

Council Priority: PLACE

Medway: A place to be proud of

REGENERATION, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MEETING

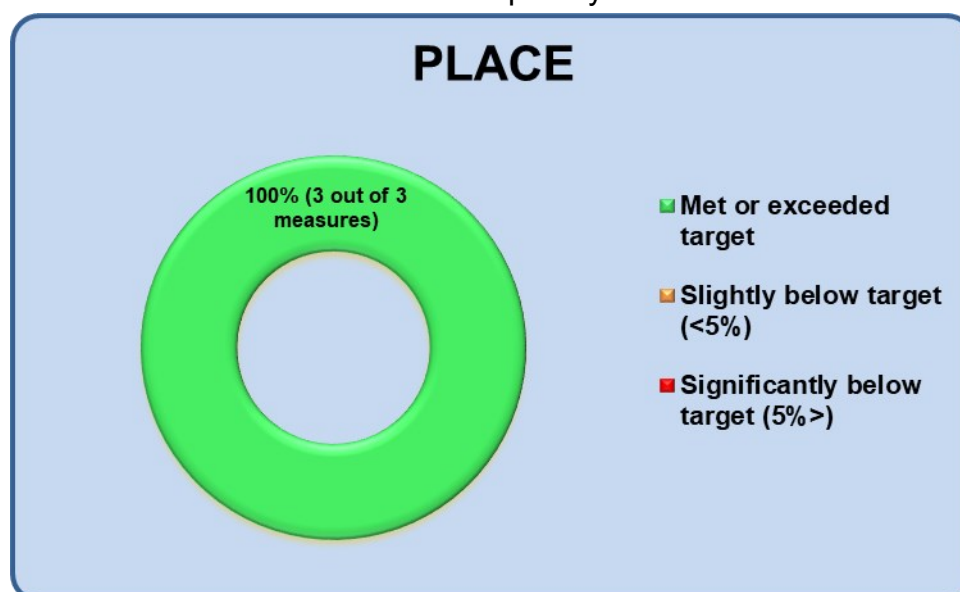
Performance: Quarter 2 2020/21

Key

Red	significantly below target (>5%)	Amber	slightly below target (<5%)	Green	met or exceeded target
Imp	Improved	Det	Worsened	Static	Static

Council Plan measures: summary performance

There are 3 Council Plan measures for this priority.



Improved performance

- 100% (3 out of 3*) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)
- 0% (0 out of 3*) improved over the short term (since last quarter)

*where data available

Measures in target (green)

Code	Status	Measure	Long Trend	Short Trend
NI195a	Green	Improved street and environmental cleanliness:	IMP	STATIC
GH6 CP	Green	Satisfaction with parks and green spaces - direct users CP	IMP	DET
W6 CP	Green	Satisfaction with refuse collection - Citizens Panel result	IMP	DET

Strategic Risks

The quarter 2 20/21 strategic risk register is attached at Appendix 3. The register shows all strategic risks together with mitigation in place to minimise impact and likelihood. The risks pertaining solely to this council priority are shown below (full details in Appendix 3).

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 3)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	L-likelihood I-impact
SR47	10	Climate Change	AD Frontline Services	All	L – very high I - critical

The following risks pertain to all priorities:

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 3)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	L-likelihood I-impact
SRO3B	13	Finances	Chief Finance Officer	AI	L – very high I - catastrophic
SR46	16	Medway's Economic Recovery from Covid19	Assistant Director Regeneration (Recovery Lead Officer for Medway Council)	BII	L - high I - critical

Reference	Risk Register Page (app 3)	Risk	Owner	Current residual risk score	L-likelihood I-impact
SR32	21	Data and information	Chief Legal Officer	CII	L - significant I - critical
SR36	24	Alternative service delivery models	Chief Legal Officer, Director of RCET	BIII	L - high I - Marginal
SR37	28	Cyber Security	Chief Finance Officer	CI	L - Significant I - Catastrophic
SR02	35	Business continuity and emergency planning	Director of RCET	DII	L - low I - critical

Council Plan Outcome: A clean and green environment

Programme: Public Realm and Street Scene

Council Plan Measures

GH6 NEW Satisfaction with parks and green spaces - direct users CP

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q2 2020/21	75.0%	82.8%	Green	Maximise	IMP	DET
Q1 2020/21	75.0%	99.30%	Green	Maximise	IMP	IMP

Comments

Satisfaction amongst users of parks and open spaces was 82.8% in Q2 2020/21, like the 83.2% in Q1 2020/21.

More users were neutral about the service (13% of respondents - up from 10.3% in Q1 2020/21) than dissatisfied, (4.1% - down from 5.8% in Q1).

These results are based on the 146 users of parks and open spaces from the 204 respondents to the Q2 2020/21 Citizens' Panel, giving a margin of error of +/-8.1%, meaning the changes are not statistically significant.

Action

A variety of projects have been planned for delivery of the Greenspaces Development programme over 2020/2021:

- Horsted Valley – New footpath, interpretation, and grassland management - Footpath works were completed in September.
- Rainham S106 play improvements at Rainham Recreation Ground, Ryetop and Bayswater Drive were completed in July.
- Strood North S106 play improvements at Hancock Close, Cliffe Road, Church Green and Broomhill Park - works started on site on 15 September and will be complete by late October.
- Vinalls Park improvements – working with a newly formed friends group improvements have been developed and should be complete by October 2020.
- Priority Play/Refurbishment programme - Priority Play (3 sites awarded capital funding at Full Council for FY202-1) - Darnley Road tender awarded and will be on site in November 2020. The other two sites (Maidstone Road Sports Ground and Heritage Drive) will go out to tender in late October and anticipated on site in spring 2021.
- Proposals for new Hoo Country Park/Reserve (part of HIF) - Stakeholder engagement completed for Hoo parkland (Cockham Community Parkland), pre-application planning advice is in progress and planning permission will be applied for in winter 2020.
- Completion of Command of the Heights - Riverside 1/Barrier Ditch opened to the public on 17 July. A formal opening was delayed due to the pandemic and will now take place in spring 2021.

Green Flag applications and Management plans were updated and submitted in February 2020 for seven sites: Gillingham Park, Hillyfields, Capstone Farm Country Park, Riverside Country Park, Great Lines Heritage Park, Broomhill Park and The Vines, along with a new management plan for the 8th new site at Ranscombe Farm Park.

Keep Britain Tidy notified the council that there would be no formal judging of Medway's seven sites this year (usually meetings take place with the Council and Friends groups) and a 'mystery shop' would be undertaken instead due to Covid-19 restrictions. Ranscombe Farm Park was a new application and judging took place on 17 September.

The national announcement of the Green Flag Awards will be on 14 October.

NI 195a NEW Improved street and environmental cleanliness: Litter

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q2 2020/21	96.0%	97%	Green	Maximise	IMP	STATIC
Q1 2020/21	96.0%	97.0%	Green	Maximise	IMP	STATIC

Comments

Medway is split into 22 wards which are inspected yearly with a total of 1,200 sites being inspected. (100 sites x 12 months = 1200 sites per year) Sites are different land classes: Main Retail and Commercial, Local Shopping areas, Residential streets, Main Roads, Waste Bins (litter, canine and combined) Rural Roads, Alleyways, Footbridge and subways.

During Q2, 97% of streets surveyed were free from litter at the time of the inspections. This is due to a robust contract monitoring programme and a high standard of cleanse being achieved by Medway Norse.

A visual inspection of 50 meters is reviewed for the amount of litter present and graded. This is a transect. A - B grades are acceptable for litter C – D are unacceptable. The number of sites that are at an acceptable standard at the time of inspection grade A- B are then reported as an overall % of good standard sites. For example, 97 sites at grade A-B / 100 x 100 = 97% of areas inspected were at an acceptable standard for litter.

Action

Street Scene Enforcement dealt with a total of 166 fly tips, all of which were removed within one working day. Evidence was retrieved in 79 cases and were referred for further investigation. The team also attended 49 fly tips on private land.

1 fly tipping, littering and waste related case was prosecuted at Medway Magistrates Court in Q2 due to Covid-19. A further 4 cases are proceeding to trial in 2020 and 2 warrants are outstanding.

There are 20 cases with legal pending prosecution, and another 29 under investigation ready for report to Magistrates Court.

During the quarter, the team conducted 1 operation alongside Kent Police that resulted in 7 vehicles being stopped and searched. This resulted in the seizure of 1 vehicle. Further investigation is being held as to where and how scrap metal is being stored and disposed of by the owner of the vehicle.

111 Community Protection warnings have been issued. These warnings are a quick and effective way to deal with ASB and have been issued to address offences ranging from refuse and waste issues to car repairs and burning of waste.

28 fixed penalty notices were issued. 8 for Littering, 10 for Fly tipping, 4 householder duty of care, 3 commercial duty of care and 3 failures to comply with community protection notices. Total income received from fixed penalty notices during quarter totalled £1,760.

Tables of Prosecutions, Sanctions and Enforcements are shown on pages 18 and 19

W6 CP Satisfaction with refuse collection - Citizens Panel result

Quarter	Target	Value	Status	Aim to	Long Trend	Short Trend
Q2 2020/21	85%	91.7%	Green	Maximise	DET	IMP
Q1 2020/21	85%%	93%	Green	Maximise	IMP	STATIC

Comments

Satisfaction with refuse collection decreased slightly to 91.7% in Q2 2020/21 (down from 93% in Q1 2020/21).

2.9% of respondents were neutral about the service (up from 1.3% in Q1) and 3.9% were dissatisfied (lower than the 5.7% seen in the previous quarter). A further 1.5% did not know or gave no response.

The results are based upon 204 respondents to the Q2 2020/21 Citizens' Panel giving an overall margin of error of +/-6.8%, meaning the changes are not statistically significant.

Council Plan Projects

Deliver Future High Streets Funds submissions

The High Streets Heritage Action Zone bid aims has four main aims:

- To re-use and revitalise heritage buildings
- To create and deliver a heritage engagement programme
- To identify and deliver accessibility and safety solutions to the highway
- To create a development framework to protect the area's character whilst promoting growth

The Future High Streets Fund Business Case was submitted on 15 May 2020. The results of funding awards are due in the autumn. The bid is centred on two key themes:

- Delivering productive uses
- Enabling and reshaping town centre living

The Council were advised on 1 April 2020 that our Heritage High Streets Action Zone bid for £1.6m has been approved.

Four initiatives will be developed and delivered

- The creation of a development framework to guide future development in the area in a way which protects the heritage and character of the area whilst enabling sensitive sustainable growth and regeneration - The creation of a development framework for the Heritage Action Zone area is in its early stages and the project is being scoped and led by Duncan Berntsen and Historic England. During the remainder of the year 2020/21, a brief will be prepared in readiness for commissioning consultants to assist with the work in 2021/22

- A re-use and re-vitalise buildings programme to offer business support, grants and help promote vacant building opportunities - This will be developed during the remainder of 2020/21 and launched in 2021/22.
- The creation and delivery of a cultural heritage and engagement programme to help tell the area's untold story - This is being developed, the Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) project officers have begun to engage with a number of stakeholders who live, work and visit the HAZ area. The programme is working with educational bodies such as Mid Kent College and the University of Kent to develop a cultural skills programme, envisaged for the second year of the project (2021/22).

Alongside this, Medway Council are working with GJG consultants to form a Cultural Consortia, who have successfully won a further bid for £10k for a pilot Cultural Programme, funded by Arts Council England. The pilot funding will be used to develop a bid of up to £120k for a Main Cultural Programme, a programme of events to run alongside the lifetime of the HAZ.

The first major opportunity from community engagement is an "Open Space" meeting on 24 October, facilitated by GJG consultants. A virtual discussion for anyone interested in the area to input how they wish to be involved in the programme going forward.

A highway accessibility and safety study to help improve safety and accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists - This workstream will now be included within the development framework project as outlined above.

Programme: Public Realm and Street Scene

Council Plan Projects

Deliver Phase 1 of the Street Lighting LED Programme for 2020-21

Medway's Street Lighting Network is extensive and is composed of 26,500 columns that are made up of concrete columns, steel columns and aluminium columns. The concrete and steel columns make up over 75% of the Network and all are at or close to the end of their design life requiring a phased programme of replacement.

As part of Budget Setting in 2020-21 capital funding was secured through Prudential Borrowing to award a contract to undertake a Street Lighting LED Programme. The scope of the LED Programme is:

- Converting all Street Lights to LED (23,000 Street Lights)
- Replacing a further 4,000 columns that are beyond design life.
- Installing a Central Management System (CMS) for fault and energy management of the Street Lighting Network.

The benefits of the Street Lighting LED Programme are:

- Reduces energy consumption levels and energy costs for Street Lighting. Energy costs have significantly increased at contract renewal points over the

last two financial years and are projected to further increase this year at the contract renewal period (October 20) by 10%.

- Replacing columns that are beyond design life reduces the risk of structural failure and through awarding as a block programme of work competitive financial rates due to economies of scale.
- CMS along with being a fault and energy management systems also has the scope to function as a platform for SMART Technologies that will support the Council's Ambitions to be a Smart City.

The mobilisation of the contract has continued throughout Q2, this includes:

- Drawing up installation programmes
- Agreeing asset updating and software provision to complete this
- Meeting with both the CMS and lantern provider to sign off product specifications and address any perceived risks
- Commencement of the pre-installation survey of the entire asset base to highlight any risks, to enable any risk reduction to take place before installation, enabling better operational delivery of the scheme.

Operational installation is targeted to commence in Q3, and the programme completion date of December 2022 is still on course to be achieved.

Programme: Climate change

Council Plan Projects

Climate change emergency

A 'Climate Change Emergency Motion' was declared by Full Council on 25 April 2019. The Council has also signed up to the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy (KMELES) which is due to be signed off and launched on 27 November 2020. The KMELES sets out a target for Kent and Medway to achieve net zero carbon by 2050. A rolling five-year climate change action plan for Medway, setting out short, medium and long-term outputs in the areas of Air Quality, Energy, Transport, Housing, Fuel Poverty and Biodiversity, is currently being developed. The action plan will be finalised by the end of 2020 and will be updated annually.

A carbon baseline assessment of emissions data from the baseline year (2018/19) has been undertaken. The emissions data relates to Scope 1 and 2 emissions (Scope 1 being direct emissions from the council's own assets and operations such as fuel from gas boilers and fleet vehicles. Scope 2 being indirect emissions from purchased electricity). A target mapping report has been produced based on these emissions and existing/planned initiatives. It sets out the interventions required to put the council on a path to reduce its emissions by 2050. The report is currently being scrutinised and will be inform the emerging Climate Change action plan. The action plan is due to be presented to Cabinet in early March 2021.

Air Quality

- A winner and runner up were selected for the anti-idling poster competition. The winner is All Faiths Children's Academy and the runner up is English Martyrs RC Primary School. As part of Clean Air Day on 8 October they will be presented with their posters made into a metal banner to be displayed around the school.
- The team have worked with comms to produce an animated air quality video which all schools in Medway can access to raise the awareness of air quality and it's affects and what they can do to reduce these impacts. Once the video has been completed it will be promoted to all schools in Medway and any one will be able to access it from the Council's website.

Biodiversity and Greenspaces

- Greenspaces officers have responded to requests for further information from the Forestry Commission to support the Urban Tree Challenge Fund bid. A decision on the bid is imminent in Q3.
- A new web form has been developed so that residents and businesses can support tree planting across Medway by donating any amount of their choice. The funds will be used to plant trees during planting season, October to March (dependant on weather). The form will be accessible online in Q3.

Energy

- A High Level Appraisal for Re:fit* (Phase One) was received from Veolia in Q2 and is being scrutinised by the Capital Projects team and an audit carried out by Local Partnerships
- Solar Together Kent – the solar panel group buying scheme – was launched on 1 September. A letter and leaflet explaining the benefits of the scheme was sent on behalf of the Council to 10,000 residents in Medway. A detailed communications plan has been developed and followed to promote the scheme as extensively as possible to staff, residents, businesses and members and in a manner consistent with other participating Kent districts. As at 28 September, 2,669 registrations had been made across the 14 participating districts, of which 230 were in Medway. The registration process closes on 6 October. A supplier auction will be held, and residents will need to decide whether they want to proceed with their personal recommendations in Q3. All installations will be completed by end of May 2021.

* Re:fit is a national procurement initiative for public bodies wishing to implement energy efficiency measures within their buildings or their estates. As a result of the measures (which can be things like solar panels, heat pumps or smart/intelligent heating controls) carbon emissions are reduced, and cost savings achieved.

Planning and Development

Grant funding from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy was received into the Council at the end of Q2 and a mini competition for a Project Manager to oversee the Heat District Network study was issued. One application has been received which will be assessed during early Q3. If the application is not successful, it will be essential to go out to tender again and this will impact on project delivery.

Transport

It is anticipated that the charge points identified for installation under the Re:fit* (Phase 1) energy efficiency programme are not likely to be installed before Summer 2021 due to full design requirements and funding approvals. The EV charge point survey has continued to be promoted via Digital Medway Matters (6000 people), the Medway Council Service Update page on Facebook and the Transport Facebook page. 126 responses to the charge point survey have been received since it launched in mid-June. KCC are continuing to lead on a county wide charging network programme for council owned car parks, with Kent Commercial Services developing a framework for potential suppliers in Q2. If Medway Council proceed to be involved, the competition and award process will take place in Q3 and Q4.

Veolia were appointed by the Capital Projects team earlier in the year as the Energy Services Company for the programme which means they are tasked with assessing our buildings and estate and making recommendations as to which measures are required to achieve the most effective energy savings. The Re:fit Energy Performance Contract framework guarantees 100% of the energy savings/generation over an agreed payback.

Veolia are currently assessing an agreed portfolio of buildings which have been wrapped up into Phase 1.

Further, Veolia's initial high-level assessments and then their detailed design proposals are audited by Local Partnerships, to ensure they are robust and will deliver the required energy/financial savings.

Local Partnerships are also working on our Carbon Baseline report so there is a useful cross over as the intention is that they can link the planned measures and energy data/savings into the Climate Change carbon mapping work.

During Q3, Transport and Parking officers will develop a roadmap for installation of charge points across Medway, acknowledging the actions above, and present it to Members at the December Climate Change Member Advisory Group meeting.

Officers are developing a phased approach to replacing small council petrol and diesel vehicles with electric alternatives. A working group has been set up to link in with plans for the installation of EV charging points at key sites. It is anticipated that the first EV's will be secured during Q3&4, with a rolling programme to follow.

It is thought that a decision on the "All Electric Bus Town" bid, made in Q1, has been delayed in light of Covid-19 although a formal announcement has not been made.

During Q2, work has been undertaken on the first phase of the Emergency Active Travel fund programme including changes to the cycle lanes on Dock Road. The second tranche bid has been submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) and officers are awaiting the outcome.

Human Resources are leading on a review of staff travel including staff business mileage policies and essential car user allowance. Benchmarking against other local authorities has been undertaken in Q2 and also a home working policy (to

encourage staff to work at home thereby reducing the number of commuter trips by private car) is being developed. This is part of a wider review of working practices as a result of Covid-19. In early Q3, the provider of the council's private car lease scheme for staff will include an electric vehicle option.

Waste Management

A new Council web page went live in Q2 promoting Towards Plastic Free Medway's initiative for Medway to become a single use plastic free community. The page provides a list of businesses in Medway who are Plastic Free Champions and encourages other businesses to get involved. In addition, the web content provides tips that individuals can take to reduce plastic pollution, promotes the recently relaunched Refill scheme and provides details of community groups who lead on litter picks and river clean ups. The content will continue to be developed and promoted via social media during Q3 and Q4.

Council Plan Outcome: Medway on the map

Programme: Medway: a great place to live, work, learn and visit

Council Plan Projects

Cultural programme

The development of the cultural strategy and the Compact will include engagement with the cultural sector and residents across the Medway and set the framework by which we can work together to grow and thrive. The Compact will directly oversee the development of Medway's new cultural strategy. An appropriate widely owned Compact business plan and cultural strategy will articulate Medway's cultural attributes, competence and ambition, and in doing so, elevate stakeholder confidence to champion a bid to become the UK City of Culture in 2025.

Support the development of Medway's UK City of Culture 2025 bid

The Council are committed to the vision of Medway City of Culture (CoC) 2025. There are regular meetings with the Bid Director to share local knowledge, information, establish contacts, introduced to key groups such as Medway Arts Forum, Diversity Arts Network, Medway Cultural Diversity Forum.

- Collaboratively drafting the Culture Strategy vision to encompass the ambitions and approach of the City of Culture bid
- Incorporate the themes and ambitions of the bid and Culture Strategy into strategic documents being drafted for the Place Board
- Take a joined-up approach to press and marketing over the course of the coming year.
- Design the governance structure for the City of Culture project to dovetail with the ongoing governance of the Culture Strategy
- Ensure information flow between Place Board, bid governance and Culture Strategy governance groups and Cultural Compact

- Address how the strategy, place and bid fit together and outline the collaborative approach we are taking when we represent or introduce our projects or roles to new audiences or partners

During Q2, the digital arts festival Electric Medway was planned and delivered in partnership with City of Culture, Youth Service and Sparked Echo. It ran from 28 August to 6 September 2020.

The Arts Team continues to advocate for the City of Culture bid and connecting it wherever possible to other projects, programmes and areas of work. It is referenced regularly in the Arts Council bid for Dickens Light Nights

It is expected that the Service will have a major role to play in the next steps of development in showing that Medway already has the experience, skills, knowledge, ambition and community buy in to make this a successful bid.

Supporting Medway Cultural Partnership to produce a new cultural strategy

The Council are leading on the development of the Cultural Strategy together with the Medway Cultural Partnership. A project plan has been agreed but in Q1 the engagement programme was paused due to Covid-19.

Since July 2020 engagement in the development of the strategy resumed digitally. The development of the strategy and action plan takes place in Q2 and Q3 with expected ratification at Cabinet in January 2021.

A plan has been developed to seamlessly weave the connection between the strategy and City of Culture narrative that strategically works from all sides and will support clear future communications.

The Arts Team continues to support GJG Consultancy as they finalise the cultural strategy.

Having attended the workshops led by GJG, inviting the cultural sector to shape the content of the new strategy, the Arts Team has considered observations made during the workshops when planning current work. This has been most useful in the writing of the bid for High Streets Heritage Action Zone Pilot Project. Once the strategy is signed off, the Arts Team will take time to absorb and respond to the content and plan new strands of work and ways of working to ensure future delivery and partnership is aligned to the strategy.

The Curator for Rochester Art Gallery has met with GJG Consultancy to share the gallery work to date and future plans and how that might sit within a future cultural offer.

Carry out a review of Medway 2035 in light of the Covid-19 pandemic

The Medway Economy and Infrastructure Recovery Cell (with wide ranging external partner input) has developed and agreed an Impact Assessment and Action Plan, which lays the groundwork for a review of Medway 2035.

Medway 2035 will be informed by the Covid-19 Overarching Impact Assessment, which combines the analysis work of all four Recovery Cells in a single source.

Medway's recovery work maintains an ongoing dialogue with economic recovery approaches at Kent and Medway Economic Partnership (KMEP) and South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) level. Medway Council was a major contributor to the Kent and Medway Renewal and Resilience Plan, which is being taken forward by KMEP.

To seek funding opportunities to develop innovative public service solutions

The £1.519m Local Growth Fund (LGF) allocation for Innovation Park Medway (IPM) was fully awarded in Q2, meaning delivery can commence.

Medway has been allocated £1.99m for the Britton Farm Learning and Skills Hub project in Gillingham via the Getting Building Fund (GBF). A business case has been submitted to allow the funding to be released in October. Medway has two projects on the GBF reserve list, for potential investment should other projects within the SELEP region not proceed. These are a further phase of investment in IPM, and phase 1 of the Docking Station (in partnership with the University of Kent and Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust).

MHCLG have recommended that we redirect our Local Digital Covid-19 fund application to their mainstream Digital Fund. This, and, other funding routes, are being explored.

The Council has successfully completed the following:

- Heat Districts Network Units (HNDU) – During Q1, confirmation was received from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) of a successful application to secure £45,000 (total £60,000 including match funding) to conduct the Heat Mapping and Energy Master Planning for Medway, including the Hoo Peninsular. The Memorandum of Understanding for the funding was signed in Q2.
- Getting Building Fund (GBF) - Medway has been allocated £1.99m for the Britton Farm Learning and Skills Hub project in Gillingham via the Getting Building Fund (GBF). A business case was submitted to allow the funding to be released in October 2020. Medway has two projects on the GBF reserve list, for potential investment should other projects within the SELEP region not proceed. These are a further phase of investment in Innovation Park Medway (IPM), and phase 1 of the Docking Station (in partnership with the University of Kent and Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust).
- Local Growth Fund (LGF) - The £1.519m Local Growth Fund (LGF) allocation for IPM was fully awarded this quarter, meaning delivery can commence.

New funding bid applications:

- All Electric Bus Town Fund – During Q1, an expression of interest (EOI) was submitted to the Department of Transport (DfT) for the All Electric Bus Town Fund, part of the overall Superbuses fund. A decision should be received by the end of December 2020 for the £18.7m EOI. The EOI is looking to replace

65 single and 62 double decker buses with electric buses and the required charging infrastructure. Working in partnership with all local large and small bus operators in Medway, this would make an impact in reducing the impacts of Air Quality in our Air Quality Management Areas and support the Climate Change agenda.

- 5G Create Competition – The EOI development process for the 5G Create Competition funded by the Department of Digital, Culture and Media and Sport (DCMS) has created a strong local partnership, and a bid will be submitted to a future funding round. The fund is to trial a 5G Smart Tourism project in Medway in order to utilise new technological innovations in order to support the tourism sector and enhance the visitor experience through 5G. Up to £30 million is available nationally, this EOI is in development but it is expected the funding request will be around £3million.
- Whose Hoo - An EOI for the Whose Hoo project has been developed ready for the National Lottery Heritage fund to announce their next round of open calls. The application is expected to have a funding ask of £2m that will be used to celebrate, preserve, promote and raise awareness of the unique special heritage in Hoo.
- Urban Tree Challenge Application – The Council will receive a response by the end of December 2020 from the Forestry Commission for the Urban Tree Challenge application. The total funding request is for £34,991, £17,495 of this is to be funded by the Forestry Commission and £17,495 will be funded through forms of match funding. The application is for 15,000 trees to be planted in winter 2020 (dependant on Covid-19) across 11 sites in urban areas across Medway.

Successful delivery of Theatre31

Theatre31 is a £1m, Arts Council funded, youth theatre and performance project running across Medway and Sheppey until 2022. Icon Theatre have been appointed as the Programme Managers.

Delivery has been affected by Covid 19 but where possible has transferred to online/digital with surprising ease and success. This has included viewing professional theatre productions online, workshops, tutorials, masterclasses, youth panel meetings. This digital access has addressed some of the transport barriers to participation on Sheppey and has increased the number of engagement sessions – the panels and groups are able to meet twice monthly online whereas they were only meeting monthly in person pre-lockdown.

A Head of Programme has now been appointed by Icon Theatre to focus solely on Theatre31 and following evaluation at the end of Phase I of the project, a Youth Co-ordinator has now been appointed specifically to work in Sheppey, mirroring the work of their counterpart in Medway.

Previous imbalance between representation on the Steering Group from Medway and Sheppey has now been addressed, with representatives from a number of well-connected community organisations in Sheppey now attending the meetings.

The Arts Team is connecting Theatre 31 to other projects, programmes and areas of work locally wherever possible and appropriate.

The Arts Council is supportive of the changes to delivery and milestones which have been necessary during Covid 19. All five national projects are affected and have met digitally to draw support from one another during this time.

Icon Theatre have expressed an interest in connecting the Theatre31 Project with the Dickens Light Nights project, seeing it as a wonderful opportunity for young people to platform their skills to the public, as part of an exciting cultural event.

Delivery of South East Creative Cultural and Digital Business Support Programme

During Q2, South East Creative Cultural and Digital Business Support Programme has restarted with and extended programme to June 2021. A new communication and engagement plan has been developed and delivered in Q2 to support more Medway creative businesses benefit from this significant programme at this difficult time.

Medway brand recognition

The Medway Place Branding originated from the work undertaken with Thinking Place in 2017, where we created a narrative and brand toolkit for our partners and key stakeholders to use when promoting Medway's offer to their networks. A Place Board was established chaired by Simon Cook, Principal at MidKent College and supported by Medway's Place Manager, Virginie Giles.

Our Place Branding continues to gain momentum with the majority of our champions using our branding on their email address and website.

Q2 Campaigns:

Thank You Medway

Our "Thank You Medway" video showing how Medway communities have stepped up to the mark to support each other during this pandemic, went live end of July. The video was shared on social media and was watched:

- 1,450 views on twitter
- 5,800 views on Facebook
- 114 views on Instagram
- 221 views on YouTube
- The video was reshared over 150 times
- Overall reach 20,000 people.

Re-discover Medway this Summer

"Re-discover Medway this Summer" marketing campaign went live promoting a location in Medway for the whole month of August encouraging residents to rediscover where they live as they undertake a staycation. We had good engagement from all social media platform – gaining new followers (100 new followers on Instagram and 50 on twitter)

Medway Champions

- Our Medway Champions are our ambassadors from across all areas and sectors in Medway; they help to promote Medway as a great place to live, work, learn

and visit by sharing our Medway Story (the Place Branding narrative) with new and existing contacts.

- Maintain our champion's number at 200 with new champions joining and others leaving. Five new champions across July and August.
- Three champions meetings were held on Zoom (May, July and September) with an overwhelming audience of 45, 53 and 55 respectively attending to hear talk from MVA and Kent Sussex Surrey Air Ambulance in May, update on our City of Culture bid in July and update on Medway regeneration programs from Director Place and current state of the Medway and Kent Tourism from Visit Kent.
- The next Champions meeting is in November and we are planning events on Zoom until end of 2021.

Digital

Social media platforms are all performing with increase engagement and followers amount considering that the growth is totally organic.

- Twitter: @wearemedway: 627 (increase 32 from September)
- Instagram: @wearemedway: 766 (increase 47 from September)
- Facebook: @wearemedwaychampions: 597 followers/likes (increase 90 from September)
- www.wearemedway.co.uk is gaining increasing visits.

Medway relationship development

We have carried on developing relationships with key organisations and individuals to make them aware of our narrative, our Place Board and our priorities being pursued for Medway. We are now part of the SECEN (South East Creative Economy Network) and meet bimonthly.

Events

Attendance at various virtual events to stay abreast of the current situation

- The Business Lounge – September
- Place and Community Webinar – LGIU – September
- SECEN Meeting - September

Other projects where Medway Place is involved

- *Rochester Riverside Community Board*

The Rochester Riverside Community Board oversees funding for community projects across Rochester. With an annual budget of £30,000 available for selected projects, the Board helps to bring to life worthwhile initiatives and ideas that will enhance the local area, cementing Rochester's status as a great place to live.

The community board ensures that the community funds are allocated to local stakeholders and organisations through a robust and transparent application process.

We have had two virtual board meetings rewarding community projects with much needed funds. The decision was made to support project directly affected by Covid19.

- *Creative Estuary Place Branding Steering Group*
The Creative Estuary project ambition is simple: to transform 60 miles of the Thames Estuary across Essex and Kent into one of the most exciting cultural

hubs in the world. We are involved with the Creative Estuary Place branding workshops, developing a narrative and brand for the area.

Work with partners to bring forward the Docking Station project

The University of Kent and Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust have reaffirmed their commitment to the Docking Station project at the most recent steering group meeting (May 2020). The Docking Station project is a Creative Hub facility at the Interface Land (Chatham Maritime), in partnership with the University of Kent and Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust. It is hoped that the purchase of the Police House will be completed in Q2 / Q3 (delayed due to partners being diverted to urgent Covid-19 response actions). The Project Execution Plan was completed in May 2020.

An expression of interest was submitted to central governments funding call (17 June 2020) for 'shovel-ready' projects, setting out the readiness of the Docking Station (first phase) to complete by 31 March 2022. A funding request of £3.9m was submitted, which would lead to the creation of 104 jobs. This funding call has since become governments flagship Getting Building Fund. The bid did not receive funding but is on a reserve list should further funding become available.

Successful and safe delivery of the Council's outdoor events and festivals

Due to Covid-19 the annual festivals and events programme have been cancelled for 2020/21.

Some funding was diverted to support the development of Electric Medway a new digital arts festival, that took place in early September showcasing the work of 50 creatives over ten days with a specific Young Creatives strand supporting 3 paid jobs, 10 commissions and mentoring opportunities for new emerging creatives.

Successful transition of the existing Cultural Partnership to Cultural Compact

As the cultural strategy has developed, an appropriate governance model has emerged that supports the transition from Cultural partnership to Culture Compact in line with the Arts Council England funding. This shift in governance will take place in Q3.

Review events and festivals offer to support the cultural strategy

The festival and event review approach has been agreed. Stage one uses the comments and feedback for the extensive engagement carried out as part of the cultural strategy development alongside research and benchmarking with other local authorities. Stage 2 involves a resident's questionnaire that is currently being designed, alongside stakeholder focus groups.

Identify programme of restoration and preservation for Dickens Chalet

Due to Covid-19 it has not been possible to take this project forward, however we will be looking at plans to fund restoration and any additional improvements over the Summer/Autumn 2020.

Prosecutions and Sanctions

FPNs ISSUED	2018/19					2019/20					2020/21		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YEAR TOTAL	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YEAR TOTAL	Q1 20/21	Q2 20/21	YEAR TO DATE
FLY TIPPING	15	7	5	4	31	1	5	8	5	19	3	10	13
FAILURE TO PRODUCE DOCUMENTS	3	2	2		7								
SCRAP METAL	1				1								
LITTER	42	14	5	8	69	19	12	6	1	38	5	8	13
TRADE WASTE	12		3	2	17		4	1	1	6			
FLY POSTING			1		1								
SMOKE FREE						2				2			
BREACH OF A COMMUNITY PROTECTION NOTICE				1	1	1	2	3	1	7		3	3
UNLICENSED WASTE CARRIER							1			1			
HOUSEHOLDER DUTY OF CARE											3	4	7
COMMERCIAL DUTY OF CARE												3	3
TOTAL	73	23	16	15	127	23	24	18	8	73	11	28	39

District Enforcement

DISTRICT ENFORCEMENT ISSUED FPNS	Q3 19/20	Q4 19/20	Q1 20/21	Q2 20/21
LITTER	1,386	899	157	2,236
DOG FOULING	11	9		1
DOGS ON LEAD	1	1		1
TOTAL	1,398	909	157	2,238

Breakdown of Prosecutions

Due to the timeliness of reporting there can be a decrease in the number of prosecutions reported in Pentana (Councils performance management software)

PROSECUTIONS	2018/19					2019/20					2020/21		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YEAR TOTAL	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YEAR TOTAL	Q1 20/21	Q2 20/21	YEAR TO DATE
FLY TIPPING	7	1		2	10		2		1	3		1	1
DUTY OF CARE FOR WASTE			2	4	6	1			1	2			
LITTER		1	2	1	4	1				1			
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH S108 NOTICE	2	3	1		6	4	1		5	10			
UNTIDY LAND	5		1		6		1			1			
VEHICLE SALES/REPAIR		1			1								
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CPN		1		1	2		1	1		2			
UNREGISTERED WASTE/SCRAP		1	2	1	4	1	1	1	2	5			
SMOKE FREE								1		1			
TOTAL	14	8	8	9	39	7	6	3	9	25	0	1	1
REPORTED IN PENTANA	13			7	36			2		24			