

Overview and Scrutiny Committee update

Subject: Greater Carlton Plan for Neighbourhoods

Date: 29th September 2025

Author: Assistant Director for Economic Growth & Regeneration

Wards Affected

Carlton, Carlton Hill, Cavendish, Porchester, Pheonix, Gedling, Netherfield, Colwick and Trent Valley

Purpose

To provide an update on progress and activity within the Greater Carlton Plan for Neighbourhoods programme.

Key Decision

N/A

Recommendation(s)

That Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the update provided.

1. Background

- 1.1 On the 6 March 2024, the Council was notified by the former Government that the Long Term Plan for Towns funding programme that had been announced in September 2023 had been extended. The original programme included 55 towns and had been extended to 75 and included Carlton. The former Government Minister confirmed that each town will receive “endowment-style” funding and support worth up to £20m.
- 1.2 Gedling Borough Council as the accountable body subsequently established a Town Board “the Board” and appointed Sir John Peace to the role of independent Chair. In full consultation with the local community, the Board developed a draft 10-year vision for Carlton including a 3-year investment plan outlining how funds are to be allocated. This draft plan includes interventions to address the needs and priorities of Carlton and refer to the themes of the former guidance. The Board also resolved to enlarge the boundary to include Mapperley at its northern point and Netherfield Lagoons at the southern extent.

- 1.3 The work of the Board was paused in December 2024, awaiting the publication of a new prospectus and technical guidance by the Labour Government.
- 1.4 The new, Plan for Neighbourhoods: prospectus was published on 7 March 2025. It is part of the government's plan to ensure that nowhere is left behind. It is intended to revitalise local areas and fight deprivation at root cause by targeting three priorities: thriving places, stronger communities, and taking back control.

2. Update

- 2.1 The government supported the establishment of new Neighbourhood Boards. It is expected that each board will, in partnership with their local authority, develop a 'Regeneration Plan', setting out its vision for the next decade alongside a more detailed 'Investment Plan' for the first 4 years of the programme. The Council must submit its 'Regeneration Plan' and '4 year Investment Plan' to MHCLG by Friday the 28th of November 2025.
- 2.2 As part of the Board's re-establishment, Sir John Peace announced that he would be stepping down from his role as independent Chair. In April 2025, the Board were delighted to appoint David Stewart to the role. As Deputy Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, David has extended support across a wide range of communities in the County. He is also Chair of the Kings Award for Voluntary Service and other groups, overseeing outstanding work within communities and neighbourhoods
- 2.3 To comply with the requirements of the Plan for Neighbourhoods: prospectus, Gedling Borough Council, as the accountable body confirmed its board membership and its proposals to alter the plan's place boundaries on 22nd April 2025.
- 2.2 For revenue capacity, £250,000 was provided over the 2023 to 2024 and 2024 to 2025 financial years. An additional £200,000 of capacity funding was released at the start of the 2025 to 2026 financial year. Delivery funding will be released from the beginning of the 2026 to 2027 financial year, allowing the Regeneration Plan and projects to be developed in the ensuing year.
- 1.7 In March 2025, the Council appointed external consultants, Mutual Ventures to provide appropriate expertise to support the Greater Carlton Neighbourhood Board in the planning and delivery of community and stakeholder engagement. This work is due for completion between Spring 2025 and Winter 2025, with the Greater Carlton Neighbourhood Board submitting their Regeneration Plan to MHCLG for assessment and approval.
- 1.8 Over the summer of 2025, our programme consultants, Mutual Ventures led an engagement process consulting key stakeholders to support the development of the 10 year Regeneration Plan' and '4 year Investment Plan'.

With agreement of the Board, proposals identified within last years Greater Carlton Plan for Neighbourhood consultation informed and helped shape the engagement campaign.

- 1.9 Through Board agreement, the 10-year Regeneration Plan will focus on targeted investment and partnership working across five priority areas:
1. Skills and Learning: Supporting residents to shape their own futures by providing opportunities to learn, retrain, and develop new skills.
 2. Youth and Aspirations: Empowering young people to achieve their full potential through safe, accessible community spaces and education activities.
 3. Health and Wellbeing: Investing in green spaces, heritage and leisure assets, and community hubs to improve physical and mental wellbeing. Supporting community organisations to deliver inclusive activities and events.
 4. Local Economy and Business Growth: Enhancing high streets and retail areas and providing tailored support to help local businesses grow and innovate.
 5. Safety and Feelings of Safety: Investing in crime and antisocial behaviour prevention to ensure more people are safe and feel safe in their communities.
- 1.10 The 10 year Regeneration Plan' and '4 year Investment Plan' will be taken to a Special Cabinet meeting on the 20th of November 2025 for approval before final submission to MHCLG on November 28th 2025.
- 1.11 The Council will look forward to returning to Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January 2026 to provide a fuller update on the submissions and future plans for the programme.

3. Alternative Options

N/A

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The Council in April 2024 received £50,000 capacity funding to support the initiation of the programme to support community engagement and establishment of the Board. A further £200,000 capacity funding was received in 2024/25 with a further £200,000 expected in 2025/26.
- 4.2 Gedling Borough Council will act as the accountable Body for administration and execution of this grant, the expenditure of grant funds will be the responsibility of Chief Finance Officer & Section 151 Officer and as such will be subject to the Councils' Financial Regulations.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Government issued guidance on 7 March 2025 'Plan for Neighbourhoods: prospectus. This guidance lays out the requirements for the setting up and management of the funding. The Board is not a legal entity but is to work in partnership with the 'Accountable Body' which is the Gedling Borough Council in this case. The Accountable Body will be supporting the Board through its Secretariat function and/or by officer observers/advisors.
- 5.2 The local authority is responsible for the spend of the funding via existing Section 151 officer duties, according to the priorities set out by the Neighbourhood Board..
- 5.3 The Council will be required to prepare and submit to MHCLG a Regeneration Plan', setting out its vision for the next decade alongside a more detailed 'Investment Plan' for the first 4 years of the programme.

6. Equalities Implications

- 6.1 The approval of the Regeneration Plan and Investment Plan will include an Equalities Impact Assessment and will be formally approved by both the Board and Council to comply with its Standing Orders.

7. Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications

- 7.1 There are no carbon reduction or sustainability implications arising from this report. However, the Regeneration Plan and 4 year Investment Plan will consider carbon reduction and sustainability issues and interventions. The Regeneration Plan and 4 year Investment Plan will include a Carbon Reduction Impact Assessment.

8. Appendices

- 8.1 None identified.

9. Background Papers

- 9.1 None identified.

10. Reasons for Recommendations

- 10.1 The Council as the accountable body for the Regeneration Plan and Investment Plan, has responsibility for establishing and confirming the Board and ensuring that the programme complies with both its internal standing orders and the funding conditions. The recommendations contained in the

report are intended to ensure that the Council meets its obligations, failure to do so could jeopardise the funding that has been allocated to the Carlton area.

Statutory Officer Approval

Approved by:

Date:

Deputy Chief Financial Officer

Approved by:

Date:

Monitoring Officer