

Notes in relation to Main Meeting 19 February 2020 Agenda Item 261/19

Presentation from The Director of Housing and Regeneration

The Director was welcomed and invited to update the Parish Council on Milton Keynes Council's Regeneration Strategy.

The Director described the previous attempts of regeneration had been managed badly and pointed out that the new strategy will be run in house and will rely on consultation from Resident Associations and Parish Councils- a bottom up approach. He made the following additional points: -

1. Regeneration is definitely not about wholesale demolition but focuses on

- Housing
- Communities
- Better Jobs
- Environment

Local communities will set priorities in these areas. Any proposals arising from the consultation will include requirements for the areas Neighbourhood Plan.

2. Funding of £165 Million pounds is available, and a financial strategy will be developed for each area including support for items noted in the local Neighbourhood Plans.

3. Of the seven original areas designated for regeneration five remain outstanding and still require consultation, however, regeneration now applies to the whole city with the opportunity to focus on problem areas that would benefit from the new regeneration approach.

4. All residents throughout the city are encouraged to complete the only survey which comments on the overall strategy direction and gives an opportunity to comment This is open until 14 April 2020.

5. It is important that the local community engage with the regeneration process and the full range of community-based officers in the council will be utilised for this purpose.

6. He went on the point out that MKC had priorities that they also wished to address during the regeneration process.

7. Consultation will hopefully commence during the next 12 months.

Questions Raised by Parish Councillors

1. With regard to Resident Association funding. SPC asked if this was still available for the regeneration process? MKC Director confirmed this is still available for this and other activities.
2. With regard to communicating the survey to residents would MKC provide some financial support? MKC Director would look to support this in some way.
3. Given the previous attempts at Regeneration there is a real fear in the North Bradville Regeneration Area and distrust. How will MKC deal with this? The Director was clear in his commitment that the process would be transparent. He wanted people to trust his word.
4. Given that MKC and residents could possibly have diverse priorities on an issue e.g. Demolition verses refurbishment priority would take precedent? MKC Director stated that at this time it would depend on what was being considered and the monies available. It was not possible to be specific at this time.
5. MKC Director was asked if there would be compulsory purchase orders? He responded that he had no idea at this time. But if it was agreed through consultation there could be.

THE MKC Director was thanked for his candid presentation and the responses to the questions put. He left the meeting at 8.25pm.