Luton Investment Framework
April - June 2017

www.thinkluton.co.uk
2017: The year so far...

The Luton Investment Framework - our 20-year plan for major transformation through inward investment – sees another successful three months.

The first part of the year saw many positive milestones and this trend has continued in the months that followed.

There has been significant progress with key developments which are helping to regenerate sites in the town, and various projects are moving along which will also help secure economic growth, including the employment site at Bartlett Square. We’ve just announced funding in skills, culture and community projects, including £1.3 million for projects to help Luton people access Luton jobs. With the signing of a Concordat between the Council and Luton CCG we saw the continuation of joined up working which will help support the delivery of this investment.

The Luton International Carnival in May and the Big Iftar in June both celebrated the great diversity of our town and Imagine Luton put on a spectacular outdoor festival enjoyed by thousands.

The local launch of the Luton Investment Framework in June brought together key players from across the private and public sector, education, health and wellbeing, arts and culture and the community. The event showed what a difference a year makes since the launch of LIF in 2016 with the promise of more to come.

Cllr Hazel Simmons
Leader of Luton Council
Luton-based construction firm Ryebridge has been awarded a £7 million contract as part of London Luton Airport’s (LLA) transformation project – directly supporting 40 local jobs including three apprentices.

The work includes the creation of four new aircraft stands and the construction of a new taxiway extension, both of which will help the airport increase capacity and improve the efficiency of aircraft movements. Works are already underway, and are expected to be complete by the end of the year.

Wardown House was re-opened following a £3.5 million redevelopment, which has opened up new areas of the building. The ground floor has been improved and furnished to give visitors an insight into a wealthy family home during the Victorian period whilst telling the story of Luton.

Economic Development held a successful business breakfast where they consulted on the plans for the new skills programme.

Apprenticeship Levy came into force.
Luton Aspire launched a new programme for 15-24 year olds who are currently not in education, employment or training. The programme is designed to support young people to access exciting job opportunities, college courses or training programmes and has been funded by the European Social Fund.

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Luton Sixth Form students attend National Apprenticeship show in Milton Keynes.

Active Luton’s ME time Women only programme awarded £72,000 by Sport England to continue for another year.

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London Luton Airport opened the new dual carriageway access road making it quicker and easier to reach the terminal. The construction of the dual carriageway followed the construction of a 1,700 space multi-storey car park and re-designed bus interchange.

University of Bedfordshire win a contract to provide Tesco with higher level apprenticeships.

The first flight operated by Thomas Cook Airlines took off from London Luton Airport, marking the arrival of the 14th airline at the airport and the 14th new route this year.

The A5/M1 road link opened.

The SEMLEP Careers and Enterprise Company have partnered with vehicle manufacturer Vauxhall Motors and Luton-based Cardinal Newman Catholic School. This partnership will closely link teachers, careers advisers and students at the school with Vauxhall Motors to develop and implement plans to increase employer engagement with the young people, to inform and inspire them, together with developing relevant skills and attributes ready for work.

ACTIVE LUTON’S ME TIME WINS NATIONAL AWARD FOR ENGAGING INACTIVE PEOPLE.

WOMEN ONLY PROGRAMME WINS A SPORTA AWARD FOR THE WORK OF LARGE TRUSTS IN ENGAGING INACTIVE PEOPLE.

THE ME TIME

SPORTA AWARD FOR THE WOMEN ONLY PROGRAMME WINS A

Luton Investment Framework | Quarterly Review April - June 2017
The public consultation on Century Park Access Road and new park were completed in May.

Two young women returned to Luton Sixth Form College to encourage current Career Ready students to follow in their footsteps. Shorna Khan and Privilege Saungweme were invited to the programme’s Celebration of Success event in May and spoke about their lives and how their Career Ready experiences had helped equip them with vital skills to take them through university and into the world of work.

Luton International Carnival was held ‘celebrating the world to build our future’. It included an array of food stalls, arts and craft stalls and a new community stage.
June

- Barnfield College announces it is placing both its sites, located on New Bedford Road and Enterprise Way up for sale. Proceeds will be invested in the new build on Bute Street.

- The first Imagine Luton festival was held on 24th to 25th June featuring local, national and international artists, bringing streets to life with theatre, circus, dance and music performances.

- The local launch of the LIF brought together key players from across both the private and public sector, education, health & wellbeing, arts and culture and the community.

- 'This is Luton Festival' and 'Big Iftar' joint event in Wardown Park which promoted community cohesion, celebrated diversity and provided learning about Luton’s communities.
Emerging proposals for a new £100 million key employment site at Bartlett Square went on display at a public exhibition in June.

The proposals include investment in:

- A new hotel with up to 170 bedrooms and serviced apartments
- 240,000 sq ft flexible and high-quality office space
- Complementary retail of 6,000 sq ft
- On-site multi-storey car park serving the offices.

Bartlett Square is part of the new London Luton Airport Enterprise Zone, supported by SEMLEP, which will deliver up to 7,200 new jobs and inward investment to support economic growth across the sub-region.

Sport England has confirmed significant investment in the health and wellbeing of Luton people in 2017.

Active Luton has started a programme of awareness-raising, incentives, customer support and centre improvements under the brand ‘Your Pool’ to encourage the people of Luton to use its swimming pools more – particularly people deemed ‘at risk’ of poor health, older people, children and young people, disabled people, women and girls and the black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) community.
Luton Borough Council and Luton Clinical Commissioning Group signed a concordat demonstrating each organisation’s commitment to enable people in Luton to pursue healthier lives and put people and communities at the heart of everything they do. Together they plan to completely transform health and social care services for local people by creating a single commissioning function to address the complex health and care needs of the town. This means there will be an even greater emphasis on reducing inequalities in accessing services, offering support to enable individuals to shape their own care, and a greater focus on prevention.

The Council invests £1.3 million for projects to help Luton people access Luton jobs, prioritising the transition of young people from education to employment. It will also be used to respond to needs of employers, address adult skills and promote career opportunities, particularly in construction.

Luton Culture has been awarded £500,000 capital funding from Arts Council England towards the refurbishing of the Hat Factory Arts Centre on Bute Street. This grant is in addition to confirmed funding from SEMLEP Local Growth Fund, Luton Borough Council and the Trust’s own funds. The £1.2 million capital project will transform the ground and first floors of the Arts Centre with the development of an opened out entrance, a new theatre foyer and outdoor viewing platform, 2 new independent retail spaces, enlarged café-bar and a new education and skills workshop. Capital works on the Hat Factory shall start in spring 2018 and be completed by spring 2019. This is part of the £9 million Hat District Cluster development project being delivered by the Trust which will provide new and enhanced arts and cultural provision, new jobs and vibrancy into the heart of Luton.
Network Rail’s consultation on Phase Two of the western section of the East-West rail link (Bicester to Bedford) commenced on 30th June.

Volunteers Week celebrated in Luton.

The University of Bedfordshire received a Silver Award in the first ever Teaching Excellence Framework published in June which is a national award for excellent teaching.

Luton was chosen by Sport England for a major pilot project to encourage more people to use their local swimming pools as part of its strategy to target inactivity. Thanks to the National Lottery, the funding from Sport England for this intensive, one-year project is £292,000.

Plans for the Luton DART were approved which will enable fast, easy access from central London to the UK’s fifth biggest and fastest-growing major airport in 30 minutes, by providing a seamless transfer time of just five minutes from Luton Airport Parkway to the airport terminal. The airport’s owner, London Luton Airport Ltd (LLAL), wholly-owned by Luton Borough Council, will fund the scheme under its capital programme. Work could begin in late 2017, with the system ready for operation by spring 2021.

The hugely successful ME TIME women’s and girls’ activity programme received a further year’s funding after achieving double its three-year target of getting women and girls over 14 across Luton involved in sport and physical activities – many of whom were previously inactive.

A new service was launched on 26th June to tackle homelessness in Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes and to help rough sleepers get their lives back on track. This is a partnership between local councils including Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes councils. The scheme provides a combination of outreach support and assessment hubs where people can go to access help.
Opportunity
Aspiration
Prosperity

The Luton Investment Framework

www.luton.gov.uk/lutoninvestmentframework
Luton in numbers

22 MINUTES
BY TRAIN FROM LONDON

ONE OF THE
5 MOST
AFFORDABLE
TOWNS IN THE COUNTRY FOR COMMUTING TO LONDON

UK’S 5TH
BUSIEST AND
FASTEST-GROWING AIRPORT
100+ DESTINATIONS
ACROSS FOUR CONTINENTS

LONDON LUTON AIRPORT CONTRIBUTES
£2,000 EVERY
MINUTE
TO THE UK ECONOMY

CATCHMENT WITH
HIGHEST LEVEL OF
RETAIL SPEND
IN THE UK

18,500 NEW JOBS

MORE THAN
£1.5 BILLION
PRIVATE INVESTMENT

RICH CULTURE AND HERITAGE
122 LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS,
AWARD-WINNING
MUSEUMS AND PARKS

92% OF CHILDREN ATTEND
GOOD OR EXCELLENT
SCHOOLS
PLUS HALF A BILLION POUNDS SPENT
ON IMPROVING EDUCATION FACILITIES

TOP UK CITY
FOR BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY
97.6% OF ADDRESSES CAN CONNECT TO
SUPER-FAST BROADBAND

8 STRATEGIC
DEVELOPMENT SITES
ENGINEERING, INNOVATION,
EMPLOYMENT, LEISURE,
RETAIL, OFFICE ACCOMMODATION
AND HOUSING

ENTERPRISE ZONE
STATUS

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