

# Report of the Strategic Director of Place to the meeting of Keighley Area Committee to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023

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## Subject:

Update on Economy and Development Services Activity in Keighley Constituency

## Summary statement:

The purpose of this report is to update members of the Keighley Area Committee on Economic Development Activity across the Constituency.

## EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

All projects will have a positive impact on the ability of residents to engage with the District, thereby improving community cohesion in-line with the Equality Objective on 'Community'. For these benefits to be realised, projects are subject to an equality impact assessment.

The projects contained within this report are subject to intensive consultation and engagement with stakeholders, partners and residents to ensure that the needs of the community are understood and reflected within economic growth activity.

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David Shepherd  
Strategic Director of Place

Report Contact: Angela Blake, AD  
Economy & Development  
Phone: (01274) 43[Ext No]  
E-mail: [angela.blake@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:angela.blake@bradford.gov.uk)

**Portfolio:**  
Regeneration, Planning and Transport

**Overview & Scrutiny Area:**  
Regeneration and Environment

## 1. SUMMARY

This report updates members of the Keighley Area Committee on Economic Development Activity taking place in the Constituency.

## 2. BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Keighley Towns Fund – Shaping Our Future

In June 2021 Keighley secured up to £33.6 million of funding as part of the Governments Town Fund. Alongside other funding, this investment will deliver improvements to Keighley town centre and provide jobs and training opportunities, as well as wider cultural and social benefits for the town.

Keighley represents to fifth highest Town Deal investment offer nationally. Investments over £25 million are limited to the most ambitious Town Investment Plans that promise to deliver transformational impacts not only for towns, but also the wider region and/or the country. In respect of Keighley, the Town demonstrated the regional significance of the manufacturing and engineering sector to achieve an investment offer that exceeds £25m.

The table below details each of the projects contained within the Town Investment Plan and their current status.

<b>Development Investment Fund</b>  The £14m targeted capital fund is to deliver priority projects previously identified in the Keighley Towns Fund submission. Targeted investment to support the diverse and well established manufacturing sector within Keighley. Funding will provide space for businesses to invest and expand and create jobs.	Projects are being worked up into applications and the first application is currently with Legal Services and a Grant Funding Agreement is expected to be signed in the current financial year.
<b>Town Centre &amp; Infrastructure Improvements</b>  The funding will deliver improvements to ensure the town centre is well connected and accessible to the surrounding areas; this will include improving walking/cycling links and public spaces such as street, squares and parks.	A walk round for Board members and Councillors took place in Feb. Work on the toilets in the market square will commence in the spring.
<b>Keighley Skills Hub</b>  A new skills hub will be established to	Premises yet to be secured. Anticipated to be in the new Health and wellbeing centre.

<p>provide space and facilities to support and develop skills for local employment and entrepreneurship, delivering education and skills courses to adult learners of all ages to support transition to employment.</p>	
<p><b>The Manufacturing, Engineering Future Technologies Hub</b></p> <p>The Hub will ensure that local people, including the next generation, will have the skills and capabilities to fill jobs within this growing business sector in Keighley. Keighley College working closely with local employers through this new hub will equip our workforce with skills in advanced engineering, manufacturing, maintenance and technical support, IT, Cyber Security and online marketing.</p>	<p>The lease has been agreed with property owners. In occupation for September 2024.</p>
<p><b>Keighley Capital Assistance to Business Growth</b></p> <p>Funding to support business to become more productive, modernise and diversify to improve competitiveness.</p>	<p>Launch day held in September. Keighley - 27 Expressions of interest, 7 applications submitted, 5 approved Grants of circa £95k agreed with 5 companies bringing a private match of 450k.</p>
<p><b>Keighley Community Grant Scheme</b></p> <p>The scheme will assist organisations and local, grass roots community groups, ensuring their continuity and growth and at the same time, help to build community resilience, creating economic and social improvements in the town.</p>	<p>On track - Haworth toilets (Mens) completed; Ladies will commence early 2023.</p> <p>Keighley Cougars project is currently at design stage.</p>
<p><b>Keighley Creative Community Arts Hub</b></p> <p>The Community Arts Hub will create a cultural destination in Keighley, joining up other creative enterprises and running outreach programmes with schools, communities and businesses across the Keighley wards. Providing critical infrastructure to ensure the town benefits from 'City of Culture 2025' programme of activities.</p>	<p>Acquisition of building not yet in place – new project lead East Street Arts. The feasibility work for the possible acquisition of Sunwin House is progressing.</p>

<p><b>Women Employment Project</b></p> <p>This project will establish a textile academy which will deliver a bespoke skills training package for local Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) women to improve pathways into skilled work.</p>	<p>Architect design being developed and costings drawn up. Planning permission has been obtained.</p>
<p><b>Keighley Art and Film Festival (KAFF)</b></p> <p>To be delivered through the Community Arts Hub, the project will deliver the annual Keighley Art and Film Festival, along with a year-round high impact programme of celebratory and festive events, within the hub and across the town.</p>	<p>Recruited both staff, steering group meeting monthly and management infrastructure for the project weekly from September. Worked on supporting two volunteers on two other festivals in Keighley- transport festival and Keighley carnival (second was sadly cancelled due to Queen's death). Have recruited 40 volunteers for the festival and have been training them to work from 7th Oct weekend. There are around 40 different events within the programme for the festival weekend. Diverse- reaching different ages and cultures. All social media and programme planning for the event has been done. Once weekend is over will start applying for more funding for next year and completing evaluations for the festival to funds. Rest of October will be day to day management including financial. Working on a South Asian festival for next year. Additional events supported over summer 2022:</p> <p>Muti-cultural Young People's Festival  Keighley : 20 volunteers: 251 participants  Italian Festival Keighley : 5 volunteers; 100 participants  IN Motion: Keighley Transport Festival: 1 volunteer (lead organiser): 6,000 participants  Summer family arts events: 7 volunteers: 180 participants  Keighley Carnival: 10 volunteers: events cancelled at last minute due to queens death.</p>
<p><b>Keighley Community Health and Wellbeing Centre</b></p> <p>A 'State of the Art' integrated health and wellbeing centre at the heart of Keighley. The centre will bring together GP services, community care, self-care and prevention, and mental health services in a high quality, modern and flexible facility.</p>	<p>The Project Business Case has been approved by the Keighley Town Deal Board. The Health Consortium, which includes Airedale NHS Foundation Trust, Bradford District and Craven CCG, Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust and local Primary Care Networks, and the council remain committed to delivery of the scheme. Concerns have been expressed by the local MP regarding the development of the</p>

	<p>proposed site which has been cleared and temporarily treated since 2017 and specifically, the alleged lack of a rigorous search for alternative sites dating back to 2021. As a result the matter has been referred to the Minister, seeking direction as to whether the project should proceed.</p>
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## 2.2 Keighley Business Improvement District (BID)

Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) is a business led partnership in which businesses within a defined area of the city/town centre pay an additional levy to fund improvements in that area, for example improving security or cleaning. Keighley Business Improvement District secured a successful “YES” vote in November 2015 and was operational from January 2016. The BID has around 400 levy paying members, ranging from head offices, College, to retail, leisure, hospitality and professional service sectors. The focus during the first term was to drive footfall and promote the town centre.

The Council is working alongside Keighley BID Board to support the ballot process to deliver a successful “YES” result at ballot in November 2023 for a new 5-year term to start in January 2024. Keighley BID anticipates that Business Improvement District will generate between £130k to £150k per year in income. The income generated will be spent on a number of key projects which will focus on key themes which promote Keighley as a **Safe, Clean, Vibrant** town for businesses to operate and customers to shop & visit.

The Council is supporting the BID with procurement process to appoint a consultant to work alongside the BID Board in developing a new Business Plan for the next 5-year term and taking the BID through to a successful ballot in November 2023.

## 2.3 Keighley Development Framework

Through the Department of Place, consultants CBRE have been commissioned to create a Development Framework for Keighley. The Development Framework will sit under our Economic Strategy, Local Plan and align and build upon the vision for Growth across the District. Working alongside the public, private and third sector it will help shape where we focus our investment decisions and priorities for regeneration over the next 20 years. It will maximise Keighley's development potential beyond Bradford 2025 and the Towns Fund, to create work opportunities that improve lives and protect our environment for future generations. A project website has been set up which outlines the work and expected timeline [Development Framework for Keighley | Let's Talk Bradford District](#). In the coming weeks there will be opportunities for stakeholders to help shape the work through a place workshop and Sounding Board. To mirror the external facing Sounding Boards, Councillor Sounding Boards will be held, to give ward councillors an opportunity to provide their own views and give constructive feedback. Wider public engagement will also take place throughout the development of framework and until it is finalised.

## **2.4 Keighley Community Led Local Development (CLLD)**

Keighley Community Led Local Development (CLLD) was a 5 year programme targeting the 20% Lower Super Output Area within the Keighley area. The programme was part-funded through European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) and a contribution from Bradford Council. Projects worked intensively with local residents to engage them into employment, education and training, as well as providing support to potential entrepreneurs, start-ups and existing enterprises. One of the projects operated by the council ran a business grants scheme to provide financial support the develop enterprises within the CLLD area. In addition to the aforementioned support, the programme has also supported an increase in employment within multiple enterprises with further jobs in the pipeline in the coming months. The delivery of the Keighley CLLD Programme ceased in December 2022.

## **3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

- Identify any other directly or indirectly related matters.

## **4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

There are no financial issues arising from this update report.

## **5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

There are no risks arising from this update report.

## **6. LEGAL APPRAISAL**

There are no legal issues specifically arising from this report.

## **7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no specific sustainability implications arising from this report.

### **7.2 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS**

There are no specific impacts.

### **7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no specific community safety implications

### **7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**

There are no Human Rights implications

#### **7.5 TRADE UNION**

There are no Trade Union implications

#### **7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS**

All activity detailed in this report is focussed within the wards that form the Keighley Constituency.

#### **7.7 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS (for reports to Area Committees only)**

The work described in this report contributes towards addressing the priorities set out in the Keighley Locality Plan 2022-25.

#### **7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CORPORATE PARENTING**

There are no implications for Corporate Parenting.

#### **7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT**

There are no data protection or security matters arising

#### **8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

None.

#### **9. OPTIONS**

To note the contents of the report.

#### **10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to consider the content of this report

#### **11. APPENDICES**

None.

## **12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Towns Fund Investment Plan.  
Consultants Brief for Development Framework.