

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER/OFFICER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Regeneration and Investment Board
DATE OF LAST MEETING	24 May 2023
ATTENDED	

BRIEF REPORT:

The Regeneration and Investment Board met on 24 May 2023 and the following items were discussed:

Tricorn House Redevelopment

The Board noted that good progress was being made with the redevelopment. Development Management Team officers would be visiting the site shortly after the deadline of the 'Permitted Development' consent (end May 2023), to view the works carried out so far and make an assessment on the conversion of the building from office use to residential. A report with recommendations from the visit would then be prepared and circulated for any comments to ward members and members of Development Control Committee. A decision by the Local Planning Authority on the redevelopment would be made during the summer of 2023. Ward members, Cainscross Town Council representatives and the local MP were being updated on the redevelopment and FAQs had also been published and circulated widely: *Tricorn House FAQs*

Brimscombe Port Community Facilities

The Board discussed progress that has been made in bringing forward community space and facilities within the port redevelopment. The community facilities form an important part of the overall output specification for the project – *'to create a vibrant and inclusive community that provides for a range of ages and creates a destination for canal tourism and a nationally important landmark destination'.*

The Board supported a proposal to engage consultants to assist in the development of community facilities that befitted the 'destination' status of Brimscombe Port, and the creation of a sustainable operating model for the facilities involving the Parish Council and local partners as appropriate. A report on findings would be presented to Strategy and Resources Committee, seeking approval to a proposed way forward.

Levelling Up Fund Update

Details were still awaited from Government on the criteria for the final round (3) of this fund, with speculation that there may be a move towards a more 'allocative' approach to the

distribution of funding to local authorities across the country, instead of a competitive bidding process.

Retrofit Centre for Excellence

Rachel Brain joined the meeting to outline our work in progressing Stroud District as a retrofit centre of excellence. Her presentation focused on four key areas:

Own Estates - Doing our own retrofit works fulfils our role as pathfinder and exemplar but, particularly through retrofit at scale (such as our work on Social Housing and the mills) contributes to a more nurturing environment for the supply chain.

Partnership - We have been supporting our FE sector in their important retrofit and green skills development work.

Brokerage – developing confidence in the retrofit market and encouraging private home owners to take action. Our Low Carbon Communities project is central to this.

Leadership - Our 20 year track record on affordable warmth and our more recent successes in social housing are clear indicators of the strength of partnership on this agenda

The Board thanked Rachel for her presentation and all her work over the past 4 years with the Council. Rachel would be leaving shortly to join the Energy Savings Trust and the Board wished her every success in her new role.

Project Highlight Reports

Highlight reports for the other priority regeneration projects were circulated and the key next steps were noted. These projects included:

- Bath Place, Cheapside and Rail Station (Stroud)
- Brimscombe Port
- May Lane (Dursley)
- Zero Carbon Public Estate

FUTURE MEETINGS	18 July 2023
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Brendan Cleere
DATE	29 June 2023