



A VISION FOR
CENTRAL BASINGSTOKE

A c t i o n P l a n

JANUARY 2013 UPDATE

1. Introduction

1.1 The council's Vision for the Central Area of Basingstoke (2007) aims to:

- Create a **well-connected town centre** – with easier and more convenient links between its different parts so that there can be greater synergy between the various activities, venues and attractions that are found across the central area;
- Enhance the **vitality, accessibility** and **character and appearance** of public streets, spaces and areas in the town centre, in particular those found around the edges of Festival Place;
- Build on Basingstoke's successful shopping 'heart' by widening the appeal of the town centre to provide a '**day out experience**';
- Ensure, through continued action set out in 'Basingstoke at Night', that enhanced vitality, accessibility and character and appearance is **compatible with town centre living**.

1.2 The Action Plan places the projects into the following categories:

S. **Strategies**

- A. **Projects: Short Term Action Required:** 0-2 years onwards. These are projects where key actions are required in the short term although most of them also extend to the medium and long term.
- B. **Projects: Medium to Long Term Focus:** 3-10+ years. These are projects whose main focus is in the medium to long term although preparatory work is currently underway on most of them.
- C. **Summary of Projects by Action Nodes.** This shows at a glance the projects for each area within the town centre.

1.3 This Action Plan, which accompanies the Vision, includes not only specific projects relating to the 'nodes' identified below but also to more strategic studies and policies that relate to the town centre as a whole.

1.4 The Framework Concept for the Central Basingstoke Vision identifies eight action 'nodes' across the central area and as shown in the diagram below:

Central Basingstoke Vision – Framework Concept



STRATEGIES

S1. TOWN CENTRE PROJECT

Description/ Benefits

Improving the environmental, shopping and cultural quality of the rest of the town centre, with a particular emphasis on the Top of Town, is a priority for the council following the development of Festival Place and The Malls.

Progress to date/ Linkages

Key aspects of the Project include:

1. The appointment of a Town Centre Project Manager on a temporary basis until March 2015.
2. The establishment of a Town Centre Programme. This will be a set of actions to be implemented over the next two years with an emphasis on the Top of Town.

Actions with Timescales

1. Appointment of a Town Centre Project Manager by January 2013.
2. Adoption of a Town Centre Programme by May 2013.
3. Implementation of key projects within the Programme by March 2015.

Resources/ Responsibility

The Medium Term Financial Strategy proposes allocations for capital and revenue budgets to enable the implementation of the Town Centre Project in 2013/15. The High Street Innovation Fund will contribute to the schemes to be implemented. The Programme and the Town Centre Project Manager will be supervised by the Strategic Project Manager (SPM).

S2. BASING VIEW REGENERATION DELIVERY STRATEGY

Description/ Benefits

The Strategy guides how the council should attract private sector investment to help deliver its regeneration aims. A development partner has been appointed for the Gateway Site and Multi-Site Partnership.

Progress to date/ Linkages

1. Developer selection completed in October 2011 with the appointment of Muse Developments Ltd for both projects. The Development Agreements between Muse and the council for the Multi-Site Partnership and the Gateway Site were exchanged in December 2012.
2. A Basing View Masterplan to support the Delivery Strategy was completed in 2010. This Masterplan will be reviewed in 2013 and will inform the preparation of a Basing View Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) following the adoption of the Local Plan in 2014.

Actions with Timescales

1. The Development Agreements will allow initial development proposals to be brought forward in the next 0-2 years.
2. Masterplan to be reviewed in 2013.

Resources/ Responsibility

The preparation of the Strategy is undertaken within existing staff resources (SPM & F with assistance from CS and PP&I), with assistance from external consultants and the use of Growth Point Funding.

S3. STRATEGIC APPROACH TO PARKING

Description/ Benefits

It establishes policies to optimise spaces for visitor use throughout the day/week, addresses land-take and the appearance and quantity of surface parking and parking management.

Progress to date/ Linkages

A number of principles have been adopted by the council in 2010 to guide the approach to car parking in the town centre. These include broadly maintaining the overall quantity of car parking in and around Basingstoke Town Centre; maximising the opportunities provided by Festival Place in terms of weekday capacity; maintaining the overall balance of long and short stay parking and reviewing permit provision. The Borough Transport Statement seeks to improve access to the car parks.

Actions with Timescales

A watching brief is to be adopted to identify development opportunities at car parks which may arise in the future. The Town Centre Project will address how improvements may be made to the appearance of the rear service yards in 2013/15. Consideration of the management of Festival Place, business permits and how commercial premises may be encouraged to allow weekend use of car parking for visitors will be made by March 2014.

Resources/ Responsibility

Further consideration of the future of town centre car parks as part of development schemes will be undertaken within existing staff resources (CS/PP&I). Any specific works to car parks will be funded through development or capital funding following consideration of the relative priority of works to car parks against other competing priorities.

S4. BOROUGH TRANSPORT STATEMENT

Description/ Benefits

This Borough Transport Statement (BTS) provides a policy framework and schedule of improvements for the whole Borough and incorporates the measures in the Town Access Plan (TAP). It is intended to alleviate problems associated with congestion on the inner ring-road and wider highway network across the town centre and to improve bus/cycle/taxi movements and pedestrian access.

Progress to date/ Linkages

The TAP and its Action Plan were agreed by HCC in January 2012. The Borough Transport Statement was adopted by HCC in September 2012 following consultation with the borough council. Funding of £4.1M has been awarded by the Department for Transport (DfT) from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) for projects which includes a number of initiatives in Basingstoke in 2012/16. The schemes in the BTS will support applications for developer contributions towards schemes.

Actions with Timescales

Implementation of BTS and LSTF projects from 2012/13.

Resources/ Responsibility

Implementation of the BTS is resourced by the HCC Local Transport Plan, S106 developer contributions and special bids from HCC to the DfT.

S5. PUBLIC REALM GUIDANCE

Description/ Benefits

This document will develop a co-ordinated design approach to materials, furniture, signage, lighting, landscaping, the treatment of entrances to the town centre and public art across the study area. It will identify a hierarchy of public open spaces and options for their enhancement or alteration which could be facilitated through development.

Progress to date/ Linkages

Draft Guidance is currently under preparation. Progressing this document will provide a justification for obtaining S106 funds for landscape and public art projects in the town centre and provide a framework for improving signage which could assist the Night Time Economy. The consideration of the requirements for public open space could link into Development Briefs for the rest of the town centre.

Actions with Timescales

Draft Guidance to be considered by P&I OSCOM by spring 2013.

Resources/ Responsibility

The preparation of the Guidance will be undertaken within existing staff resources (CS). Any specific public realm works to car parks will be funded through development or S106 developer contributions/ Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)/ capital funding following consideration of the relative priority of works to the public realm against other competing priorities.

S6. LOCAL PLAN

Description/ Benefits

In line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the Local Plan will include policies to support the vitality and viability of the town centre, encouraging appropriate retail, economic, leisure and housing development, and resisting the loss of services and facilities. Changes to the current town centre boundary are being considered in order to facilitate additional development required to meet changing needs over the plan period. The regeneration of Basing View is supported to enable a seamless, mixed use transition from the retail core of the town centre into this predominantly business area.

Progress to date/ Linkages

1. In February 2012, consultation on the Pre-Submission Core Strategy was undertaken. The Core Strategy is now being replaced with the Local Plan.
2. The Design and Sustainability SPD (2008) which forms part of the LDF contains guidance on "Tall Buildings" in Central Basingstoke.

Actions with Timescales

1. The Pre-Submission Local Plan is due to be reported to Committee in early 2013 with consultation due to take place in May/June 2013.
2. A Basing View SPD will be prepared following the adoption of the Local Plan in 2014.

Resources/ Responsibility

The preparation of the Local Plan is being completed within existing staff resources (PP&I).

S7. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

Description/ Benefits

The Green Infrastructure Strategy will protect, enhance and extend networks of green spaces and natural elements within the borough.

Progress to date/ Linkages

A Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy was presented to Members in January 2012. Public consultation was undertaken in February/March 2012. There are close linkages with the improvement and management of Town Parks. Management plans for all the town centre parks have been completed: War Memorial Park, Eastrop Park, Glebe Gardens and South View. Recent improvements include the new play area at Eastrop Park. Improvements for signage and lighting are linked to the Public Realm Guidance.

Actions with Timescales

Officers are currently reviewing the draft strategy in light of the consultation feedback and will be presenting a revised strategy to Committee in spring 2013.

Resources/ Responsibility

The preparation of the Strategy will be undertaken within existing staff resources (CS). Ongoing improvements to the Town Parks and any future specific green infrastructure works will be funded through development or S106 developer contributions/ Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)/ capital funding following consideration of the relative priority of works to the green network against other competing priorities.

S8. CULTURAL STRATEGY

Description/ Benefits

The Strategy focuses on four key strands:

- working in partnership
- maximising engagement and increasing participation
- ensuring value for money
- supporting the economy and enhancing the image of the borough

Progress to date/ Linkages

The Cultural Strategy was adopted in January 2012.

Actions with Timescales

The consideration of more detailed issues such as the clarification of the role and status of a Cultural Quarter in the Top of Town will be subject to further action planning during 2013 as part of the Town Centre Project.

Resources/ Responsibility

Action planning will be undertaken within existing staff resources (C/SPM). Any specific works to enhance facilities will be funded through development or Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)/ capital funding following consideration of the relative priority of works against other competing priorities.

A. PROJECTS: SHORT TERM ACTION REQUIRED: 0-2 years onwards

A1. TOWN CENTRE PROGRAMME

Description/ Benefits

This Programme will be a set of actions to be implemented in 2013/15 and beyond and will benefit from a specific budget of which the High Street Innovation Fund will form part. The Programme will be progressed by a Town Centre Project Manager to be appointed for a temporary 2-year period.

Progress to date/ Linkages

Projects being considered for inclusion in the Programme address environmental, business, marketing, communication, development and property improvements. Some of the projects currently under consideration are set out below. This list is not exhaustive nor has there been commitment at this stage to these individual projects.

1. Environmental improvements to the public realm eg. planting, new benches, signage.
2. Improving shop fronts (part funded by shop owners).
3. Improvements to the market.
4. Measures to attract independent retailers eg. targeted business rate subsidy.
5. Business Improvement District for town centre.
6. WiFi and/or other wireless connectivity.
7. Promotion of town centre.
8. Create a draw to Market Square, for example through events, street music.
9. Encourage refurbishment of vacant shops.

Actions with Timescales

Town Centre Programme to be considered by Committee and adopted by council by May 2013.

Resources/ Responsibility

The Medium Term Financial Strategy proposes allocations for capital and revenue budgets to enable the implementation of the Town Centre Programme in 2013/15. The High Street Innovation Fund will contribute to the schemes to be implemented. The Programme will be supervised by a Project Team (SPM/PP&I/F/P-EC).

A2. BASING VIEW: REDEVELOPMENT AND UPGRADING OF OUTDATED SITES

Description/ Benefits

The redevelopment and improvement of sites in Basing View will increase economic activity, improve the attractiveness of the area and encourage future redevelopment through the Regeneration Delivery Strategy and through the development partnerships with Muse Developments.

Progress to date/ Linkages

1. Development Partner Selection: Muse Developments were chosen as the preferred development partner for both the Multi-Site partnership and the Gateway Site in October 2011. The Development Agreements between Muse and the council for the Multi-Site Partnership and the Gateway Site were exchanged in December 2012.
2. Demolition of Obsolete Buildings: City Wall House and Loddon House were demolished in 2011.
3. Gresley Road: Network Rail are proposing a regional campus, including a Training Facility and footbridge over the railway line.
4. Public Realm Enhancements: First phase works completed, including the site of Loddon House which provides a public seating area and improvements to landscaping by the Parade.
5. Site Specific Development: Muse Developments are exploring opportunities to advance scheme proposals for sites within the development partnership. Individual scheme proposals will be reported under the partnership governance arrangements to the Portfolio Holder to seek landowner approval prior to any planning applications being submitted.

Actions with Timescales

1. Development Partner Selection: The Development Agreements will allow initial development proposals to be brought forward in the next 0-2 years.
2. Demolition of Obsolete Buildings: Scott House has been acquired and demolition is scheduled for summer 2013, subject to the conclusion of tendering.
3. Gresley Road: It is anticipated a planning application for the Regional Campus will be submitted by January 2013. Subject to planning permission and the exchange of conditional contracts, development is expected to commence on site in late summer 2013.
4. Public Realm Enhancements: The detailed design of enhancements is proceeding, and negotiations are on-going with leaseholders for approval to undertake improvements to the frontages of plots with substantive works likely to commence by summer 2013.
5. Glass House site: Improvements to the site to be achieved by mid 2013.

Resources/ Responsibility

Works are progressed within existing staff resources (SPM & F with assistance from CS and PP&I), with assistance from external consultants, the use of Growth Point Funding and through private development.

A3. THE MALLS, ALENCON LINK TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

Description/ Benefits

This represents a range of projects including some to improve access by train, bus, cycle and walking to the Station and The Malls:

1. Refurbishment of The Malls.
2. Upgrade bus interchange facilities at Alencon Link.
3. Improvements to Booking Hall and cycle facilities at Basingstoke Station.
4. Improvement to safety, convenience, and quality of pedestrian and cycle routes to and from the station and The Malls.

Progress to date/ Linkages

1. The Malls refurbishment was completed by autumn 2011.
2. The upgrade to the bus interchange facilities on the south side of Alencon Link was completed as part of The Malls refurbishment. The upgrade of bus facilities on the north side of Alencon Link was completed in June 2012. Additional works to the steps and railings approaching the station were completed in 2012.
3. South West Trains opened an expanded and upgraded booking hall at Basingstoke Station in March 2012 together with expanded secure cycle parking facilities. A Travel Plan is currently being prepared for Basingstoke Station to encourage travel to and from the station by public transport, walking and cycling.
4. A pedestrian and cycle route improvement scheme from Victory Roundabout to Alencon Link is expected to be implemented by HCC in early 2013. The scheme would remove the underpass in Alencon Link from Wintherthur Way. It has the potential to integrate with the Anvil frontage refurbishment (see B1).

These measures combined with the completion of The Malls will result in a wide ranging and coordinated set of improvements to the Alencon Link area. However, one area which remains to be addressed is the area fronting The Anvil/ Loddon Walk which has an unwelcoming appearance. It is therefore proposed that consideration be given to how this area could be improved as part of the scoping for the masterplanning for Church Street.

Actions with Timescales

1. Real time information screens are due to be installed by March 2013.
2. The scoping of potential works to the area fronting The Anvil is to be undertaken by March 2015 as part of the scoping for the Church Street Masterplan.
3. Additional improvements to pedestrian and cycle routes are subject to: undertaking more detailed design and feasibility studies to be identified in the Borough Transport Statement; and the availability of funding. There is the potential for these improvements to be included in BEST capital works and coordinated with development projects.

Resources/ Responsibility

Current works to Alencon Link and through to Victory Roundabout are being undertaken with S106 funding. Any future works to the area fronting The Anvil/ Loddon Walk will be funded through development or S106 developer contributions/ Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)/ capital funding following consideration of the relative priority of works against other competing infrastructure schemes (F with PP&I/CS).

A4. NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Description/ Benefits

The management of the Night Time Economy involves a range of initiatives including: Licensing Policy which ensures co-ordination of the council's policies relating to restaurants, pubs, cinemas, theatres and other establishments; Community Safety Initiatives; taxi provision; and management of the street environment. The council is seeking the Purple Flag Award which is given by the Association for Town Centre Management in recognition of the quality of town centres in the evening.

Progress to date/ Linkages

1. Licensing Policy: an Interim Review of the Statement of Licensing Policy was approved in February 2011.
2. Community Safety Initiatives: The police have increased resources to 1 inspector, 1 sergeant, and 5 officers and a Police Community Support Officer dedicated to the town centre. The Section 30 Dispersal Order has expired and will not be renewed.
3. Taxi provision: In November 2010, the Licensing Committee removed the numerical restriction upon the number of hackney carriage vehicles the council licenses. There are an additional 5 hackney carriages and an increase in the number of private hire vehicles.
4. Management of the street environment. There are linkages to the Public Realm Strategy in respect of signage and lighting. A report on the future of public WCs was considered by Cabinet in December 2011. In 2012 consultation has been undertaken with parish councils, the older persons forum and the police on the future of public conveniences.
5. Purple Flag Award: An application for this Award is being coordinated by a project team involving local authorities, key local retailers and the police. The grant of the Award demonstrates satisfactory quality of wellbeing, movement, appeal and place in relation to safety, care, regulation, services, transport, parking, crowd management, partnerships, cultural mix within the Night Time Economy area, signage, safety, lighting, culture mix and transport. Litter issues have been addressed. The application for the Purple Flag Award is expected to be made in January 2013.

Actions with Timescales

1. Licensing policy: A review of the council's Statement of Licensing Policy commenced in November 2012 and will be subject to public consultation in early 2013.
2. Community Safety Initiatives: Various multi-agency activities are ongoing to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. Night time economy violence continues to be a priority for the Community Safety Partnership.
3. Management of the street environment: The outcome of the consultation on WCs will be presented to Housing and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 2013.
4. Purple Flag Award: Notification of any Award is expected by March 2013. Consideration on the provision of WC's and signage are to be addressed as part of the wider Town Centre Project.

Resources/ Responsibility

The allocation of capital funding from existing programmes or potentially from new capital funding will be considered in 2012/14. This would be for works such as improved signage, lighting and other initiatives for implementation in 2013/14 (CS/G).

A5. ENHANCEMENT OF THE TOP OF TOWN

Description/ Benefits

Improvements to heritage assets and the public realm will reinforce the role of Top of Town as the historic heart of the town centre and facilitate investment and its use as a centre for the Night Time Economy. The Market Square is a key public open space in the town centre which has a role in accommodating the market. The presence of the Haymarket Theatre and Willis Museum, and a concentration of restaurants and bars, reflects the potential for the Top of Town as a Cultural Quarter.

Progress to date/ Linkages

1. Environmental Improvements: For many years there has been a gradual deterioration in the environmental quality of the historic fabric of the Top of Town.
2. Market Square: A design has been drawn up for the resurfacing of Market Square by HCC which is to be part funded by the borough council.
3. Property lettings policy for BDBC properties: The letting of 2A Church Street to the University of Winchester for an arts based activity ceased after 6 months in June 2012.
4. Cultural Strategy: The Cultural Strategy was been adopted in 2012.

Actions with Timescales

1. Environmental Improvements: Environmental improvements such as to street furniture and landscaping are being considered as part of the emerging Town Centre Programme for implementation by March 2014. Improvements to shop frontages are being considered as part of the emerging TC Programme for implementation by March 2015. Provisional budgets have been allocated for these schemes.
2. Market Square: Repaving by HCC is expected to take place in early 2013.
3. Property lettings policy for BDBC properties: to be prepared by the end of 2014 having been informed by any lessons with 2A Church Street and how the council wishes to address encouraging the occupancy of vacant units, potentially as part of the emerging Town Centre Programme.
4. Town Centre Programme/Top of Town Enhancement: A extended range of projects is being considered as part of the emerging Town Centre Programme to renew the Top of Town for implementation throughout 2013/15 and beyond. A selection of projects currently under consideration includes: measures to attract independent retailers eg. targeted business rate subsidy; improvements to the market; encouraging the refurbishment of vacant shops; marketing and promotion of Top of Town including consideration of its role as a Cultural Quarter; creating a draw to Market Square, for example through events, street music.

Resources/ Responsibility

The allocation of capital funding from existing programmes or potentially from new capital funding will be considered in 2012/14. Any specific public realm works will be funded through development or S106 developer contributions/ Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)/ capital funding following consideration of the relative priority of works to the public realm against other competing priorities. (CS/F/PP&I/C).

A6. SOUTH VIEW

Description/ Benefits

In 2010, the council proposed that land at South View owned by the council and other parties should be proposed for the improvement of recreational facilities and the provision of affordable housing.

Progress to date/ Linkages

In October 2012, Cabinet endorsed that the land should be returned to allotments, subject to further studies being undertaken to explore its feasibility and financial implications. A further report was taken to Cabinet in December 2012 seeking an appropriate budget. The Vyne Meadow Car Park will remain as a car park. South View Residents Association has provided interpretation boards at South View Cemetery using lottery funding.

Actions with Timescales

Feasibility work for returning the land to allotments, which will include some stakeholder consultation, will be undertaken in spring 2013. A planning application will be required in due course for the use of the land as allotments. An implementation works programme with timescales will be proposed.

Resources/ Responsibility

Progressing the feasibility work will be undertaken in the main, within existing staff resources subject to any specialist consultancy work being required. An appropriate budget from the capital programme is to be allocated to fund both the feasibility studies and the works programme (F/CS).

A7. NEW ROAD CONCEPT STATEMENT

Description/ Benefits

A Concept Statement would assist the regeneration of council land on New Road.

Progress to date/ Linkages

A Draft Concept Statement was prepared in 2005. Urban Design Principles were approved in 2005. A Members Advisory Panel considered the project in 2011. A wine warehouse on the north side of New Road has been built and a sheltered housing scheme on the Webbers Garage site on the south side of New Road is under construction. Planning permission has been granted for a hotel on Victoria Street. A planning application for a revised hotel scheme on this site was submitted in December 2012.

Actions with Timescales

Given the lack of viability in respect of major development on the council's New Road car park sites, it is proposed that a watching brief be adopted to take advantage of any development opportunities which may arise in the future. The Town Centre Project will address how improvements may be made to the appearance of the rear service yards in 2013/15.

Resources/ Responsibility

Watching brief and improvements being undertaken within existing staff resources.
(SPM/PP&I/CS/F).

A8. BRINKLETTS**Description/ Benefits**

The Strategic Approach to Car Parking noted that consideration be given to the release of part of the parking provision within Brinkletts Car Park to facilitate development within the wider Brinkletts area.

Progress to date/ Linkages

NHS Hampshire has demolished the Church Grange building following the relocation of all services into Bramblys Grange. Planning permission has been granted in March 2011 for a residential development on 1-5 Winchester Road.

Actions with Timescales

Council officers are investigating the potential for the comprehensive development of the council's land at Brinkletts Yard in conjunction with other parcels of land off Winchester Road and Sarum Hill. This work requires to be integrated with other work on the town centre and an initial appraisal of the future of the site will be prepared in 2013/14.

Resources/ Responsibility

This work is being undertaken within existing staff resources (PP&I/CS/F).

B. PROJECTS: MEDIUM/ LONG TERM FOCUS: 3-10+ years

B1. CHURCH STREET MASTERPLAN

Description/ Benefits

1. Encourage a more 'active' frontage, with entrances, shop windows and art along 'western wall' of Festival Place and The Malls.
2. Environmental improvements to Church Street and Glebe Gardens.
3. Examine longer term options for vehicle access to premises from Timberlake Road to reduce traffic within Church Street.
4. Restore the traditional street frontage along the northern side of Cross Street with buildings that enhance its historic character
5. Establish future capacity and location options for Shopmobility.

Progress to date/ Linkages

There is a linkage with works to Glebe Gardens as part of a Green Infrastructure Strategy and to improvements to the area on Alencon Link in front of The Anvil.

Actions with Timescales

A scoping exercise is being undertaken in 2013/15 for the creation of a Masterplan for the area. Implementation may take place potentially from 2015 onwards depending on the outcome of the Masterplan and the commercial market.

Resources/ Responsibility

The scoping of the Masterplan will be undertaken within existing staff resources. (PP&I/SPM/CS/F).

B2. CENTRAL CAR PARK

Description/ Benefits

The redevelopment of this area would connect Festival Place to the Top of Town and provide opportunities for more retail, business and leisure facilities.

Progress to date/ Linkages

The Review of the Central Area Vision Action Plan in 2011 required that preliminary scoping on how a Masterplan for the site could be progressed was to be undertaken by March 2013. However, consultants advise that there is very little demand for retail in the short term. Given the site's location connecting Festival Place to the Top of Town, the site is an important resource which may meet the longer term retail needs of the town centre. For this reason, it is proposed that the site remains as a car park in the short to medium term until the longer term needs of the town centre become clearer.

Actions with Timescales

No further action is proposed on Central Car Park in the short term. A watching brief is proposed in terms of changes in the commercial market in the longer term which may facilitate development.

Resources/ Responsibility

A watching brief to be undertaken. (PP&I/F/SPM).

B3. REFURBISHMENT OF ST JOHNS WALK

Description/ Benefits

The improvement of St Johns Walk will improve the quality of the shopping environment linking the refurbished Malls and Festival Place.

Progress to date/ Linkages: St Johns Walk is subject to a long lease by TIAA, the new owners of Festival Place.

Actions with Timescales: The encouragement of the refurbishment of St Johns Walk through discussions with TIAA is subject to ongoing review.

Resources/ Responsibility
F/Festival Place.

B4. LEARNING CAMPUS

Description/ Benefits

This involves the improvement of Further Education through a single site Learning Campus and the improvement of Higher Education through the creation of a multi-university hub.

Progress to date/ Linkages

Learning Campus: The long term ambition for a single site Learning Campus is not being pursued by Basingstoke College of Technology (BCoT) at the current time as a result of a lack of funding to support a move. A revised planning application for a mixed development on the Eli Lilly site at Kingsclere Road comprising housing, a hotel and commercial/ educational uses has been granted planning permission subject to the completion of a legal agreement.

Multi-University Hub: A bid to the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) for Strategic Development Funding (SDF) to fit-out a 'University Centre Basingstoke' at the Innovation Centre, Norden House and a statement of intent for new University Challenge funding was submitted by Winchester University as the main Higher Education provider in December 2009 but were not successful.

Innovation Centre: Greenham Common Trust took a lease at Norden House on Basing View in December 2009. The Centre was opened in March 2010. A number of companies are in residence in 2012.

Actions with Timescales

There is little scope to progress the concept of the Learning Campus and Multi-University Hub in the next 0-2 years in the light of a current lack of funding. The potential for renewing these projects will be periodically reviewed in association with the education providers.

Resources/ Responsibility
Existing staff resources (P/E&C).

C. SUMMARY OF PROJECTS BY ACTION NODES

Action Node	Action Plan Project (Short Term onwards 'S' or Medium/Long Term Focus 'M/L')
Alencon 'Place' and The Malls	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improvement to safety, convenience, and quality of pedestrian and cycle routes to and from the station and The Malls (S). 2. Scoping of improvement of area to front of Anvil (S). 3. Refurbishment of St Johns Walk (M/L).
Church Street	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Church Street Masterplan (M/L).
Top of Town	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environmental Improvements (S). 2. Market Square (S). 3. Property lettings policy for BDBC properties (S). 4. 'Cultural Quarter' (S). 5. New Road Concept Statement (S). 6. Night Time Economy (Licensing Policy, Community Safety Initiatives, Taxi provision, Management of the street environment, Purple Flag Award) (S). 7. Town Centre Programme (S). 8. Brinkletts (S).
Town Parks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Green Infrastructure Strategy (S).
Basing View/ Eastrop Place	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basing View Regeneration Delivery Strategy (including Partner Selection, Gateway Site, branding and SPD) (S). 2. Demolition of Scott House (S). 3. Gresley Road (S). 4. Public Realm Enhancements (S). 5. Glass House site (S).
South View	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. South View (S).
The Learning Campus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learning Campus (M/L). 2. Multi-University Hub (M/L).

Glossary of Acronyms

BCoT	Basingstoke College of Technology.
C	Commissioning
CAVAP	Central Area Vision Action Plan
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy.
CS	Community Services
EP&P	Economic Prosperity and Performance.
F	Finance
G	Governance
HCC	Hampshire County Council.
HEFCE	Higher Education Funding Council for England.
OSCOM	Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
P&I	Planning and Infrastructure.
PCT	Primary Care Trust.
PD	Planning Development
P(EC)	Policy (Economic and Community Strategy)
PP&I	Planning Policy and Infrastructure
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document.
SPM	Strategic Project Manager.