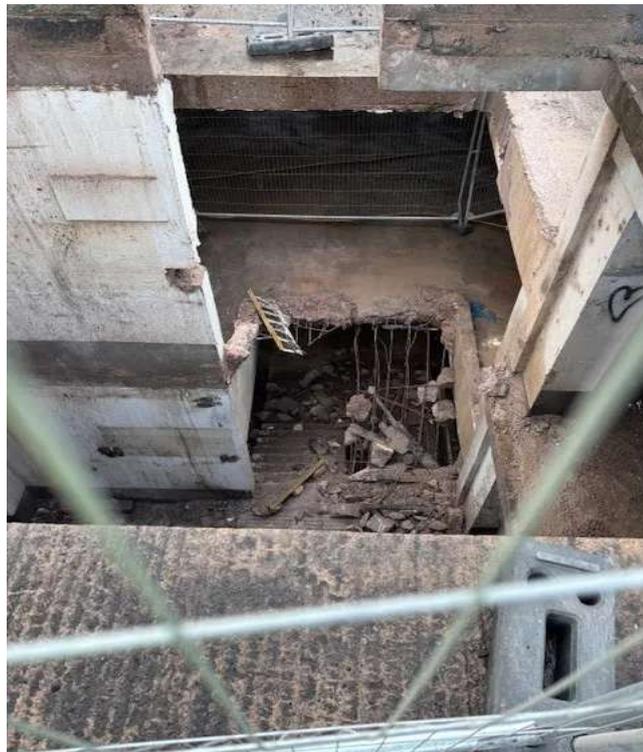
### 2.2.1 Karparc

As with the previous schemes noted above Capital&Centric have appointed Clegg Construction to undertake the works to this development. Works started in early November and will be completed by the summer of 2027 (18 month build period). Works underway include concrete 'cut-out' works and preparation for new lift and stairwells.





'Punching' holes through structure for atrium along centre of the building



New void for new stairwell and lift shaft

## 2.2.2 Knutton and Chesterton

### Knutton

Aspire have commenced works on the residential development at High Street.



Works on the former community centre site development by Aspire commenced with ground works in October 2025. Foundations have now been dug on most plots (see below).



The extension to the Enterprise Centre Is now complete and has been awaiting the connection to a sub-station before the units can be occupied. This connection is due to take place at the end of March 2026 so the units should be handed over for occupation after this.



The plans for a village hall have been adapted to incorporate new enterprise units with a community facility available for hire within the structure / development. The scope of the works has altered as no community group was identified to operate the new facility. The scheme is being priced up in order to give an indication to the Town Deal Board for its consideration later in the year.

A prospective tenant has been found for the facility and Heads of Terms have been exchanged for legal agreements to be worked up. Planning will need to be sought for the changes to the building as noted above, now that a tenant is being secured.

#### Cross Street Chesterton

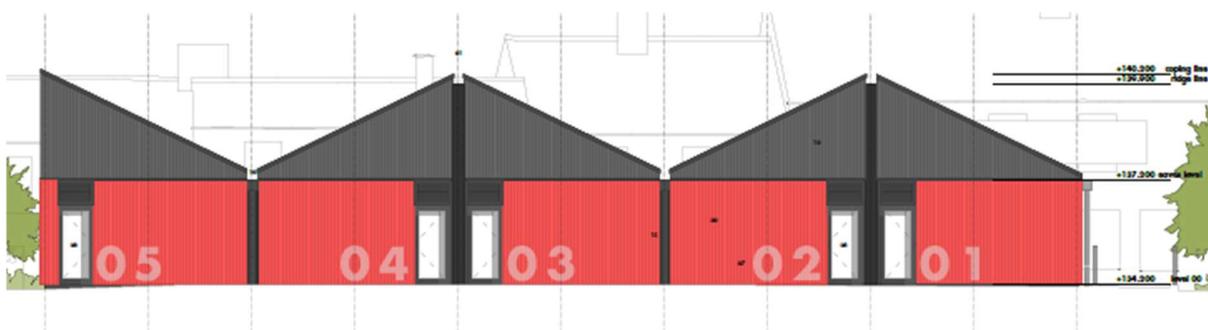
The Town Deal funding agreement was to support the developer Keon Homes to develop homes on the site. Phased handovers will commence from late 2025 and this Phase is expected to be completed fully by June 2026.



Countryside have begun work on their development of 39 no social rented apartments and bungalows for over 55's, and is expected to be completed by November 2026.

#### 2.2.4 Zanzibar Enterprise Units

A planning application for the development has been approved, and ground works have commenced, and it is hoped that completion will be in late 2026.



#### 2.2.5 Walking and Cycling Provision

All walking and cycle improvement works around the town centre are now complete.

### 2.2.6 Sustainable Travel

The works to the new bus entrance to Keele University have now commenced but have been paused whilst a legal issue with the University and the utility company is resolved – we are hopeful that the indemnity issue will be resolved shortly so works can recommence.

### 2.2.7 Digital infrastructure

ITS Technology Group Ltd have now completed the installation of the new cables through the ductwork – over 49,000m of cabling has been laid. A service provider has now been appointed, and they will energise the systems for operations for services to be provided in the summer of 2026.

## 2.3 Kidsgrove Town Deal

### 2.3.1 Chatterley Valley

This element of the Town Deal project is complete and Harworth, the developers, are due to commence the construction of the first ‘shed’ shortly.



### 2.3.2 Kidsgrove Train Station works

The previously reported issue with the costs of car park underpinning due to mine works underground have now been resolved and the Town Deal Board have agreed a revised scope of works to develop the station with a refurbishment to the existing buildings and car park works outside the area that has been indicated for underground mine remediation or the ‘underpinning zone’. Design and costing works for the development are now underway.



### 2.3.3 Canal Pathways

Works by the Canal and River Trust have now been completed. An extension to the scope, that was agreed by the Kingsgrove Town Deal Board, to enable improvements to a Public Right of Way on a path connecting the canal towpath with a nearby residential area is now complete.

### 2.3.4 Community Learning Hub on the Kings Academy site

Kingsgrove Town Deal Board has agreed for delivery of a community learning hub on the Kings Academy site. This project is under development.

### 2.3.5 Enterprise Units on the Meadows

Kingsgrove Town Deal Board has agreed for delivery of small-scale enterprise units on the Meadows. A contractor is due to be appointed very soon for the units with the construction starting as soon as possible.

### 2.3.6 Highway Improvements

The highway improvements at The Meadows / Station Road, and Market St / The Avenue / Heathcote St, along with public realm improvements by Kings Street parade These projects are in delivery with a first informal consultation having taken place with surrounding properties on the proposed highway changes and detailed designs now being undertaken.

## 3. Recommendation

- 3.1 Scrutiny Committee notes the progress made to date and continues to receive further reports at subsequent meetings.

#### 4. Reasons

- 4.1 To continue to update Scrutiny Committee on the progress and issues surrounding the Future High Street Fund and Town Deal Fund projects.

#### 5. Options Considered

- 5.1 Not applicable – all Cabinet reports on each of the above projects detail the options that were considered in more detail.

#### 6. Legal and Statutory Implications

- 6.1 The Local Government Act 2000 - powers to promote the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the Borough.
- 6.2 The Council will need to make sure that its activities are legally and state aid compliant, including having regard to the Public Sector Duty within the Equality Act 2010, statutory guidance on local authority investments and The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.
- 6.3 All projects will be examined to ensure that they are within the Council's powers and legal implications will be identified on a case-by-case basis.

#### 7. Equality Impact Assessment

- 7.1 The development of these projects does not create any specific equality impacts.

#### 8. Financial and Resource Implications

- 8.1 The Council was awarded Future High Streets Fund funding in June 2021 of £11.0m to progress projects to help future economic growth. The full £11.0m has been received, all of which has been spent at 31 March 2025.
- 8.2 £23.6m was awarded to the Council via the Town Deals Fund for Newcastle to enable a vision to improve communications, infrastructure, and connectivity in Newcastle-under-Lyme to become a reality. All £23.6m has been received, of which £14.1m has been spent as shown below:

Project	Award (£000's)	Spend (£000's)	Remaining (£000's)
Digital Infrastructure	2,285	1,588	697
Sustainable Public Transport	3,421	1,215	2,206
Electric Vehicle Charging	400	400	0
Pedestrian Cycle Permeability	950	950	0
Transform Key Gateway Sites	3,810	1,398	2,412
Astley Centre for Circus	1,810	651	1,159
Digital Society	3,510	3,203	307
Heart into Knutton Village	3,534	2,953	581
Cross Street, Chesterton	2,955	987	1,968
Project Management	925	783	142
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,600</b>	<b>14,128</b>	<b>9,472</b>

8.3 £16.9m has also been awarded via the Town Deals fund for Kidsgrove to enable real and lasting economic benefits to be realised in Kidsgrove and the surrounding area. To date £15.7m has been received of which £8.0m has been spent as shown below:

Project	Award (£000's)	Spend (£000's)	Remaining (£000's)
Kidsgrove Sports Centre	2,328	2,328	0
Chatterley Valley West	3,496	3,496	0
Kidsgrove Station	3,658	313	3,345
Shared Services Hub	6,183	662	5,521
Canal Enhancement	400	355	45
Project Management	835	806	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,900</b>	<b>7,960</b>	<b>8,940</b>

## 9. Major Risks & Mitigation

9.1 Management of risk is central to the Council's commercial approach and all potential activities will be assessed with due regard to the risks being taken. This will be in line with the Council's corporate approach to risk management.

## 10. UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG)

10.1 These projects support the realisation of the following UNSDG objectives:-



## 11. One Council

Please confirm that consideration has been given to the following programmes of work:

One Commercial Council

*We will make investment to diversify our income and think entrepreneurially.*

One Digital Council

*We will develop and implement a digital approach which makes it easy for all residents and businesses to engage with the Council, with our customers at the heart of every interaction.*

One Sustainable Council

*We will deliver on our commitments to a net zero future and make all decisions with sustainability as a driving principle.*

## 12. Key Decision Information

12.1 Not applicable

## 13. Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions

13.1 None.

**14. List of Appendices**

14.1 None.

**15. Background Papers**

15.1 None.

## ECONOMY AND PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



### Work Programme 2025-26

**Chair**

Cllr A. Parker

**Vice-Chair**

Cllr A. Berrisford

**Members**

Cllrs R. Bettley-Smith, S. Casey-Hulme, L. Dean, G. Burnett-Faulkner, J. Edgington-Plunkett, R. Gorton, D. Grocott, J. Tagg and J. Waring

**Scrutiny Champion**

Simon McEneny

**Portfolio Holders within the Committee's remit**

Cllr S. Sweeney, Deputy Leader – Finance, Town Centres and Growth

Cllr A. Fear – Strategic Planning

This committee scrutinises how the council influences, affects and interacts with the natural and built environment. It also scrutinises how the council influences, affects and interacts with the local, regional and national economy.

This Work Programme is set and reviewed at quarterly meetings of the Scrutiny Management Group. The Chair and Vice Chair also meet regularly with the Portfolio Holders to discuss this Work Programme. There is an opportunity for committee Members to discuss the Work Programme at each committee meeting. Part D of the Council's [Constitution](#) governs the scrutiny process.

For more information on the Committee or its work Programme please contact the Democratic Services:

- ✚ Geoff Durham at [geoff.durham@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](mailto:geoff.durham@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk) or on (01782) 742222
- ✚ Alexandra Bond at [alexandra.bond@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](mailto:alexandra.bond@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk) or on (01782) 742211

**Planned Items**

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan Update</li> <li>Town Deal and Future High Street Fund</li> </ul>	Officer: Allan Clarke Officer: Simon McEneny

**Future Items**

Car Parking Strategy

**Previous Items**

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
15 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HS2 – look ahead to the next 12 months on works impacting on the Borough</li> <li>Sustainable Environment Strategy, Action Plan</li> <li>Future High Streets Fund update &amp; Town Investment Plans for Newcastle and Kidsgrove – update on progress</li> <li>Borough Local Plan</li> <li>Police presence in the town centre</li> </ul>	
1 August 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Borough Local Plan Call-In</li> </ul>	
1 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycling and Waste Services Update – Town Centre Impact</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future High Streets Fund and Town Deals for Kidsgrove and Newcastle under Lyme</li> </ul>	
12 December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic management of the Town Centre</li> <li>• Future High Streets Fund and Town Deals for Kidsgrove and Newcastle under Lyme</li> <li>• 850 Commemorations</li> <li>• Local Plan timings and next steps</li> </ul>	
16 March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Management of the Town Centre/NUL BID</li> <li>• Future High Streets Fund and Town Deals for Kidsgrove and Newcastle under Lyme</li> <li>• Borough Local Plan</li> <li>• Housing Provision – set up Working Group</li> </ul>	
8 June 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HS2 Update</li> <li>• Borough Local Plan</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Planning</li> <li>• Future High Streets Fund and Town Deals for Kidsgrove and Newcastle under Lyme</li> </ul>	<p>Including consultation responses and housing numbers</p> <p>Including an update on York Place and the Multi-Storey Car Park</p>
12 June 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plan Reg 18 Call In – TBC</li> </ul>	Meeting date held for potential Reg 18 Call In
21 September 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future High Streets Fund and Town Deals for Kidsgrove and Newcastle under Lyme</li> <li>• Borough Local Plan</li> <li>• Report of the Housing Task and Finish Group</li> </ul>	
7 December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning Enforcement &amp; Performance</li> <li>• Future High Streets Fund and Town Deals for Kidsgrove and Newcastle under Lyme</li> <li>• Borough Local Plan</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing Task &amp; Finish Working Group Final Report</li> </ul>	
18 March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knutton Master Plan</li> <li>• Future High Streets Fund and Town Deals for Kidsgrove and Newcastle under Lyme</li> <li>• Borough Local Plan</li> </ul>	
20 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plan Update</li> <li>• Town Deal and Future High Street Fund Update</li> </ul>	Officer: Allan Clarke Officer: Joanne Halliday
11 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 Special meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of Local Plan</li> </ul>	Officer: Allan Clarke
11 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plan Update</li> <li>• Town Deal and Future High Street Fund</li> </ul>	Officer: Allan Clarke Officer: Simon McEneny
9 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plan Update</li> <li>• Town Deal and Future High Street Fund</li> <li>• Planning Enforcement and Performance</li> </ul>	
13 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plan Update</li> <li>• Town Deal and Future High Street Fund</li> <li>• Update on NuL Business Improvement District</li> </ul>	Officer: Allan Clarke Officer: Simon McEneny Officer: Roger Tait
19 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plan Update</li> <li>• Town Deal and Future High Street Fund</li> </ul>	Officer: Allan Clarke Officer: Simon McEneny
11 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plan Update</li> <li>• Town Deal and Future High Street Fund</li> <li>• Civic Pride (Empowering our Communities) Strategy</li> </ul>	Officer: Allan Clarke Officer: Simon McEneny Officer: Roger Tait
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plan Update</li> <li>• Town Deal and Future High Street Fund</li> <li>• Planning Enforcement and Performance</li> </ul>	Officer: Allan Clarke Officer: Simon McEneny Officer: Craig Jordan

Last updated on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026

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