

REPORT TITLE:	Discharge of Roles and Responsibilities since the last meeting of the Council
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AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY:	Towns, Engagement & Public Health
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TOWNS

The completion of the business cases for both Brighouse and Todmorden Town Deals represents a significant moment in the development of the programmes, and a scale of investment that will create positive change in both towns. We look forward to feedback from government over the autumn, in advance of moving into the next stages of project development and delivery.

Brighouse

The five Business Cases for the Brighouse Town Deal initiative have been submitted to government:

- Market revitalisation, the redevelopment of the town's market.
- Retail and Leisure, improving the retail and leisure environment within the town centre through pedestrianisation and other public realm improvements.
- Welcome, improving the public realm at the edge of the town centre to create a more positive welcome.
- Canalside, improving the public realm within the town centre along the canal and at Thornton Square providing a catalyst for wider investment in the town centre.
- Industry 4.0, a Brighouse-based facility for educating apprentices in cutting edge technology and processes, upskilling the workforce of the future.

We have had early feedback from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), seeking clarifications and additional information. DLUHC civil servants will visit Calderdale in October.

Todmorden

Eight Business Cases for the Todmorden Town Deal initiative have been submitted to government:

- Town Hall – refurbishment of the Town Hall for multi-use.
- Heart of Todmorden – improvements to the public realm.

- Enterprise Centre – a new mixed-use housing and business space.
- Centre Vale Park – new infrastructure improvements to increase and improve the range of attractions.
- Riverside – new and improved facilities for sport.
- Active Todmorden – promoting increased walking and cycling through access improvements.
- Hippodrome – improvements to internal infrastructure.
- Todmorden Learning and Community Hub – support for facilities to increase the range of training and support services offered.

This represents a revision from the original programme of 10 projects while continuing to make full use of the overall programme allocation.

There is an Open Day planned for 5th and 6th November in the town to provide an opportunity to share information with residents and businesses.

Elland

The refreshed Town Board has met for a second time and received a presentation on the rail station and Future High Street Fund. Plans are being further shared with the community via the developing website, 'Think you know Elland': [Think you know Elland? | Calderdale Next Chapter](#)

The Future High Street Fund project has progressed to design and costing and has been approved by all delivery stakeholders. The next step is commencing planning applications required for the two key areas of The Cartwheel Club and change of use of an area of car parking.

Halifax

Future High Street Fund projects are progressing. Following a successful tender process for the roofing replacement at the Borough Market, work has started with the erection of the scaffolding system required for this extensive piece of work.

Design and feasibility work continues about the Albany Arcade events space, improved WIFI, new toilets and blueprints for new stall design.

The scopes within the Victoria Theatre project have continued to progress, with high level costs and design now complete. The focus will be the accessibility and provision of suitable lifts to the building and the development of the foyer and daytime food, and beverage offer to widen the usage of this iconic asset.

Public Realm design work has progressed with an expert team supporting design work to improve the environment and ensure that it meets the needs and expectations of town centre users, as well as improving connectivity between spaces, particularly where we are aiming to increase footfall and vibrancy.

High Street Task Force resources (external expert time) have been identified to progress further visioning work for the town.

Sowerby Bridge

Work on the Old Town Hall is complete.

Work is progressing on the Fire and Water Building, with the Heritage Action Zone element of the development forecast to compete by the end of November 2022.

Plans to introduce a Shop Frontage scheme are well advanced, with input from Historic England as the funders. Proposals will be introduced to the Sowerby Bridge Town Board in October.

Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd

The last meeting of the Board confirmed support for a masterplan / development plan to identify potential development opportunities and include a funding strategy.

The Vale Centre works have been completed as part of the Flood Alleviation Scheme. A planning submission for the Flood Alleviation Scheme is scheduled for spring 2023.

ENGAGEMENT

The consultation on Calderdale's draft Climate Action Plan has launched and will be open for 2 months. There are a number of ways that the public and partners can get involved and a pack has been created to support partners engage with communities and staff about Climate Action. An online survey is available for anyone to complete, and partners will also be leading face to face conversations with a range of groups across the borough. Information about how to get involved is available on the consultation website. <http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/ClimateActionPlan>

Ward member led engagement with local communities to understand and mitigate the increased cost of living, is underway or planned in a number of wards.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Protecting the Public's Health

The response to the small outbreak of a rare type of meningitis (Men B) in the Todmorden area has now been completed. Everyone aged 16-24 who lives in the wider Todmorden area was invited to have 2 doses of the Men B vaccine to be protected over the Summer. The final third vaccination session took place in early September and the uptake of 2 doses appears to have been higher than expected. Data from the dedicated vaccine sessions and from local GPs (who vaccinated some people unable to attend the sessions) is currently being collated, so we can quantify the impact of the programme.

Public Health is working with partners to prepare to protect people's health and wellbeing and maintain business continuity this winter.

The Southern Hemisphere has experienced more seasonal flu than recent years and the flu season started earlier than usual. It is likely that the same will be seen in the UK this winter. It does appear that the flu vaccine is effective against variants of flu that have been circulating, so having the flu vaccination as soon as possible is important.

Calderdale Council will launch our employee and Councillor flu vaccine programme at the beginning of October. Staff and Councillors not eligible for an NHS flu vaccine will be able to visit a participating pharmacy for a free flu jab. Details will be available through ecall. This scheme is also open to staff who do not meet the criteria for an NHS vaccine, who work in education and care services.

It appears that the number of people with Covid-19 has reduced over the summer, with fewer people with Covid-19 in our hospital and only isolated outbreaks in care settings. As part of preparing for a potential increase in cases in the Winter, discussions are taking place with care managers to review and further develop our Covid risk assessment system so that there is a proportionate response to cases and outbreaks.

The Covid-19 seasonal booster programme launched at the beginning of September. The booster is available for the following groups:

- residents in a care home for older adults and staff working in care homes for older adults
- frontline health and social care workers
- all adults aged 50 years and over
- people aged 5 to 49 years in a clinical risk group
- people aged 5 to 49 years who are household contacts of people with immunosuppression
- people aged 16 to 49 years who are carers

In Calderdale, vaccine clinics are being run by GP practices and a number of pharmacies. GPs are inviting patients for their vaccine, starting with care home residents and older people. People who are eligible can also book for a pharmacy clinic through national booking system. Where the national booking system doesn't have an available slot in Calderdale, people may be given appointments outside the borough.

As well as this, our successful health inequalities vaccine team will visit a number of trusted community settings to reach people who we know are less able to travel to a pharmacy or GP practice.

Where people are eligible for both flu and covid booster vaccines, GPs, pharmacies and the health inequalities team may be able to give them both at the same time.

Starting Well

Public health and our partners promoted the Breastfeeding Welcome Scheme during Breastfeeding week in August. We're delighted that Calderdale now has 40 venues signed up to the scheme, supporting mums to breastfeeding in their premises.

Developing well

The results of the most recent [EHNA](#) have now been published. The survey is a partnership between Public Health, Children and Young People's Service and local primary and secondary schools. It is undertaken each year and provides an overview of the health and well-being of children and young people in Calderdale, and how health and wellbeing is changing. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the EHNA was not undertaken in 2020.

Unfortunately, the survey results suggest a number of health and wellbeing indicators have deteriorated significantly since before the pandemic. For primary school aged children, 38 of the indicators in the survey have got worse since the pandemic and 5 have improved. For secondary school aged children, 35 of the indicators in the survey have got worse since before the pandemic and 11 have improved.

The multi-agency Developing Well Partnership is using the findings from the survey to inform the development of a Developing Well Strategic plan and the design and delivery of the Healthy Schools programme.

Living and working well

Partners are working together to join up health and wellbeing support for adults around trusted community anchors. Through the programme partners are bringing together activities, programme and services that: support individuals and groups to adopt healthy behaviours; connect people to assets in their local community that can help them be well; and support the development of community assets for wellbeing (that are community led and sustainable) to achieve agreed health and well-being outcomes.

Calderdale Food Gathering will take place at Halifax Market 1 – 7 pm on Thursday 29th September. It will showcase local affordable and sustainable food projects and celebrate local food. Calderdale Food Network will receive the Sustainable Food Places Bronze Award and we will set out our plans to reach the Silver (and ultimately Gold) award. We will also launch our commitment to develop a Calderdale Food Strategy by early 2024, which will set out how we will work together to increase access to affordable, nutritious, sustainable food.

Ageing Well

Calderdale's Ageing Well partnership has undertaken an appreciative enquiry project to engage with communities about the Calderdale that we want to age in. This has identified 5 themes:

- Accessibility
- Things to do
- Feeling safe and belonging
- Reliable and well-connected public transport
- Age-friendly housing

A series of workshops were held in the summer which brought together partners to use the insight from the appreciate enquiry to develop priority actions for each theme, with a view to this forming Calderdale's Aging Well strategy.

Data and intelligence

Health and wellbeing Board partners are working together to develop a new approach to Calderdale's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Its initial focus is on bringing together intelligence and insight support the development and delivery of the [Wellbeing Strategy](#) priority outcomes.

Consultation has ended on the draft pharmaceutical needs assessment with most responses being positive and a few suggestions for small changes. Following the consultation, the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment has been updated and approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board. A final version will be published by 1st October.