

East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Programme

Update to Board April 2024



Programme Status

This report to the East Birmingham Board summarises the progression of the East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Programme since the previous Board meeting in January 2024. The appendices to this report provide further information on the specifics of project activity.

Introduction

The East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Programme (the Programme) was established to deliver the vision and objectives of the East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Strategy (EBIGS) which sets out the Council's approach to the East Birmingham/North Solihull Inclusive Growth Corridor in the context of major planned infrastructural investments including HS2 and the planned Midland Metro extension to Solihull.

The first phase of the Programme commenced in August 2021 with the aim of being both to secure immediate "quick wins", and to begin the process of unlocking the longer-term and more extensive benefits that can be progressed by building the Council's capacity alongside that of the community and other stakeholders to collaborate in the delivery of inclusive growth.

During the past two and a half years significant progress has been made and the Programme is now entering a new and larger phase of delivery with the establishment of East Birmingham and North Solihull as a Levelling Up Zone, enabled by the growing capacity of the East Birmingham Impact Coalition and the designation by Government of fiscal tools that will enable new growth and investment.

The next three months will see a shift in focus from developing and agreeing proposals with Government to mobilising capacity to bring the new designations into full operation, and an associated intensification of activity. During this period the programme team will be seeking to engage with Board partners to discuss how greater alignment and collaboration can be achieved.

Activity Update

East Birmingham/North Solihull Levelling Up Zone

The main item for discussion at the April Board meeting will be our recent progress with the establishment of the East Birmingham/North Solihull levelling up agenda.

As of 1st April 2024 government has now designated and commenced a package of fiscal measures which are designed to support the delivery of levelling up in East Birmingham and North Solihull (EBNS), as part of the wider economic growth and competitiveness of the West Midlands.

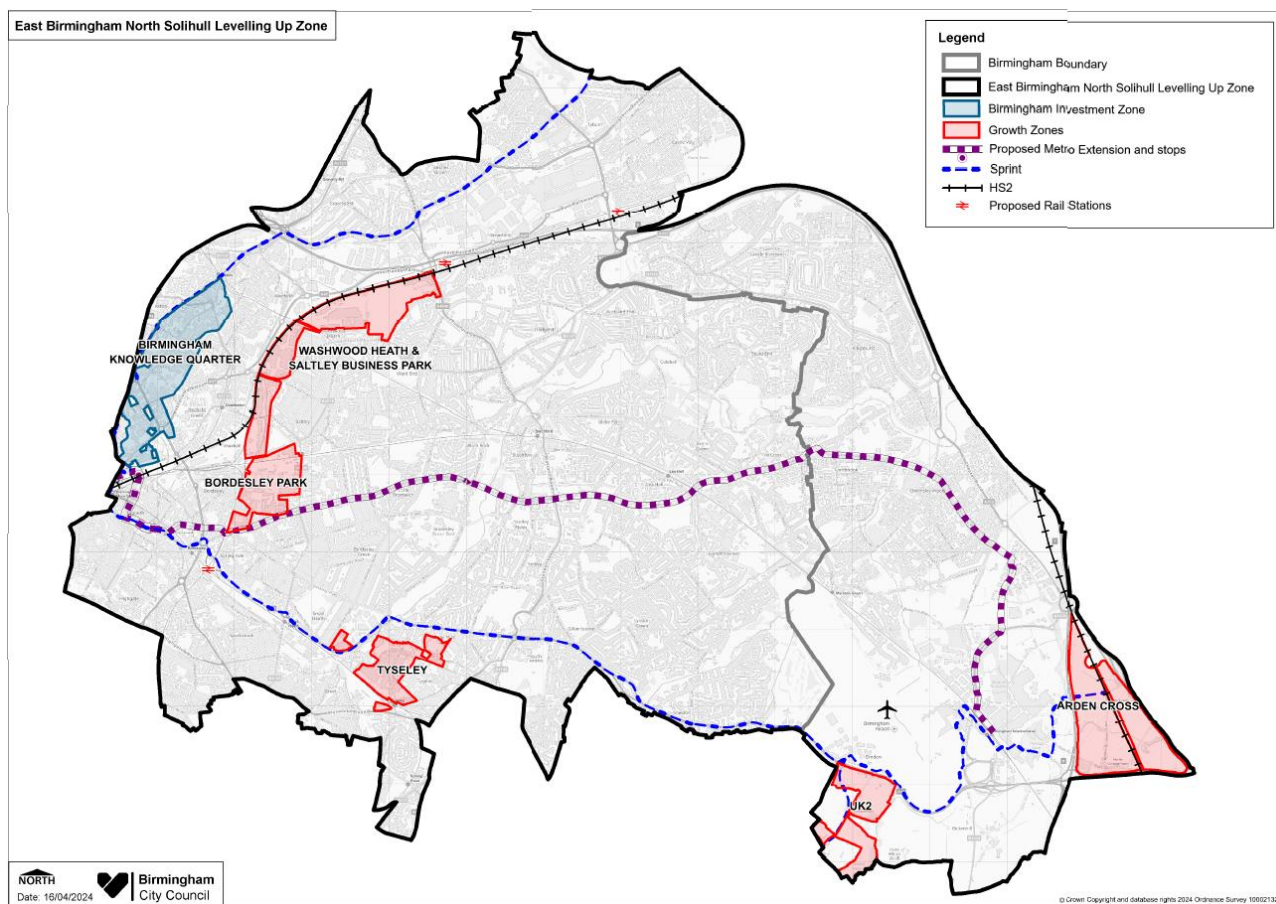
In summary, EBNS is the focus of three new Zone designations are key elements of the regional growth and Levelling Up agenda:

- The **Levelling Up Zone**, covers the whole of EBNS and represents a priority area for regeneration which is expected to benefit from access to funding via the WMCA Single Settlement. It is also a vehicle for close collaboration with Solihull MBC, WMCA and national Government around economic growth and service improvement.
- The delivery of the Levelling Up Zone will be supported by the **EBNS Growth Zone** - a fiscal designation which provides the Council with Business Rate Retention for 25 years across an area of 183 ha in Birmingham. The growth in Business Rates (uplift) within the Birmingham element of this area has an estimated value of £456m over 25 years and will be available to use for investment or to enable borrowing at the Council's discretion.



- The Birmingham element of the **West Midlands Investment Zone** (Birmingham Knowledge Quarter/BKQ) is also located within EBNS. It includes three key elements:
- Tax relief sites – a cluster of plots have been identified at BKQ with a 5-year package of tax relief fully funded by Government.
- Flexible Funding access – a total of £160m is available to WMCA for the delivery of the IZs over ten years.
- Business Rate Retention – for 25 years across an area of 135 ha. The uplift from this area has an estimated value of £635m over 25 years and will be used by WMCA for investment in the growth of the Advanced Manufacturing sector, with the BKQ site being the initial investment priority for uplift collected by Birmingham Council.

The following plan indicates the location of these designations within EBNS.



Further information

Growth Zone

A key element of the regional levelling up agenda is the set of proposed Levelling Up Zones (LUZ) priority areas that are intended to benefit from enhanced and targeted fiscal measures. The WMCA Deeper Devolution Deal provides an opportunity for the formal designation of three '**Growth Zones**' (GZ): specific



sites within LUZ that could retain 100% business rate growth for 25 years to support the delivery of the LUZ across the WMCA area. GZs are set by and agreed within the region and are not governed by any additional requirements within the Devolution Deal.

The LUZ concept was originally proposed the East Birmingham Board in 2022 as an approach for the transformation of the East Birmingham and North Solihull (EBNS) corridor. Proposals for an EBNS Growth Zone were negotiated with Government alongside the Investment Zone and a GZ designation secured for key sites within Birmingham and Solihull.

The EBNS Growth Zone covers an area of 183 hectares in Birmingham, taking in the 3 zones: HS2 depot at Washwood Heath and the surrounding employment land, the land along the route of HS2 running south to Bordesley, the Bordesley Park site and surrounding area, and Tyseley Environmental Enterprise District in the south. The GZ is connected to Solihull via the A45, where it also includes further strategic development sites.

There is already significant activity within the Growth Zone sites:

Washwood Heath

- The HS2 depot and network control centre is currently commencing and will occupy a significant part of the site.
- Discussions are underway between HS2 and the Council with respect to the development of a masterplan for the wider employment land adjacent to the depot site.

Bordesley Green

- In recent days Birmingham City Football Club have announced that they will be developing a new stadium and “sports quarter” at the Birmingham Wheels site which they have acquired from the City Council.
- A £17m Levelling Up Fund project for site remediation is now underway.

Tyseley

- A £20m Levelling Up Fund project for the National Centre for Decarbonisation of Heat is now underway.
- Tyseley Energy Park are developing proposals for their Phase 3 site.
- Crown Estate have joined the Tyseley Strategic Alliance and are exploring opportunities to invest in the area.

West Midlands Investment Zone

In March 2023 the Government published its Investment Zone Policy Prospectus, setting out an opportunity for eight Mayoral Combined Authorities including the WMCA to secure a package of measures designed to stimulate economic growth, productivity and competitiveness.

Each Investment Zone is expected to focus on one or more of the Government’s five priority sectors:

- Digital and Technology
- Life Sciences



- Creative Industries
- Green Industries
- Advanced Manufacturing

Each Mayoral Combined Authority was initially offered a total funding envelope of £80 million over 5 years, to be used for the delivery of its Investment Zone, allocated flexibly between spending and a single 5-year tax offer which could cover up to 600 ha across up to 3 sites, lasting for 5 years. Subsequently, on 22nd November 2023, the Government announced that the funding package will be extended with a further £80 million for years 5-10 (2029-2034) of Investment Zone delivery, meaning that the total Investment Zone pot for the region is expected to be £160 million over 10 years.

Within the Investment Zones, sites can be designated meaning 100% of the business rates growth above an agreed baseline is ringfenced for 25 years to support local economic growth within the region and across the chosen priority sector. In July 2023 the WMCA Board approved a basis for negotiations with Government on the Investment Zone with the region's priority sector being advanced manufacturing with a focus on and intersection with health and medical technology, electric vehicles and battery development, green industries, digital and a cross sector capability.

The WMCA Board also agreed that the West Midlands should ensure that the Investment Zone should be developed in parallel with wider proposals for levelling up and economic growth to ensure maximum benefit for the region. Proposals for the West Midlands Investment Zone have been developed in parallel with proposals for the EBNS Growth Zone collaboratively with WMCA, Birmingham City Council and the other WM Local Authorities, and Universities and investors.

Three locations have been identified for investment as part of the WMCA Investment Zone:

- Birmingham Knowledge Quarter (BKQ) within EBNS– with Business Rate Retention and Tax Incentives.
- Coventry-Warwick Gigapark – with Business Rate Retention and Tax Incentives
- Wolverhampton Green Innovation Corridor – identified as a site which could benefit from investment.

At Birmingham Knowledge Quarter (BKQ), designation as an Investment Zone is expected to facilitate the development of a major innovation cluster on the east of Birmingham City Centre (known as Birmingham Innovation Zone, or B-IZ), in a partnership with Aston University, Birmingham City University, Bruntwood SciTech, Woodbourne Group and Birmingham City Council, and with the involvement of the University of Birmingham. It will also stimulate the development of the wider Nechells area around the Birmingham to Fazeley Canal as envisioned in the Council's Future City Plan Framework.

The identification of BKQ as a site for the WMIZ was guided by the specific and strict criteria set out in the Government's Investment Zone Prospectus, which includes strictures on the size of sites (which meant very few would be eligible), the need for sites to benefit from strong investor interest, the involvement of a University or Research Institute, alignment with the priority sector, and for tax and business rate relief sites to be "underdeveloped" with significant potential for growth. Negotiations took place between the WMCA and local authorities and with government on the suitability of sites. BKQ was identified as the only site in



Birmingham which meets these criteria and aligns with the Council's strategic levelling up priorities and growth plans including Our Future City Plan, and the East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Strategy.

BKQ will deliver new engineering and advanced digital technologies research capability and commercial space, realising the promise of transition to advanced industry, including the development of battery technologies at Giga Park and the application of battery and other green manufacturing technologies in construction and medical technology. Additionally, there will be space for spinoff and scale up companies from WMCA wide research organisations.



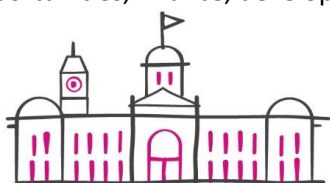
B-IZ area and context

The Tax Incentive site for BKQ is focussed on the B-IZ area, consisting of a package of plots totalling 5 hectares which are ready for development or re-use and which have the potential to come forward for non-residential uses within the near future. The proposed Business Rate Retention (BRR) site for BKQ covers an area of approximately 133 hectares taking in B-IZ in the south and running north-eastwards along the canal into the Nechells area.

Impact Coalition

A key element of the Council's approach is the East Birmingham Impact Coalition: a vision for a strategic partnership of organisations invested in East Birmingham, collaborating with the benefit of innovative place-based working to ensure that that investment coming to East Birmingham has maximum economic, social and environmental impact. This approach is a development of previous projects, policy and partnership working undertaken by the programme team over the past two years as well as local and international precedents.

The core of the concept is the creation of a delivery structure (the bridge) connecting the macro-assets (opportunities, finance, development, etc.) identified by the partnership with micro-assets (skills,



community assets, local SMEs, micro-finance, etc). This requires the development of strong relationships with the local business base, training providers, 3rd sector organisations including local community anchors, religious organisations and the local community.

Activity since the January Board has focussed on commencing delivery of a set of projects using UK Shared Prosperity Funding (SPF) which will introduce and test scalable concepts for future expansion. Further information on these projects is set out below under Project Development and Delivery.

In addition to the development of this SPF funded sub-programme, the Impact Coalition has been further progressed through the co-ordination and alignment of partnership development and engagement activity including:

New opportunities to expand the Impact Coalition:

- We will seek to work with the BKQ Investment Zone partners to link the IZ projects and development activity into the wider LUZ.
- We will also be engaging with Birmingham City Football Club to explore how to maximise the positive impacts of the redevelopment of their stadium as part of a new “sports quarter” at Bordesley Green.
- The Crown Estate have joined the Tyseley Strategic Alliance and are exploring opportunities to invest in the area.

National Trust: co-funded projects: EB017: Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan is nearing completion and will be summarised for the July Board meeting. EB014: Pocket Parks is now underway. There has been slight over-run mainly due to poor weather, and these will now complete in June/July 2023. Following a delay caused by the S114 position, work has now re-started on an MoU setting out a basis for expanded collaboration around urban nature recovery between the Council, National Trust and wider Impact Coalition and City of Nature Alliance partners. The target is for the MoU to be in place during Q1 2024/25.

University Hospitals Birmingham: wide-ranging discussions continue regarding UHB as an Anchor organisation within East Birmingham, with significant potential for collaboration around careers and recruitment as an initial priority.

Tyseley Strategic Alliance: current activity includes the continued delivery of the DIATOMIC and Fast Followers projects (detailed below), mobilisation of a new phase of feasibility activity which seeks to identify and refine opportunities to progress the development of Tyseley as the city’s green energy and innovation quarter, the addition of a new investment partner to the Strategic Alliance (specifics to be announced shortly), and the delivery of the £20m Levelling-Up Fund project *National Centre for Decarbonisation of Heat*, the funding for which was announced in November 2023.

Severn Trent Water: Has continued commitment to employment support, including supporting a group of women at the Dolphin Centre with a 2-day preparation course for attending a jobs fair at Millennium Point, this project was a strong success and will form part of the delivery plan for the future

Following the call-to-action event aimed at corporates (September 23) a series of follow up meetings are enabling Severn Trent to agree joint priorities with those corporates seeking to opt-in to support residents in ways recommended by the [The Good Jobs Project — ReGenerate \(re-generate.org\)](https://www.re-generate.org/) report. The report calls for corporations to target their workforce recruitment at areas of deprivation to gain talent and a representative workforce.



Joint work with the Severn Trent Sustainability Team continues for identification and maximisation of opportunities including at Minworth where there is great potential for heat capture.

East Birmingham Employment and Skills Collaboration: The group is supporting the development of the employment hub provision specification for use of Shared Prosperity funding in 2024/25.

Schools Engagement: Pete Wier, CEO of Washwood Heath Multi Academy Trust (MAT) is now a member of the EB Board and has been taking forward a lead in providing a strategic position on the highlighted priorities that can be endorsed by education leaders in the East Birmingham area. Pete has commenced consultation on a set of actions and wishes to continue this consultation to include schools in North Solihull, to be able to form an EBNS approach for the Levelling Up Zone co-ordination activity and investment of existing (reformed) or new public and private resources for a step change for the future.

The immediate priority being consulted on by Pete is to give all young people in East Birmingham/North Solihull equality of access to careers and work-related guidance and learning through the development of systematic connectivity between and within education and other sectors (public services [including schools, HE and FE], civic, charitable, business) through the creation an online hub of information and contacts and the employment of an individual/team to maintain and promote such work.

The programme team has secured £160,00 funding for a phase 2 of the Partnerships for People and Place project for academic year 2024/25 and this will be commissioned to commence September.

Funding updates

At the time of the previous report to Board the Programme had secured more than £4.5m of external funding to support projects and wider activity, not including the £17m Levelling Up Fund secured for the remediation of the Bordesley Park site. Further funding proposals are in development or have been resolved during the time since the previous meeting of the Board. The principal updates are as follows:

Cost of Living Support: Approval has been gained for £380k across 2 projects from the City Council's Cost of Living support programme, derived from ringfenced Public Health budgets:

£220,000 to boost the NHS ICAN programme for supporting local people into NHS jobs

£160,000 to deliver a full second phase of the Partnerships for People and Place project with at least 6 secondary schools in East Birmingham in academic year 2024/25

GBSLEP Legacy: Birmingham and Solihull Councils jointly presented a proposal to GBSLEP (which wound down in December 2023) seeking £1m of GBSLEP residual funding for a project entitled *Birmingham and Solihull Workforce Development Service*. This has been approved, and the funding will support a range of employment and skills actions to impact across the Birmingham and Solihull area to March 2025, including £450k of specific resources to support the co-development of the EBNS Levelling Up Zone during the same period.

Nuffield Foundation: Following the introduction of this potential funding in the last report a series of development meetings with potential bid partners have led to a proposition to study the equality of progression of young people aged 14-24 in the area using a range of research techniques. The bid was submitted by University of Birmingham in March 2023 for an initial 2 year delivery phase which would begin in January 2025.

WorkWell funding: As part of its policy to change benefits related to health conditions and disability, and support more people into work, or to stay in work, the Government has launched the WorkWell



programme, which is a joint programme between DWP and the Department for Health and Social Care. (DHSC). WorkWell supports the key aims of the major conditions strategy, with mental health and musculoskeletal health conditions being the most common conditions which lead to health-related labour market inactivity. The first round bid was submitted by the BSOL ICB for an EBNS pilot in January, the competition will be initially at regional level (6 ICB areas whose coverage is greater than the WMCA geography) and then at an inter-regional level. Results will be known by end of May. If selected this would lead to an immediate phase of project development, and then Vanguard pilot delivery would run for an 18-month period from October 2024.

Project Updates

The amended and updated list of projects in progress and in development is included as Appendix 1 to this report. This section provides a summary of key project updates for this period including new projects starting since the last report.

New Project: EB26 National Centre for Decarbonisation of Heat (NCHD)

The decarbonisation of heat in homes represents a very major challenge for the region and for the whole UK, to treat about 20m homes at a cost of about £250 billion before 2050. In order to accelerate this challenge, and benefit from the major market opportunities, key requirements include technological innovation and workforce skills. This £20m Levelling Up Fund project to deliver a National Centre for Decarbonisation of Heat is focussed on solving the roll-out of decarbonisation, regionally and nationally. The proposal been developed in close collaboration between University of Birmingham, Birmingham City Council and South and City College Birmingham.

The project is currently mobilising and a planning application has been submitted for the NCDH. The formal funding agreement is expected from Government imminently, and the project is due for completion by April 2026.

Project Functionally Complete: EB020: Improving Glebe Farm Recreation Ground green infrastructure.

This £165k project has delivered improved green infrastructure for community use. The improvements to the park are now materially complete and the project is now transitioning to project closure with ongoing data collection in order to fulfil the conditions of grant. The community involvement has been very strong, and the community response has been extremely positive.

Meadway Phase 3

Previous phases of activity have explored the feasibility of the development of the Meadway site, (formerly the Poolway shopping centre), for a combination of affordable homes and community and retail uses. In support of this, during early-mid 2023 a Strategic Outline Case was prepared by the ICB with the support of the programme team for health facilities at the site. This document concluded that there is a compelling case for investment to develop a Meadway “Local Centre Wellbeing Hub”. In June 2023 the ICB determined to pause further work on the site pending further consideration of the approach, and the identification of appropriate funding sources.

On 16th January 2024 a report was submitted to the Council’s Cabinet setting out a recommended approach to accelerate delivery of affordable across the city. The report seeks approval for the disposal of 21 Council-owned sites including the Meadway, each subject to an options appraisal to determine the best way to proceed. For the Meadway the most likely delivery route is expected to be sale to a development partner who can work with the Council to deliver affordable housing, and potentially also the local centre uses



which are a priority for the local community. Subject to the approval of the Cabinet Report it is anticipated that the programme team will continue to be involved in the next stages of activity with the objective of securing the best possible outcomes from the development. This will include engagement with the ICB.

Key activity for the next period

During the next three months the following project milestones are expected to be reached:

Beyond this project activity, the main areas of work for the next three months will be:

Overarching activity

The primary task for the team over the next 3 months is to lead the EBNS LUZ Strategy in partnership with Solihull MBC. The Strategy will set out the principles for the basis for the 25-year investment plan, and it will be presented for Cabinet approval at each Council in the summer. The joint work will include commissioning of policy development and technical staffing and consultancy services using WMCA and LEP Legacy funds, in order to meet the required timescales.

The LUZ Strategy will be part of the wider Place Based Strategy (PBS) which is a city-wide overview of how the various planned and future investments (transport/site development/green infrastructure etc) will shape the city, and the principles of how the WMCA funds should best be invested. This will include the Investment and Growth Zones, the wider Future City Plan designs. In addition, the Council will be creating a Future City Plan for the East (FCP-E); creating an integrated spatial vision for East Birmingham by Autumn 2024.

Concurrently, the Programme Team will be developing and delivering/commissioning the 3 strands of SPF for the area and delivering on our suite of projects including those funded by Innovate UK, and BCC Cost of Living funds, and supporting the mobilisation of additional funds if they are approved.

Infrastructure and development

The Programme team will lead the commissioning of site specific technical and feasibility studies for the LUZ strategy and other projects where needed and draw on a directorate project management team for additional support if needed to meet timescales.

Following the development of the LUZ strategy in 2024, this technical work will support the development of a full LUZ Investment Plan with a target of Summer 2025

The team will also lead the mobilising of the IZ programme including flexible funding projects (including business cases, masterplan etc)

Governance and Delivery

The team will work with the relevant partners to create a full delivery model options appraisal for LUZ governance and delivery capacity, and this is also the case for the IZ, with the aim to establish new governance and delivery vehicle(s) during 2025

Whole Place Public Services

Both BCC and SMBC are also committed to a full programme of Public Service Reform to enable inclusive growth, and we will benefit from collaboration with national leaders to support



exploration of locally led (often community based) solutions that are data driven and testable in the area.

This will involve further development of the Inclusive Economy/Social Value/CSR principles with a range of local stakeholders, including anchor organisations, and large and small enterprises, as well as community anchors and national partners.

In the East Birmingham area this will mean ongoing Impact Coalition development with the National Trust, Tyseley Partners, NHS/ICB, Anchor Network (including colleges and universities) and community anchors.



Appendix 1: Project Register

Projects and activities which make up the programme are summarised here for the reference of the Board.

Project Stages:

- 1: Concept - Inception, feasibility, and initial options appraisal. Production of Project Brief.
- 2: Definition - Development of preferred option. Production of Outline and/or Full Business Case (if required) and project management plan.
- 3: Delivery - Implementation of project. Delivery of project product/outputs in accordance with Business Case and Project Management Plan.
- 4: Closure - Handover of project outputs and evaluation

Programme Review: the project register and projects in development lists have been updated based on the outcome of the programme review as set out in the main body of the report. In addition, further information has been added to the register:

- each project is given a RAG status. The table below shows that currently all projects are rated Green or Amber. Where they are Amber, extra actions are in place to manage risk or issues arising, and these are managed through the Corporate Performance Monitoring system.
- Projects are now shown with alignment to programme delivery themes (see below) and links with Impact Coalition partners.

○ Health and Wellbeing	HWB
○ Community Influence & Participation	CIP
○ Education & Skills	E&S
○ Jobs	EMP
○ Neighbourhoods & Natural Environment	N&NE
○ Energy & Climate	E&C
○ New Homes	NH
○ Transport	TRA
○ Economy	ECO

Project Register

Project Reference and Title	Summary	Stage Outputs	Funding Source(s)	Agreed Budget ('000s)	Stage & RAG	Update and Next Milestone	Alignment/partners
EB014: Pocket Parks	Aligned with the East Birmingham Green Infrastructure Vision and project EB013, this project will deliver improvements to 4 local green spaces as pocket parks and/or local growing space via community-led activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 pocket parks to activate underutilised spaces 	UK SPF National Trust	£100 £50k	2 Green	Update April 2024: Positive progress overall meaning the project is adhering to time and budget with two of the Pocket Parks now having been delivered and the remaining two on site with expected delivery for the end of April.	N&NE With National Trust
EB015: Youth Employability Pilot	'Partnerships for People and Place' funded - A locally designed scheme of employment support, focussed on innovation in earlier employer support in schools for successful careers for East Birmingham young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 young people with more secure pathways ahead of them beyond this transition 40 young people successfully progressing into employment from this transition Partnership learning and system change 	DLUHC	£335	3 Amber (delayed)	Update at Apr 2024: New funding gained Funding has been gained from the BCC Cost of Living fund for this project for 2024/25 to work with pupils and families to support young people's career prospects. This support will be commissioned for local delivery for at least 6 schools from September 2024	E&S With Schools Engagement
EB017: Green Infrastructure Action Plan	This work will progress the approach set out in the East Birmingham Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Infrastructure Action Plan 	BCC	£50 £50	2 Green	Update April 2024	N&NE

Project Reference and Title	Summary	Stage Outputs	Funding Source(s)	Agreed Budget ('000s)	Stage & RAG	Update and Next Milestone	Alignment/partners
	Infrastructure Vision document.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced partnerships and organisational capacity Information in support of business cases and funding bids	National Trust			Action Plan now substantially complete. A presentation will be brought to a future Board on project outputs and next steps.	With National Trust
EB018: Fast Followers.	This project will fund a Net Zero Innovation and Delivery Officer who will work with the Council's East Birmingham Development Team and with our partners: University of Birmingham, Tyseley Energy Park and Places in Common to support businesses in the Tyseley Environmental Enterprise District, in their journey to net zero. The funding will also resource other specialist support for community and technical support, and careers and jobs promotion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business support programme - journey to Net Zero support Local job/careers promotion with residents 	Innovate UK	£200	3 Green	Update April 2024: Delivery of Fast Followers continues. Overall, the project is progressing well, with the monitoring officer satisfied with the quality and timeliness of the work against the projects timelines. The project remains ahead of schedule on delivery of net-zero delivery plans. University of Birmingham mapping work has now been made available to the rest of the group.	E&C With Tyseley Strategic Alliance
EB019: DIATOMIC Inclusive	Part of a £6m project with multiple partners, the aim of this £160k work package is	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business support programme – 	Innovate UK	£160	3 Green	Update April 2024: Procurement opportunities for the project are underway. The procurement process is reaching its	ECO

Project Reference and Title	Summary	Stage Outputs	Funding Source(s)	Agreed Budget ('000s)	Stage & RAG	Update and Next Milestone	Alignment/partners
Innovation Network (associated project)	to establish an Inclusive Innovation Network with a cohort of businesses run by members of excluded communities (both ethnic minorities and women) in East Birmingham. It will open procurement opportunities to the diverse base of SMEs and social businesses (traditionally attracting women and migrants) who represent a very significant source of untapped economic potential.	inclusive innovation network for excluded local SMEs/social enterprises. • Local job/careers promotion with residents				conclusion and current indications are that there will be bids of sufficient quality to complete the procurement exercise. The project has received confirmation that the Growth Hub can deliver the more generic business support elements of this project.	With Tyseley Strategic Alliance
EB020: Improving Glebe Farm Recreation Ground green infrastructure for community use	Improving green infrastructure for community use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green infrastructure improvement • Improvement demonstrated via public surveys. 	UK SPF	£165	3 Green	Update April 2024: The project is functionally complete and to budget. The installation of the park improvements has taken place and the remaining elements of work on the project consist of collecting the close down evidence to meet UKSPF funding requirements. This evidence takes the form of interviews with residents and project completion photos. The project is expected to fully conclude by the end of April.	N&NE
EB021: Ready to Level	Locally delivered community leadership/Levelling Up capacity-building to at least	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of non-financial support to 10 organisations. 	UK SPF	£140	2 Green	Update April 2024: The grant for the delivery partner (Loconomy) has been signed. Mentors have been mobilised, programme of events for the 10 organisations have	CIP

Project Reference and Title	Summary	Stage Outputs	Funding Source(s)	Agreed Budget ('000s)	Stage & RAG	Update and Next Milestone	Alignment/partners
	10 organisations across East Birmingham.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of training sessions to at least 50 people. 				are underway and mentors have been allocated and an online learning platform has been created to host.	
EB022: Ready to Level Grants	<p>10 grants (£16k each) for local organisations focusing on inclusive growth priorities and establishing a network of community organisations partnering the East Birmingham programme. The Ready to Level project will create and support an Action Learning Network to enable the co-design and co-delivery of the future delivery of interventions within the Levelling Up Zone. Through participating in the project, communities will also gain skills to be able to participate in the future interventions supported under the Levelling Up Zone</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 local events organised with 200 people engaged. 	UK SPF	£160	2 Green	<p>Update April 2024: A total of 21 applications were received with 10 Community Anchor organisations having their applications approved. These organisations are.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Urban Development Foundation 2. Grand Union 3. Compass Support 4. St Margarets Community Trust 5. Birmingham Disability Resource Centre 6. Open Door 7. Arts in the Yard 8. Go-Women Alliance 9. Our Community Foundation 10. Muath Trust <p>These 10 community anchor organisations now form The Action Learning Network. Each of them are receiving non-financial support and each of them have been allocated a mentor who have been sub-contracted by Loconomy. (See the programme and the methodology attached). Each organisation attended two joint sessions throughout March.</p> <p>These sessions were well attended with 100 per cent attendance from the designated Community Anchor</p>	CIP

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						<p>Organisations alongside their Learning Mentors and invited partners delivering keynote presentations.</p> <p>In addition to this each Community Anchor Organisation has had 5 sessions (2 days per week) with their designated Learning mentor as part of their tailored learning programme. This equates to 8 individuals from each organisation over five-week period: 80 in all. The tailored learning programme is being delivered by means of an Appreciative Inquiry.</p> <p>The Appreciative Inquiry is designed to enable each organisation to develop their action plan which is required as part of their commitment to the programme. The sessions with learning mentors will support and lead to an event where each community organisation will share their action plan with community stakeholders. This will take place throughout March</p> <p>On Friday 1st March 2024, the programme culminated with a Look and Learn visit to two Community Anchor Organizations in East Manchester and Salford with all the community anchor organisations in attendance. The purpose of the visit is to exploring best practice on community-driven regeneration, taking examples from The Oasis Youth and Community Centre, East Manchester and Unlimited Potential Salford, Salford.</p>	

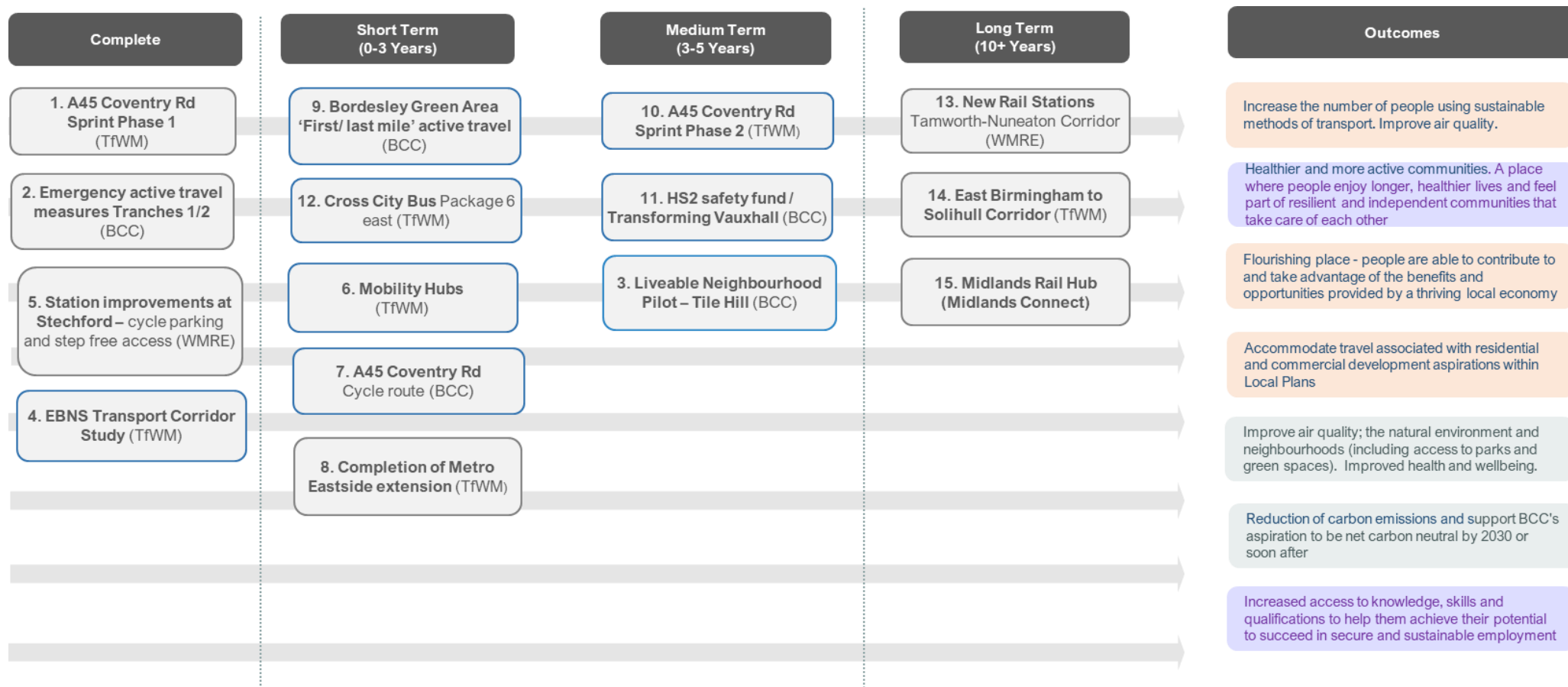
Project Reference and Title	Summary	Stage Outputs	Funding Source(s)	Agreed Budget ('000s)	Stage & RAG	Update and Next Milestone	Alignment/partners
EB023: Procurement Hub and Business Support for SMEs and SEs in East Birmingham and North Solihull	Market research and tailored support for businesses located in the immediate vicinity of new markets to enable readiness for contracts and diversification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 local events organised 100 people engaged • 60 Businesses supported through programme. • 10 Businesses receiving grants. • 10 potential entrepreneurs provided assistance to be business ready. 	UK SPF	£370	2 Green	Update April 2024: The project is now in mobilisation, with Newable/GBCC reporting they are almost ready to begin Business support delivery. Meetings with Birmingham Anchor Network commissioners and Newable/GBCC have begun to be scheduled. The contract has almost been finalised.	ECO

Projects in Development

Project Reference and Title	Summary	Status
EB025: Good Jobs Hub	This project is in development based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working with JCP and learning from Youth and Adult Hubs to date. • collaboration with WMCA and the constituent Local Authorities on what makes a good employment hub, as part of the CA's work to create an Employment Hub 'Blueprint' and develop this for single settlement funding support • the programme's previous Employment and Skills collaboration work, • partnership delivery for employment support e.g. the ICAN programme run by UHB and partners, and the Good Jobs corporate consortia working led by STW. 	£200k has been secured for the 24/25 financial year. Project design and development is underway.

Meadway Phase 3	Building on previous work including NHS Strategic Outline Case, to develop an overall Outline Business Case for the redevelopment of the site of the former Poolway Centre at Meadway. Requires design, feasibility, and full development phases.	<p>Update April 2024: The scheme is to be progressed via development agreement with a development partner.</p> <p>The report for the disposal to a delivery partner went to Cabinet on the 16th of January. Presently work is ongoing on preparing a brief for prospective development partners. The ICB continues to be engaged.</p>
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Appendix 2: Transport Programme



Transport Scheme	Description	Status	RAG
1. A45 SPRINT Phase 10. A45 SPRINT Phase 2 (TfWM)	Sprint provides bus priority corridors in the West Midlands, with several separate proposals linking Walsall to Solihull and Birmingham Airport via Birmingham City Centre. The proposed route will eventually link Birmingham City Centre, along the EBS corridor, to the Airport and Solihull Town Centre.	Phase 1 delivered. Phase 2 is funded and expected to be delivered in 2024.	
2. Emergency Active Travel measures (Tranche 1 / 2)	The second tranche of funding is intended to support the creation of longer-term projects, some of which were delivered in a temporary capacity through the Tranche 1 programme. Schemes include, Bradford Street connecting East Birmingham into Digbeth and the city centre, the A45 (scheme 7 below) and A47 Nechells Road.	Delivered	
3. Liveable neighbourhood pilot	An ambitious net-zero liveable masterplan is planned to be developed and piloted in Tysley and Hay Mills described as: “Access to a quality green environment that is rich in wildlife, supports physical and mental wellbeing, and helps us adapt to climate change. With access to all the key daily facilities and services needed to lead a full, healthy, and happy life within a short walk or cycle journey of your home”. Engagement around “liveable neighbourhoods” to begin from May to October this year and this will involve surveys, workshops, drop in sessions and resident panels within the chosen pilot ward of Tyseley and Hay Mills.	In progress – note the location has now moved from Bordesley Green to Tyseley and Hay Mills	
4. EBNS Corridor Study (TfWM)	TfWM are currently undertaking a ‘mode agnostic’ study to assess the corridor acknowledging deliverability and cost issues for a Metro extension. Recognised in the East Birmingham Inclusive growth strategy, the delivery of a high capacity transport intervention is needed to help transform the way that people move around East Birmingham. Along with improvements to bus, rail, cycling and walking routes, A45 SPRINT and Cross City Bus, the new ‘Metro style’ service could provide a fast and reliable connection, allowing local people to access employment, education and amenities.	Study now complete and is with TfWM	

5. Stetchford Station improvements	<p>The transformation of Stechford station in Birmingham to make it more accessible for passengers has reached a key milestone with the new footbridge and lift shafts now in place.</p> <p>The upgrade to make the station accessible for West Midlands Railway's passengers will be finished by the end of the year.</p>	Understood to be completed	
6. Mobility Hubs (TfWM)	Mobility hubs will be introduced across the region, offering shared transport options and car-free connections between neighbourhoods, local centres, and transport corridors. These will be seen in East Birmingham with the aim of creating new places for communities and active travel and linking dense outer-urban residential areas and high-footfall local centres.	CRSTS funding identified subject to business case approval. Some delay to programme.	
7. A45 Active Travel Route (BCC)	A two-way cycle lane, separated from general traffic and from pedestrians using a combination of level differences, lane separator units and lines marked on the ground. This will route past Bordesley Circus along Small Heath Highway then via Bolton Road and Byron Road, linking directly with the cycle route along Bradford Street into the city centre, which is also proposed to upgrade from a pop-up to a permanent route.	Phase 1 and 2 now to be funded by ATF4 and CRSTS respectively, with Phase 3 to be part of future phases and funding bids. Subject to CRSTS business case approval.	
8. Metro Eastside Extension (TfWM)	The Birmingham Eastside Metro extension to Digbeth will serve the High Speed 2 (HS2) station at Curzon Street, separating from the existing West Midlands Metro line at Bull Street. The route is planned to consist of 1.7km of twin track running from Bull Street to a new terminus at High Street Deritend. The scheme includes four additional West Midlands Metro stops serving the east of Birmingham City Centre.	Construction activity set to be completed in 2023/24. Project is funded.	
9. Bordesley Green Active Travel Connectivity 'First/ Last Mile' (BCC)	Plans are currently being developed to improve the quality of active travel linkages between Bordesley Green Centre and within the East Birmingham to River Cole–Area.	CRSTS funding identified subject to business case approval.	

10. A45 Spring Phase 2	See A45 Sprint Phase 1 for details	Status and delivery timescales unclear.	
11. HS2 Safety Fund	Birmingham City Council has been allocated £2.66 million as part of the HS2 Road Safety Fund to support road safety schemes in the vicinity of the HS2 line. BCC have proposed to develop a package of interventions along the A47 Jennens Road and within the Vauxhall Estate – an area with a very high rate of RTCs. A transformative scheme to improve public transport and active travel provision and incorporate Healthy Streets principles for the benefit if all users.	Concept approved by BCC and HS2 RSF. Awaiting approval of additional development funding before beginning work towards end of Q1 24/25. FBC by end of 24/25 with implementation during 25/26.	
12. Cross City Bus (TfWM)	Bus Priority is a key part of achieving the objectives of the Birmingham Transport Plan and TfWM's Local Transport Plan. Most schemes are led by Transport for the West Midlands, current process is for them to be delivered by their contractor under a S278 Agreement with BCC (this may change in future). BCC leading on some small schemes linked to CAZ and BLE. TfWM also have some highway powers under Key Route Network (KRN) but BCC remains as highway authority, responsible for design reviews, TROs, Enforcement etc. Current initiatives include Sprint, Cross-City Bus, and 'Multi-Modal' Studies.	Cross-City Bus initially funded through 'Better Deal for Bus Users' (Packages 1 & 3) Remaining four packages through £59m in CRSTS. Also in CRSTS for A34 & A45 Sprint Phase 2, and £25.0m for Hagley Road Rapid Transit	
13. New Rail Stations TfWM and the West Midlands Rail Executive (WMRE)	WMRE and TfWM have earmarked £1 million funding to develop proposals for new railway stations at Castle Bromwich, Coventry East and near Tettenhall. The three locations have been shortlisted by the West Midlands Rail Executive (WMRE) following a feasibility study which concluded that a new station could provide much needed improvement to public transport for these communities thereby supporting the region's aims of creating a better connected, greener, fairer and more prosperous West Midlands.	Proposals for three new West Midlands railway stations to be developed further. Delivery timescales longer term (2030+)	

14. East Birmingham to Solihull Corridor	The priority for the next extension to the Midland Metro Network lies in east Birmingham-Solihull, linking growing residential areas and key community destinations such as Heartlands Hospital with the Curzon HS2 growth area, Birmingham city centre, Paradise Circus/Centenary Square and Brindleyplace/Five Ways/Edgbaston to the west, and the NEC/Airport and UK Central to the east.	Outcome of latest TfWM study unclear. Other modes being assessed with a phased approach to Metro delivery (see item 4). Delivery timescales longer term (2030+)	
15. Midlands Rail Hub (Midlands Connect)	The Midlands Rail Hub proposes building two 'chords' as well as 11 further engineering interventions throughout the region to deliver a massive step change in rail transport in the Midlands. A 900m - £1.5bn blueprint for faster, better and more frequent connections across the Midlands.	Work on the Midlands Rail Hub is set to begin after ministers provided an initial £123 million funding injection.	