



# City of Doncaster Council

## Report

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Date: 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024

To: The Chair and Members of the Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Panel

Report Title: Update for Levelling Up Doncaster North

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision?
Mayor Ros Jones Cllr Glyn Jones Cllr Joe Blackham	<b>Mexborough Ward; Thorne and Moorends Ward; Adwick and Carcroft Ward.</b>	<b>None</b>

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Panel is asked to give consideration to the information provided in relation to Levelling Up Doncaster North – which includes delivery in Mexborough, Moorends and Brodsworth Miners Welfare Institute. The presentation, with details of schemes, is included as a separate appendix and will be delivered during this Scrutiny meeting.
2. The Scrutiny Panel have requested an update regarding the Mexborough Ward Levelling Up project, however as this is one element of the wider programme this update has been prepared for the entirety of the LUF Round 3 scheme.

### EXEMPT REPORT

3. The report is not exempt.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

4. The Panel is asked to give consideration to the information provided in the attached presentation by officers in attendance, including Neil Firth, Head of Service, Major Projects and Investment; Jonathan Bucknall, Head of Strategic Investment and External Funding; and Michelle Beene, Strategic Investment Manager.



## **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?**

5. Reviewing such issues ensures the Panel is informed and highlights the importance of activity which will ultimately have an impact on its residents both in the specific Wards impacted and across the wider borough.

## **BACKGROUND**

6. This report seeks to provide an update regarding Levelling Up Fund (LUF) Round 3 money awarded to Doncaster Council by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).
7. On 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Levelling Up) Jacob Young MP wrote to Ed Miliband MP (for Doncaster North). The letter confirmed that City of Doncaster Council has been provisionally awarded up to £17,950,341 for the Levelling Up Doncaster North project as part of the third round of the fund.
8. Doncaster's successful LUF Round 3 package bid consists of three complementary projects within the Doncaster North constituency, specifically Mexborough, Moorends and Woodlands. The funding will enable Capital interventions and regeneration in these key areas which are vital for the economic resilience, productivity and health and wellbeing of the area.
9. Recent developments include the submission to DLUHC of a Validation form which seeks some changes to delivery within Mexborough. These changes are outlined within the presentation.
10. A review of the LUF Round 3 programme is underway, in view of the reduced delivery window available and inflationary pressures since the scheme was originally submitted.

## **OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

11. There are no specific options to consider within this report as it provides an opportunity for the Panel to consider the information presented in the appendices attached.

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION**

12. There is no recommended option.

## IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

13.

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 <b>Tackling Climate Change</b>				✓
<p>Considerations around climate change will underpin the work undertaken, but this is not the direct focus of the programme.</p>				
 <b>Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work</b>				✓
<p>LUF Round 3 is essentially a public realm programme, so although residents will benefit from improved environments, they will not be directly targeted as individuals.</p>				
 <b>Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs</b>	✓			
<p>The Levelling Up Fund projects present vital opportunities to create a stronger economy for Doncaster North.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the sustainability of Mexborough Town Centre, improving shop fronts, enhancing the public realm, delivering new and safer public spaces, increasing footfall, and integrating access with community, sports, and recreation facilities.</li> <li>Transforming the heart of Moorends to increase footfall, dwell time and pride in place by revitalising the public realm and delivering new infrastructure to increase active travel and pedestrian safety, supporting existing local businesses and attract new investment.</li> </ul>				
 <b>Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all</b>	✓			
<p>The Levelling Up Fund Projects present the opportunity to improve physical activity and overall wellbeing through the general enhancement of our communities, particularly around the spaces and facilities that are most important to our residents.</p>				

The overall schemes will enhance wider wellbeing by creating a more attractive Urban Centre environments and more opportunities for residents to engage with their town centre, both of which can improve physical and mental wellbeing.



**Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs**



The Levelling Up Fund projects present a number of vital opportunities to create safer, cleaner and greener communities where everyone belongs, improving the environment and the wellbeing of residents and visitors. This includes:

- Targeted public realm works in Mexborough including upgraded surface treatments, street furniture and planting.
- Significant new public spaces in Mexborough including a pocket park.
- Enhanced integration and active travel links to adjacent health, sports, and social facilities in Mexborough
- Public realm enhancements in Moorends that contribute towards more attractive and sustainable spaces.
- Shop frontage enhancements in Mexborough and Moorends.
- Enhanced community safety measures (lighting and CCTV).



**Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough**



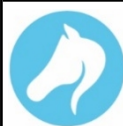
Public realm work and additional green spaces will support this objective, as well as the work around community safety.



**Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future**



Connectivity and access will be improved, but this is not the main objective of the LUF3 projects.



**Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities**



The Levelling Up Fund projects present a number of vital opportunities to increase the creative and cultural offer in Doncaster, which will support wellbeing and business success.

This includes:

- Frontage improvements to buildings in the Mexborough 'At Risk' conservation area and Moorends;
- Enhancing public realm in Mexborough and Moorends;
- Refurbishing and repurposing of the Brodsworth Miners Welfare Institute building in line with its listed status to enhance its role as an activity hub for the Woodlands and surrounding communities.

<b>Fair &amp; Inclusive</b>				✓
LUF3 provides funding for projects that will make improvements for everybody and will be available for all to use. The areas selected have significant levels of deprivation, and the projects will provide improved public environments for some of our most deprived residents.				

### **Legal Implications**

14. No Legal Implications have been sought for this report. Further specific advice can be provided in relation to any issues raised by the Panel.

### **Financial Implications**

15. No Financial Implications have been sought for this report. Further specific advice can be provided in relation to any issues raised by the Panel.

### **Human Resources Implications**

16. No Human Resources Implications have been sought for this report Further specific advice can be provided in relation to any issues raised by the Panel.

### **Technology Implications**

17. No Technology Implications have been sought for this report. Further specific advice can be provided in relation to any issues raised by the Panel.

### **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

18. There are no risks and assumptions associated with this report.

### **CONSULTATION**

19. No consultation was required for the report.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

20. Appendix 1 – Levelling Up Doncaster North – scheme update.

### **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

21. LUF – Levelling Up Fund

22. DLUHC – Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

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