

Statement by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Transformation and Projects

23 February 2021

Key Council Projects

At December 2020 the Council had 17 live Key Council Projects which are distributed across the Council Plan priorities as follows; Driving Economic Vitality – 4, Enhancing Health and Wellbeing – 5, Caring for the Environment – 4, and Providing a Special Place to Live – 4.

As at the end of Quarter 3 (December) all projects were on target despite the challenges presented by the COVID pandemic and the uncertainties and distraction caused by local government review.

Crematorium Project

Construction is progressing well despite the challenging weather conditions, a major area of work at present is the ground works and landscaping. The structural steel frame for the building will start to be erected in March. Handover of the completed site is expected in September. A specialist local furniture maker, Treske, has been appointed by the contractor to supply all the furniture and furnishings. Recruitment of the Crematorium Manager has commenced, the aim is to have the manager in place in May, well in advance of the opening.

Treadmills Redevelopment

The interior fit-out of the C4Di building is underway and is scheduled to be completed late February. Heads of Terms with York College and Sunderland University for the “e-campus” in the Staff Tenement building are close to agreement. A grant from the LEP from the Get Building Fund of £725,000 has been secured for the conversion and fit-out.

Future High Street Fund

A revised business case has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to align the Council’s proposed schemes with the in-principle funding offer of £6,085,013. It is intended to concentrate the funding on 3 schemes; Treadmills Phase 2, Town Centre Improvements and Town Centre Living. A final decision from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government is expected before the end of February.

Town Hall Square and Town Centre Improvements – Northallerton

Galliford Try has been appointed as the contractor for the scheme and the works will commence early February. There is a deadline of 31 March 2021 to spend all the LEP funding towards the scheme. The design of the scheme aims to balance creating high quality public spaces for people to enjoy which are in keeping with the heritage of the town and with the needs of the many different town centre users. Galliford Try will work with businesses to minimise disruption.

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Portfolio Holder for Transformation and Projects