

Portfolio:	Economy and Staffing
Portfolio Holder Name:	Cllr Mick Lerry
Full Council Meeting Date:	Thursday 1 st February 2024
Agenda Item:	TC2024/7

Town Team

The next meeting of the Town Team will take place in February and the agenda setting will include seminars for businesses and retailers in the Town Centre.

BTC - Careers and Jobs Convention - October 17th 2024

First brief meeting has taken place to outline timings, training providers, businesses, schools, colleges and marketing strategy.

Town Deal

The Town Deal held another briefing session on the Docks for the public in December 2023, which was well attended and Cllr T Mander was there to outline the Councils involvement in this major project. There will be support from the Council with the development of Eastover in February and March at the start of the project.

Projects and Funding Status Commitments:

Tidal Barrier

(Active Travel element) £2,000,000 Not yet transferred. Government Funding Agreement to be signed and funding to be transferred.

Dunball Junction

£400,000 Transferred. Contributing to wider scheme development.

Town Wardens

£1,000,000 In progress. Spend on salary, training and equipment purchases.

Celebration Mile

Works £8,500,000 In progress. Detailed design complete and contractor budget committed.

Town Events

£500,000 In progress. Spend on salary, events programme and wider promotions.

Bridgwater Step Up

£500,000 Not yet started. Assess options based on viability.

Docks Regeneration

£4,200,000 In progress. Starting to look at consultant work packages to progress forward.

Walking and Cycling

£1,000,000 In progress.

Bridgwater Carnival

£3,000,000 In progress. Committed to Project Management, Quantity Surveyor and design costs.

Town Hall Theatre

£900,000 In progress. Committed to design team and planning fees.

Arts Centre

£700,000 In progress. Committed to design team and planning fees.

Engine Room

£500,000 In progress. Committed/Spend on contractors for completion of floor one.

Tidal Barrier

Project Lead – Environment Agency

Detailed design of the barrier and downstream tidal defences is substantially complete. Construction of the western access road from Saltlands, and of the contractor's compound.

Staffing

Job-Evaluation scheme has now been completed and the new staffing structure signed off by the Finance committee. Detailed work now being undertaken regarding job descriptions and advertising. All staff presently employed will be slotted into the new staffing structure, during a process of consultation.

Recommendations: (if you are expecting Council to make a decision from your report)

None