

REPORT TO: Environment and Regeneration Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 10th September 2025

REPORTING OFFICER: Executive Director Environment and Regeneration

PORTFOLIO: Deputy Leader

SUBJECT: Presentation of the Widnes Town Centre Regeneration Framework

WARD(S) All Widnes Wards

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 A presentation will be given at the Board meeting to provide an overview of the Widnes Town Centre Regeneration Framework.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the contents of the presentation and the Framework are noted.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Widnes Town Centre Regeneration Framework and its supporting documents were presented to and endorsed by the Executive Board on 17th April 2025.

3.2 The Framework and its supporting documents can be found on the Council's website here: [framework - All Documents](#)

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Framework aligns with existing local and national policy objectives, supporting economic growth, sustainability, and community well-being. Its implementation may require updates to planning policies, investment strategies, and partnership agreements to ensure effective delivery.

4.2 Consideration will also need to be given to how the Framework interacts with emerging policies, including those related to housing, transport and environmental sustainability.

4.3 Ensuring alignment with the Local Plan and broader strategic priorities will be essential to securing funding and stakeholder support.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no financial implications associated with this presentation which is for information purposes only.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

The Widnes Town Centre Regeneration Framework set out the following implications for the Council's priorities in its initial report to Executive Board:

6.1 Improving Health, Promoting Wellbeing and Supporting Greater Independence

Possible positive implications depending on what developments and programmes are implemented.

6.2 Building a Strong, Sustainable Local Economy

Potential for job creation and inward investment.

6.3 Supporting Children, Young People and Families

Possible positive implications depending on what developments and programmes are implemented.

6.4 Tackling Inequality and Helping Those Who Are Most In Need

Possible positive implications depending on what developments and programmes are implemented.

6.5 Working Towards a Greener Future

Any development that comes forward through the Framework will be built to environmentally friendly building regulation standards and biodiversity net gain.

6.6 Valuing and Appreciating Halton and Our Community

The future projects can help create assets and public realm for local people to enjoy.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 7.1 N/A

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 8.1 N/A.

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Consideration of the impacts of climate change, including reducing the carbon footprint, mitigation and adaptation will be required. At the Town Centre level, this would include considerations such as reduced private transport use, provision of local renewable energy

sources, alternative heating sources, Electric Vehicle charging points, appropriate building design, innovative construction methods, shading and planting. The Framework can have a role to reduce the Town Centre's impact on the climate as well as promoting good practices for residents and businesses.

10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

- 10.1 Widnes Town Centre Regeneration Framework full document and supporting document: [framework - All Documents](#)