Luton is Transforming
A year in the life of the Luton Investment Framework 2016

www.thinkluton.co.uk
A year in the life of the Luton Investment Framework

Wow … what a year! In just 12 short, but very busy, months the Luton Investment Framework – our 20-year plan for major transformation through inward investment – is already making a real difference to the people of this town.

A quick skim through this leaflet brings the Investment Framework to life. It shows what can be achieved when the Council comes together with private and public sector partners – each with a huge passion for Luton – to drive improvements to health and wellbeing and enhance prosperity across the town.

We know times are tough, and a lot of challenges remain, but you just need to look at the progress that is being made to see that aspirations are growing and Luton has announced itself on the national stage to public and private sector investment.

None of this would have been possible without the hard work of so many people from the Council, local businesses, development partners and other organisations. I want to say a particular thanks to those on the front line, whether it’s our street cleaners, carers or charity workers, who get up each and every morning to make Luton a better place. Thank you!

Cllr Hazel Simmons
Leader of Luton Council
Secretary of State Patrick McLoughlin performs the ground-breaking works at London Luton Airport to officially start the £110 million transformation to significantly improve the passenger experience and increase annual capacity by 50 per cent to 18 million passengers by 2020.

Thousands of rail users and local residents sign a petition, posted on social media, and lobby the Government and train operators calling for urgent repairs to Luton railway station.

Princess Anne officially opens Community House, which is the location for the innovative Luton Access service, offering expert advice for residents from a range of agencies under one roof, and assisting with a smooth transition to Universal Credit for many customers.
The busiest ever Luton employment, training and skills (LETS) fair is held. More than 1,300 people hear about hundreds of local job and training opportunities and receive expert careers advice and guidance from 55 local businesses, education and training providers and recruitment agencies.

World Social Work Day – Luton’s event includes guest speakers from the College of Social Work, the University of Bedfordshire, SEPT and the Council’s principal social worker for children’s social care, Alison Foreman.

The neighbourhood masterplan for a major redevelopment in High Town is announced.

Through the Council’s New Horizons supported employment service, customers with a learning disability are offered the opportunity to undertake work experience with Bedfordshire Police as part of the ‘Apprentice Steps’ programme.

LONDON LUTON AIRPORT CARRIES OVER 87,000 PASSENGERS IN FEBRUARY

A 27.7% INCREASE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS OF GROWTH

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announces Luton’s successful application to the Government for the new London Luton Airport Enterprise Zone.

Official ground-breaking event is held at Marsh Farm for its major £25 million redevelopment. The Council is delivering this scheme in partnership with Keepmoat.

Adria Airways is announced as a new airline from London Luton Airport.

The busiest ever Luton employment, training and skills (LETS) fair is held. More than 1,300 people hear about hundreds of local job and training opportunities and receive expert careers advice and guidance from 55 local businesses, education and training providers and recruitment agencies.

LONDON LUTON AIRPORT CARRIES OVER 87,000 PASSENGERS IN FEBRUARY

A 27.7% INCREASE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS OF GROWTH

Adria Airways is announced as a new airline from London Luton Airport.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announces Luton’s successful application to the Government for the new London Luton Airport Enterprise Zone.

Official ground-breaking event is held at Marsh Farm for its major £25 million redevelopment. The Council is delivering this scheme in partnership with Keepmoat.

The neighbourhood masterplan for a major redevelopment in High Town is announced.

Through the Council’s New Horizons supported employment service, customers with a learning disability are offered the opportunity to undertake work experience with Bedfordshire Police as part of the ‘Apprentice Steps’ programme.
Luton announces itself as a major player in the UK economy with the successful launch of the Investment Framework in front of a packed audience of investors, businesses, media and opinion formers at the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel in London. The event leads to an unprecedented amount of positive media coverage for Luton, with hundreds of national, regional and trade media articles and excellent features on the town.

Successful bids are confirmed for £3.2 million to renovate Wardown House as a visitor attraction.

April – June

Luton announces itself as a major player in the UK economy with the successful launch of the Investment Framework in front of a packed audience of investors, businesses, media and opinion formers at the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel in London. The event leads to an unprecedented amount of positive media coverage for Luton, with hundreds of national, regional and trade media articles and excellent features on the town.

Luton secures £1.5 million from the Arts Council for the Luton Investment Programme. The five strands of funding will enhance the arts and cultural infrastructure of Luton, ensuring the town has an exciting offer with something for everyone.

Announcement of plans to invest in a £200 million Mass Passenger Transit linking the airport with mainline Luton Airport Parkway station.

Regeneration works around the shopping parade at Riddy Lane are completed and officially opened.

Luton secures £1.5 million from the Arts Council for the Luton Investment Programme. The five strands of funding will enhance the arts and cultural infrastructure of Luton, ensuring the town has an exciting offer with something for everyone.

April – June

Luton announces itself as a major player in the UK economy with the successful launch of the Investment Framework in front of a packed audience of investors, businesses, media and opinion formers at the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel in London. The event leads to an unprecedented amount of positive media coverage for Luton, with hundreds of national, regional and trade media articles and excellent features on the town.

Successful bids are confirmed for £3.2 million to renovate Wardown House as a visitor attraction.

Luton begins delivering new integrated 0-19 years’ health services, fully aligned with the 0-5 years Flying Start strategy, providing a cohort of front line workers with experience and understanding of the needs of families.

Luton secures £1.5 million from the Arts Council for the Luton Investment Programme. The five strands of funding will enhance the arts and cultural infrastructure of Luton, ensuring the town has an exciting offer with something for everyone.

April – June

Luton announces itself as a major player in the UK economy with the successful launch of the Investment Framework in front of a packed audience of investors, businesses, media and opinion formers at the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel in London. The event leads to an unprecedented amount of positive media coverage for Luton, with hundreds of national, regional and trade media articles and excellent features on the town.

Successful bids are confirmed for £3.2 million to renovate Wardown House as a visitor attraction.

Luton begins delivering new integrated 0-19 years’ health services, fully aligned with the 0-5 years Flying Start strategy, providing a cohort of front line workers with experience and understanding of the needs of families.

Luton secures £1.5 million from the Arts Council for the Luton Investment Programme. The five strands of funding will enhance the arts and cultural infrastructure of Luton, ensuring the town has an exciting offer with something for everyone.

April – June

Luton announces itself as a major player in the UK economy with the successful launch of the Investment Framework in front of a packed audience of investors, businesses, media and opinion formers at the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel in London. The event leads to an unprecedented amount of positive media coverage for Luton, with hundreds of national, regional and trade media articles and excellent features on the town.

Successful bids are confirmed for £3.2 million to renovate Wardown House as a visitor attraction.

Luton begins delivering new integrated 0-19 years’ health services, fully aligned with the 0-5 years Flying Start strategy, providing a cohort of front line workers with experience and understanding of the needs of families.

Luton secures £1.5 million from the Arts Council for the Luton Investment Programme. The five strands of funding will enhance the arts and cultural infrastructure of Luton, ensuring the town has an exciting offer with something for everyone.

April – June

Luton announces itself as a major player in the UK economy with the successful launch of the Investment Framework in front of a packed audience of investors, businesses, media and opinion formers at the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel in London. The event leads to an unprecedented amount of positive media coverage for Luton, with hundreds of national, regional and trade media articles and excellent features on the town.

Successful bids are confirmed for £3.2 million to renovate Wardown House as a visitor attraction.

Luton announces itself as a major player in the UK economy with the successful launch of the Investment Framework in front of a packed audience of investors, businesses, media and opinion formers at the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel in London. The event leads to an unprecedented amount of positive media coverage for Luton, with hundreds of national, regional and trade media articles and excellent features on the town.

Successful bids are confirmed for £3.2 million to renovate Wardown House as a visitor attraction.

Luton announces itself as a major player in the UK economy with the successful launch of the Investment Framework in front of a packed audience of investors, businesses, media and opinion formers at the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel in London. The event leads to an unprecedented amount of positive media coverage for Luton, with hundreds of national, regional and trade media articles and excellent features on the town.

Successful bids are confirmed for £3.2 million to renovate Wardown House as a visitor attraction.
The planning application for a major £300 million mixed-use development at Napier Gateway is received from J2 Global.

The achievements of Luton Council staff are celebrated at the annual Luton Excellence Awards.

The Festival of Learning week is hosted by Adult Learning.

Security minister the Rt Hon John Hayes visits Luton to get a first-hand account of the fantastic work being done in the town to support young people at risk of radicalisation.

The 40th anniversary of Luton International Carnival takes place in and around Wardown Park, with families and friends coming together to enjoy the creativity and culture of carnival.

Luton’s new brand is launched with a strong narrative that encapsulates key elements of the town and the Council’s priorities, supported by a modern, clean and aspirational look.

Luton BID ‘flowers’ the town centre with beautiful baskets, displays and window boxes.

Luton BID ‘flowers’ the town centre with beautiful baskets, displays and window boxes.

Luton BID ‘flowers’ the town centre with beautiful baskets, displays and window boxes.

Luton BID ‘flowers’ the town centre with beautiful baskets, displays and window boxes.

Luton Town Football Club undertakes a public consultation on its plans for a new stadium at Power Court and supporting mixed-use development at Junction 10a.
July – September

- Special performances and activities take place over three consecutive weekends to mark the opening of Luton’s Cultural Quarter.

- Start of works at the Napier Park development. The old Vauxhall site has been vacant for almost 15 years, but this new mixed-use development promises new homes, jobs, a hotel and other retail and leisure opportunities.

- The University of Bedfordshire announces its plans for the £46 million ‘STEM’ building dedicated to science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

- The Rogue Landlords project celebrates its first year by delivering 20 high-profile prosecutions to demonstrate commitment to improving the standard of private accommodation and tenant safety.

- 700 professionals are trained in ‘Five to Thrive’ – a partnership programme to build parenting capacity and improve life chances for 0 to five-year-olds.

- Luton Council updates its mission, vision and priorities. Its main purpose and aspiration? ‘To enable Luton to be proud, vibrant, ambitious and innovative’.

MORE THAN 200 ADDRESSES ARE VISITED
MORE THAN ONCE
32 HOUSES H H H IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION AND NINE ‘BEDS IN SHEDS’ ARE EMPTIED,
19 PROHIBITION ORDERS SERVED AND
17 PREMISES RECLASSIFIED FOR COUNCIL TAX

- More than 200 addresses are visited more than once.
- 32 houses in multiple occupation and nine ‘beds in sheds’ are emptied.
- 19 prohibition orders served and 17 premises reclassified for council tax.

Special performances and activities take place over three consecutive weekends to mark the opening of Luton’s Cultural Quarter.
The 16th famous Luton Mela attracts 20,000 visitors for a sensational celebration of South Asian culture.

Planning applications are received from Luton Town FC for a new football stadium at Power Court and supporting mixed-use development at M1 J10a.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge visit Luton to officially open the Youthscape charity building, celebrate 25 years at Keech hospice, and then present engineering giant Hayward Tyler with the Queen’s Award for Enterprise.

The most successful Summer in the Sun ever sees seven days of glorious sunshine as families pack St George’s Square to enjoy the ‘beach’ and traditional seaside entertainment. Including donkey rides!

Ground investigation works begin for a new road to Century Park, which forms part of the new Enterprise Zone and will support 7,000 new highly-skilled jobs.

IN EDUCATION, IMPROVING GCSE RESULTS ARE ATTAINED WHILE 75% OF STUDENTS IN LUTON STUDYING AT SIXTH FORM OR EQUIVALENT GO ON TO UNIVERSITY

MORE THAN 1,800 ATTENDEES AND 87 EMPLOYERS GET IN TOUCH WITH OTHERS AT THE LEATS AND LONDON LUTON AIRPORT JOB FAIRS

New airline Fly Kiss launches from London Luton Airport.
The promoter Revoluton hosts its second event in the town – the Clash of Drums, attended by thousands.

Luton artist Mark Titchner presents new commissions celebrating the culture in his home town as part of the launch of a new public arts programme entitled ‘As You Change, So Do I’.

Jonathan Henry Place, a new supported housing scheme for adults with learning disabilities and mental health needs, comes on stream.

Lea Manor High School, supported by Love Luton, launches its Love & Tolerance project promoting peace, harmony and understanding among diverse communities as part of the Marsh Farm works.

Flying Start, in partnership with Relate, launches a new support programme for parents struggling with their relationship and in need of additional support.

VISITOR NUMBERS TO LUTON TOWN CENTRE ARE UP BY 3.5% BUCKING THE NATIONAL DECLINING TREND

Disabled Go, a new access guide designed to empower residents with disabilities to get out and do what they want to do, is launched featuring over 500 venues across Luton.

THE MALL ALONE ATTRACTS MORE THAN 21 MILLION VISITORS OVER 12 MONTHS

Prevent work in Luton features nationally on The One Show and earns plaudits from the security minister.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BEDFORDSHIRE RANKS 11TH IN THE COUNTRY FOR ETHICAL AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

PRACTICE OUT OF 150 UNIVERSES AND COLLEGES
Passenger numbers on the Luton Dunstable Busway continue to grow, with Arriva adding 12 further vehicles to service demand. This is also bucking a national trend of declining bus passenger numbers.

Luton’s £1.5 billion investment programme is showcased at international property exhibition MIPIM UK. Many valuable links are made with potential investors.

Andrew Percy MP signs the official memorandum of understanding for the London Luton Airport Enterprise Zone.

The official opening takes place of the £26 million Signature FBO, a new facility for private aircraft at London Luton Airport.

The Government approves Luton’s Community-Led Local Development Strategy, meaning we have been invited to submit a full application for European Social Fund investment.

The official launch takes place of the Council’s wholly owned housing company which will build 5,700 new homes in the town.

The Love Luton Half Marathon receives a record number of entries.

Luton’s new homelessness strategy aims to pilot a new way forward to tackle this growing national problem locally.

Revoluton Arts host a popular pop-up theatre event in Marsh Farm.

Icknield High School hosts SEMLEP’s first careers and enterprise adviser, part of a national programme set up to inspire and prepare young people for the fast-changing world of work.

Passenger numbers on the Luton Dunstable Busway continue to grow, with Arriva adding 12 further vehicles to service demand. This is also bucking a national trend of declining bus passenger numbers.

The University of Bedfordshire officially opens its new £46 million state-of-the-art library.

The official opening takes place of the £26 million Signature FBO, a new facility for private aircraft at London Luton Airport.

The Government approves Luton’s Community-Led Local Development Strategy, meaning we have been invited to submit a full application for European Social Fund investment.

The official launch takes place of the Council’s wholly owned housing company which will build 5,700 new homes in the town.

The Love Luton Half Marathon receives a record number of entries.

Luton’s new homelessness strategy aims to pilot a new way forward to tackle this growing national problem locally.

Revoluton Arts host a popular pop-up theatre event in Marsh Farm.

Icknield High School hosts SEMLEP’s first careers and enterprise adviser, part of a national programme set up to inspire and prepare young people for the fast-changing world of work.

Luton’s £1.5 billion investment programme is showcased at international property exhibition MIPIM UK. Many valuable links are made with potential investors.

Andrew Percy MP signs the official memorandum of understanding for the London Luton Airport Enterprise Zone.

The official opening takes place of the £26 million Signature FBO, a new facility for private aircraft at London Luton Airport.

The Government approves Luton’s Community-Led Local Development Strategy, meaning we have been invited to submit a full application for European Social Fund investment.

The official launch takes place of the Council’s wholly owned housing company which will build 5,700 new homes in the town.

The Love Luton Half Marathon receives a record number of entries.

The University of Bedfordshire officially opens its new £46 million state-of-the-art library.

Luton’s £1.5 billion investment programme is showcased at international property exhibition MIPIM UK. Many valuable links are made with potential investors.

Andrew Percy MP signs the official memorandum of understanding for the London Luton Airport Enterprise Zone.

The official opening takes place of the £26 million Signature FBO, a new facility for private aircraft at London Luton Airport.

The Government approves Luton’s Community-Led Local Development Strategy, meaning we have been invited to submit a full application for European Social Fund investment.

The official launch takes place of the Council’s wholly owned housing company which will build 5,700 new homes in the town.

The Love Luton Half Marathon receives a record number of entries.

The University of Bedfordshire officially opens its new £46 million state-of-the-art library.

Luton’s £1.5 billion investment programme is showcased at international property exhibition MIPIM UK. Many valuable links are made with potential investors.

Andrew Percy MP signs the official memorandum of understanding for the London Luton Airport Enterprise Zone.

The official opening takes place of the £26 million Signature FBO, a new facility for private aircraft at London Luton Airport.

The Government approves Luton’s Community-Led Local Development Strategy, meaning we have been invited to submit a full application for European Social Fund investment.

The official launch takes place of the Council’s wholly owned housing company which will build 5,700 new homes in the town.

The Love Luton Half Marathon receives a record number of entries.

The University of Bedfordshire officially opens its new £46 million state-of-the-art library.

Luton’s £1.5 billion investment programme is showcased at international property exhibition MIPIM UK. Many valuable links are made with potential investors.

Andrew Percy MP signs the official memorandum of understanding for the London Luton Airport Enterprise Zone.

The official opening takes place of the £26 million Signature FBO, a new facility for private aircraft at London Luton Airport.

The Government approves Luton’s Community-Led Local Development Strategy, meaning we have been invited to submit a full application for European Social Fund investment.

The official launch takes place of the Council’s wholly owned housing company which will build 5,700 new homes in the town.

The Love Luton Half Marathon receives a record number of entries.

The University of Bedfordshire officially opens its new £46 million state-of-the-art library.
2,789,107 passengers used Busway services this year up from 1,435,594 in 2013-14

- A brand new day centre opens in Stopsley for adults with a learning disability. While most towns are closing or reducing learning disability services, Luton is investing in high-standard provision to ensure residents have access to quality local services.

Planning approval is granted for a new high school in Gypsy Lane.

43,731 Vivaro vans are produced in Luton over the year allowing Vauxhall to recruit over 250 new members of staff locally

- The largest police car factory of its kind in Europe opens at the Vauxhall manufacturing plant in Luton. The site will convert around 2,500 ordinary cars and vans a year into emergency service vehicles.

The proportion of claimants in Luton falls below the national average

1.8% in comparison to 1.9%

- Public consultation on the MPT suggests strong support for improving the link to London Luton Airport from Parkway station.

Love Luton marks the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Somme as cyclists ride 245 miles to France and 20,000 poppy seeds are planted across Luton.

- New Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers are officially launched in Luton with their community safety accredited powers (the first in Bedfordshire). The dedicated front line team of uniformed officers patrol streets across the town to target the minority of residents and visitors who disrespect our local environment.

EasyJet reports its biggest ever investment in Luton with four new aircraft around 17%

- Thousands of people from diverse communities come together and enjoy the annual fireworks and Lighting up Luton events.

Inspire: Luton Sports Village hosts another major national diving competition, which attracts international and Olympic entrants.

Luton’s Best awards celebrate the achievements of dedicated people in Luton, in business and in their communities.

Average house prices in Luton grow by 19% compared to 8.3% nationally in 12 months. The average price in Luton is now £221,389

- Artist Mark Titchner launches ‘Beacon’, a new piece of artwork displayed on the side of the Hat Factory. It will be viewed by all arriving or travelling through Luton by train.
Luton in numbers

22 MINUTES
BY TRAIN FROM LONDON

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

BY TRAIN FROM 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
4TH HIGHEST LEVEL OF
RETAIL SPEND
IN THE UK

18,500 NEW JOBS

MORE THAN
£1.5 BILLION
PRIVATE INVESTMENT

MORE THAN
£1.5 BILLION
PRIVATE INVESTMENT

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

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

92% OF CHILDREN ATTEND
GOOD OR EXCELLENT
SCHOOLS

PLUS HALF A BILLION POUNDS SPENT
ON IMPROVING EDUCATION FACILITIES

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

ENTERPRISE ZONE
STATUS

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

01582 546265
sinead.mcnamara@luton.gov.uk
www.luton.gov.uk

@lutoncouncil
lutoncouncil
www.thinkluton.co.uk