



STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEMBER/OFFICER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Regeneration and Investment Board
DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED	22 nd November 2023

BRIEF REPORT:

The following items were discussed at the RIB meeting on 22 November 2023:

Levelling Up Fund (Round 3)

The Government had announced (on Monday 20th November) that a further 55 bids had been successful in the third and final round of the Levelling Up Fund.

The 55 projects awarded funding in Round 3 had been drawn from the original list of 529 bids that had been submitted by local authorities in the previous year (Round 2). Stroud District Council's bid was therefore among 69% (363) to not receive any funding. The majority of projects that had been awarded funding were in areas of greater need than in Stroud District.

This was naturally disappointing but alternative means of delivering the projects in SDC's bid would continue to be explored with key delivery partners.

Tricorn House Redevelopment

SDC's involvement with the redevelopment of this building had practically concluded, with planning consent having been granted and the conversion from office use to residential now completed. This was particularly welcome news in light of the decades that the building had been vacant and increasingly derelict, and the pressure that SDC had applied on owners to bring the building back to positive use. A meeting of local stakeholders and the MP would be taking place in the coming days, where the owner's representative would be updating on the final stages of the redevelopment and when the marketing of the apartments was expected to begin.

Highlight Reports

Highlight reports for the following priority SDC led projects were reviewed:

- Rail Station, Bath Place and Cheapside sites
- Brimscombe Port



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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- May Lane (Dursley)
- Zero Carbon Public Estate

Regarding the Brimscombe Port Project, discussions were continuing with St Modwen Homes to enable the Development Agreement to be signed and it was expected that more information on the timing of a further round of public consultation on the redevelopment plans would be made before Christmas.

Western Gateway Visit: 15 November 2023

The Board were advised of a visit to SDC by Western Gateway Chief Executive (John Wilkinson) and Director (Barbara Jackson).

Western Gateway is the pan-regional partnership for South Wales and Western England, bringing together business research and local leaders to create growth and reach net zero. Western Gateway's main priorities included the Severn Estuary Commission into energy generation, cyber and tech, agri-tech and the future of farming and rail connectivity.

It had been a beneficial discussion and Western Gateway colleagues left with a strong impression of Stroud District, its challenges and opportunities.

FUTURE MEETINGS	24 January 2023
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Brendan Cleere
DATE	23 November 2023