

Ashford Health & Wellbeing Board (AHWB) –Item 9(d)

Partner Quarterly Update for the Ashford Borough Council – Quarter 4: January to March 2017

<p>What's going on in our world</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council Tax – ABC is likely to still set the lowest council tax in Kent following the approval of its draft budget for 2017-18.• Elwick Place Development – Council approved funding to construct a mixed-use leisure development incorporating cinema, hotel, food and beverage establishments, car park and retail use in Elwick Road. Work likely to start early in 2017.• Repton Connect (the new Community Centre) – Works commenced in September 2016 and the building offering an activity/meeting space, large field, a multi use games and a car park should be open autumn 2017.• Bridgefield Park (Kingsnorth) – Play facilities and amenities for the new park in Kingsnorth. Planning application for play facilities and amenities to be considered in February 2017. Construction scheduled for completion in late Summer 2017.• Chilmington – the S106 Agreement has been signed and the planning permission will be issued shortly. Work is on-going with a Phase 1 master planning workshop delivered in September 2016 which explored a range of elements including housing layout, highways, the district centre design, landscaping, and proposed positioning of phase 1 community facilities. The report from the workshop is available to stakeholders and partners. The Council is working with the CCG to look at opportunities for early health provision as part of the CCG's Estates Strategy. Internally the Council is shifting focus towards the delivery of Chilmington and is equally working with KCC to develop a Working Protocol (under the District Deal) to enable officers to collaborate effectively and efficiently in a way that befits the quality and sustainability agenda at Chilmington. A draft community development strategy has been produced which will hopefully be adopted in April 2017 and work to set up the Community Management Organisation (who will operate and own the community facilities) is well underway. Discharge of planning conditions and reserved matters applications are expected shortly.• Ashford College - is on schedule to open to students in September 2017. Phase 1A likely to commence in Spring 2017 with a 12-month build programme.• M20 Junction10a –Examination in public commenced on 2 December and will run for 6 months. Business case complete and with the CLG with a view to it being considered by relevant Government Minister in late October. HCA agreement to forward fund but needs CLG signoff.• Victoria Road (Powergen) - Leading property regeneration company, Development Securities Ashford given planning permission to bring forward 660 homes and new amenities across two sites in Ashford with a total value of £180 million.• Designer Outlet Centre Extension - planning permission issued and s106 agreement reached.• Ashford Voice – See latest edition of the council's newsletter via http://ashfordvoice.ashford.gov.uk/decemberjanuary-2016/welcome/welcome-to-our-bumper-festive-issue-of-ashford-voice. Note HWB members can use our monthly 'e-zine' for their own news.• Ashford International Model Railway Education Centre (AIMREC) – Planning permission granted and Cabinet recommendation to Council to provide a secured loan to AIMREC. Work on securing land continues.• Kestrel Park - open space in Kingsnorth is due to finish in Spring 2017.
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<p>Success stories since last AHWB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashford Volunteer Centre - Volunteers were awarded a certificate by the council in recognition for their outstanding contribution and work in the borough. • Farrow Court - Ashford's first fully dementia-friendly housing scheme has scooped an award at the 2016 Kent Design and Development Awards. Phase 2 remains on target for a summer 2017 completion • Danemore sheltered housing scheme - has now been handed over to contractors to demolish and rebuild. Estimated completion is early summer 2018. • Quarry House – rural extra care scheme completed in July 2016. First rural extra care scheme built on an exception site with land leased to Housing and Care 21 for a nominal rent from ABC. 33 units of rented and shared ownership accommodation, with priority given to those with a local connection to nearby rural parishes. Communal facilities open to wider community.
<p>What we are focusing on for the next quarter <u>specific to the key projects</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Weight & Smoking – Opening of One You Health Hub in Town Centre. Should be opening February 2017. • Active Everyday (activities for the over 60's) - promotional campaign was launched early October and aims to help local people see what's on everyday and the opportunities to be active (even for 10 minutes!). More information at www.ashford.gov.uk/active-everyday. A new 3-month calendar will be available for February. • Health Infrastructure and the Local Plan – On-going work to support the CCG regarding development of health infrastructure within Ashford as linked to the local plan and STP. • Victoria Park redevelopment - A first stage Heritage Lottery Fund bid application for the park will be submitted in early 2017 that will aim to encourage more people to the park. • Conningbrook Lakes - programme of events to be scheduled and promoted.
<p>Anything else relevant to AHWB priorities NOT mentioned above</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plan – The Council's draft Local Plan was issued for public consultation on the 15 June. More than 2800 representations were received. It is likely that amendments to the draft plan will be published for further consultation in early 2017. More details at http://www.ashford.gov.uk/local-plan-2030 • Development Update – Latest newsletter highlights the unprecedented levels of inward investment. Focus on the major projects that now being delivered. Available at http://www.ashford.gov.uk/development-update. • Homelessness strategy – Approved by Cabinet in October 2016. Includes a 10-point action plan to address local challenges. These include not placing any 16 or 17 year olds in B&B accommodation and enhancing prevention work and engagement across the private and public sectors. Note that Ashford is the first authority in the southeast to be declared "housing business ready" by the Government. Over 40% of all rural local needs homes built in Kent are in Ashford.
<p>Strategic challenges & risks including horizon scanning?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Kent – Exploratory work undertaken across the five East Kent Authorities (Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet) to see if there is scope to work more closely together. Focus at this stage on comparing costs and structures to establish whether there is a high-level business case to explore a merger more thoroughly.
<p>Any thing else the Board needs to know</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium-Term Financial Plan 2017-22 – Through good asset management, planning ahead and investing in long-term assets the council is well placed financially. The council has long spoken of its ambition to be self-sufficient by 2018/19 or as soon after as practicable. • Staff fundraising - Reverse Advent Calendar for the homeless night shelter, appeal for donations for our Syrian refugees (especially baby stuff), and raised

	<p>the over £1k since September for ABC staff charity Retreat Animal Rescue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stop Smoking Quit Club – ABC running another Stop Smoking Quit Club for staff i.e. the seven-week programme supported by the NHS.
Signed & dated	Sheila Davison – 6 January 2017