

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL

PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

21 MARCH 2013

TOWN CENTRE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN UPDATE

1 Update

- 1.1 At its meeting held 13th December 2012, the Partnership Committee resolved to support in principle the concept of producing a Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan. Its purpose is to encourage town centre development in light of the planned growth for the period up to 2031. As an outcome, it is expected that the Town Centre Strategy would provide town centre (and its environs) with enhancement projects together with likely costs. For the planning authority, this level of detail is invaluable in the negotiation of S106 Agreements.
- 1.2 Following this, a meeting was held on Tuesday 26th February 2013 with the Head of Economic Regeneration and Interim Head of Business Investment and Marketing for Central Bedfordshire Council. Also in attendance was the Deputy Town Clerk.
- 1.3 It was agreed that in order to create a Development Strategy, a specification would be required that would inform the subsequent tender process. Given the complexity of the task and the resource implications, Central Bedfordshire could not commit to this project in the short term (June at the earliest).
- 1.4 Whilst the town council would welcome the support that Central Bedfordshire Council could offer, a June start date was considered unreasonable for the town council. Therefore, in order to expedite matters, a consultant has been appointed to undertake this work. A draft specification is expected on 22nd March 2013. Once agreed, the formal tendering process to appoint a consultancy to create the Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan can begin.
- 1.5 **Recommended to Partnership Committee to note the report and formally endorse the decision to hire a consultant.**

Report Author :
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