

Weston Placemaking Strategy projects

Project name	Description	Officer leading	Duration/ timescale	Budget	Stage	Primary outcome (from WPS)	Secondary outcome (from WPS)	Location	Nov-2020	RAG
Alexandra Parade	Creation of bus interchange, pedestrian, cycling and landscape improvements to Alexandra Parade, Regent St and Station Road	Rachel Lewis	Approx 12 months starting January 2021	£6.8m	Procurement	Weston Experience	Active Weston	Alexandra Parade	Executive Member to confirm acceptance of revised scope, which will bring scheme back within budget. Delegated Director Decision to award contract.	Amber
Banksy Pinwheel	Refurbishment and installation of the Dismaland Pinwheel at a suitable location in Weston town centre	Richard Blows	Installation to occur post Covid	£50k from coastal Revival fund	Scoping/ planning	Weston Experience		The Bay	Discussions with Banksys Management company on hold due to Covid travel restrictions	Amber
Bike Hub	Realise a cycle hub for bike hire, maintenance and explore further outdoor pursuits offers and tuition and option of a wider 'mobility hub'	Frankie Mann	2 year timeframe (tbc)	£65,000 (additional funds maybe identified through Weston General Stores)	Scoping/ planning	Active Weston	Green Weston	High Street	A cycle hub has now been realised at Yatton Station on the Strawberry Line, which ensures we meet Access Fund funding allocations requirements and delivery. (Nov 2020) Further discussions will flow from the Turner Works placemaking strategy and recommendations. It is thought the best location for a W-s-M hub is likely to be the Sovereign centre subject to the report. £65,000 has already been identified however further funding will need to be sought to realise the ambition at the Sovereign Centre.	Amber
Birnbeck Pier	Restoration of the Pier and its surrounds and bringing back into use via a CPO and 'back to back' agreement with RNLI	Rachel Lewis	Approx 5 years dependant on CPO process, aiming for public access by end 2024	Est. £9m total cost. Council input limited to some staff time, rest to be funded by RNLI, Historic England and other grants	Scoping/ planning	Weston Experience	Active Weston	The Bay	Formal objection and application for a 'stay' to proceedings has been submitted by CNM Estates, the current owner. Officers and external lawyers developing statement of case for the hearings. No dates have yet been confirmed for the hearings. CNM have a Listed Building application for some limited works that is still to be determined as it is awaiting further information from the applicant. Discussions continue with RNLI re the development of their proposals for the restoration of the Pier and provision of lifesaving and associated facilities.	Green
Business Support	Business support programme, delivering pre start-up & start-up, micro and freelancer support, including: Digital innovation and adaptation support Sustainability advice – building businesses with green credentials from start-up stages Inclusive practice advice – working with businesses to consider the impact and ability to ensure their practices are inclusive as possible Health and well-being support – enhanced specialist support to the business community to create workplaces and businesses with a focus on health & well-being NB support and budget is across North Somerset	Jane Harrison	3 year programme Start date September 2020	£200k (£75k from West of England Growth Hub)	Delivery/ operation	Work Weston	Learning Weston	All	Universal Business Support is up and running in Weston Growth Hub Offer is being communicated to businesses New round of grant support from government is being delivered	Green

Carbon neutral	Providing more EV charging facilities and improving the connections between trains, buses and walking and cycling Business sourcing local produce to drive the regional circular economy Repurposing redundant buildings and restoring heritage assets as places to live, work and socialise	Nikki Webb	Ongoing	Project dependent	Scoping/ planning	Carbon Neutral Weston	All	All	Carbon neutral objective to be embedded into full range of programmes and projects. An additional overarching programme is being worked up.	Amber
Concessions and Asset Animation	Building a strategic and phased approach to animating and letting assets and concessions to help curate movement and footfall, drive up quality and contribute to the experience economy of town centres, particularly in Weston where most opportunities exist. Objectives are: - investment and financial stability - support placemaking objectives - employment and business	Alex Hearn	Phase 1: 6 months	None identified but will require agency and legal fees	Scoping/ planning	Weston Experience	Work Weston	All	Officer project team has met to define scope and build a programme of activity. Some assets require immediate attention with active discussions underway for SeaQuarium and Town Quarry	Amber
Culture Weston	Culture Weston is a partnership-led initiative that places culture at the heart of Weston-super-Mare's daily life and future growth. It is led by North Somerset arts organisation Theatre Orchard, in collaboration with North Somerset Council, Arts Council England and the local community. Its aims are to: offer advice and support develop partnerships and collaborations instigate new initiatives that can help forge an optimistic, people-powered future for town.	Richard Blows	Ongoing	£20,000	Scoping/ planning	Weston Experience	Weston Wellbeing	All	Town Centre Cultural Programme: Business support element: 1) Freelancer support (3hrs) – Masterclasses (themed) offered by Theatre Orchard, delivered by professional creatives. 2) Start-up support (3hrs) – Taster sessions leading to referral to NSEA 3) Light touch interventions – Virtual drop in sessions (or face to face in Sovereign Centre), pre-booked, 1 hr chat leading to for example: referral to NSEA, signposting, discussion of project idea, referral to other artist for collaboration etc Activities: 1.£20k funding agreed by Town Council to support Culture Weston Winter Lights event for Grove Park, which will now be held in Jan/Feb. 2.Collaborating with Trigger on Health Weekender taking place in March 3.Collaborating with Arcadia on various future light shows. They are also supporting them with a future NPO status application to Arts Council (this will be great for North Somerset) and working with them so they can provide professional development opportunities for creatives (fab opportunity for creatives to get experience from Arcadia!)	Green

Delivery of homes	To facilitate or deliver a range of high quality homes for purchase or rent, including through conversions of existing properties	Jenny Ford	Ongoing	None, but application to OPE pending	Scoping/ planning	Living Weston	Carbon Neutral Weston	All	Please see updates on individual sites. In addition, a bid has been made along with West of England partners for One Public Estate funding to support Town and City Centre regeneration across the sub-region. For North Somerset this would focus on testing the feasibility of a programme of acquisition and conversion of vacant properties to bring them back into use for high-quality affordable or private rental use, in conjunction with affordable housing partners. A decision on the bid is due in February.	Amber
Digital Weston	Improve digital access across the town, both in terms of connectivity and through skills. Supporting providers to install FullFibre infrastructure in the town to connect c50,000 homes and business premises through planning, highways and property functions of the council.	Alex Hearn/ Jane Harrison	Ongoing - although specific projects will have differing timescales Digital inclusion project is live and funded for 12 months. Full Fibre connectivity is underway but will not be live until 2024	£80k for digital inclusion project	Delivery/ operation	Work Weston	Learning Weston	All	Match funding has been secured from DWP to deliver a digital inclusion project. This is a 12 month initiative targeting the digital divide exacerbated by Covid-19 by supporting North Somerset residents at risk of digital exclusion. The project will support the target group with the shift to digital learning, accessing virtual employability support and equipping them to undertake jobs in the new virtual and remote working environment. It will do this by assessing the reason behind an individual's digital exclusion and then targeting support to overcome the barrier, this could range from access to equipment or broadband, lack of relevant skills or a requirement for ongoing support with digital developments. Teams across Place are engaged with CityFibre to enable access to sites and highways for the installation of full fibre infrastructure. Development team has just unblocked legal barrier at Weston Rugby Club. This is an active and ongoing process across the town.	Green
Dolphin Square	Support Homes England in bringing site forward for a residential led development	Martin O'Neill	Start on site within 3 years	Homes England	Engagement	Weston Experience	Active Weston	High Street	Engaging with Homes England about commencement of marketing exercise based on draft programme: Spring 2021 Marketing of sites (April/May) Summer 2021 Receipt of bids, evaluation & due diligence Autumn 2021 Exchange of contracts Spring 2022 Submission of planning application Autumn 2022 Determination of planning application Discharge of planning conditions Mobilisation Early 2023 Start on site	Amber

Experience/ visitor Economy (includes events curation and development)	Implement the priorities in the Visitor Economy Action Plan, as relevant to Weston. Seek opportunities to broaden the diversity and quality of experiences on offer in Weston	Alex Hearn/ Jane Harrison/ Sara Pacey	Ongoing	None	Delivery/ operation	Weston Experience	Weston Wellbeing	All	Visitor Economy: A project with Visit Somerset has started (press release and formal launch delayed as it coincided with announcements around the new lockdown and grant support). This project will: Provide data and intelligence to support targeted business support and marketing activity Deliver a package of business support webinars including: •Disability awareness •LGBTQ+ Markets •Infection control •Accounting and financial acumen •Local Food Producers and Buying Local - The importance of local provenance •Digital strategy and building digital markets Deliver positive national press stories Implement a Visitor Economy Academy - working directly with Weston College to provide individual businesses with one to one training based on skills gaps. Provide a North Somerset visitor economy marketing campaign Develop 4 themed itineraries, linking places to stay, shop, eat, drink and buy with our attractions NB: Activity in NS wide but a large amount of Weston businesses will benefit.	Green
Grove Park	Renovation of buildings, rookeries, water features, boundaries and pathways. The project will support the existing Park Friends network and develop local community heritage skills.	John Flannigan	Ongoing			Green Weston	Active Weston	Grove Village and the Boulevard	No further work has taken place on this project.	Amber
Heritage Action Zone awareness and engagement	Historic England fund a programme of awareness and engagement around the heritage of Weston town centre. A further application is currently being developed for cultural heritage activities, in collaboration with Culture Weston.	Cara MacMahon	HAZ to 2022 and HSHAS and Cultural programme to 2024	£574k awareness & engagement programme £100k allocated for cultural programme - £10k drawn down	Delivery/ operation	Learning Weston	Weston Experience	All	Ongoing though most activity has moved online due to Covid	Green
Historic shop front/building facade grants	Two grant programmes in the town centre for restoration and repair of shopfronts and building facades. Grants of up to 75% available to private owners of properties within the defined areas. Architects appointed to assist with developing and overseeing works	Cara MacMahon	To 2024	£1.2m plus private sector match	Delivery/ operation	Work Weston	Weston Experience	All	Tender out for first grant funded project (Walker and Ling), architect appointed to work with us on HSHAZ funded project in southern part of the town centre	Green

Lighter, quicker, cheaper activity/ vacant site activation	Securing funding and investment to activate vacant/ dormant sites to enliven the town centre	Jane Harrison	Ongoing	None	Scoping/ planning	Weston Experience	Learning Weston	All	Outdoor public seating project delivered over the summer period, providing chairs and tables in Weston Town Centre. Weston Artspace was able to operate during a couple of months this year, but has been unable to open during periods of national lockdown. An extension to the Meanwhile Lease is being explored with the Meanwhile Foundation due to these periods of inactivity. RAG rated as amber as there is no additional funding to undertake activity and Homes England have not released any of their sites for LQC activity. Funding needs to be secured before future projects are delivered.	Amber
Locking Road Carpark	Support Homes England in bringing site forward for a residential led development	Martin O'Neill	Start on site within 3 years	Homes England	Engagement	Weston Experience	Active Weston	Weston Station	Engaging with Homes England about commencement of marketing exercise based on draft programme: Spring 2021 Marketing of sites (April/May) Summer 2021 Receipt of bids, evaluation & due diligence Autumn 2021 Exchange of contracts Spring 2022 Submission of planning application Autumn 2022 Determination of planning application Discharge of planning conditions Mobilisation Early 2023 Start on site	Amber
Marine Lake	Investigate if and how the sluice gates could be repaired so that Marine Lake can become a more attractive local leisure amenity and seafront attraction. Investigate the local appetite for community run management arrangements as in Clevedon and Portishead.	Alex Hearn/ John Flannigan	1-2 years	None identified but will require revenue and capital funding	Scoping/ planning	Active Weston	Weston Experience	The Bay	Initial meeting held with 'Mudlarks' group and local and executive members. Silt contamination survey instructed and results just received and are being examined. The survey results will inform the extent of work that will be required to drain parts of the lake to properly investigate the extent of damage to the sluice gates, which will then enable an estimation of capital works required.	Amber
New Primary School	Site for a new primary school has been identified at the Recreation Ground, this needs to be 'allocated' in the new Local Plan and delivered through the education team.	Michael Reep/Sally Varley	TBC	Basic Need / development contributions	Scoping/ planning	Learning Weston	Living Weston	Weston Station	First step is to allocate in forthcoming Local Plan. Timeline for delivery will relate to need, which is linked to speed of housing delivery, amongst other factors. Pupil projections are updated every six months, looking at least five years ahead.	Green

Town Quarry	Project to identify a secure long term future for the Town Quarry as a valuable community and historic asset that can contribute to Weston's experience. WCS have managed the site and made some investment over the years but have now asked to be able to surrender their lease.	Alex Hearn/ Richard Blows	6 months	None identified. Future partners would be required to invest.	Procurement	Weston Experience	Work Weston	Hillside	Weston Town Council officers are developing a proposal to their members to take on a 25 year lease from the council. The lease would then encourage partnership arrangements with 3rd parties to contribute to the project. The Stable have been identified as an additional partner to take on part of the site and share the events programme. Next steps are for WTC to progress decision making and for NSC officers and members to be properly brief. Intention is to make a formal decision in Q4 2020/21.	Green
Re-wilding	A strategy for increased planting through the town centre aims to improve provision for biodiversity, making corridors for wildlife to pass from Weston Woods to the dunes.	John Flannigan	24 months		Delivery/ operation	Green Weston	Living Weston	All	The emerging green infrastructure strategy will identify specific actions to deliver this objective for 2021/22.	Green
Seaquarium	Pursue options for bringing the property back into beneficial use	Martin O'Neill	Over next 12 months	None	Scoping/ planning	Active Weston	Weston Experience	The Bay	Negotiations ongoing with current tenant and prospective new tenant with a view to transferring the lease to a new, alternative, operation	Amber
Skills and employability	Implement the priorities in the North Somerset Employment and Skills Strategy.	Jane Harrison	Ongoing	£83k from DWP for Opportunity North Somerset & £43k from DWP for digital inclusion (across North Somerset)	Scoping/ planning	Learning Weston	Work Weston	All	Direct North Somerset Interventions: The Digital Inclusion Co-ordinator has been recruited and project delivery will begin in November. Much of the support will be focussed in Weston due to high levels of deprivation and lower skills. The Opportunity North Somerset Project Co-ordinator role has gone out to recruitment - project initiation should also start in November, and we will start considering which parts of the programme might be delivered virtually. High level partner interventions (e.g. Weston College) will be reported on in later reporting cycles as will be drawn together from the Employment and Skills Strategy Tactical Delivery Group (still being set up) More detailed updates on progress against the ESS will be included in the December report with a link to a monitoring spreadsheet.	Green
Sovereign Centre and Weston General Stores	Preparation of Business Plan for the Sovereign Centre to include the Weston General Stores concept, followed by the delivery of various works/projects	Martin O'Neill	Look to deliver the WGS element of the business plan by March 2022 to align with Getting Building Fund grant	£1.7m grant allocated from Getting Building Fund to support the WGS concept. Up to £5m of NSC borrowing may be available to deliver the wider Sovereign Centre business plan projects	Scoping/ planning	Weston Experience	Work Weston	High Street	Draft revised Business Plan for Sovereign Centre in preparation to include the Weston General Stores Concept. Getting Building Fund grant of £1.7m allocated for WGS. Business case to be submitted to WECA to secure this funding - January committee if possible. Grant to be spent by March 2022	Amber
Spider Lane	Enhancement of Spider Lane to become a more attractive link from seafront to the High St	Rachel Lewis	To be completed early 2021	£130k	Procurement	Weston Experience	Active Weston	The Bay	Order to be placed to confirm contract/works.	Green

Student accommodation	Facilitate the delivery of good quality student accommodation	Rachel Lewis	Ongoing	None		Learning Weston	Living Weston	Grove Village and the Boulevard	Initial scheme delivered by private sector at Grove Village. Other development interest known, although limited enquiries since commencement of Covid emergency.	Amber
Sunnyside Road	Support Homes England in bringing site forward for a residential led development	Martin O'Neill	Start on site within 3 years		Engagement	Weston Experience	Active Weston	Weston Station	Engaging with Homes England about commencement of marketing exercise based on draft programme: Spring 2021 Marketing of sites (April/May) Summer 2021 Receipt of bids, evaluation & due diligence Autumn 2021 Exchange of contracts Spring 2022 Submission of planning application Autumn 2022 Determination of planning application Discharge of planning conditions Mobilisation Early 2023 Start on site	Amber
Walliscote Place	Delivery of high quality, mixed-use scheme including redevelopment of Magistrate's Court and delivery of 70 - 100 new homes	Jenny Ford	Start on site within 3 years	£95k	Scoping/ planning	Living Weston	Carbon Neutral Weston	Alexandra Parade	Soft market testing to be commissioned to agree delivery options. Application submitted to Land Release Fund for £600k to support removal/filling of underground fuel tank.	Amber
Wayfinding	A bold and creative approach to wayfinding, using street furniture, murals on buildings, graphics on the highway can support movement into and around the town by walking and cycling. Tactically located interventions can encourage people to explore more of the town, to experience the richness of the more serendipitous and peculiar spaces and places found in the town centre	Rachel Lewis	Ongoing	None	Scoping/ planning	Weston Experience	Active Weston	All	Initial elements to be incorporated into Alexandra Parade, Grove Village, HAZ and Sovereign Centre projects.	Amber
Weston College University Centre	Support Weston College to become a University with taught degree awarding powers	Jane Harrison	3 years	None	Engagement	Learning Weston	Work Weston	All	Update requested from the College, also direction on any support needed from NSC	Green
Weston Place Agency	Network to drive collaborative leadership among partners in the town.	Alex Hearn	Long term	None	Delivery/ operation	Weston Experience	Work Weston	All	Initial 12 month steering group created and meeting regularly and driving activity to better coordinate events, cultural activity and communications across partners in the town. Online launch event being planned for 1st December to invite business, community groups, investors and partners to become part of the network.	Green
Workspace (including The Stable)	Facilitate and support investment in workspace in Weston, which responds to market demand, provides jobs and supports business growth.	Jane Harrison	Ongoing	None	Engagement	Work Weston	Weston Experience	All	The Stable has gone from strength to strength during lockdown and has taken on a number of new buildings and has a waiting list for their individual offices Conversations held with WGS consultants regarding what any workspace offer in WGS should look like Discussion held with potential interested investor in Weston workspace See also report on Junction 21 Enterprise Area.	Green

Worlebury Hill Fort	Agreed clearance project to protect Scheduled Monument and facilitate improved access.	Cat Lodge	1 - 3 years	Agreed	Engagement	Weston Experience	Green Weston	Hillside	Initial scrub clearance underway in conjunction with local volunteer groups. Felling license under consideration by Forestry Commission. National Lottery Fund not accepting applications at current time due to Covid, but anticipated a bid will be made after Spring 2021.	Amber
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	Scoping/ planning	Weston Wellbeing	All	Red
	Engagement	Active Weston	The Bay	Amber
	Procurement	Green Weston	Grove Village and the Boulevard High Street	Green
	Delivery/ operation Complete	Carbon Neutral Weston	Orchard Meadows Alexandra Parade Weston Station Hillside	
		Weston Experience		
		Learning Weston		
		Work Weston		
		Living Weston		
		All		