

Report to:	Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board
Report Author:	Rob Green, Head of Enterprise Zones, Blackpool Council
Date of Meeting:	2nd May 2018

HILLHOUSE TECHNOLOGY ENTERPRISE ZONE – UPDATE REPORT

1. Main progress on the Enterprise Zone

a. Masterplan

Mott MacDonald have completed the baseline study and prepared an initial draft of the Masterplan, which having been reviewed internally on behalf of the accountable body Wyre BC, is in the process of being updated by Mott MacDonald to provide additional recommendations in respect of planning matters.

Given the present status of the Wyre Local Plan it has now been decided that the full version of the masterplan will go out to consultation rather than just the summary document, which has necessitated a number of changes to be made to the document before it goes out to public consultation.

Public consultation will take place over a 6 week period commencing in Spring.

b. Marketing

Site signage for Hillhouse is being progressed and three signs should be in situ by early May. Detailed site plans are being drawn up for the locations, which will support required planning applications.

c. Delivery Plan

Work is ongoing on the EZ Delivery Plan to achieve the Masterplan with Genecon providing technical support.

When completed the Delivery Plan and Marketing Plan will be presented to Wyre Council (as the accountable body for the EZ), principal stakeholders and the LEP EZ Governance Committee prior to submission to MHCLG.

2. Looking forward, activity in the coming months

a. Masterplan

- Completion of public consultation
- Adoption of masterplan
- Completion of Delivery Plan and Marketing Plan

b. Studies

Commissioning flood risk assessments, transport assessments and observing the planning application process for the power station, which is currently at National Infrastructure.

Looking to commence the purchase process with Network Rail the first stage being Land Clearance

e. Launch of EZ websites

The LAMEC web site is scheduled to go live in April with the content of the Blackpool and Hillhouse pages being managed by the new Marketing officer

f. Update of Business Rates Relief Policy

To ensure compliance with the new GDPR regulations the application forms for award of EZ business rates relief and Expressions of Interest from prospective occupiers are being reviewed to ensure that there is full compliance with the new GDPR regulations.

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