

Milton Keynes Council

Economic Recovery Plan 2021-2023

Foreword

MK Economic Recovery Plan – Progress from September 20 – June 21

In September 2020 we published our [Covid19 Economic Recovery Action Plan](#), investing £2.25 million of Council funding in an Economic Recovery programme for our city, in addition to the direct business support grants MKC has paid out to Milton Keynes Businesses throughout the pandemic.

Our initial Economic Recovery programme included urgent activity to support businesses and help people into work, including dedicated action to support young people and women, as well as longer-term activity to build confidence and secure investment in the city and drive green economic growth and the innovation economy. MK Council worked with the MK business community and other key organisations such as MK College, to assess the combined effects that the economic downturn and the Pandemic had in combination on our city, and the support needed as a result.

Since September 2020, we have been delivering on this need for urgent action. Over 12,000 residents and 400 local businesses have already been direct beneficiaries of MK Recovery funded events and programmes. Working in partnership with 15 organisations, significant action has already been taken to support the People, Business and City of Milton Keynes through the effects of the pandemic, from 121 support for those finding themselves out of work, to funded courses for budding entrepreneurs on practical advice to start up their own business, to co-funding events including the Spooky Cinema with MyMiltonKeynes which drove footfall back to our city centre.

Below are just some examples of the support we have already provided to the MK community.

Supporting People:

The [New Futures: MK](#) scheme with MK College has so far assisted over 200 individuals, including young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), with skills training and career guidance, leading to employability, further training and higher education.

New Futures: MK

"I wanted a career change and so realised that I'd need to enhance my knowledge in information technology. I approached MK College to look for courses and whilst speaking to an advisor from the College, New Futures was brought to my attention. I decided to go with New Futures to achieve my goal and received excellent support from my career coaches.

They linked me with the South-Central Institute of Technology (SCIoT) and helped me to update my CV which was very helpful in progressing towards my goal.

With the help of New Futures, I have managed to secure a place at MK College to study HNC in data analytics, and I intend to start this course in September 2021. I've found the New Futures team to be excellent at what they do. With the help of New Futures: MK I am on the way to achieving my goal of being a data analyst

Works for Us

'Gail 'recently moved to England and attended our ESOL classes (as English is not her first language) and the Women and Work course and is now at a stage where she considers herself job ready... ' "This course has given me new ideas about how to search for jobs and help with job applications as well as preparing me for interviews in the UK'

Through our **Women into Work programme**, [Works for Us](#) are delivering a training and career-boosting series of courses that have already helped 33 women with bespoke career advice and employability skills and distributed £1500 worth of digital devices to help women back into work.

Our **Women into Work** programme is also providing practical support to female entrepreneurs – we have recently funded the [Love Local Hub to provide 50 MK female entrepreneurs](#) with bespoke retail and business training as well as an opportunity to sell their products in a retail environment in MK's leading shopping centre, centre:MK.

Over 2021, MKC will be working in partnership with **Women Leaders UK** to deliver mentorship and 'Allyship' training courses to MK Businesses (supporting diversity and inclusion with a particular focus on female friendly workplaces), as well as the **Red Thread Partnership** who will, between them, be supporting over 100 women in a career shaping management training scheme.

As part of our effort to understand and tackle digital exclusion, our partnership with **Citizens:MK** has engaged 115 local people in an in-depth look at digital exclusion. The scheme will also provide digital training to individuals within community groups, the majority of participants being senior citizens.

We have also focussed on supporting Young People within the borough. With the Economic Recovery Funding helping them to pivot [to deliver their work virtually](#), **WorkTree** have provided career guidance through virtual industry sessions in eight schools in Milton Keynes throughout 2020 and 2021. By the end of this year's summer term, around 2300 MK students will have benefitted from a 'Virtual Career Workout' Programme.

Supporting Business:

Working with Partners including the **Federation of Small Businesses** and the **Rebel Business school**, almost 600 businesses in Milton Keynes have received specialist advice on legal, HR and strategy interventions, as well as start-up support for new entrepreneurs including advice on website design.

Federation of Small Businesses

There is a great community of FSB members with networking opportunities and events along with business support services. The benefits of membership give me a sense of being part of something bigger than my business, that offers me peace of mind in an ever-changing environment... Milton Keynes Council have shown so much foresight and support to local businesses by offering membership of the FSB. This proactive step by MK Council to invest in those businesses and help them with support from the FSB in what has been a testing time for all is very much appreciated.

-Kerry



The Milton Keynes **Rebel Business School** event held in February 2021 was the most successful event in the 10-year history of the Rebel Business School; with 335 Milton Keynes residents in one cohort, and 162 new businesses started over the three schools.

The Rebel Business School

The great thing about the timing of this course was the fact that, if we weren't in a pandemic, I wouldn't have been able to attend as I work full-time ... This was a perfect opportunity for me to find out what it takes to start a business. An opportunity to ask questions, to learn, in a safe space. Going on the course gave me the confidence to make things happen. If I didn't attend, I don't believe I would have gotten as far as I have and given me the leverage to take it the next level ... You may not get this kind of opportunity anywhere else, not for free anyway!

- Natasha



We have taken action to support our local Tech meet up communities that are a fundamental part of our innovation ecosystem through our work with MKAI and Protospace. Combined, MKAI and Protospace have engaged with 500 businesses through a series of virtual sessions, hackathons and industry-insight events, with MKAI, creating a profile for Milton Keynes across the world in academia and industry with a growth of 1,700 community members including participants from Canada, India and Sweden.

Milton Keynes Artificial Intelligence

I became aware of Richard and MKAI's presence in the AI sector and attended several live streamed events during lockdown. I was amazed to see the scale of which AI is embedded in our everyday lives, including how we use social media. In my case, this was understanding and utilising LinkedIn for a job search. The algorithms, data management and importance of regular posting was knowledge that allowed me to widen my network and hone in on specific contacts. MKAI helped me in my understanding by providing the very latest technical, industry specific and ethical updates around AI and these will continue to help me adapt and succeed in my new role.

-Odessa



Finally, through our **Green Business Recovery Fund** – aimed at forward thinking environment-based schemes – we have already funded two organisations. The **National Energy Foundation** will be supporting 25 local SME's towards PAS 2030 & PAS2035 accreditations (Green Practice certifications), and training 10 local people to become Retrofit Coordinators, necessary and much in demand skills for delivering a green future.

Our latest Green Business Partnership is with **Bridgman and Bridgman**, who in partnership with Pooleyville and Groundwork UK [will be training 10 young people](#) resident at MK YMCA with all the skills to learn Green Roof Installation design, process and maintenance, to meet the growing demand of the Green Roof industry.

Supporting the City

At a city-wide level, we've invested money in scheme to promote the recovery of our city, including our ShopLocalMK campaign, which profiled 30 local independent retailers and restaurants across MK's high streets and received over 160k interactions.



"We've been in Newport Pagnell for 46 years. We've offered a delivery service following the outbreak to support vulnerable people. It's important local communities support their high streets, so please think of us when you next need fresh produce."

Market Hill Greengrocers, Newport Pagnell
#ShopLocalMK

RESTART
RESTORE
RENEW MK

In central Milton Keynes, over 9000 people attended the Spooky Cinema, a drive-in cinema event MKC co-funded with MyMiltonKeynes. In addition to bringing people back to CMK in a COVID safe way, the Spooky Cinema also saw an increase in retail and hospitality visits to the city centre.

Our Economic Recovery Plan helped fund the [Indie Collective Independent store](#) in Midsummer Place, where £32,000 worth of sales were made for the small business owners who were part of the store.

Looking Forwards

MK Economic Recovery Plan July 2021 – March 2023

This year, as well as continuing to develop our existing programme, whether that be through our programme of support to High Streets or developing our Green Business Programme, we are also investing a **further £1.5million** in to our Economic Recovery plans.

Using economic insight and analysis, and following discussions with the MK Business Community, we have scoped an additional programme of support to strengthen our Economic Recovery programme over the year ahead.

We'll be increasing the investment **in supporting MK's People** by a further £160k. We will allocate this to:

- Continuing our successful partnership with **the Rebel Business School**, delivering a further six business school events to prospective entrepreneurs in MK and ensuring they have all the tools they need to start up their own venture. (Action B12)
- **Increasing the allocation to support young people**, recognising the particular challenges faced by the young people in MK (Action P2)

We'll also be increasing the total amount invested in **supporting MK's Businesses** through the Economic Recovery Plan to £1.3 million. Our new workstreams will focus on:

- Launching the **MK SME Restart programme for up to 100 MK SMEs to move from survival to recovery** with our partners at the Milton Keynes Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), SEMLEP and MK Business Leaders Partnership. Support will include a fully funded years' membership of the FSB, access to fully funded training courses delivered by the Chamber of Commerce, a voucher scheme for £200 worth of support from other expert MK SMEs who are members of the Business Leaders Partnership (keeping the investment within the MK economy) and a quarterly review and mentoring call through SEMLEP. (New action for 2021 – B26)
- **Supporting the investor networks** and communities in the city, ensuring that more MK businesses are 'pitch ready' for investment by working with the MK Investor Group (MKIG) and the Central Arc Angels group (New action for 2021 – B27)
- Continuing our **support to tech innovation and meet up groups**, most immediately through extending our successful work with MK Artificial Intelligence (Action B20)

All of this funding comes in addition to the £190+ million of direct business support already provided in grants and business rates relief to the MK business community.

Finally, we will be investing further in schemes which support our city. This will include:

- Carrying out work on positioning Milton Keynes for investment and work to build the city's infrastructure pipeline (C11 and new action C23)
- Building on the success of the MK5G Accelerator programme in securing investment in MK and its participant businesses', deliver an Innovation Accelerator programme with the Connected Places Catapult (C17)

SUPPORTING MK'S PEOPLE

Restart - the immediate actions we're taking:

Supporting those most at risk of being out of work, such as women and young people

P1

- **Action: Implement a city-wide network of one-to-one support for young people not in education, employment or training, working with MK College who will coordinate partners across the city.**

Our progress so far:

- MK College are eight months into delivering the 18-month New Futures: MK Programme, a scheme that focuses on bespoke and individualised support for individuals in MK out of work as well as providing specialist support to NEETs.
- More than 200 individuals supported so far through employment training opportunities.
- New Futures have engaged with other Economic Recovery Programme partners to form a career training process leading to employment.

Our plans for July 21 onwards:

- Reviewing the support to individuals to ensure it meets the needs of the people of MK. High demand for digital skills training and ESOL courses. The New Futures: MK Team and MKC's Economy team will work together to ensure the programme meets the needs of MK's residents.
- Continuation of community engagement and education training programme.

P2

- **Action: Provide information and advice to help young people into work and help them understand their career pathways, apprenticeships and traineeships. This will include boosting the work of the council's Information, Advice and Guidance Team, funding practical interventions to support young people to overcome barriers into work and supporting Worktree to deliver their employer encounters within MK schools through virtual means.**

Our progress so far:

- The MK Economic Recovery fund allowed Worktree to create an online system portal to continue delivering their employer encounters during the pandemic, allowing the business community and students to continue to connect during the restrictions.
- Worktree partnered with eight schools across Milton Keynes and 150 volunteers from 90 companies to create a 'Virtual Career Workout' experience to be delivered in classrooms.
- To date, over 1500 students have benefitted from a career workout session.
- MKC Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) team have scoped plans for the year ahead

Our plans for July 21 onwards:

- By the end of summer term, 2343 Milton Keynes students will benefit from the Worktree programme
- Work Tree plan to deliver in-person events for the new term, but now have the ability to continue to deliver their work remotely.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's IAG team will continue to deliver the additional practical interventions to support MK's young people
P3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: As part of our partnering with local voluntary organisations in the employment and training sector, support Works for Us to develop their services to deliver additional, targeted support to women who are unemployed, and to increase digital access.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To date, 33 Women have been through the Works for Us 'Confidence and Career' Training course. Works for Us have also provided services including Access Course Support, Debt and Financial Advice and CV and Job search support. Works for Us has joined our network of local partners aiding in the referral and support of women to Milton Keynes training programmes. <p>Our plans for July 21 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works for Us will continue to provide their services for unemployed women and returners to work until December 2021.
P4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Support those without digital access through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizens:MK project to reduce digital poverty among vulnerable groups Works for Us project with those digitally excluded
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizens:MK have engaged with 115 individuals within Milton Keynes for an in-depth study of digital exclusion factors, with a special emphasis on the experience of senior citizens in religious and community groups. Citizens:MK are also engaging with local Tech-based partners to address IT shortages and training participants with IT skills Works for Us have spent £1500 on digital equipment for their community members with digital access challenges. <p>Our plans for July 21 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizens:MK will continue their work with community groups with a finalised report to be received by MKC July 2021.
<p>Urgently review the Council's Neighbourhood Employment Programme to transform its ability to support people back into work</p>	
P5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Strengthen the ability of the Neighbourhood Employment Programme to deal with increased demand from people experiencing worklessness, working closely with local employers. Complete a review of the programme by end September 2020 and, working with other partners, develop a programme of practical support to help people back into work.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interim review completed in September 2020. Programme of practical support to purchase Construction Skills Certification Scheme cards and site safety accreditation for up to 100 job seekers supported through the Economic Recovery Plan.

	<p>Our plans for July 21 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue working with NEP colleagues and other Economic Recovery Plan schemes to enhance practical support in place to support people on regeneration estates back into work. Year ahead focusses include exploring closer working with employers and support to young people.
Restore - medium term restoration activity:	
Assisting people with training and reskilling, with a focus on groups that find themselves at most disadvantage including women	
P6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Fund MK College to establish a city-wide ‘Restart network’ to offer a range of individualised and practical support to help those most in need back into the workplace. Continue to work with SEMLEP and Businesses to develop a complementary practical skills programme to retrain and reskill unemployed and under employed people within MK. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MK College established the New Futures: MK Programme (previously known as the Restart network) which has facilitated the training and career support of more than 200 individuals. • MKC has continued to work in partnership with SEMLEP, ensuring visibility of schemes like the Peer Networks to MK based businesses and ensuring Economic Recovery Plan partners like New Futures MK are able to refer MK residents to projects funded through the Community Grants programme. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the support to individuals provided through New Futures with our partners at MK College to ensure it meets the needs of the people of MK. High demand for digital skills training and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses. • Continuation of New Futures:MK community engagement and education training programme. • SEMLEP continue to be key partners in our interaction with the region with work together on the year ahead focussing on the delivery of the MK SME Restart Programme.
P7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Work with Cranfield University to deliver the MK:U Education Accelerator in Central Milton Keynes three years ahead of the opening of the main campus. From April 2021, this will enable MK:U to pilot test four of its courses to 500 students. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secured Bouverie House in CMK as location for MK:U Accelerator project. • Pioneer cohort starting June 2021 to test processes and systems ahead of full pilot intake <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four degree-apprenticeship courses commencing in September 2021 as part of pilot programme, with c.50 places on each of courses (Chartered Manager, Digital and Technology Solutions Professional, Cyber Security Technical Professional, and Data Scientist)

P8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Working with Cultural Sector partners (including AHA-MK, MK Gallery, Milton Keynes Arts Centre, The Stables/IF and Bletchley Park) create an inclusive programme of six Cultural Sector Traineeships and two Cultural Sector Apprenticeships to provide pathways into the cultural sector for young people.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AHA-MK and MKC's Culture team have scoped their pilot programme for Traineeships and Apprenticeships and secured match-funding from Milton Keynes Community Foundation). <p>This will be developed further over the next two months.</p> <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The programme will launch in July 2021 and includes 6 creative/cultural traineeships to be delivered by MK College with additional mentoring and guest speaking. With partners including MK Gallery, Milton Keynes Arts Centre, Bletchley Park, The Parks Trust, MK City Discovery Centre and Interaction-MK. Two subsequent apprenticeships delivered in partnership with two MK cultural sector partners. The pilot programme will be delivered by March 2022, with a comprehensive evaluation report and recommendations for next steps and further programmes.
Renew - long-term renewal and structural change:	
Assisting people with training and reskilling, with a focus on groups that find themselves at most disadvantage including women	
P9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Work with partners to help deliver major long-term projects to create the skills pipeline to support the future MK economy; the new university MK:U, (MK College) Institute of Technology & the Learning 2050 programme.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKC is continuing to work with key strategic partners, such as MK College and Cranfield University, to develop the skills pipeline. The South Central IOT at Bletchley saw their first cohort of students during the 2020/21 academic year. The Learning 2050/MK Education Partnership board is meeting regularly with a focus on School Improvement, school-business links and links with the IOT & MK:U <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MK:U is piloting their first course programme in September 2021 as part the MK:U soft launch. The plan for physical build for both the IOT and MK:U are progressing The Learning 2050/MKEP Board are reviewing responsibility for projects beyond the Learning 2050 project, which is expected to conclude in 2022
P10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Working with partners and with the Carers Partnership Board, remove the barriers some carers face in accessing paid employment.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKC is working with partners who are providing support to carers, this may include helping them obtain and retain paid employment.

	<p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKC are also working to identify those who have caring responsibilities to ensure that they also have appropriate access to support.
P11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Work with childcare providers, schools and other organisations to ensure safe, affordable childcare places and raise awareness of the current funded two, three and four- year old childcare provision with parents.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project implemented to increase take up of 2 Year olds accessing early years provision. This has included: media and radio campaign, merchandise, branded literature, and web communications targeting families and key professionals engaged with families. £45K was secured through School’s Forum to support the project from the Early Years Block of the Dedicated School’s Grant. Despite COVID and the impact this has had on education provision, we have seen a 6% increase in the number of eligible (disadvantaged) two-year olds accessing provision at the 2020 October Census. 2-year-old take up rates in Milton Keynes are now above the national average. The increase in 2-year-old participation has subsequently led to a 2% increase in take up for 3&4-year olds, and this is expected to increase further as children transition. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further funding has been secured to support continuation the project throughout the 2021/22 financial year, which will focus on raising awareness and engaging eligible families.
P12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Through the Council’s economic development work, encourage employers to offer flexible and child friendly working, highlighting the benefits and best practice.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKC’s Economy team are undertaking a Business Engagement Programme with employers of all sizes and sectors. Through this engagement work, they are discussing approaches to flexible and remote working. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through the Women Leaders Scheme, the council is supporting an ‘Allyship Training Course’. This scheme will be training 20 MK Organisations within the next year on best practice for parent-facilitation in the workplace with a special emphasis on women returning to work.
<p>Whilst building council housing, promote local skills through apprenticeships and create local jobs by using local supply chains</p>	
P13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Use our ambitious council housing programme to support apprenticeships for local people and, as far as possible, use local supply chains. Ensure our investment not only supports local people through the provision of homes, but also supports the local economy.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p>

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MKC's Housing Delivery team is working with Procurement to ensure that all contractors selected support local people and the local supply chain. The last three contract awards have been made to a local construction firm based out of Bletchley |
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Our plans for July 2021 onwards:

- Developing an approach that provide clear and known opportunities to explore the local market and workforce for use on contracts where applicable.

SUPPORTING MK'S BUSINESSES

Restart- the immediate actions we're taking:

Helping businesses to prepare and adapt under the new requirements of social distancing, increasing resilience for future changes, new ways of working, and supporting green transformation

- B1**
- **Action – Continue to provide clear and concise advice to business about changes to government regulations and guidance, ensuring businesses can focus on what they do best.**

Our progress so far:

- Communications, Public Health and Environmental Health colleagues have provided clear advice on the latest government guidance and what it means for businesses.
- Environmental Health and Public Health have directly supported over 200 workplaces with advice on reducing transmission and COVID safe controls and advice on outbreaks.
- The MK Testing team have provided direct advice to over 200 MK businesses on employee testing
- Developed specific sector support and guidance for gyms and leisure studios to reduce transmission
- For the April 2021 reopening Public Health, Environmental Health and COVID Special Teams proactively supported businesses

Our plans for July 2021 onwards:

- Continue to provide advice on latest guidance to businesses for the duration of the period of restrictions.
- Environmental Health colleagues also continue to provide advice to MK businesses as part of their regular visits

- **Action: Continue to provide a fast-tracked licencing process for local cafes, restaurants, pubs and bars to trade outside, waiving fees for licenses for outdoor tables and chairs as part of our work to open High Streets Safely.**

Our progress so far:

- MKC have supported MK businesses by providing a fast-tracked licencing process for placing tables and chairs on the highway and waiving fees for this type of license for businesses on the High Streets.
- MKC have worked with town and parish councils to help keep high streets safe by adding extra temporary measures to facilitate social distancing.

Our plans for July 2021 onwards:

- The fast track licencing process is still in place. MKC are continuing to work with town and parish councils to review the necessity of temporary measures

B2

Supporting MK's high streets and the safe reopening of city and town centres, responding to changes to the retail and leisure sectors

B3

- **Action: Continue to use Reopening High Street Safely funding to improve confidence in our high streets, taking action including creating pedestrian zones, and removing street clutter.**

Our progress so far:

- Highways worked with retailers to remove obstructive street furniture to aid social distancing and assistance with queuing for shops was provided. To ensure access to shops there was additional provisions made for disabled parking and suspension of traditional parking bays to allow for more room for pedestrians to socially distance.
- High Streets also underwent a temporary transformation with road closures to provide shoppers more space to walk along high streets and access retail premises, local traffic was provided separate signed diversions.
- Reopening High Streets Safely Funding was used to create the Restart MK campaign, based around supporting local businesses, and profiling individual businesses/owners to show how they had adapted their high street presence to protect customers.
- MKC provided free printed and downloadable resources such as social distancing stickers/posters for use in high street shops. Since September 2020, these have been viewed and downloaded over 28,000 times

B4

- **Action: Allocate funding to work with city and town centres across the borough on projects which support the continued recovery of our high streets.**

Our progress so far:

- Established an MKC £100k pot to support town centres across Milton Keynes in driving footfall and economic recovery. Since March 2021, work has taken place between MKC, Town Councils and Business Associations at five high streets across the borough to establish a programme of support with first projects likely to launch in Summer 2021,
- Launched ShopLocal and Rediscover Local campaigns to highlight the importance of supporting local businesses. The Shop Local Campaign received over 160k engagements.
- MKC created £100k pot for projects to support the recovery of Central Milton Keynes. Successes to date include:
 - 'Spooky Cinema' drive in cinema project led by My Milton Keynes Business Improvement District which over 9000 people attended, and which saw footfall increase in both retail and hospitality in CMK
 - Aiding the launch of the 'Indie Collective' in an empty unit in Midsummer Place where over 50 local businesses were able to showcase their products
 - A £25k contribution to the CMK spring clean project, cleaning retail and business gateways and ensuring good perceptions on their 'Welcome Back' to CMK

Our plans for July 2021 onwards:

- Continue working with Town Councils, Business Associations and My Milton Keynes across MK's High Streets to ensure that both MKC's Economic Recovery

	<p>Funding and ‘Welcome Back Fund’ allocation make the maximum impact, supporting city and town centre recovery. Projects for high streets are likely to include promotional campaigns, events, street cleansing and beautification works.</p>
B5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Continue to work in partnership with My Milton Keynes to improve Central Milton Keynes as a business location
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership working with My Milton Keynes has delivered a programme of public realm works throughout the city centre to welcome shoppers and workers back to a cleaner and safer Milton Keynes. • Co funded COVID Marshalls in Central Milton Keynes to improve public confidence in the safety of the city centre • Delivery of the CMK Spring clean project between MKC Environment colleagues and MyMiltonKeynes <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with My Milton Keynes on further £40k worth of public space enhancements and works to be delivered by March 2021 • Work in partnership on the Council’s city positioning and Renaissance:CMK projects, ensuring the city centre’s reputation as a business location is improved.
B6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Bid to government (submitted in August 2020) to secure early grant project funding of £1m to deliver initial schemes for Bletchley and Fenny Stratford, as part of the Towns Deal process. Submission covered the provision of new Redway links for Bletchley and works to prepare the former Bletchley Fire Station site for redevelopment, a programme which will be delivered by the end of March 2021. (COMPLETED)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant funding received for early projects • Former Fire Station no demolished and site remediated in preparation for development scheme • Project underway and work on site to construct a new Redway in Bletchley
<p>Ensuring local businesses can access existing support and the new programmes that will be developed</p>	
B7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Continue to deliver government programmes of financial support to eligible businesses and explore, wherever practical and financially possible, options for locally extending schemes of support.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business support grants of £25.87m have been delivered to businesses under government defined schemes since November 2020. • An additional £6.05m of grants have been provided under the MK Discretionary Business Support Scheme over the same period. <p>July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over £1.7m in further funding is to be paid in June and July 2021 under the MK Discretionary scheme directly to MK businesses that continue to be affected by the ongoing restrictions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will provide access to a further £2.3m of funding which will ensure further business support is available through to March 2022.
B8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Extend discretionary business rates relief to cultural and arts organisations with a rateable value of more than £51,000. (COMPLETED)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition to nationally available grants, Milton Keynes Council provided Cultural, arts and tourism organisations within Milton Keynes, £375,000 through the Milton Keynes discretionary grant.
Helping business prepare for the end of the transition period for leaving the EU trade zone	
B9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Working with the MK Business Resilience Forum and SEMLEP, continue to provide information and guidance to MK's businesses to prepare for leaving the EU trade zone.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKC have promoted EU Exit guidance and information from the Business Resilience Forum and the SEMLEP Growth Hub via social media channels. The SEMLEP Growth hub have hosted a series of Webinars in Partnership with Grant Thornton on popular EU Exit Topics including practical advice and support. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to promote all information and guidance to assist MK's businesses with the impact of EU Exit
Restore - medium term restoration activity:	
Supporting new start-ups, as well as existing businesses, and strengthening local supply chain activity.	
B10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Working with the Federation of Small Businesses, develop a subsidised membership package for small businesses in Milton Keynes, providing them with access to legal, tax and employment law support along with many other resources that will help them through the COVID-19 crisis.
	<p>Our Progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Recovery Plan has funded 165 businesses with a yearlong membership at FSB. Funding was extended from 100 to 150+ businesses due to high demand. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The FSB will be one of the key partners in the MK SME Restart scheme, a programme of support to up to 100 MK SMEs.
B11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Provide funding to the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership to deliver additional business recovery and support schemes specifically for Milton Keynes. Specific programmes to be investigated include enhancing the Peer to Peer Network programme and the forthcoming SME Recovery and Resilience fund to ensure more SME's in MK are supported through these programmes than would have been otherwise.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint working to encourage MK applications to the Peer to Peer Network and Recovery and Resilience fund, as well as encouraging MK based businesses to benefit from EU exit webinars and preparedness toolkits.

	<p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund the SEMLEP Growth Hub team to provide support to the MK SME Restart programme, ensuring each business receives an initial assessment including a review of a business's operations, finance, marketing plan and strategy to identify a set of actions to build resilience and improve performance and checking in on a quarterly basis.
B12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Support new start-ups in Milton Keynes by running a programme of virtual events over the next year with the Pop-up Business School in Milton Keynes, giving practical help and advice to aspiring entrepreneurs.
	<p>Our Progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rebel Business School (Formerly known as the Pop-Up Business School) has supported 487 individuals in Milton Keynes with their collective businesses with the three businesses schools delivered over the past 8 months. • February's MK Business school saw the largest attendance in their 10-year company history with 335 attendees. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Recovery Fund will be supporting a further six business schools over the course of the next twelve months.
B13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Develop a support scheme for businesses in the Care sector
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued support to the Care Sector from MKC, working with them to ensure their resilience throughout the response to Covid19. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue work to on the sustainability framework of businesses in the Care Sector in MK and to determine if additional support from the Economic Recovery Plan could further enhance this work.
Creating a business environment for innovation and success	
B14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Support the work of First Base who are investing £200 million to transform the Saxon Court site into a tech and innovation hub with up to 220,000 sq ft of flexible workspace alongside 215 high quality new homes.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work ongoing to inform First Base's investment at Saxon Court site, including engagement on the tech and innovation hub. • Launched in June 2021, Saxon Court is the location of the green roofing traineeship project, funded by the MKC Economic Recovery plan and delivered by partners including Bridgman and Bridgman, First Base and Pooleyville, which will train MK YCMA residents in green roof installation. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to guide and inform plans where appropriate, ahead of an expected Planning Application to be determined later in 2021.

B15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Following the successful SEMLEP bid announced in July, continue working with Cranfield University to deliver the MK:U Innovation Hub, known as the Smart City Living Lab (SCLL), to provide support to scale start-up businesses. The SCLL will open in October 2023 in Central Milton Keynes and will focus on smart city technologies. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bouverie House in CMK secured for MK:U Accelerator Hub and as location for the first phase of the Smart City Living Lab/Innovation Hub. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCLL due to open in early 2022. Cranfield University reviewing options for where to accommodate second phase requirements for the Lab.
B16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Accelerate the provision of a 5G test network to support innovation in commercial and public services, completing network installation by March 2021. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5G installations and network completed in March 2021 as planned. • Project has launched a business accelerator programme (B17) and is now working with 10 SMEs to develop new products and services using the 5G capability. <p>Our plans for July 21 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project has assisted in securing further investment into MK with the MK5G Create project being launched in late 2020, securing investment of £4.5m to develop further use cases using 5G connectivity.
B17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Work with Connected Places Catapult to create a programme for start-ups and SMEs developing 5G-enabled technology, to be launched in September 2020. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to the 5G Network completion, the start up programme was launched in September 2020 through the Connected Places Catapult. • The 10 SMEs on the accelerator programme have produced an investment of £1.27m in MK and between them raised£3.85m in grant funding <p>Our plans for July 21 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the year ahead, MKC will fund another MK Accelerator programme through the Connected Places Catapult, building on the success of this years 5G Accelerator programme and building MK's profile as a smart city.
B18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Lobby government by end September 2020 for a change in the tax system that levels the playing field for physical traders. (COMPLETE) <p>Representations have been made to government to raise the issue of a level playing field between online traders and those with a physical presence.</p>
B19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Publish a review highlighting Milton Keynes as a prime location for jobs and investment in digital, artificial intelligence and robotics by end September 2020. (COMPLETE) <p>The review was published in September 2020 and is available on MKC Website. The review has since been used in the Arc Economic Prospectus which highlighted MNK's</p>

	<p>ability to become a global cluster for AI and in the course of the DiT Sector proposition on Artificial Intelligence.</p>
B20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Support the Tech and Artificial Intelligence meet up communities within Milton Keynes by allocating funding to a ‘Wonder Lab’ hub for tech entrepreneurs (which will have a virtual and physical presence) and the MK Artificial Intelligence Development programme that will deliver practical AI learning sessions to develop skills in the industries of the future.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Recovery Fund has supported Protospace (formerly known as Wonder Lab), with their virtual events starting Jan 2021. Around 150 individuals have engaged and participated in their online sessions, hackathons and business networking events. • Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a physical space and event line-up has not been possible, therefore scheme has been extended to Dec 2021. • The MK Artificial Intelligence programme (ended Mar 21) proved a great success with an engagement of 2136 individuals who participated in regular Expert Forum Meet Ups, Informational and Working-Group Sessions and training programmes. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protospace will be hosting several in-person events from late August to December 2021, as a continuation of their online engagement. • The MK Artificial Intelligence organisation will continue to be supported in the year ahead; specialising their outreach and targeting a niche group of the MKAI community through a structured support programme.
B21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Create MK Business Ambassadors scheme to support engagement with existing and prospective businesses and investors to understand their needs and promote the Milton Keynes opportunity
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial work to scope a Business Ambassadors scheme completed by Economic Development team, to be taken forwards later in 2021, to dovetail with work on city positioning already underway. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the City Positioning work to inform the messaging for potential Business Ambassadors, with an aim to recruit ambassadors in late 2021 and launch scheme in 2022.
New – B26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Working with partners including the MK Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses, SEMLEP and the MK Business Leaders Partnership, introduce a practical programme of support for up to 100 MK Businesses to take them from survival to thriving. Each participant will benefit from support including; a fully funded years’ membership of the FSB, access to fully funded training courses from the Chamber of Commerce, a voucher scheme for £200 worth of support from other expert MK SMEs who are members of the Business Leaders Partnership (keeping the investment within the MK economy) and a quarterly review of their progress with SEMLEP.

New - B27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Support the Investor networks within the city to assist more MK Businesses to get pitch ready
Renew- long-term renewal and structural change:	
Leading the council's effort to grow the Green Economy and encourage green business practices, including remote working	
B22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Encourage the development of the green economy in MK by launching a 'Green Business Recovery Fund', which will allocate funding to schemes which support MK Businesses and encourage and develop green practices.
	<p>Our progress so far: The Green Business Recovery Fund is currently supporting two schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridgman & Bridgman, a local MK company will be training 10 individuals from the YMCA and GroundWork UK with a Green Roof Building project on Saxon Court - started May 21. • The National Energy Foundation (NEF) will be supporting 25 local businesses with training and business-growth tools. • The NEF will also be training 10 individuals from MK to advance in green skills as retrofit coordinators <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both programmes will continue to run for their respective timescales with continued support from MK Council. • Planning and development will continue for additional schemes including support for a training scheme with Parks Trust • Research with partners on the potential of wider green-focused networks in MK.
B23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Fund a Green apprenticeship scheme for 8-10 participants to build skills in practical conservation and landscaping management.
	<p>Our Progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers in Environment and Economy teams have worked to explore a number of ways to deliver the schemes, now developing positions in Environmental Enforcement as an alternative to kick start positions. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment for the scheme is already in progress • Scheme will start Autumn 2021 with at least two positions.
B24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Collaborate with CityFibre to support all strands of MK communities in accessing a gigabit full fibre network that will see them thrive both socially and economically.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with CityFibre and partners on network build and recent extension of programme in April 2021 enabling 7,000 more homes in MK to access full fibre network. City Fibre are continuing their deployment across the city areas of Milton Keynes which they expect to complete Autumn 2021, Enabling over 90% of homes in MK to have full fibre access.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CityFibre’s network is transitioning to an open access network to allow multiple service providers which will mean greater choice of brands and packages for residents during 2021 and beyond. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued collaboration with CityFibre to ensure as many homes in MK as possible can access the network
B25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Continue to work with Openreach to deliver the existing BDUK schemes whilst identifying other options to extend the reach of fibre networks and superfast broadband across the Borough. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both existing council BDUK contracts with Openreach have now closed. The superfast and, latterly, full fibre deployments under these contracts have increased superfast broadband (30-80 Mbs) availability to premises across the Borough. • In June 2021 99.1% of homes and businesses could obtain at least a superfast broadband service. Also, in June 2021 87.28% of Milton Keynes premises can order gigabit capable (c.1000 Mbs.) broadband via the various Openreach, City Fibre and Gigaclear deployments. <p>Our plans for July 21 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next significant programme is the UK Government’s “Project Gigabit” which will aim to cover some of the final 20% of homes and businesses without gigabit capable connections by 2025. The Project Gigabit procurement is being run centrally by BDUK and is expected to start shortly. Milton Keynes Council is working with BDUK to ensure as many of the remaining non-fibre premises across the Borough will enabled as possible.

SUPPORTING OUR CITY

Restart- the immediate actions we're taking:

Promote walking and cycling, including renewing and extending the Redways, to provide viable alternatives to the car for work and leisure journeys

C1

- **Action: Use Emergency Active Travel Funding to provide safer walking and cycling environments, with a commitment to installing 250 bike racks to promote cycling. (COMPLETE)**

Under the governments Emergency Active Travel Fund MKC has upgraded and replaced 320 cycle parking places at CMK Train Station and installed 57 new cycle parking stands in key destinations, mainly on local High Streets

C2

- **Action: Deliver small scale access to bikes project (potential initiative to improve access to bikes and e bikes for people by operating a bike loan scheme) in 2020/21. Investigate the potential for additional funding to scale up and deliver by end of 2020.**

Our progress so far:

- MKC's Transport team provided residents, on low income with health or social care needs, the opportunity to apply for access to up to 80 bicycles. So far MKC has received 28 applications for this scheme.

Our plans for July 21 onwards:

- MKC will provide up to 60 residents the opportunity to test an ebike for a month through the 'ebike experience' scheme.

Restore- medium term restoration activity:

Securing funding for city scale investment and growth projects

C3

- **Action: Support Santander's development of their flagship UK technology hub that represents an investment of over £150m and will be home to over 6,000 employees.**

Our progress so far:

- Construction is underway, MKC are having quarterly catch-ups with Santander regarding the project. MKC have provided insight into the current "hub/co-working" spaces currently on offer in Milton Keynes. MKC have facilitated engagement between Santander and the business representation organisations in Milton Keynes.

Our plans for July 2021 onwards:

- Continue to engage and support Santander's plans for the city wherever possible.

C4

- **Action: Securing £95m of government grant to provide essential infrastructure in the MK East development which can then be recycled to support future development in the City.**

Our progress so far:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In October 2020, secured £95 million of government grant funding to invest in infrastructure ahead of homes, and recapture the investment for further infrastructure delivery <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with government on the delivery of the HIF funded infrastructure, delivering a school, community health hub and the necessary highways and bridge infrastructure in advance of homes
C5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Take forwards South East MK Development Framework Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) by April 2021.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation on a draft South East MK Development Framework SPD took place between February and April 2021. Over 1,500 responses were received. During this time, East West Rail published a non-statutory consultation with options that relate to the planning of South East MK. A response to East West Rail was agreed via Delegated Decision on 8 June 2021. <p>Our plan for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKC is now reviewing responses to our consultation on the draft SPD with a view to adopting it later this year.
NEW C23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Carry out a comprehensive MK's 'Infrastructure Pipeline' project ensuring the Council has the best possible understanding of its infrastructure priority projects and is in the best possible place to secure public and private investment in the city.
Renew- long-term renewal and structural change:	
Integrating carbon reduction and green objectives into place-based economic initiatives	
C6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Deliver 5 year £165 million investment programme across MK Council housing stock to provide homes which deliver affordable warmth, alleviate fuel poverty and lower carbon emissions. Upgrade all fuel-poor homes to an Energy Performance Rating (EPC) Band C by 2035, upgrading components such as doors, windows, roofs, insulation, and installing energy efficient heating systems. We have allocated £50m over the next 3 years to retrofit our assets with new and evolving green technology in line with our ambitions to become a carbon neutral city by 2030 and carbon negative by 2050.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This year, MKC has invested a total of £47m in planned investment works across our housing stock in upgrading components such as kitchen, bathrooms, roofs, doors and windows which will increase the decency of our housing stock and improve our resident's homes. <p>Our plan for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further projects are due to mobilise this year delivering energy improvement works to 6 sheltered housing schemes and estates as we look to lower carbon emissions and raise our housings energy performance level ratings. Plans and projects are taking shape as we look at creative funding opportunities to support

	<p>with our planned energy investment works, supported by close working relationships with local partnerships and contractors.</p>
C7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Work with partners ENGIE to improve the energy performance of MK Council's sheltered housing stock through new and evolving technologies that provide cleaner renewable energy, such as air sourced heat pumps and solar voltaics.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engie have submitted proposals for some of the MKC sheltered housing stock and further investigation is underway to assess the suitability of the proposals. Mears have also submitted proposals on other sheltered housing accommodation which are being assessed. <p>Our plan for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MKC will continue to work with partners to review proposals to improve the energy performance of our sheltered housing stock
C8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Set out plan to deliver the expansion of the Milton Keynes Waste Recovery Park into a wider Resource Campus that will deliver a green, low carbon, cyclical economy by treating waste as a resource, extracting recycling and creating green energy that can be used as a renewable fuel for the Authority fleet and wider industrial usage.
	<p>Our Progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Business Case was approved by the Corporate Portfolio Board in June and will be considered at Cabinet in July as part of the financial update. The purpose is to supply renewable electricity to power a low / zero emission fleet and reduce the net cost of processing recyclable materials by providing low cost energy. The use of a private wire connection should result in lower overall electricity bills for the Council across the 3 facilities due to the use of electricity generated at the MKWRP being considerably cheaper than the market price. <p>Our plan for July 2021 onwards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisors are to be appointed in July to support the business case for the Fleet Decarbonisation Plan and the future phased delivery of the electrified fleet.

C9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Create local energy centre to provide green energy to homes within the regeneration programme on the Lakes Estate. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKC is working with partners to investigate options around green energy on the Lakes Estate <p>Our plan for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options around the energy provision on the Lakes Estate are still under development
C10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Undertake a pilot study with Local Partnerships on a scheme for householder incentives for improving the energy performance of homes. (COMPLETE) <p>This was a Government pilot study where Local Partnerships assisted MKC in the preparation and delivery. The study has been returned to Government and MKC is awaiting outcomes.</p>
Inward investment and place marketing, including opportunities linked to SEMLEP and the Oxford to Cambridge Arc	
C11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Cement MK's role as a key player in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, making the case for investment in key infrastructure in MK and the Arc, such as the electrification of East West Rail and the delivery of MK:U. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKC submitted a formal response to the EWR consultation In June 2021, making the case for improved rail access and services to and within MK Ensured MK's role in the Arc is emphasised in the Arc Economic Prospectus, highlighting our world leading smart city credentials, potential to become an AI cluster of international significance and potential of MK:U. Continued engagement and representation of MK on Arc groups. Lobbying government on the delivery of the MK:U project, making the case for the need for a higher education establishment in MK. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with Local Authority partners across the Central Area to submit a Growth Deal to government ahead of the Autumn 2021 fiscal event Carry out a comprehensive 'city positioning' piece of work to raise MK's profile with potential investors. Tender published in May 2021, with nine bids submitted and an evaluation process already underway.
C12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Work with Cranfield University to seek funding from Government for the development of £400m MK:U main build project, a critical intervention in the MK skills environment. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued partnership working with Cranfield University in discussions with central government to secure funding for MK:U main build project <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intention to include the MK:U proposition as a key project in the Central Area Growth Deal in the lead up to a government fiscal event in Autumn 2022

Bringing forward significant place shaping schemes including MKC's Renaissance CMK project, the Towns Deal focus in Bletchley, and a Local Housing Company	
C13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Progress CMK Investment Framework to demonstrate the strength of our city centre offer and opportunities, including bringing forward plans to improve Station Square and CMK market. Promote Milton Keynes as a place to invest, create and relocate sustainable jobs and investment, working with land and property owners.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early drafting underway for a Renaissance:CMK document which builds on the propositions of the Strategy for 2050 adopted in January 2021. This document will help to set the basis for a CMK framework and consideration of securing a major development partner to bring forward key CMK sites Proposals for Station Square (as part of wider 'A Block' concepts) and CMK Open Market being developed. Commencement of a major piece of work on the long-term marketing of the city, through a place marketing piece of work. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of the City Positioning project (July 2021 – January 2022) Informal engagement with stakeholders on draft Renaissance:CMK document to start in Autumn and subsequent sign-off early 2022.
C14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Work with MK Development Partnership to determine and progress a preferred option for the CMK market that will improve the layout, generate more activity and a greater variety of stalls whilst preserving the market's existing essence and strengths.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worked to develop plans for the long-term revitalisation of CMK Open Market which reflect the market's existing strengths. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKDP reviewing options on short-term initial enhancement works to the market to report in Summer 2021 and consider implementation from Autumn 2021 ahead of finalising plans for the longer-term proposals.
C15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Create business plan with MK Development Partnership by end November 2020 for a council-owned housing development company to build genuinely affordable housing.
	<p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Case developed by MKDP and reported to MKC via Delegated Decision on 9th March 2021. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MKC undertaking due diligence in respect of the Local Housing Company proposals and report back to Cabinet to determine the next steps.

C16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Working with Bletchley/Fenny Stratford Town Deal Board, submit to government a Town Investment Plan by end of October 2020. (COMPLETE) • Bletchley Town Deal was submitted in October 2020 and in March 2021 the Council was notified that it had been successful in securing £22.7m to support Bletchley and Fenny Stratford. • Heads of Terms agreed by MKC in 2021.
C17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Support MK College with their plans to establish during 2020/21 an Institute of Technology in Bletchley. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Institute of Technology had their BETA launch from the MK College site in Bletchley for the 2020/21 academic year <p>Our plans for July 21 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2021/2022 will see the introduction of Department for Education Licence Agreement KPIs • The IOT full build project is currently at RIBA Stage 4, with the expectation that build works will commence in early 2022 and building handover in early 2023
C18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Seek to secure proper funding for growth and infrastructure through a 'deal' with Government and /or a partnership with Homes England. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In May 2021, £200k Funding secured from MHCLG to develop the content of a Central Area Growth Deal. • Since February 2021, close joint working with authorities across the Central Area to develop 'asks' of funding from government. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of Growth Deal for consideration at Autumn 2021 fiscal event
<p>Promoting neighbourhood economies in which local shops, services and facilities can be easily accessed by those working and learning at home</p>	
C19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Take forwards the principle of supporting and allocating well located spaces (those which minimise the need to travel and promote sustainable travel) for local services and community facilities in new and existing developments into the next local plan. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A revised Local Development Scheme was published in March 2021 setting out the timescales for preparing a new Local Plan for submission in 2024. <p>Our plans for July 2021 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical evidence is being prepared across a range of issues at this time to inform the Local Plan and policies on issues such as active travel, community facilities and infrastructure to help achieve this action.
C20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Take forward the principles of delivering co-located public services and community spaces that are fully inclusive and accessible for the whole community where the needs of everyone are considered from the outset, in the

	<p>Council’s Community Led Regeneration and Estates Renewal Strategy, which will be taken forwards for formal decision in October. (COMPLETE)</p> <p>The new Community-led regeneration and Estate Renewal Strategy was adopted in October 2020 following consultation.</p>
<p>Transforming MK’s transport system, to embed MKC’s commitment to becoming the greenest and most sustainable city and provide viable alternatives to the car.</p>	
<p>C21</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Develop an ambitious programme to dedicate £500k of the Council’s Covid 19 Recovery Framework allocation to sustainable transport schemes, including those that promote cycling and walking to be taken to Delegated Decision in September 2020. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MKC is in the process of delivering ambitious programme to encourage sustainable transport within Milton Keynes. Highlights of this programme include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Providing free cycle parking for business, MKC has engaged with over 100 businesses and approved 30 applications totalling 430 cycle parking places. ○ Providing match funded grants for businesses to increase sustainable transport – so far MKC has received applications from 12 companies for EV charging points, fleets of pool bikes for employees, locker facilitates, cycle parking shelters, bike tool stations ○ Currently MKC are supporting 62 businesses with transport planning through Modeshift STARS for business ○ Since 1 Jan 2021, 35 MK businesses and 705 MK users have signed to the Milton Keynes Love to Ride campaign to get more people riding. 5,714 trips have been logged, totalling 89,873 miles, burning 3,325,347 calories and saving 3,927 (lbs) CO2 emissions ○ Rebranded and relaunched MKC’s transport website ‘Get Around MK’. Currently seeing over 7.5k visitors per month. Profile visits to MKC’s Get Around MK social media accounts are continually rising, based on last month twitter is up 53%, Facebook is up 83% ○ Providing bikeability cycle training to everyone in MK – since March 2020 we have taught cycling skills to over 750 people and taught almost 150 people how to learn to ride. <p>Our plans for July 21 onwards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Developing a Transport App to help people Get Around MK ○ Work with Culture colleagues to deliver ‘Reclaim the Redways’ project ○ Continue to deliver on Sustainable Transport initiatives
<p>C22</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Launch a multi-operator e-scooter scheme in Summer 2020 to support new sustainable modes of transport and animate the Redways. <p>Our progress so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched successfully in August 2020 as a government backed pilot, the scheme is UKs only trial bringing together multi operators in one area, and is generating around 1500 trips daily with many focussed on commuter trips (supporting access to businesses – e.g. Magna Park) <p>Our plans for July 21 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot now extended to March 2022

