

Greater Norwich Growth Board

Date: 19 March 2024

Time: 14:00 – 15:30

Venue: County Hall, Council Chamber

| Name | Organisation | Role |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Cllr Kay Mason Billig (Chair) | Norfolk County Council | Board Member |
| Tom McCabe | Norfolk County Council | Officer |
| Chris Starkie | Norfolk County Council | Officer |
| Cllr Sue Holland (Vice Chair) | Broadland District Council | Board Member |
| Trevor Holden | South Norfolk Council & Broadland District Council | Officer |
| Phil Courtier | South Norfolk Council & Broadland District Council | Officer |
| Cllr Mike Stonard | Norwich City Council | Board Member |
| Louise Rawsthorne | Norwich City Council | Officer |
| Graham Nelson | Norwich City Council | Officer |
| Cllr Lord John Fuller | South Norfolk Council | Board Member |
| CJ Green | New Anglia LEP | Board Member |
| Rosanne Wijnberg | New Anglia LEP | Officer |

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
- 3. Minutes of meeting held on 30 November 2023** **Page 3**
- 4. Sweet Briar Marshes Project Presentation** **Verbal update**
Eliot Lyne, Chief Executive Officer, Norfolk Wildlife Trust
- 5. Greater Norwich Annual Growth Programme 24/25** **Page 9**
Phil Courtier, Director of Place, Broadland and South Norfolk District Councils

- 6. Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Annual Update**
Graham Nelson, Executive Director of Development and City Services, Norwich City Council



Page 44
- 7. Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy Update**
Wendy Brooks, Head of Environment Culture and Heritage, Norfolk County Council

Page 49
- 8. Application for Match Funding - Long Stratton Bypass**
Phil Courtier, Director of Place, Broadland and South Norfolk District Councils

Page 55
- 9. Date of Next Meeting**
25 June 2024 at 10:30
County Hall, Council Chamber

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Greater Norwich Project Team Leader: Grace Burke
 t: 01603 222727
 e: grace.burke@norfolk.gov.uk
 Greater Norwich Projects Team, Norfolk County Council, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DH

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|  | <p>If you would like this agenda in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language, please call Grace Burke, Greater Norwich Project Team Leader on 01603 222727 or email grace.burke@norfolk.gov.uk</p> |
| <p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">Access</p>  | <p>Please call Grace Burke, Greater Norwich Project Team Leader on 01603 222727 or email grace.burke@norfolk.gov.uk in advance of the meeting if you have any queries regarding access requirements.</p> |

Minutes of the Greater Norwich Growth Board

Date: Thursday 30 November 2023

Time: 11am

Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DH

Present:

| Name | Organisation | Role |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| Phil Courtier | South Norfolk Council & Broadland District Council | Officer |
| Cllr John Fuller | South Norfolk Council | Board Member |
| Cllr Sue Holland | Broadland District Council | Vice-Chair |
| Cllr Kay Mason Billig | Norfolk County Council | Chair |
| Graham Nelson | Norwich City Council | Officer |
| Chris Starkie | Norfolk County Council | Officer |
| Cllr Mike Stonard | Norwich City Council | Board Member |

In Attendance:

| Name | Organisation | Job Title |
|-------------------|------------------------|--|
| Hollie Adams | Norfolk County Council | Committee Officer |
| Mike Burrell | Norfolk County Council | GNLP Policy Planner |
| Grace Burke | Norfolk County Council | Project Team Leader |
| Thomas Cushan | Norfolk County Council | Greater Norwich Project Officer |
| Samantha Fletcher | Norfolk County Council | Assistant Director of Education, Strategy and Infrastructure |
| Isabel Horner | Norfolk County Council | Capital Sufficiency Delivery Manager |
| Ellie Leeper | Norfolk County Council | Greater Norwich Project Officer |
| Ruth Oyeniya | Norfolk County Council | Greater Norwich Senior Project Officer |
| Laine Tisdall | Norfolk County Council | Committee Officer |
| Matt Tracey | Norfolk County Council | Sustainability, Infrastructure and Development Group Manager |

1. Apologies for Absence

1.1 There were no apologies received.

2. Declarations of interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 September 2023 were confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

4. Schools' Capital Programme for Greater Norwich

4.1 The Board received the annexed report (4).

4.2 Officers introduced the report to the Board, which detailed the progress and budget updates on the schemes within the Greater Norwich Growth Area, expenditure of the income to date, and proposals for the coming year for GNGB support.

4.3 There had been an increase in the annual contribution from the Greater Norwich Infrastructure Investment Fund to £2.5m, which would ensure Norfolk County Council met its statutory duty to ensure sufficient places for children of school age. Officers remarked that in the current economic climate, multiple public bodies were attempting to avoid the implications of borrowing, and therefore it was proposed that Norfolk County Council would not use this facility for the immediate future.

4.4 Officers gave an update to Board Members relating to the progress of current and future schemes, with a short presentation of images shown to the Board.

- Cringleford New Primary – considerable progress had been made and the project was approximately 50% through the build process. The new school should open in September 2024.
- Hethersett Academy – work had recently commenced on site.
- Blofield Primary School relocation and expansion – work was scheduled to commence in early December.
- Wymondham High Academy – The next stage of expansion work was to be considered soon.
- Rackheath New High – This project was being considered.
- Silfield New Primary – Officers confirmed this project was not a recipient of funding from the Infrastructure Fund, as it had received considerable Section 106 contributions and government grants from Norfolk County Council.

4.5 Officers commented on school demographics in Norfolk. There had been a reduction in the school age population in Norfolk, which began at Reception age. This continued a trend identified in the data last year. There were still areas in Norfolk where numbers of primary pupils remained buoyant, which could be related to new house developments. Numbers of secondary school pupils remained high and was expected to last several more years at the current levels. Officers stressed that despite noticeable demographic

change in Norfolk, new primary schools were still a key infrastructure requirement for new developments and that striking a balance between school places and new infrastructure was an aim for Norfolk County Council

4.6 The following points were discussed and noted:

- The Chair stated it was encouraging that investment was being made into educational infrastructure in Norfolk to ensure sufficient places were available. Significant growth was expected in Norfolk over the next few years and it was important to ensure children were taught in buildings fit for purpose. The Chair remarked that issues relating to Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) had not had much of an impact in Norfolk compared to the national picture.
- The Chair expressed hopes that investment in the education sector would in time reverse the demographic change seen in Norfolk, with the attraction and retention of young people towards high-paying jobs in the county.

4.6 **RESOLVED**

The Greater Norwich Growth Board:

1. Unanimously **recommended** the approval of the expenditure of £2.5m education contribution from the Infrastructure Investment Fund for 2024/25 towards Wymondham High Academy expansion for a second year.
2. **Considered** and **commented** on the Greater Norwich Schools' capital programme.

5. Draft Five Year Infrastructure Investment Plan 2024 - 2029

5.1 The Board received the annexed report (5).

5.2 Officers introduced the report to the Board, which presented the Draft Greater Norwich Joint Five Year Infrastructure Investment Plan 2024-29 for collective review, ahead of the Plan being considered by individual partnership Cabinets and Councils in December 2023/January 2024.

5.3 Officers stated that the report recommended £650,000 in Match Funding be allocated to The Nest development in Horsford. Match Funding would be in place until the end of March 2025, which would enable The Nest time to secure a significant tranche of funding for its next stage.

5.4 The report proposed the signing of a deed of variation to the agreement entitled, 'Partner Draw down and Borrowing Authorisations' that was originally signed by all partners on 21st October 2015. This was required to progress the establishment of the already agreed City Deal Borrowing Loans Fund, which was the draw down of £20m of borrowing, to provide a loan facility for projects in the Greater Norwich area.

5.5 Officers gave an overview of the five year plan to the Board. Approximately £1m was to be allocated to three new projects in the area, on top of the £2.5m allocated towards educational facilities. The Infrastructure Investment Fund was expected to remain

healthy over the lifetime of the plan, although income was expected to decline over the next couple of years.

5.6 A short demonstration of a new dashboard was shown to Board Members. Officers had investigated ways to improve the presentation of financial information relating to the five-year plan. The dashboard utilised interactive bar charts, pie charts and gauges to display financial information. Projects which had received Match Funding could also be scrutinised, along with information relating to pre-agreed loans. Officers stated the dashboard would demonstrate proven financial planning within the Infrastructure Investment Fund.

5.7 The following points were discussed and noted:

- Board Members asked how the dashboard could be accessed. Officers confirmed the dashboard was included within the papers and would be launched online forthwith.
- Board Members thanked officers for the deployment of the dashboard, which would enable hard financial data to be displayed in an accessible way. The profile of the Investment Plan could be easily discerned from the data available, which would aid future decision making.
- The Chair queried the decline in income into the Infrastructure Investment Fund and asked whether this was linked to recent legislation relating to Nutrient Neutrality. Officers confirmed this was the case. It was unknown at present how quickly income would recover, and solutions were being considered by officers. There had been a 50% drop in income during 23/24, with a further 50% drop forecasted for 24/25. Approximately £3m was expected to enter the fund in 24/25.

5.4 **RESOLVED**

The Greater Norwich Growth Board:

1. **Used** their delegated authority to allocate £650,000 Match Funding towards Phase 3 of development at The Nest, subject to the applicant meeting the following conditions:
 - The project could not draw down any IIF funding until all remaining match funding was secured, and onsite delivery of the project began. Until that point, the project would progress towards delivery at its own risk.
 - The project had until 31 March 2025 to secure all remaining match funding and for an updated delivery programme to be agreed by the Greater Norwich Infrastructure Delivery Board.
2. Unanimously **recommended** the signing of a deed of variation to the agreement entitled, Partner Draw down and Borrowing Authorisations' that was originally signed by all partners on 21st October 2015. This was required to progress the establishment of the already agreed City Deal Borrowing Loans Fund.
3. Unanimously **approved** the draft Five Year Infrastructure Investment Plan 2024-29 which included the proposed 2024/25 Annual Growth Programme, and for it

to be **recommended** to each of the three partner district Cabinets and Councils to be agreed.

5a. Match funding confirmed for Sloughbottom Park Regeneration Project

- 5a.1. The Board received the annexed report (5a).
- 5a.2. Officers introduced the report to the Board, which announced that on Monday 20th November, Norwich City Council received confirmation that Sloughbottom Park Regeneration project had provisionally been awarded £7,583,515 of funding from round three of Government's Levelling Up Fund. This was to be matched by £850,000 which was committed to the project from the Greater Norwich Infrastructure Investment Fund in March 2023. This meant the project was now able to progress towards delivery and no longer needed to withdraw from the Greater Norwich Growth Programme
- 5a.3 Officers commented that the overall project was valued at £9.2m in summer 2022. Due to inflationary pressures, it was possible to scale back certain aspects of Sloughbottom Park if required. The project was sustainable. The government had confirmed they were open to increase their level of funding if a case could be made.
- 5a.4 Officers stated Sloughbottom Park would make a significant improvement to the health and wellbeing of a deprived community in Norwich. Sloughbottom Park was located next to Sweet Briar Marshes, which had recently been purchased by the Norfolk Wildlife Trust (NWT) to create the first urban nature reserve in Norfolk. It was hoped that the project would offer a range of volunteering, upskilling and conservation activities to improve employment opportunities in this area of Norwich. Officers confirmed there were ongoing discussions with the NWT and representatives aimed to attend the next meeting of the Greater Norwich Growth Board to introduce the plans for the Sweet Briar Marshes project, outlining the benefits for the community particularly in the Hellesdon area.
- 5a.5 The following point was discussed and noted:
- Board Members affirmed their support for the project, as it supported both rural and urban needs in the area.

5a.6 RESOLVED

The Greater Norwich Growth Board:

1. Unanimously **confirmed** that GP89 Sloughbottom Park Regeneration Project would remain within the Greater Norwich Growth Programme, with £850,000 committed to it from the Infrastructure Investment Fund.
2. **Instructed** the required changes be made to the draft Five Year Infrastructure Investment Plan 24-29, reinstating GP89 Sloughbottom Park Regeneration Project within the programme, ahead of the Plan progressing to each District Cabinet and Council for a decision.

6. Withdrawal of New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership from the Board

- 6.1 The Board received the annexed report (6).
- 6.2 Officers introduced the report to the board, which affirmed that in August 2023, the Government announced that they would no longer sponsor or fund Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs). These functions were now expected to be delivered by upper tier local authorities. As a result, in April 2024, New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership would be integrated into Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils, and arrangements were required to be agreed to enable the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership to withdraw from the Greater Norwich Growth Board.

6.3 **RESOLVED**

The Greater Norwich Growth Board:

- Unanimously **agreed** for the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership to be removed from their signed Joint Working Agreement and Constitution from the 1 April 2024
- Unanimously **agreed** for the required changes to be made to all Greater Norwich process documents and the GNGB website to reflect the withdrawal of the New Anglia LEP from the Board membership.

7. **Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 19 March 2024 at 14:00, Council Chamber, County Hall, Norwich

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 11:43

Greater Norwich Annual Growth Programme 2024/25

Phil Courtier, Director of Place, Broadland and South Norfolk District Councils

Summary

This report confirms the Greater Norwich Annual Growth Programme (AGP). These are the new projects which are prioritised for delivery in 24/25 and are to be funded either wholly or in part by the Infrastructure Investment Fund (IIF). The AGP is assembled from the Joint Five-Year Infrastructure Investment Plan, the draft of which was recommended for approval by the GNGB on 30 November 2023 and since been agreed by each of the district partner Cabinets.

Recommendation

- (i) GNGB to accept the Greater Norwich Annual Growth Programme 24/25, committing £3,428,00 to four new projects from the IIF. (Appendix 5a)

Report

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In 2013 the Greater Norwich authorities (Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council, South Norfolk Council and Norfolk County Council) together with the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership, signed a City Deal with Government. To help achieve our growth ambitions, the City Deal agreed a strategic infrastructure programme supported through Government-approved access to borrowing at a preferential rate and the local authorities' commitment to pool a significant proportion of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) income to form an Infrastructure Investment Fund (IIF).
- 1.2 Decisions on delivery and allocations of IIF funding to support the strategic infrastructure programme are overseen by the Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB.)
- 1.3 The Greater Norwich Growth Board has responsibility for assembling the Annual Growth Programme (AGP) from the Joint Five-Year Infrastructure Investment Plan (5YIIP), whilst also taking account of any further schemes for delivery across the area which may arise in response to mainstream funding decisions.
- 1.4 The AGP identifies the schemes which are prioritised for delivery and are to be funded either wholly or in part by the IIF.

2 Decision Making

- 2.1 The GNGB recommended the approval of the Draft 5YIIP to the three partner Districts Authorities at their meeting on 30 November 2023.
- 2.2 Each District Cabinet has now agreed the recommendations within the Draft 5YIIP (Appendix 5b).

- 2.3 The newly allocated projects within the 2024-29 5YIIP are returning to the GNGB and are recommended for acceptance into the Greater Norwich Annual Growth Programme, which will formally commit their funding allocation from the Infrastructure Investment Fund.

3 Digital Reporting

- 3.1 As with last year, The Annual Growth Programme is reported in a digital format that is available on the GNGB website. It provides a user-friendly reading experience which can be more easily viewed from a mobile phone or tablet. This shift to digital reporting has also enabled project information to be presented alongside geographical location through the development of an interactive map. [All information reported within the Annual Growth Programme 24/25 can be viewed here.](#)
- 3.2 A pdf version of the Annual Growth Programme is included as Appendix 5a and will also be available on the GNGB website.

4 Recommendation

- (i) GNGB to accept the Greater Norwich Annual Growth Programme 24/25, committing £3,428,00 to four new projects from the IIF.

5 Issues and Risks

5.1 Resource Implications

- 5.1.1 The new projects to be added to the Greater Norwich Growth Programme will be managed within the existing staff resource of the Greater Norwich Projects Team. Resource for project delivery will be the responsibility of the individual project sponsors.

5.2 Legal Implications

- 5.2.1 The Infrastructure Investment Fund pooling arrangements and the designation of NCC as the Accountable Body are set out in the Joint Working Agreement, which formalised the commitment to pool Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) income across the Greater Norwich area and also confirmed in the signed legal agreement relating to GNGB draw-down and borrowing authorisations dated 21st Oct 2015.

5.3 Human Rights Implications

- 5.3.1 No specific issues arising from the approval of funding for these projects. Individual project issues are the responsibility of the project manager and sponsor.

5.4 Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

- 5.4.1 No specific issues arising from the approval of funding for these projects. Individual project issues are the responsibility of the project manager and sponsor.

5.5 Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA)

5.5.1 No specific issues arising from the approval of funding for these projects. Individual project issues are the responsibility of the project manager and sponsor.

5.6 Health and Safety Implications

5.6.1 No specific issues arising from the approval of funding for these projects. Individual project issues are the responsibility of the project manager and sponsor.

5.7 Sustainability Implications

5.7.1 Project managers and sponsors will be required to meet their own environmental obligations.

5.8 Any Other Implications

5.8.1 No further implications identified.

5.9 Risk Implications/Assessment

5.9.1 The most significant risks are project cost and delivery. The responsibility of which remain with the individual projects but should be reported to the Infrastructure Delivery Board through quarterly highlight reports. An annual update is also reported to the GNGB and District Cabinets within the joint Five-Year Infrastructure Investment Plan. New projects are asked to sign an IIF funding offer letter to cover any additional project specific risks subject to specific conditions. Funding is also drawn in areas from the IIF.

5.9.2 There is a risk that there will not be enough money within the IIF to make interest and loan repayments in the medium to long term. This risk is alleviated by the agreed monitoring and reporting processes that the GNGB adhere to. The Five-Year Infrastructure Investment Plan provides an annual financial update, any new allocations are only agreed when all existing commitments are considered. As agreed by each partner s151 officer, a reserve equal to one annual loan repayment is kept in reserves as a safeguard.

Appendix 5a – Greater Norwich Growth Programme

Appendix 5b - [Joint Five Year Infrastructure Investment Plan 24-29 \(accessed via this link\)](#)

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

| | | |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| Grace Burke | 01603 222727 | Grace.Burke@norfolk.gov.uk |
| Tom Cushan | 01603 365784 | Thomas.Cushan@norfolk.gov.uk |

Greater Norwich Annual Growth Programme 2024/25

March 2024



Introduction

1. The Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB) is a partnership that is unlike any other in the UK. Norwich City, South Norfolk District, Broadland District and Norfolk County Councils together with the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership form the GNGB. They have chosen to work together to accelerate the delivery of infrastructure within the joint Greater Norwich area, because they recognise the benefits that can be achieved by looking beyond their individual administrative boundaries.
2. To support the delivery of infrastructure, the partners pool their income received from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) into one Infrastructure Investment Fund (IIF).
3. **Since their establishment in 2014, the GNGB has allocated approximately £39 of funding and £54.5m of CIL supported borrowing which has levered in at least an additional £294m to deliver infrastructure projects within the Greater Norwich area.**
4. Each year the GNGB has responsibility for assembling a new list of projects which are allocated funding from the IIF. These projects are known as the Annual Growth Programme (AGP).

Approval

5. The projects forming the AGP are drawn from the **Joint Five Year Infrastructure Investment Plan** (5YIIP- Appendix B). This Plan aligns the new AGP against the existing IIF financial commitments and forecasted CIL income until 2028/29. It forms the evidence base which supports the partner authorities' decision-making to make new allocations from the IIF on an annual basis.
6. On 30 November 2023 the GNGB recommended the approval of the draft 5YIIP 2024-29.
7. The 5YIIP was then agreed at the individual district cabinet meetings on the below dates:

Monday 15 January 2024 - South Norfolk District Council
Tuesday 16 January 2024 - Broadland District Council
Wednesday 17 January 2024 - Norwich City Council
8. The AGP will also be reported to Norfolk County Council as the GNGB's accountable body.



Delivery and Monitoring

9. The projects included in the AGP will be added to the Greater Norwich Growth Programme. To date, just over 100 projects have been accepted into the programme and allocated funding from the IIF.
10. Monitoring the delivery of the Greater Norwich Growth Programme is the responsibility of the Greater Norwich Infrastructure Delivery Board (IDB). Project promoters provide quarterly highlight reports to the IDB and they consider any in year changes.
11. The IDB report progress on programme delivery (and exception reports if required) to the GNGB.

Annual Growth Programme 2024/25

12. In accordance with the agreed processes for the IIF, the IDB met on 29 September 2023 to agree which projects are to be put forward as the 2024/25 AGP. **Three new projects totalling £928,000** have been identified to be supported by the IIF and are listed below. Project summaries have been included in **Appendix A**.
13. In addition, Education will receive **£2.5** million to support the delivery of their capital programme within Greater Norwich.
14. Table 1 - Annual Growth Programme Projects 2024/2025 shows the distribution of the new AGP projects across Greater Norwich.

Table 1 - Annual Growth Programme Projects 2024/2025

| Project Name | Applicant | Amount of CIL requested | Total project size |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Aylsham Gym & Fitness Hub | Broadland | £ 400,000 | £ 1,309,988 |
| Eaton Park | Norwich | £ 333,000 | £ 601,000 |
| Plumstead Road Library | Norfolk | £ 195,000 | £ 260,391 |
| Education – Wymondham High Academy | Norfolk | £ 2,500,000 | £ 13,000,000 |

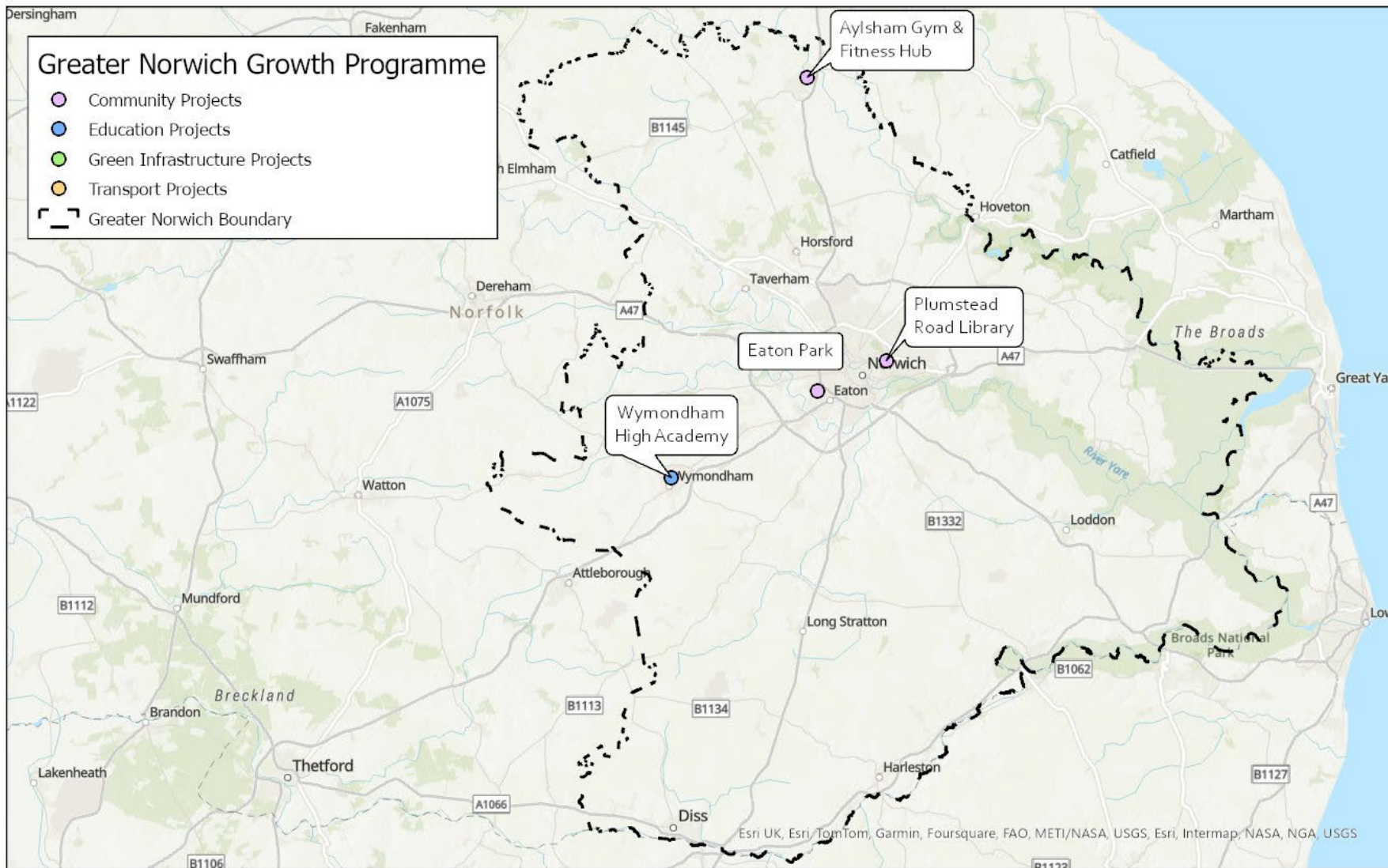
| Project Name | Applicant | Amount of CIL requested | Total project size |
|--------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Total | N/A | £ 3,428,000 | £ 15,171,379 |

Other commitments

15. **£115,000** will be allocated as a programme management fee. This will supplement the cost of the Greater Norwich Project Team, who manage all funding streams within the IIF and are instrumental in driving forward the provision of infrastructure across the Greater Norwich area.
16. **£650,000** has been allocated as match funding to development at The Nest, to help them lever in additionally funding from central government.
17. **£4.5 million** will be drawn down as a loan from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) to support the delivery of the Long Stratton Bypass in Q1 2025/26
18. Approximately **£5** million from the IIF is committed to projects that that have a delivery programme spanning multiple years, some of which were agreed in previous AGPs.

Figure 1 1 - Map of the 2024-25 Annual Growth Programme

Annual Growth Programme 2024/25



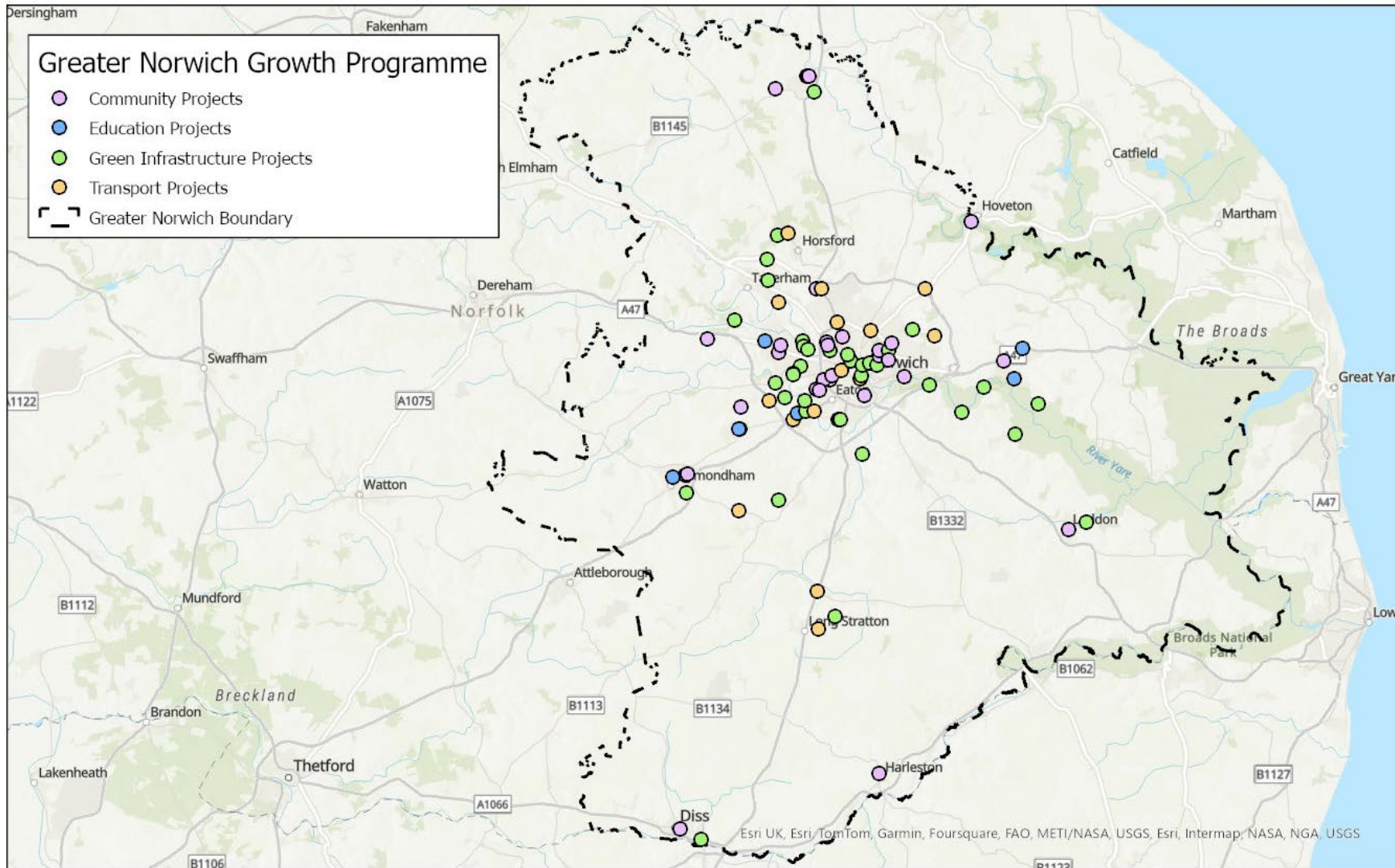
The Full Greater Norwich Growth Programme

19. The GNGB have committed funding to projects through the acceptance of an Annual Growth Programme each year since the establishment of the IIF in 2014. **Figure 2 - Full Greater Norwich Growth Programme** overleaf shows the distribution of all previously funded projects across the Greater Norwich area. The individual project summaries are listed as Appendix A.



Figure 2 2 - Map of the full Greater Norwich Annual Growth Programme

The Complete Greater Norwich Growth Programme



Completed Projects

20. A total of 14 Growth Programme Projects completed in 2023/24.
21. These projects had a combined funding value of £6,559,266 from the IIF. The total combined budget of these projects was £12,745,573.
22. The following projects from the Greater Norwich Growth Programme completed delivery in 2023/24:

Table 2 - Completed Projects 2023/24

| Project Name | Project Lead | CIL Contribution | Total project size |
|--|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| GP038 – Football Pitch Improvements | Norwich City Council | £100,000 | £115,000 |
| GP046b – Marriotts Way: Costessey Resurfacing & Drayton Ramp | Norfolk County Council | £526,000 | £526,000 |
| GP047 – Yare Valley Walk: Cringleford Meadow Improvements | Norwich City Council | £47,000 | £47,000 |
| GP048 – Wherryman’s Way: Yare Valley Cycle Route | South Norfolk Council | £23,000 | £23,000 |
| GP61a – Brundall Primary School Extension | Norfolk County Council | £800,000 | £850,000 |
| GP065 – East Wymondham Green Infrastructure | South Norfolk Council | £60,222 | £75,222 |
| GP066 - 20 Acre Wood Community Access Improvements | Norwich City Council | £62,450 | £62,450 |
| GP068 - Frenze Beck Green Infrastructure | South Norfolk Council | £35,200 | £45,200 |
| GP069 – Aylsham Sports Hub Stage 3 | Broadland District Council | £385,000 | £766,000 |

| Project Name | Project Lead | CIL Contribution | Total project size |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| GP070 – Wymondham Tennis Club | South Norfolk Council | £140,394 | £140,394 |
| GP071 – Crusaders Rugby Football Club Clubhouse Extension | South Norfolk Council | £150,000 | £344,307 |
| GP075 – Ormiston Victory Academy | Norfolk County Council | £4,000,000 | £9,000,000 |
| GP085 – FDC Heartsease Open Academy | Norwich City Council | £150,000 | £480,000 |
| GP086 – Yare Boat Club | Broadland District Council | £80,000 | £271,000 |

Appendix A

Greater Norwich Growth Programme Project Summaries

Below is the complete list of projects included within the Greater Norwich Growth Programme.

Details regarding finance and current delivery are included within the joint Five-year Infrastructure Investment Plan 2023-28 (Appendix B)

2014/15 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Delivery Status |
|--------------|---|-----------------|
| GP001 | Harrisons' Wood, Salhouse Road, Norwich This project secures areas of woodland located off Blue Boar Lane, Sprowston (associated with the White House Farm development proposal) for public access and future use as a 'Woodland Park', as set out within Sprowston Neighbourhood Plan. | Ongoing |
| GP002 | Danby Wood This project provided biodiversity and access improvements including thinning parts of the wood, upgrading the main footpath through the wood, and renovating old hedgerows. | Complete |
| GP003 | Marsden Marsh This project forms part of the Yare Valley path. It improved pedestrian access to the western part of the site, thereby minimising damage and improving the site's resilience whilst also improving the site's biodiversity value. | Complete |
| GP004 | Earlham Millennium Green (EMG) (Phase 1) This project is part of a programme to improve Earlham Millenium Green creating a pedestrian link from Bowthorpe to the UEA and NRP. This phase involved the creation of high-quality open space and wildlife area, improvements to access and enhanced potential for educational use. | Complete |

| Ref | Project Description | Delivery Status |
|-------|--|-----------------|
| GP005 | <p>Riverside Way - Oasis site</p> <p>This project revised the layout and design of The Oasis, a small pocket park adjacent to Fye Bridge on the River Wensum. Partnership work with stakeholders was undertaken to enhance the site to maximize its use, linkages, and potential for access to the river.</p> | Complete |
| GP006 | <p>Marriott's Way (Phase 1)</p> <p>This project made improvements to the city end of Marriott's Way, between Pendelsham Rise and Drayton High Road. The path was resurfaced, and lighting improvements were made to encourage commuting by bicycle and on-foot.</p> | Complete |
| GP007 | <p>Norwich Health Walks</p> <p>This project developed a footpath through the tree belt surrounding the N&N University Hospital. Offering an opportunity for staff and patients of the hospital to enjoy fresh air and exercise thus aiding a sense of well-being for patients and staff alike.</p> | Complete |

2015/16 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|-----------|--|----------|
| GP008 | <p>Earlham Millennium Green Path Improvements (Phase 2)</p> <p>This project is part of a programme to improve Earlham Millenium Green creating a pedestrian link from Bowthorpe to the UEA and NRP. Improvements included the upgrading of a gravel path with a hard surface path suitable for pedestrians and cyclists.</p> | Complete |
| GP009 | <p>Marriott's Way (Phase 2)</p> <p>This project was a second phase of improvement to the section of Marriott's Way from Thorpe Marriott to Norwich City Centre in addition to those agreed in the 2014/15 Growth Programme. Including repairs to Dragon Bridge to enable adoption, highway improvements to access points and barriers, signage and lighting.</p> | Complete |
| GP 010-17 | <p>Norwich Area Transportation Strategy (now known as Transport For Norwich)</p> <p>Initially 8 projects (GP10-17) were identified from Transport for Norwich's programme of works. The programme aimed to improve accessibility by all forms of transport in and around the city, encouraging the use of more sustainable forms of transport, such as public transport, cycling and walking, while also improving the capacity of the road network, in particular through the Broadland Northway.</p> <p>The programme was delivered by a partnership between Norfolk County Council and Norwich City Council, as well as local authorities within Greater Norwich on schemes in the wider area. Funding sources included the Department for Transport, developer contributions, the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership and local growth funds.</p> <p>IIF was made available to these schemes to use as a top up to fill the programme funding gaps. Some of the initial 8 projects were able to secure alternative funding so the Infrastructure Development Board were able to agree amendments to the projects which received IIF. The projects that were delivered are detailed below:</p> | N/A |
| GP011 | <p>St Clements Toucan Crossing</p> <p>This project developed a crossing point at Denton Road/ Chartwell Road/ School Road, in order to enable cyclists and pedestrians to cross much more quickly and directly providing separate cycling and pedestrian crossing areas.</p> | Complete |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|--------|--|----------|
| GP013 | <p>Eaton Interchange</p> <p>This project involved works at the crossroads in Eaton to improve safety and traffic flow. These include reducing traffic calming measures, widening the cycle track, resurfacing the carriageway, a new cycle traffic signal and simplifying pedestrian crossings.</p> | Complete |
| GP013b | <p>Roundhouse Way</p> <p>This project created a new bus interchange at Roundhouse Way, Cringleford</p> | Complete |
| GP016 | <p>Golden Ball Street</p> <p>This project was part of the programme of measures that reduced traffic flow through the city centre and provided a safer and more attractive environment for pedestrians and cyclists.</p> | Complete |
| GP017b | <p>(Cromer Rd/Aylsham Rd) A140 Corridor</p> <p>This project implemented on-carriageway bus priority measures through the reallocation of road space on the A140 Cromer Road north of Norwich city centre. This work improved bus journey reliability and bus service performance as well as having a positive impact on bus patronage. The project involved the provision of an inbound bus lane between Fifers Lane and Waterloo Road along the Cromer Road/Aylsham Road corridor. The inbound bus lane is also shared with cyclists</p> | Complete |

2016/17 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|-------|---|---------------------------|
| GP019 | <p>St Faiths Rd to Airport Transport Link</p> <p>Establishment of road and cycle links between St Faiths Rd and Airport Industrial Estate (AIE) to join the existing employment area with the North East Growth Triangle.</p> <p>-</p> <p><i>Initial scheme feasibility ruled out the immediate possibility of a direct link between Hurricane Way and St Faiths Road. The project stalled and was not able to be delivered in the short term. The project was withdrawn from the programme but was invited to reapply once a deliverable option is identified.</i></p> | Closed prematurely |
| GP022 | <p>Heathgate - Pink Pedalway</p> <p>This project was one of 22 schemes designed to deliver the creation of an eight mile 'pedalway' across the whole city that could be ridden confidently and safely by everyone.</p> | Complete |
| GP023 | <p>Carrow to Deal Ground riverside walk</p> <p>Delivery of a short section of cycle/ footway on north bank of the River Wensum providing a key 'missing link' in the route between Norwich city centre/ rail station and Whitlingham Country Park.</p> <p>-</p> <p><i>The project intended to open up access to the Deal Ground and Utilities sites by delivering a cycle and pedestrian route to the city centre. However, delivery of these sites stalled in 2018 with no clear indication of when they will come forward. The rationale for delivery of this section of route therefore no longer existed. The £260,000 match funding for the project (originally from Sustrans) was redeployed elsewhere. The project was withdrawn from the programme but was invited to reapply once a deliverable option is identified.</i></p> | Closed prematurely |
| GP024 | <p>Colney River Crossing (also known as NRP to Threescore)</p> <p>This project created a new footbridge across the River Yare and made improvements to existing rights of way and footpaths. These works improved linkages between housing in Bowthorpe and the major employment locations at Norwich Research Park (NRP) and the Hospital.</p> | Complete |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|---------------|--|-----------------|
| GP025 | <p>Northern Distributor Road (now known as the Broadland Northway)</p> <p>This project delivered a 12.4-mile dual carriageway linking the A47 from the southeast of Norwich to the airport and north of the District. It was supported by the GNGB with £40m of reduced cost borrowing. It was named the Broadland Northway when completed.</p> | Complete |
| GP026 | <p>Long Stratton Bypass</p> <p>The Long Stratton Bypass is identified as a Regional Priority and is progressing as a Developer-led single carriageway bypass to the east of Long Stratton. It delivers an approximately 4km long single carriageway highway improvement on the eastern side of Long Stratton. The scheme includes both non-motorised and vehicular overbridges to ensure connectivity between Long Stratton and outlying settlements to the east of the proposal.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP026B | <p>Hempnall Crossroads</p> <p>This project made improvements to road safety at this busy junction where traffic crosses the A140 near Hempnall, by installing a roundabout.</p> | Complete |

2017/18 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|-------|---|--------------------|
| GP027 | <p>Lizard and Silfield Nature Reserves</p> <p>To protect and enhance the Lizard and Silfield Nature Reserve by the creation of alternative green infrastructure routes for recreational access. The project will identify and agree new routes, which will be developed as appropriate. Necessary infrastructure such as stiles, fencing, signage/way marking, hedgerow planting/restoration and interpretation/localised publicity will be provided to encourage and manage use of the network.</p> <p>-</p> <p><i>Discussions with landowners failed to reach agreement to commit the footpaths as public right of way. IIF funding cannot be allocated to private land so the project was withdrawn from the programme.</i></p> | Closed prematurely |
| GP029 | <p>Barn Road Gateway</p> <p>This project made improvements to the entrance of the Marriott's Way Cycleway with signage, paving and the removal of vegetation, increasing the visibility of it and encouraging more use.</p> | Complete |
| GP030 | <p>Marriott's Way: Sloughbottom Park - Andersons Meadow</p> <p>This project provides improvements to a section of the route to increase safety, comfort and personal security. Works include path widening/realigning, street lighting, vegetation management, tree planting, and drainage improvements.</p> | Complete |
| GP031 | <p>Riverside Walk accessibility improvements</p> <p>This project, which is an important part of the River Wensum Strategy Delivery Plan, aims to enable the use of the Riverside Walk (between New Mills and Carrow Bridge) by all, including access measures on and adjacent to the walk, and improved signage and waymarking linking the river with the city centre and other key attractions.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP033 | <p>Strumpshaw Pit Circular Walk</p> <p>This project will expand the dog walking capabilities of Strumpshaw Pit, through additional parking, cycle rack provision and access improvements. Offsetting the impact caused to other protected sites</p> | Ongoing |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|-------|---|--------------------|
| GP036 | <p>Castle Gardens</p> <p>This project provides restoration and improvement works to Castle Gardens to promote the use of the gardens as a linear park. Restoration works will safeguard the gardens for future use whilst planned improvements will ensure that the gardens can be maintained within the available budgets. The linkage to the gardens from the surrounding street scene will be enhanced along with improved linkages to the castle and green.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP037 | <p>Long Stratton Sports Hub (Closed Prematurely)</p> <p>This project brings together several facility-providing partners (South Norfolk Council, Long Stratton High School and Long Stratton Parish Council) to improve the sport and leisure facility stock in the village in anticipation of significant housing growth. It created a new sport and leisure 'Hub' across three adjacent sites and providing new and enhanced facilities that are fit for purpose and better suited to the current and future facility needs of residents.</p> <p>-</p> <p><i>Alternative funding was sourced to deliver the improvements to the leisure centre which are now complete. The majority of the IIF funding was earmarked to the swimming pool within the Long Stratton High School site. Following extensive discussions between South Norfolk Council and Enrich Learning Trust, a decision was made not to progress with the refurbishment and re-opening of the swimming pool because the costs associated with renovating, re-opening and then operating the swimming pool were deemed to be too prohibitive. This project closed prior to all funds being drawn down.</i></p> | Closed prematurely |
| GP038 | <p>Football pitch improvements</p> <p>This project aimed to provide football pitch improvement works at Eaton Park, Sloughbottom Park, Britannia Barracks and Fountain Ground, including drainage improvements, improved grass species and improved goal facilities through the provision of new posts, nets and additional ground sockets. It also included additional equipment to allow improved maintenance, allowing pitches to be moved annually to prevent excessive wear, improve the playability of the pitches and increase capacity.</p> | Complete |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|----------|--|---------------------------|
| GP039 | <p>Hales cricket and bowls clubhouse improvements (Closed Prematurely)</p> <p>This project will deliver a new pavilion to serve Loddon and Hales Cricket Club and Hales Bowls Club, giving both clubs a permanent home in spaces that meet their respective needs, allowing them to develop and grow participation across a range of ages.</p> <p>-</p> <p><i>Site access improvement works were completed in January 2020, however due to escalating costs the club decided to stall progress and completely re-evaluate the project. The project was withdrawn from the programme but was invited to reapply once a deliverable option is identified.</i></p> | Closed prematurely |
| GP040 | <p>Kett's Park Sports Hub</p> <p>This project provided a new full-size and floodlit artificial grass pitch, better quality existing natural turf pitches with improved drainage, new tennis pavilion and refurbished community centre.</p> | Complete |
| GP041-43 | <p>Library self-access improvements</p> <p>Self-access technology allows the library service to automatically control and monitor building access, self-service kiosks, public access computers, lighting, alarms, public announcements and customer safety. Introducing this technology meant that each library could have increased opening hours, making access to the library more convenient for current and new customers without an increase in staff costs. This was a great opportunity for libraries to be accessible and relevant to more people.</p> | N/A |
| GP041 | <p>Wroxham Library: self-access improvements</p> <p>This project delivered public toilets and introduced self-access technology, which allows automatic control and monitoring of building access</p> | Complete |
| GP042 | <p>Plumstead Road Library: self-access improvements</p> <p>This project introduced self-access technology at Plumstead Road Library, and the provision of car and bike customer parking (including disabled parking).</p> | Complete |
| GP043 | <p>Diss library: self-access improvements</p> <p>This project introduced self-access technology, which allows automatic control and monitoring of building access.</p> | Complete |
| GP044 | <p>Education - Hethersett</p> <p>This project allocated £2m to support the development of Hethersett Junior School and Hethersett Academy.</p> | Complete |

2018/19 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|--------|---|----------|
| GP045 | <p>Green Pedalway – Earlham Road Section</p> <p>This project delivered improvements to the Earlham Road (B1108) junction with Mill Hill Road and Heigham Road, providing facilities for both cyclists and pedestrians, creating safer active travel routes.</p> | Complete |
| GP046b | <p>Marriott's Way Ramp & Resurfacing (replaces GP46 & GP53)</p> <p>The project improves access and accessibility on Marriott's Way and links into a number of other projects along the route. It helps facilitate the use of Marriott's Way as a key walking / cycling route and as a sustainable transport corridor for people commuting into and out of Norwich. The project improves access points, provides resurfacing between Thorpe Marriott and Costessey, and creates a ramp in Drayton which improves accessibility for all.</p> | Complete |
| GP047 | <p>Yare Valley Walk, Cringleford Meadow (Formerly UEA to Eaton Boardwalk)</p> <p>The project has improved the last remaining section of the Yare Valley Walk between the UEA and Cringleford. The path around Cringleford Meadow was improved by laying gravel, improvements were made to the car park, and ditches were dredged to provide additional locations for fish spawning.</p> | Complete |
| GP048 | <p>Wherryman's Way- Yare Valley Cycle Route</p> <p>This project improves the Yare Valley Cycle Route with new signage and route improvements, a route that follows the Wherryman's Way Loddon cycle loop and links into the broader Norwich city cycle network. This links into the Norwich cycle map and Norwich pedalways project.</p> | Complete |
| GP049 | <p>Earlham Millennium Green (EMG) Improvement Project (Phase 3)</p> <p>This project is part of a programme to improve Earlham Millenium Green creating a pedestrian link from Bowthorpe to the UEA and NRP. It involved refurbishing and improving existing entrance features, new signage, replacing pond dipping platforms and a timber footbridge connecting EMG with Earlham Marsh.</p> | Complete |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|----------|---|----------|
| GP050 | <p>Yare and Wensum Valley Link</p> <p>This project will make improvements for walkers, cyclists and wildlife. These include the resurfacing of the Gunton Lane Marriott's Way Access, tree planting, traffic calming measures, and the creation of linear green space between West Earham and Bowthorpe.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP051 | <p>Green Infrastructure: Access for All</p> <p>A number of Green Infrastructure trails across the Greater Norwich area have been audited for both power chair use and general accessibility, identifying the improvement works necessary to allow such access. This project implements a range of smaller scale accessibility improvements across various projects and areas. The funding allocated is £30,000 a year for five years with different project areas being delivered each year.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP052 | <p>Thorpe Marriott Greenway</p> <p>This project was designed to promote better greenspace and access in the Thorpe Marriott area, and established a path through the current tree belt that leads to Drayton Drewray.</p> | Complete |
| GP055 | <p>Community Sports Hub- The Nest, Horsford</p> <p>This project created a community sports hub, providing a range of sports facilities as well as offices, cafe and meeting spaces.</p> | Complete |
| GP056-60 | <p>Library self-access improvements</p> <p>Self-access technology allows the library service to automatically control and monitor building access, self-service kiosks, public access computers, lighting, alarms, public announcements and customer safety. Introducing this technology meant that each library could have increased opening hours, making access to the library more convenient for current and new customers without an increase in staff costs. This was a great opportunity for libraries to be accessible and relevant to more people.</p> | N/A |
| GP056 | <p>Harleston Library- self-access improvement</p> <p>This project introduced self-access technology, which allows automatic control and monitoring of building access.</p> | Complete |
| GP057 | <p>Costessey Library- self-access improvement</p> <p>This project introduced self-access technology, which allows automatic control and monitoring of building access.</p> | Complete |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|---------------|---|-----------------|
| GP058 | Loddon Library- self-access improvement This project introduced self-access technology, which allows automatic control and monitoring of building access. | Complete |
| GP059 | Earlham Library- self-access improvement This project introduced self-access technology, which allows automatic control and monitoring of building access. | Complete |
| GP060 | Mile Cross Library- self-access improvement This project introduced self-access technology, which allows automatic control and monitoring of building access. | Complete |
| GP061a | Education- Brundall Primary This project provides a 2 new classroom block, demolition of caretaker bungalow and improvement to parking provision, to cater to larger cohorts of children in the area. | Complete |
| GP061b | Education – Blofield This project will relocate and expand the existing Blofield primary school to 420 places on a new site, to provide larger and more suitable accommodation | Ongoing |

2019/20 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|--------------|--|----------------|
| GP062 | Education - Cringleford This project will deliver a new 420 place primary school in Cringleford on S106 land from developers. An off-site nursery provision will be made, separate from the school scheme. | Ongoing |

2020/21 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|-------|---|----------|
| GP063 | <p>North West Woodlands Project (now known as Broadland Country Park)</p> <p>Broadland Country Park (BCP) was purchased with IIF funding by Broadland District Council in 2019. Ideally located adjacent to the Broadland Northway, the Thorpe Marriott Greenway cycle and pedestrian route, and the purple and yellow bus routes, BCP helps to manoeuvre the Greater Norwich area into a strong position in which to deliver sustainable, well-planned communities by enabling a mitigation strategy that alleviates the impact of growth on the internationally designated sites in Norfolk.</p> | Complete |
| GP064 | <p>Hellesdon Station Green Infrastructure</p> <p>This project will deliver a range of inter-related green infrastructure improvements in the Hellesdon Station area. Overall, the project includes 25 sub-projects covering Hellesdon Station / Marriott's Way, Hellesdon Mill Meadow, Marlpit Paddock and Hellesdon Marsh. These improvements will boost the transport and ecological functions of strategic green infrastructure corridors to support growth.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP065 | <p>East Wymondham Green Infrastructure</p> <p>The project will install appropriate infrastructure around Oxford Common, an area of natural countryside identified support recreation and enhance GI provision in order to create an accessible area for local residents to visit. The project will establish approximately 1800 metres of new permissive paths, resulting in a newly defined circular route and the possible enclosure of 9 hectares of grassland to restore the site to County Wildlife Site (CWS) standard.</p> | Complete |
| GP066 | <p>20 Acre Wood Community Access Improvements</p> <p>This project has improved an existing woodland path through 20 Acre Wood from Enfield Road to Earlham Green Lane.</p> <p>It involved installing a raised hard surface path to make it suitable for cyclists, pedestrians, mobility scooters and push chairs, whilst avoiding any damage to tree roots. Additionally, way-markers were installed at each end of the path, and a wooden chicane to slow pedestrian movement from the path to the tarmac path and road.</p> | Complete |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|-------|---|----------|
| GP067 | <p>Kett's Country Long Distance Trail</p> <p>This project created a long-distance walking trail from Wymondham to Norwich via a number of South Norfolk towns and villages.</p> | Complete |
| GP068 | <p>Frenze Beck Green Infrastructure</p> <p>The project delivered a number of green infrastructure updates and installations on Frenze Beck, on the eastern edge of Diss. The work includes installation of new entrance gates, design and installation of new information boards and trails, installing seating and picnic benches and installation of gravel footpaths to unlock access to two viewing areas.</p> | Complete |
| GP069 | <p>Aylsham Sports Hub Stage 3</p> <p>The project has delivered a full-size, floodlit 3G pitch which can be sub-divided into 3 smaller pitches suitable for football, hockey and rugby, on the site of the Aylsham Sports Hub at Aylsham High School, to be used by both pupils and the public.</p> | Complete |
| GP070 | <p>Wymondham Tennis Club</p> <p>The project improves Wymondham Tennis Club's facilities at Kett's Park in Wymondham. It provides a new fourth court to increase capacity in an area of high housing and population growth. It includes resurfacing of three existing courts, conversion of floodlights to LED Lumineers to provide lower running costs and delivers a greener operation; the enhancement will also see netball courts provided on the site, bringing outdoor, publicly accessible floodlit courts to Wymondham for the first time.</p> | Complete |
| GP071 | <p>Crusaders Rugby Football Club</p> <p>The project delivers new infrastructure and enhanced facilities at Crusaders Rugby Club, based in Little Melton (South Norfolk). The enhanced facilities provided include: 3 en-suite changing rooms that meet Rugby Football Union (RFU) guidelines, a new officials' changing space, refurbished and extended social spaces, an accessible entrance, first floor viewing area and new accessible toilet facilities.</p> | Complete |
| GP072 | <p>Recreation Road Swimming Pool</p> <p>The project increased car park capacity at the Recreation Road school swimming pool and installed new fencing and a covered bike store. These works increased the community access to the pool.</p> | Complete |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|--------------|---|-----------------|
| GP073 | <p>Norwich Parks Tennis</p> <p>The project delivered a total of 5 all-weather tennis courts at Heigham Park and Lakenham Park in Norwich, to add to the provision offered by the Norwich Parks Tennis Programme.</p> | Complete |
| GP074 | <p>Plumstead Road T-Junction</p> <p>The project will deliver a new T-junction on Plumstead Road as well as new footways and cycleways, a new pedestrian crossing, road re-alignment and associated services. In delivering the scheme, the project will ensure that the strategically important orbital link road between Salhouse Road and Plumstead Road can be delivered.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP075 | <p>Education- Ormiston Victory Academy</p> <p>This project delivered an extensive expansion at Ormiston Victory Academy. It includes a new three-story classroom block and internal remodelling to increase the number of school places to 1500 for ages 11-16. The extension has reduced issues with admission pressures in the area, and the school is now able to accommodate additional pupils from nearby housing developments.</p> | Complete |

2021/22 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|-------|--|----------|
| GP076 | <p>Brundall Sports Hub</p> <p>This project will deliver a multi-sport floodlit 3G pitch with fencing, floodlighting, a maintenance storage container, hard standing pathways, car parking and a single storey club house/changing room building. The building incorporates plans for a community gym which will be capable of hosting various sports clubs, teams and coaching sessions within the community, whilst drawing people into the village.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP077 | <p>Bure Valley Path: Access, Promotion and Recreational Enhancement</p> <p>This project will deliver a broad range of improvements to the Bure Valley Path and the surrounding area. Including provision of a pedestrian and cyclist access crossing over the A140, creation of 5 circular walks, way marking, surface and biodiversity improvements.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP078 | <p>Kett's Heights</p> <p>This project provides improvements to Kett's Heights provide for a more accessible and resilient space, and for enhancements to the green links through this area (linking with Mousehold Heath and Lion Wood). Current access to the site is from Kett's Hill via a pedestrian gate and a series of failing timber steps. As such there is no DDA compliant access or provision for maintenance vehicles.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP079 | <p>Football Development Centre Bowthorpe – 3G Pitch</p> <p>The project replaced an existing full-sized grass pitch with a 3G full sized flood lit football pitch, increasing the hours of use of the facility.</p> | Complete |

2022/23 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|-------|--|----------|
| GP080 | <p>Yellow Pedalway extension (airport to Broadland Northway)</p> <p>The project will deliver active travel infrastructure improvements in the Hellesdon area to the north of Norwich. These improvements will enhance the provision of different transport options along the strategic A140 corridor to support growth.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP082 | <p>Broadland Country Park - Horsford Crossing</p> <p>This project will encourage green transport options for accessing Broadland Country Park. This project will provide a road crossing Refuge Island on the B1149 Holt Road at Horsford, to cater for both pedestrians and cyclists entering Broadland Country Park. It will also install a new 'welcome' sign, directional signage and cycle racks at Broadland Country Park, Sandy Lane entrance.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP083 | <p>Wherryman's Way Access Improvements</p> <p>The Wherryman's Way is a 37.5 mile walking trail from Norwich Train Station to Great Yarmouth Train Station via the Reedham Ferry following the River Yare through the protected landscape of the Norfolk Broads. The project will create access improvements on the route through sections at Surlingham, Bramerton and Hardley Flood allowing improved all-ability access. Improvements will include Bank Stabilisation at the above sites, the installation of Bridges at Hardley Flood, the upgrading of footpaths, the restoration of the Bird Hide on Hardley Flood and improvements to the moorings at Rockland Staithe.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP085 | <p>Football Development Centre - Heartsease Open Academy</p> <p>The FDC@OpenAcademy project provided a new 7v7 3G football pitch, replacing the current youth sized grass pitch. The new pitch connects to the existing full-sized 3G football pitch that is currently operated at the facility, increasing their 3G pitch capacity by an additional 50%. It enables more football activity covering both the traditional and recreational formats of the game.</p> | Complete |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|--------------|---|-----------------|
| GP086 | <p>Yare Boat Club</p> <p>This project was part of a multi-stage programme designed to improve and expand the existing rowing facilities at Yare Boat Club. It will enable the volunteer-run club to proactively take their sport out to the local community and particularly to younger people (18-25): encouraging and enabling participation whilst specifically targeting those that would not stereotypically access the sport from within the local lower socio-economic communities.</p> | Complete |
| GP087 | <p>Education – Hethersett</p> <p>This project supports further development to Hethersett Academy, in response to 1400 new homes in the village.</p> | Ongoing |

2023/24 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|--------|--|---------|
| GP088a | <p>Education – Wymondham High Academy</p> <p>Expansion of Wymondham High Academy to 10FE (3000) 11-16 age pupils. This the 4th phase of the overall expansion to meet additional pupil demand from housing development in the town. The scope of the project includes a new gymnasium, Design and Technology block, including Food Technology and music curriculum space. In addition, works will be needed to address drainage issues on site.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP89 | <p>Sloughbottom Park Regeneration</p> <p>This project will deliver a linked set of new community facilities including a new 3G football pitch, league standard changing rooms, multi-purpose Pavilion and Café, upgraded Play Park, refurbished and upgraded BMX track, storage facilities, upgrade to Dolphin Path and other park infrastructure – car park, paths resurfaced, lighting and signage.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP090 | <p>Easton Village Hall</p> <p>The project will deliver a new, multi-use community centre with off road parking in Easton which is due to receive significant residential growth over the coming years. Upon completion, it will enhance recreational provision, promote social integration and create a thriving, sustainable community. It is designed to be large 565m² hall that will facilitate sports, kitchen, changing, bar and meeting/ offices areas.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP091 | <p>Youngs Park Aylsham AGP</p> <p>This project at Youngs Park in Aylsham will see the installation of a full-sized 3G artificial grass pitch. This will replace an existing full-sized natural turf pitch.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP092 | <p>Queens Hill Community Park</p> <p>This project will provide improve access to and within the park, and protect the existing woodland. It will deliver formal footpaths, waymarkers, 5 circular walks, an additional access point to the park, 6 cycle racks and stock fencing.</p> | Ongoing |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|-------|--|---------|
| GP093 | <p>Cringleford Country Park</p> <p>Cringleford, as one of the five major growth locations in South Norfolk, has experienced a rapid expansion in its population. The Parish Council is purchasing land in the Yare Valley adjacent to the UEA woods, so that it can be protected from development and be made accessible. The primary purpose of this project is to secure and open up additional green space for the community.</p> <p>The project will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17.24 ha of land including 5.87 ha of managed woodland (Cringleford Wood) and 8.56 ha pasture. • A new accessible bridge crossing for the River Yare • 400m of accessible boardwalk across the land to the bridge. • 400m cattle and dog-proof fencing to maintain grazing and protect users of the pasture. • A new path linking Cringleford with UEA's boardwalk, the Yare Valley walk, and the wider Kett's Country Long Distance Trail and Circular paths. • 3 disabled parking spaces for accessing the new path. | Ongoing |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|--------------|--|----------------|
| GP094 | <p>Venta Icenorum</p> <p>This project will upgrade and expand the car park by 2,000m² (doubling the existing capacity) so it is fit for purpose and can accommodate the increased number of visitors. The extension will help mitigate the problem with visitors parking on the rural road and reduce the risks to road users. Entry will be via a new height security barrier to prevent entry overnight. There will be allocated bays for disabled visitors (blue badge holders), and provision for 2 new Electric Vehicle charging points.</p> <p>New cycle parking bays (to secure at least 12 bikes) will be included to encourage cycling to the site, simultaneously relieving pressure on the car park. Finally, a new oak gazebo will be erected at the entrance to Venta Icenorum marking it as a formal entrance point, to act as a meeting point for visitors, hold information boards and provide some shelter too.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP095 | <p>Hethersett to NRP Cycle Route</p> <p>This project will enable an off-carriageway, shared use cycling and walking path to be provided along the western side of Colney Lane from the junction of Braymeadow Lane to the bridge over the A47. This will enable the Pink Pedalway to be extended to Hethersett to link with the Blue Pedalway. These improvements will enhance walking and cycling provision, supporting strategic growth of Wymondham, Hethersett and the NRP.</p> | Ongoing |

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|-------|--|---------|
| GP097 | <p>Hethel Technology Park</p> <p>This project will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 3-arm Roundabout on the C186 (Wymondham Road) to the west of the current Hethel Engineering Centre access. The roundabout will provide a new access via a realignment of the southern end of Potash Lane through the Strategic Employment Allocation HETHEL2. • A new road (as indicated above) through HETHEL2 providing access 'limbs' into the employment allocation to serve the employment facilities (new and existing) at Hethel. • Footway and cycleway infrastructure alongside the sections of new road. • Closure of the existing junction of the C186 Wymondham Road and Potash Lane to vehicular traffic at Hethel. | Ongoing |

2024/25 Annual Growth Programme

| Ref | Project Description | Status |
|--------|---|---------|
| GP098 | <p>Aylsham Gym & Fitness Hub</p> <p>This project will create a 487m² community health and fitness facility at Aylsham High School, featuring a 40-station gym, multi-use fitness studio, and changing facilities. Located near existing sports amenities, it expands the hub for Aylsham and surrounding areas, following successful prior stages.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP099 | <p>Eaton Park</p> <p>This project will enhance Eaton Park in Southwest Norwich, featuring renovations to the central pavilion's changing rooms, green technologies (solar panels, heat pump, PIR system, LED lighting), upgraded signage, and 10 cycle storage racks. Ensuring Football Association compliance, accessibility, and energy efficiency, it promotes active travel in the park.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP100 | <p>Plumstead Road Library</p> <p>This project will extend Plumstead Road Library in east Norwich by 72m², adding an internal entrance, multi-use space for 20 people, kitchen, disabled toilet, and disability access ramp. Enabling diverse events and activities, it addresses the current limitations of the open library space, benefiting various community groups and fostering partnerships with other organizations.</p> | Ongoing |
| GP088b | <p>Education – Wymondham High Academy</p> <p>Expansion of Wymondham High Academy to 10FE (3000) 11-16 age pupils. This the 4th phase of the overall expansion to meet additional pupil demand from housing development in the town. The scope of the project includes a new gymnasium, Design and Technology block, including Food Technology and music curriculum space. In addition, works will be needed to address drainage issues on site.</p> | Ongoing |

Physical Activity and Sport Strategy - Annual Update

Graham Nelson, Executive Director of Development and City Services, Norwich City Council

Summary

This report introduces an annual update to the Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sport Strategy (Appendix 6a), showcasing the work undertaken by the Greater Norwich partners in the year since the strategy was agreed.

Recommendations

- i) The Greater Norwich Growth Board are asked to review and note the Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Annual Update. (Appendix 6a and 6b)
-

Report

1 Background

- 1.1 At their meeting on 24th September 2020, the Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB) agreed for the Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sports Strategy (PASS) to be developed.
- 1.2 The GNGB allocated £50,000 to the PASS which was later matched by a further £50,000 from Sport England.
- 1.3 FMG Consulting Ltd worked with the Greater Norwich partners and a range of stakeholders to develop the PASS as an overarching strategy document. This is informed by a vast evidence base, including a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and Built Facilities Strategy (BFS) for each of the three district partners.
- 1.4 The GNGB accepted the PASS at their meeting on 06 October 2022 which was followed by an in person launch on 01st February 2023.

2 Sport England Guidance

- 2.1 Sport England's [Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance](#) advises that the PPS should be updated on annual basis to expand the life of the document; providing people with the confidence to continue to both use it and attach significant value and weight to its finding and issues, along with its recommendations and actions.
- 2.2 Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance also advises that if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years, then the information is considered out of date.

3 The Physical Activity and Sport Strategy

- 3.1 The PASS is a unique and pioneering piece of work in terms of promoting physical activity and sport. Greater Norwich is one of the early adopters of Sport England's [Strategic Outcomes Planning Guidance](#) (SOPG), and the first group of authorities to have prepared such a strategy in partnership, across three district areas.
- 3.2 The scope of the work is ambitious and broadens the approach of previous strategies by ensuring that sport and physical activity focuses on outcomes that not only improve

physical health, but also mental wellbeing, reducing inequalities, improving community cohesion, and supporting economic development.

- 3.3 The PASS has been informed by over 1000 pages of evidence documentation which were compiled following the completion of playing pitch and sport facility assessments, the review of Sport England's Facilities Planning Model data, consultation with other stakeholders, clubs and sport's governing bodies plus over 4,500 responses to a public consultation.
- 3.4 Through the creation of the PASS, the GNGB have demonstrated their keen understanding of the need to work together to close the funding gap. Through the sharing of resources, skills and influence the Greater Norwich area now has an extensive cross authority evidence base. This will be used as a tool to plan and prioritise delivery whilst also lobbying for additional funding. It enables both internal and external stakeholders to bring forward the delivery of work programmes and infrastructure to enhance the health, well-being and quality of life of our residents.
- 3.5 This extensive evidence base is publicly available enabling all stakeholders to use the information to inform their delivery plans and support them in leveraging in external funding.
- 3.6 To date the GNGB have invested £5.7m of funding into sports and physical activity projects. This strategy will help ensure that future investment continues to be made in the right places, for the maximum possible impact.

4 Annual Update 2024

- 4.1 The Greater Norwich Sports and Physical Activity Working Group (SPAWG) have committed to conducting an annual update to the PPS, BFS and PASS, to ensure it remains current. This exercise extends the validity of the strategy, this not only supports decision making and delivery of projects but also ensures the partnership gets the most value out of the investment into the strategy.
- 4.2 The PASS includes an action plan which detailed 80 actions across 8 workstreams. In addition to this, the PPS and BFS for each district area contains several hundred actions for improvements to be made to sports facilities across Greater Norwich. The SPAWG have reviewed each of the year 1 actions identified in the PASS and updated the PPS and BFS with any work that has been completed.
- 4.3 The **Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Year 1 Update** (Appendix 6a) is an infographic which provides a high-level summary of the outcomes that have been achieved in 2023 following the acceptance of the PASS. It includes an overview of:
 - Funding secured towards projects,
 - Projects which have been successfully delivered,
 - Key performance indicators,
 - Further strategy and plan developments.
- 4.4 The [Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Dashboard \(available through this link\)](#) provides a more detailed overview of each workstream and action. Designed as a tool to help officers monitor and deliver the strategy, it facilitates collaborative working, supports project decision making and delivery whilst also providing an evidence base against which additional funding can be levered in. It is intended as a working document for officer use but is published publicly for transparency.
- 4.5 As this is the first year in the lifespan of the PASS, it is too short term to be able to report changes to public health and behavioural indicators. Some metrics have been identified and

reported, but we will need to monitor these over the medium to long term before we can identify any clear outcomes.

- 4.6 Please note the update is not fully exhaustive. Active Norfolk, Broadland District Council, National Governing Bodies, Norwich City Council, Norfolk County Council and South Norfolk Council have all contributed to this update. Not all activities delivered by other stakeholders will have been captured.

5 Recommendations

- i) The Greater Norwich Growth Board are asked to review and note the Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Annual Update.

6 Issues and Risks

6.1 Resource Implications

6.1.1 The Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Annual Update has been developed using existing staff resource within the Greater Norwich governance structure.

6.1.2 Resources for the delivery of each project identified within the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Annual Update will be the responsibility for the individual project manager and sponsor.

6.2 Legal Implications

6.2.1 The information within the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Annual Update is for information only. It is not a legal document.

6.3 Human Rights Implications

6.3.1 Not applicable.

6.4 Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

6.4.1 An EqIA was completed when the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy was completed and is subject to annual review. Project managers and sponsors for each project identified in the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Annual Update, will be required to undertake their own assessments.

6.5 Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA)

6.5.1 A DPIA was completed when the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy was completed and is subject to annual review. Project managers and sponsors for each project identified in the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Annual Update, will be required to undertake their own assessments.

6.6 Health and Safety Implications

6.6.1 Not applicable.

6.7 Sustainability Implications

6.7.1 Project managers and sponsors for each project identified in the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Annual Update, will be required to meet their own environmental obligations.

6.8 Any Other Implications

6.8.1 None identified.

6.9 Risk Implications/ Assessment

6.9.1 None identified.

Appendix 6a – Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sports Strategy Year 1 Update - Infographic

Appendix 6b - [Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Dashboard \(available through this link\)](#)

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

Grace Burke

01603 222727

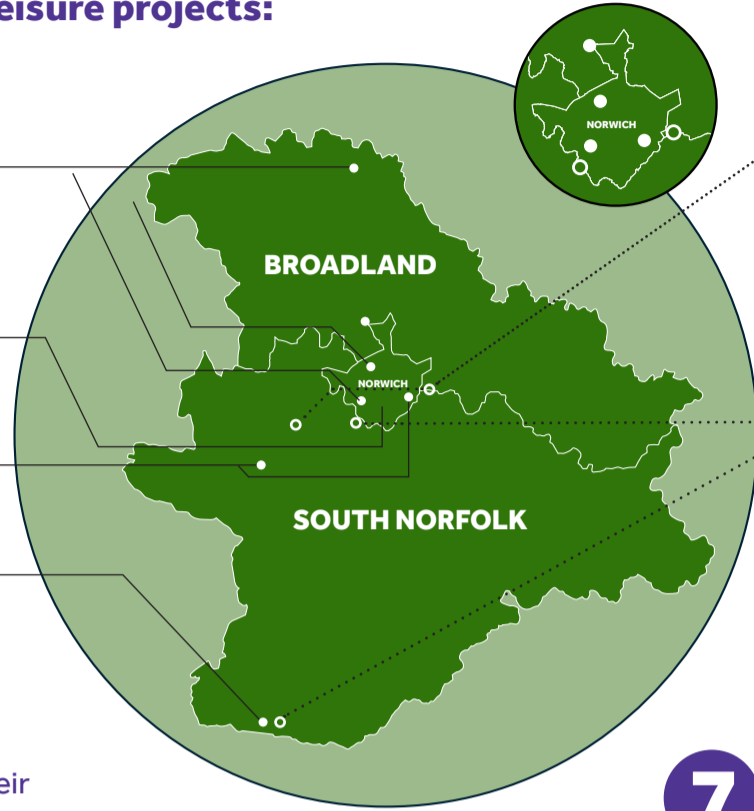
Grace.Burke@norfolk.gov.uk

Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sport Strategy Year 1 Update

Greater Norwich Growth Board

Over £21m secured for future sport and leisure projects:

- **£1.3m** allocated from the [Greater Norwich Infrastructure Investment Fund](#), to support 3 sport and leisure infrastructure projects; [Aylsham Sports Hub](#), [Eaton Park](#) & [The Nest](#).
- **£8.3m** secured through the Levelling Up Fund and Greater Norwich Infrastructure Investment Fund, for improvements at [Sloughbottom Park](#).
- **£570k** grant awarded to complete energy efficiency projects at [Wymondham Leisure Centre](#) and [Riverside Leisure Centre](#).
- **£3.95m** secured for improvement works at [Diss Leisure Centre](#), with investment from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund and South Norfolk Council.



8 Sport and leisure projects, worth over £2m, were successfully delivered including improvements at [Yare Boat Club](#) and [Crusaders Rugby Club](#).

6 Projects worth over £750k, were delivered to help enhance the quality of community trails and open spaces, including improvements at Frenze Beck and The Yare Valley Walk.

7 Feasibility studies are underway to investigate new sport and leisure provision projects.

2023 FEB Greater Norwich successfully launched their [Physical Activity and Sport Strategy](#).

Over 16,000 children attended the [Big Norfolk Holiday Fun Programme](#)




£153k awarded to schools through the [Opening Schools Facilities Fund](#).



6 Green Flag Awards secured across parks and open spaces in Greater Norwich.



 The local authorities and National Governing Bodies are working to support **over 200 clubs** in Greater Norwich.
Successfully delivering the **'DRAGONS On the Move'** project to assess the accessibility of facilities across the region.

Two new Travel Hubs have been agreed, with delivery due to commence in 2024.




 **AtoBetter** Project Team are delivering 12 Travel Plans across Greater Norwich to encourage active and sustainable travel.

[Beryl](#) continues to be well utilised, with over **700 bikes and scooters** travelling an average of **100,000 km per month**



 **Norfolk was awarded a Level 2 Capability Rating from [Active Travel England](#).**

 New Strategies are emerging to help keep people active through open spaces and active travel:

- Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Norwich Parks and Green Spaces Regeneration Strategy
- Norfolk Walking, Wheeling, and Cycling Strategy

Active Norfolk published their 2022-23 [Impact Report](#).

 Officers are working with a range of key partners, including National Governing Bodies and Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector organisations, to develop a range of sport and physical activity opportunities for local communities.

Over **1200** referrals were made by Health Care Professionals to Active NoW.

Greater Norwich is at the forefront of delivering active travel schemes to encourage cycling and walking:

- Installation of cycle lanes along Ipswich Road
- Safety improvements on Heartsease Roundabout

The 7 council owned leisure facilities recorded a footfall of over **1.3 million people.**

28,000 bookings were made across council owned playing pitches.

Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy Update
Wendy Brooks, Head of Environment, Norfolk County Council

Summary

This report provides an update on the delivery of the Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy (the strategy), work for which was approved by the Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB) at their meeting on 02 December 2021, with delegated authority granted to the Greater Norwich Infrastructure Delivery Board (IDB) to manage its programme. The strategy commenced in August 2022 and is due to be completed in December 2024.

To date, the strategy has been developed by the Natural Norfolk Team at Norfolk County Council. Due to growing resource commitment for the team to deliver both the Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy simultaneously, the IDB have made the decision to reallocate the Green Infrastructure work to an external consultant. This paper summarises the progress on the strategy to date, the reason for the decision to work with an external consultant, and the next steps for the project.

Recommendations

- i) The Greater Norwich Growth Board are asked to note the appointment of Chris Blandford Associates who will help to deliver the Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure strategy and delivery plans alongside the already established cross authority teams.

Report

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB) is a partnership unlike any other in the UK, made up of Norfolk County Council, Norwich City Council, South Norfolk District Council, Broadland District Council, and (until recently) the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership. These partners voluntarily work together because they recognise the benefits of working across administrative boundaries to accelerate the delivery of joint growth targets and strategic infrastructure to meet the needs of the growing population.
- 1.2 To date, the partnership has worked together to accelerate the delivery of over 100 projects across the Greater Norwich Growth Programme. The partnership's clear governance structure and well-established working practices have successfully brought planning and delivery together. The award-winning model has enabled projects to be delivered across both political boundaries and infrastructure types, delivering many projects that would not have come to fruition if considered in isolation.
- 1.3 Through the sharing of resource and skills, the GNGB are building an extensive evidence base of joint strategies and plans from which they have built a strong foundation, and against which they can plan and make decisions. In December 2021 the GNGB gave approval to develop the Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy (the strategy),

with delegated authority granted to the Infrastructure Delivery Board (IDB) to manage its programme.

- 1.4 The Greater Norwich area boasts a diverse range of Green Infrastructure, with historical city parks in Norwich, the world-renowned Norfolk Broads in Broadland, and vast areas of agricultural land in South Norfolk. All of these play a different but important role on a national scale, and despite the geographical differences, the partners understand the need to bring forward a joint Green Infrastructure strategy because the future of all these areas rely on each other to thrive.
- 1.5 This new strategy stems from the 2007 Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure (GI) Strategy, and its development is driven by an array of changes in policy at national level and other strategies and plans, at a more local level. The most prominent policy and legislation is the Environment Act 2021. The Act has introduced a legal requirement through the planning process to not only stop decline but also require new development to provide biodiversity net gain (BNG). BNG can be delivered through on-site and off-site mitigation, including through the provision of Green Infrastructure. The Act has also introduced a new set of spatial strategies to be produced at a county footprint called the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, which will inform the strategic placement of off-site BNG offset and identify key opportunity sites for nature recovery.
- 1.6 The strategy will also support the emerging policy requirements in the GNLP for Green Infrastructure (GI) enhancements and biodiversity net gain from new developments, assist with informing the spending of CIL monies on GI and in the longer term, help to formulate new planning policies in subsequent plans. This will help manage and improve existing assets; increase the level of provision to address identified deficiencies or needs; and develop a network of multi-functional spaces which will deliver biodiversity net gain, and other natural assets. In addition, the strategy will inform allocation of resource and help to lever in additional external funding.
- 1.7 The strategy must also align with relevant local strategies and plans including but not limited to:
 - Greater Norwich Physical Activity and Sports Strategy (PASS)
 - The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)
 - Norfolk Green Infrastructure and Recreational impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (GIRAMS)
 - Other Local Biodiversity and Environmental strategies
- 1.8 By investing in the development of the GI Strategy, the partnership is being strategic in its approach to investment. Providing ways to identify the most impactful interventions, in the places they are needed most.

2 Context

- 2.1 Following the GNGB's approval to proceed, work commenced to establish governance structures to deliver the strategy. Several multi-agency workshops were undertaken to formulate a plan for delivery that would capture the emerging policy requirements and help identify the priorities for the strategy.
- 2.2 In June 2022 the IDB approved a proposal to utilise the skills of Norfolk County Council's Natural Norfolk Team to progress the strategy. The benefits of working with an internal partner would take advantage of the synergies derived from the team's work delivering the region-wide Local Nature Recovery Strategy, and the district level Biodiversity Strategies and evidence studies.
- 2.3 Throughout the project, a comprehensive programme of stakeholder engagement has been followed. External partners including the Broads Authority, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Natural England, the UEA, Norfolk & Waveney CCG, and Active Norfolk have worked alongside Officers from across the Greater Norwich Partnership to develop the strategy, at the delivery group and steering group level. In September 2023, two officers from Public Health joined the delivery group, offering significant insights and benefits to the project.

3 Progress to Date

- 3.1 The Natural Norfolk Team have successfully delivered the following outputs, which have been approved by the project Steering Group:
 - **Baseline Report** - Describes the current baseline of GI Assets within Greater Norwich and defines a methodology to be applied to developing the strategy, informed by Natural England's key principles of Green Infrastructure.
 - **Evidence and Opportunities Report** - Presents the results of spatial data analysis – mapping areas of opportunity to prioritise. It incorporates the outcomes of the public consultation and identifies thematic and spatial priorities for the Greater Norwich area. This provides part of the evidence base to develop the strategy.
 - **Mapped Data** – A large body of datasets have been sourced and maps created. This builds on Natural England's Accessible Natural Green Space Standards (ANGSt) and provides more accurate population estimates and their proximity to green spaces across Greater Norwich.
 - **Public Survey Data & Report** - The survey received 1052 responses and provides insights into how Norfolk residents relate to and use greenspaces within the Greater Norwich area.
 - **Technical Report** - This report outlines the datasets and methods used to create the Baseline Report and Evidence and Opportunity Report.

- **Stakeholder Engagement Plan** – Provides a long list of people, organisations, and interest groups, maps the level of engagement appropriate to each group, and sets a plan for engagement.

4 Procuring an external Consultant

- 4.1 Significant benefits to the project have been realised by utilising the Natural Norfolk Team. A large body of work has been completed, and the partnership approach taken has ensured that this work has been delivered to a high standard.
- 4.2 Original timelines for delivery of the strategy were planned so that the strategy would complete just as the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) work commenced. Delays to the programme have meant that there is now an overlap of these workstreams. A significant resource commitment is required to deliver these two pieces of work simultaneously. As such, at their meeting on 15 December 2023, the IDB used their delegated authority to commence work to procure a consultant to deliver the strategy.
- 4.3 The IDB agreed that this approach would ensure the successful delivery of both the strategy and LNRS. The Natural Norfolk Team will continue to support the strategy work in an advisory capacity, to ensure synergies between the two workstreams are maintained.
- 4.4 An Invitation to Quote was issued on 5th February 2024 and three submissions were received. These responses were appraised by the project delivery group and Chris Blandford Associates was appointed to lead the strategy development.
- 4.5 Work to develop the strategy remains within the original budget allocation approved by the GNGB.

5 Next Steps

- 5.1 Chris Blandford Associates will meet with the project delivery group on 12 March 2024 to commence delivery. They will be asked to present their approach to delivery and project briefs for the following outstanding outputs:
 - **Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy**
 - **Executive Summary** – Which will provide a high-level summary of the Strategy.
 - **Strategic Delivery Plan** – Which will provide a high level, strategic approach to GI delivery at a Greater Norwich Level, with a distinction between the Norwich Urban Area (including the fringe parishes), and the district areas.
 - **Monitoring Framework** – Which will set out a more detailed monitoring framework for measuring all GI assets in line with relevant government policy.

- **Funding Plan** – Which will provide an overview of current and upcoming funding streams which district-level and grassroots led projects may be able to utilise to support the delivery of projects.

6 Project Timeline

6.1 The Consultant has agreed to deliver to the following timelines:

March 2024: Project Commencement

September 2024: Deliver Strategy and Delivery Plans

September 2024: GNGB Update

November 2024: Final GNGB approval and sign-off

December 2024: Dissemination and Launch

January 2025: Post Project review and Project close

6.2 A draft of the strategy will be brought to the meeting of the GNGB for input on 26 September 2024. The final strategy and supporting documentation will be brought to the GNGB for approval on 28 November 2024.

7 Recommendations

- i) The Greater Norwich Growth Board are asked to note the appointment of Chris Blandford Associates who will help to deliver the Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure strategy and delivery plans alongside the already established cross authority teams.

8 Issues and Risks

8.1 Resource implications

8.1.1 Development of the strategy and its ongoing future monitoring will be supported by existing staff resource within the Greater Norwich governance structure.

8.1.2 Identification of resource for implementation of the delivery plans is not within the scope of the strategy and will be determined at a later stage.

8.2 Legal Implications

8.2.1 The information within the GI Strategy is to be used as an evidence base only. It is not a legal document.

8.3 Human Rights Implications

8.3.1 Not applicable.

8.4 Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

8.4.1 The strategy and its supporting documents will be compliant with digital accessibility legislation, specifically: Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

8.4.2 The public consultation has been delivered and residents with protected characteristics are well represented within this consultation.

8.4.3 An Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) has been conducted and the Equality team at Norfolk County Council have been consulted.

8.4.4 In order to implement any actions drawn from this strategy, individual partner authorities may need to conduct their own EQIA's based on their organisation's policies.

8.5 Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA)

8.5.1 A DPIA has been completed. The consultant team are required to adhere to it and will be responsible for ensuring it continues to be updated for the duration of the project.

8.6 Health and Safety Implications

8.6.1 Not applicable.

8.7 Sustainability Implications

8.7.1 The strategy by its very nature will be considering the environmental implications of growth within the Greater Norwich area. Delivery of any projects resulting from the strategy will be the responsibility of the project sponsor to consider their specific impact.

8.8 Any Other Implications

8.8.1 None Identified.

8.9 Risk Implications/Assessment

8.9.1 The risk of increased cost has been managed by agreeing a fixed price to develop the strategy and delivery plans. The cross-authority Greater Norwich governance arrangements will safeguard against delivery risks by allowing them to be identified early therefore enabling corrective action to be taken.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

Ruth Oyeniyi 01603 222125
Tom Cushan 01603 365784

ruth.oyeniyi@norfolk.gov.uk
thomas.cushan@norfolk.gov.uk

Application for Match Funding – Long Stratton Bypass

Phil Courtier, Director of Place, Broadland and South Norfolk District Councils

Summary

In 2022 the Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB) endorsed a recommendation to introduce a new category, Match Funding, to the Infrastructure Investment Fund (IIF – pooled Community Infrastructure Levy). This new category is available all year round and delegated authority has been granted to the GNGB from the district partners to agree in year funding allocations.

South Norfolk Council have applied, requesting £2m match funding to support the delivery of Long Stratton Bypass. The application has been appraised and is being recommended to the GNGB for decision. The appraisal concluded that there is a strong strategic case to fund the project.

Recommendations

- (i) In the event that DfT 'Network North' funding is not secured for the current funding shortfall, the GNGB use its delegated authority from district cabinets, to allocate £2,000,000 of Match Funding to Long Stratton Bypass, from the Match Funding category of the Infrastructure Investment Fund.

Subject to the following conditions:

- The project cannot draw down any IIF funding until all remaining match funding is secured, and onsite delivery of the project begins. Until that point, the project will progress towards delivery at its own risk.
- The project must provide confirmation of Land Ownership to the principal contact prior to start on site.
- The project must provide confirmation of Planning Approval to the principal contact prior to start onsite.
- The project has until 31 March 2025 to secure all remaining match.
- In the event that DfT 'Network North' funding is secured for the current funding shortfall for the bypass, this allocation of £2m from the Match Funding category will be withdrawn from the project.

Report

1.1 Introduction

- 1.2 At the meeting of the GNGB on 15 December 2022, two new investment categories were proposed to be added to the Infrastructure Investment Fund: Match Funding and Major Infrastructure.
- 1.3 In the Five-Year Infrastructure Investment Plan 2023-28, £4m was agreed to be set aside to use as match funding, and each district partner authority provided delegated authority to the GNGB to allocate this funding from this new category in-year. The intention of the Match Funding category is to provide a local commitment to schemes which are seeking to lever in significant match from central government.
- 1.4 At the meeting of the GNGB on 30 November 2023, £650,000 from the match funding pot was agreed to be allocated to the Community Sport Foundation's project called the Nest.

1.5 This paper proposes a new allocation of £2,000,000 from the match funding pot, to support the delivery of Long Stratton Bypass. If approved, £1,335,000 would remain in the ringfenced pot still available for other projects.

2. The Project

2.1 This project will deliver a long-awaited bypass on the eastern side of Long Stratton, which will cut congestion and increase journey time confidence, improve the town centre environment, and support the local economy. The new A140 bypass will be a single carriageway road that will provide a new junction at Church Lane to the north, extending from this junction on the east side of Long Stratton in a southerly direction for approximately 3.9km, where it will re-join the existing A140 just south of Oakside farm. The scheme includes both non-motorised and vehicular overbridges to ensure connectivity between Long Stratton and outlying settlements to the east of the proposal.

2.2 The Long Stratton Bypass is a major strategic project for Greater Norwich and is considered key to supporting the delivery of much needed housing and employment growth in the area. Its importance is demonstrated in a range of strategies and plans:

- It directly supports the aims and objectives stated within the adopted Joint Core Strategy (JCS).
- It directly supports the aims and objectives stated within the adopted Long Stratton Area Action Plan (LSAAP).
- It is identified in Policy 4 of the GNLP as a key piece of Strategic Infrastructure.
- It is identified as a priority infrastructure project by Norfolk County Council in the Norfolk Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

2.3 The need for a bypass at Long Stratton was first identified in 1937. It has been campaigned for by residents for many years and the project has seen several iterations. Bringing the project forward has required a great deal of work across all the partner authorities.

3. Government Match

3.1 In 2021, Norfolk County Council submitted an outline business case, that estimated Long Stratton Bypass to cost £37.44m, to the Department for Transport (DfT) requesting funding for the project. At the end of 2021 they received approval for £26.2m.

3.2 The GNGB have previously committed £10m of CIL supported borrowing, plus a further £4.5m loan to forward fund the developer contribution to the bypass.

3.3 However, due to the impacts of world events over the past 2 – 3 years, there has been a significant increase in costs, raising the total estimate project cost to £46.96m, leaving a £6m funding gap within the project budget.

3.4 In order to secure the £26.2m funding from the DfT, Norfolk County Council are required to submit a Full Business Case, demonstrating that the project has secured all its funding and is ready to progress to delivery. In order to minimise the funding gap and ensure funding is secured from DfT:

- South Norfolk Council have applied to the Greater Norwich Growth Board, requesting £2m from the Match Funding category.
- South Norfolk Council and Norfolk County Council are progressing decisions to both commit £2m to the scheme.

- £207k has been secured from the Business Rates Pool (BRP), and £50k from the Highways Capital Programme.

The current funding arrangements are shown in the table below:

Table 1 - LSBP Funding Arrangements

| Funding Source | Amount |
|------------------------|----------------|
| DfT | £26.2m |
| Developer | £4.5m |
| GNGB | £10m |
| BRP & Highways Capital | £0.26m |
| Total Funding | £40.96m |
| Funding Gap | £6m |

4. Network North Guidance

- 4.1 Norfolk County Council continue to work with DfT regarding an increase in their funding. The partners await new Network North guidance to be published which could potentially unlock additional funding for the project. This would remove the requirement for this application for match funding. The timings of this publication cannot be guaranteed, and as mentioned in 3.4, only a fully funded scheme can be approved by DfT.

5. Project Appraisal

- 5.1 A project application for match funding has been received and appraised in accordance with the agreed processes for the Infrastructure Investment Fund (IIF). This includes an initial eligibility check, followed by a more detailed analysis and a peer review undertaken to ensure correctness.
- 5.2 The application was identified as presenting a strong strategic case for funding. It presented an exceptional project rationale, clearly demonstrating the potential positive impact for the local community. Overall, the application was well researched and substantiated.
- 5.3 The Infrastructure Delivery Board met on 1st March 2024 and agreed to put forward this project to the GNGB for approval of match funding.
- 5.4 If approved, the project allocation will be reported to each District Cabinet within the forthcoming version of the 5 Year Infrastructure Investment Plan.

6. Conditions

- 6.1 Subject to the GNGB's approval of the match, the below conditions will be applied alongside all established fund rules within an IIF match funding offer letter:
- The project cannot draw down any IIF funding until all remaining match funding is secured, and onsite delivery of the project begins. Until that point, the project will progress towards delivery at its own risk.
 - The project must provide confirmation of Land Ownership to the principal contact prior to start on site.

- The project must provide confirmation of Planning Approval to the principal contact prior to start onsite.
- The project has until 31 March 2025 to secure all remaining match.
- In the event that DfT 'Network North' funding is secured for the current funding shortfall for the bypass this allocation of £2m from the Match Funding category falls away.

7. Recommendations

- (i) In the event that DfT 'Network North' funding is not secured for the current funding shortfall, the GNGB use its delegated authority from district cabinets, to allocate £2,000,000 of Match Funding to Long Stratton Bypass, from the Match Funding category of the Infrastructure Investment Fund.

8. Issues and Risks

8.1 Resource Implications

- 8.1.1 The Greater Norwich Growth Programme requires continuous monitoring and reporting which will be undertaken by the existing resource of the Greater Norwich Projects Team.
- 8.1.2 Resources for project delivery will be the responsibility for the individual project manager and sponsor.

8.2 Legal Implications

- 8.2.1 The IIF pooling arrangements and the designation of an Accountable Body are set out in the Joint Working Agreement which was signed on 21 October 2015 and is supported by the Infrastructure Investment Fund Programme Governance. Which is agreed by all partners.
- 8.2.2 The Greater Norwich Growth Board has delegated authority from district cabinets to manage the match funding category for the Infrastructure Investment Fund, and to make allocations independently in accordance with the agreed fund rules.

8.3 Human Rights Implications

- 8.3.1 No specific issues arising from the match funding of this project. Individual project issues are the responsibility of the project manager and sponsor.

8.4 Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

- 8.4.1 No specific issues arising from the match funding of this project. Individual project issues are the responsibility of the project manager and sponsor.

8.5 Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA)

- 8.5.1 No specific issues arising from the match funding of this project. Individual project issues are the responsibility of the project manager and sponsor.

8.6 Health and Safety Implications

- 8.6.1 No specific issues arising from the match funding of this project. Individual project issues are the responsibility of the project manager.

8.7 Sustainability Implications

- 8.7.1 No specific issues arising from the match funding of this project. The project manager and sponsor will be required to meet their own environmental obligations.

8.8 Any Other Implications

- 8.8.1 Not applicable.

8.9 Risk Implications/Assessment

- 8.9.1 There is a significant risk that should the Long Stratton Bypass' funding shortfall not be addressed it will not be possible to deliver this major strategic project. This would have major implications for Greater Norwich's Housing Supply, as circa 1500 homes are contingent on delivery of the Bypass. Without these homes, in the region of £9.6m of CIL receipts will not be received.
- 8.9.2 The risks related to project cost and delivery remain with the project manager and sponsor. The project manager will be asked to sign an IIF funding offer letter to cover any additional project specific risks subject to specific conditions. Funding is also drawn in arrears from the IIF.
- 8.9.3 There is a risk that there will not be enough money within the IIF to pay this funding when it is required. This risk is alleviated by the agreed monitoring and reporting processes that the GNGB adhere to.
- 8.9.4 The 5 Year Infrastructure Investment Plan published in March 2023 set aside the allocation for the Match Funding category. This allocation has already been removed from the IIFs projected balance. Allocated funding from this pot will not pose a risk to the funds finances, however the current financial situation of the IIF does indicate that it may not be possible to reallocate additional funds to the Match Funding pot this year.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

| Name | Telephone Number | Email address |
|-------------|-------------------------|--|
| Grace Burke | 01603 222727 | grace.burke@norfolk.gov.uk |
| Tom Cushan | 01603 225784 | thomas.cushan@norfolk.gov.uk |