

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL
Wednesday 5th December 2018**

Housing

1. Housing Delivery Vehicle Update

The proposed Housing Delivery Vehicle (HDV) will allow the Council to intervene in the housing market and exert greater control over the pace and quality of housing development across the town. A Shadow Board has been established to lead on the implementation of the HDV and an option appraisal has been undertaken to identify a preferred delivery model. The Executive will consider a report in December, which will recommend a structure for the HDV and will seek approval for a Business Plan, including the sites earmarked for development.

2. Housing Sites Update

- **Stainsby**

Work is ongoing to produce the final draft of the masterplan following the events are receipt of Stage 1&2 questionnaires, 179 and 129 received respectively. Stage 3 of the Masterplan Consultation is due to commence on 29th November 2018. The outcomes of this engagement will be considered by Executive in January. If proposals for the development of the wider Stainsby area progress at that stage, then a full detailed masterplan would be produced towards the summer of 2019. At this stage site investigations will commence and the public will also have a further opportunity to comment on proposals through the formal planning process.



- **Brackenhoe**

The tender process for the sale of the Brackenhoe site concluded at the end of October and a recommendation of a preferred developer is due to be taken to Executive Property Sub Group in December 2018 with a view to contracts been exchanged with the preferred developer by the end of the 2018/19 financial year.

Infrastructure and Transport

3. Priestman Road and Bridge Opening

On Friday 19th October 2018, Middlesbrough Mayor Dave Budd and I welcomed invited guests to the official opening ceremony – with the ribbon being cut by Middlesbrough MP Andy McDonald.

The Middlehaven Dock Bridge project forms the latest phase of Middlesbrough's ambitious £700 million investment programme and will be known as Priestman Road and Priestman Road Bridge.

They are named after a 1910-built dredger which was the first vessel built at South Bank by the legendary Smith's Dock Company.

The £10 million project – funded through a £6.1m capital investment from Middlesbrough Council plus a £3.9m grant secured by Tees Valley Combined Authority paves the way for future development of Middlehaven, and opens up around 25 hectares of strategically important mixed-use commercial and residential development land on the wider Middlehaven site and links to industry at Riverside Park, including the TeesAMP development.

During the 69-week project, main contractor Balfour Beatty installed a 95-tonne steel bridge, supported by 120 tonnes of steel reinforcement and 159 tonnes of pre-cast concrete units.

4. Joint Strategic Transport work with Redcar

Middlesbrough Council and Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council recently concluded their Strategic Joint Transport Needs Assessment.

The two Councils jointly commissioned consultants to review all of the recent, current and future strategic transport projects across both local authority areas. The consultants were asked to look what the current gaps are on the wider network, and how the needs are moving forward in terms of wider regeneration of key, strategic sites such as house building sites in south Middlesbrough and the new South Tees Development Corporation site.

New road infrastructure was modelled along current strategic corridors across both boroughs and have informed on future travel patterns for residents and commuters to and from both boroughs. In addition to this, future demand and travel patterns have also been modelled for increases in public transport trips; in particular increases in rail and bus usage - in relation to both new and proposed public transport services across the Tees Valley region.

5. Road Safety

Saturday November 10th saw the return of the popular 'Winter Drive Through Event' this event is a regular feature in the road safety calendar and see's drivers reminded to

prepare their vehicles for winter driving. Organised in partnership with Cleveland Fire Brigade, National Tyres & Autocare and Kwik Fit the public are invited to Coulby Newham Fire Station for a free 5 point safety check including: tyre tread depth & pressure/fluid levels/lights/wiper blades and washer bottle top up.

In 2017 75 vehicles were checked with 56 (75%) having one or more issues identified with tyre pressure the main fault.

This year's Brake Road Safety Week commenced on 19th November and the theme is 'Bike Smart' with messages throughout the week focusing on cyclist & motorcyclist safety. The road safety team will be working in partnership with other local road safety teams and Cleveland Police/Fire Brigade and North East Ambulance Service to deliver a 'Learn n Live' roadshow and virtual reality sessions to students in colleges across Middlesbrough/Stockton/Hartlepool and Redcar, and will be launched at Middlesbrough College.

Economic Development

6. Invest in Middlesbrough Breakfast Exchange

Scheduled for Thursday 17th January 2019, the final Invest Middlesbrough of the financial year will take place in the fire station at Middlesbrough Town Hall.

Albert Road North will be the spotlight presentation of the Breakfast exchange. Middlesbrough's City Centre Manager will join development company Jomast on a question and answer panel highlighting the aspirations for the area and recent progress. Albert Road North is now offering office and studio space in the heart of Middlesbrough's city centre, creating a vibrant business community attracting digital and creative businesses to the area with the potential for leisure businesses to compliment the environment.

As well an update on the Investment Prospectus and general town centre issues, the event is working closely with the Council's procurement team to launch their upcoming "BuyBoro" campaign. This a "market place" styled event where attendees will have the opportunity to talk to stakeholders, businesses, North East Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses and the Council to explore opportunities for trading with the local supply chain and doing business with Middlesbrough Council.

Planning Update

7. Sainsbury's

The application to sub divide the empty Sainsbury's store at Middlehaven is still being considered. There are concerns with the proposal in particular:

- The flexibility shown by Sainsbury's in demonstrating that there is not a more sequential appropriate location.
- The level of impact on the town centre in terms of expenditure and trade draw.
- Impact upon the vitality and viability of the town centre.
- The impact upon current and future investment in the town centre.

Whilst it is recognised that the development has an extant planning permission, this is for two retail units and a foodstore. Things have moved on since this original approval and the Council has yet to be convinced that the current proposal will not have a detrimental impact upon the town centre, and that adequate robust safeguards are in or can be put in

place. It is anticipated that the application will be heard by a specially arranged meeting of the planning committee.