Staveley Town Deal Board

15 September 2023

Item 6 - Programme and Project Update

1. Programme Update

a) DLUHC approved the PAR on 16 August. Variations for contract or MoU are now in place or drafted. Therefore, the additional funding has been revised for each project and at Programme level and is now reflected in the financial reports to the Town Deal Board.

b) DLUHC have produced some new branding and marketing collateral, which has been shared with the CEC Group and project sponsors. This includes two new logos "powered by Levelling Up" and "funded by the UK Government". Plans are taking shape to ensure we adhere to the new guidelines and principles. Details can be found via : https://townsfund.org.uk/branding-guidance

c) We have produced a new output dashboard infographic to show the planned outputs to be delivered at Programme level, shown as Appendix A.

2. Project Update

A general concern is emerging that projects are not drawing down funds in line with the planned payment schedule. There are a range of delays, due to organisational capacity, value engineering exercises and general cost uncertainties are putting pressures on projects. It is a general theme, rather than a single project, but as we approach the programme having only 30 months left to deliver, pressure needs to be maintained at all levels to secure key milestones are met, such as submitting and confirming planning permission, concluding procurement exercises and the appointment of contractors through to commencing construction. The financial position is shown as Appendix B. Whilst most projects are drawing down from their 5%, DRIIVe and the Canal Restoration have begun spend on their main contract and the SMWFC Car Park is complete. Overall Programme spend is £1.63m.

Appendix C sets out the progress risk register by project. Whilst there remains time to deliver, it is easy for time to be lost. Notably, we received DLUHC approval for projects through the Summary Documents in March 2022, some 18 months ago, and there are a number of projects with pre-planning or pre-construction issues to resolve. It is therefore proposed that the Chairman and Chief Executive meet projects to maintain this pressure and encourage successful delivery. The next DLUHC performance reporting will be for the period March – September 2023, where progress against planned delivery will need to be reported.