# REGENERATION PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE REPORT

**MAY 2025** 

**TAMMY STOKES** 

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – SPATIAL PLANNING AND GROWTH** 

### **SUMMARY OF PROJECT CATEGORY**



Concept – Project in development

Business Case – Project has an approved business case, submitted for funding

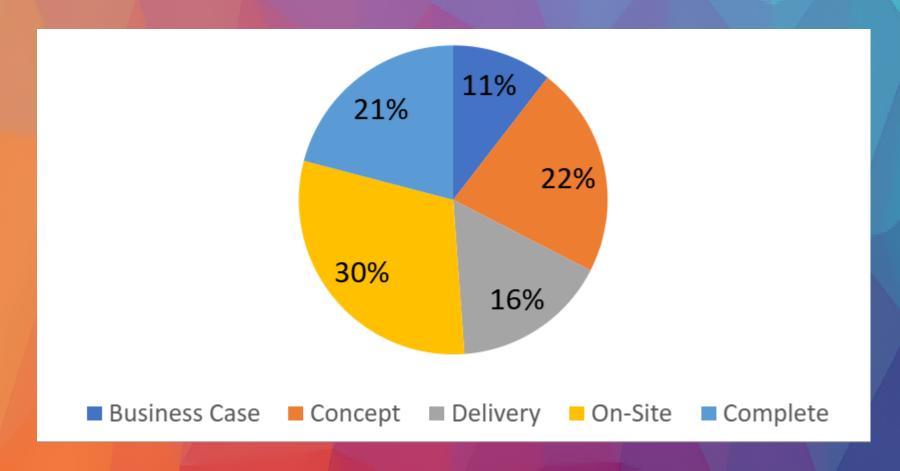
Delivery – Project has funding approved and is progressing to being on-site

On-site – Project has commenced construction of the physical asset

Of the 68 live projects, 22 currently have planning permission in place.



## **SUMMARY OF PROJECT CATEGORY**



Concept – Project in development

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## **SUMMARY OF CONCEPT PROJECTS**

19

**CONCEPT** 

**Employment - 1** 

Heritage – 3

Housing – 7

**Town Centre – 2** 

Transport – 6

### **Employment Theme**

Theme Manager – Luke Dove

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
International Distribution & Manufacturing Facility (Coneygre Manu Facility) Tipton	Private	£40m	Approved	150 New Jobs 1 Apprentice 153 Construction Jobs	TBC	TBC	DC/21/66125.  No further progress to report. Viability gap funding of circa £6m is required to bring the project forward.

### Heritage Theme

Theme Manager

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Chance Glassworks, Smethwick	Chance Heritage Trust, Historic England	£20m	No Status	3.08 ha	TBC	2027+	Outline application due to be submitted to NHLF for funding towards first phase of development in main building. Feasibility work is underway to ascertain potential for creative start ups and associated requirements.
Soho Foundry, Smethwick	Chance Heritage Trust, Historic England	TBD	No Status	TBD	TBD	2027+	Stakeholder Visioning Meeting with World Monuments Fund potentially anticipated in June 2025.

### Heritage Theme

Theme Manager –

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Archives Centre, Smethwick (Capital Pipeline)	TBD	£12m	No Status	TBD	TBD	TBD	Consultant appointed in 2024/25 to develop external funding strategy. Work will continue in 2025/26 to develop funding bids. This work is funded by a grant from The National Archives.  Discussions with SMBC Assets Team have continued in 2024/25 regarding the logistics of moving the archives currently located at Smethwick Library to Smethwick Council House as an interim solution to ongoing storage problems, given the unsuitable conditions of current storage in Smethwick Library basement.  Feasibility work has been completed by the SMBC Urban Design Team to review Smethwick Council House and provide cost options for refurbishment works. This feasibility work has been funded by West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) and once completed will enable more accurate budgets to be determined and a more detailed review of listed building considerations.  There may be opportunity to bid for funding via the Government's Plan for Neighbourhoods Programme to deliver this project. The programme was announced on 4 March 2025 and if successful, this would form part of the £20million Regeneration Plan for Smethwick.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Edwin Richards Quarry, Rowley Regis	TBC	£56m	Approved	278 Homes 13.95 ha	TBC	2027+	DC/23/67924 Approved on 25 October 2023 subject to conditions.  Contact has been made with agent and an update is pending. No update to report.
Qualtronic, Tipton	TBC	£27.5m	No Status	137 Homes 5.6 ha	TBC	2027+	No further work or update on this site. Not an active project that is being resourced.
Former King's Cinema, West Bromwich	Private	£23m	Approved	77 Homes 0.18 ha	TBC	2024	DC/21/65989. Site acquired in January 2025 utilising West Bromwich Towns Fund grant. This grant will also contribute to the demolition of the site. Further funding is to be identified to fund entire demolition. This site will form part of the strategic development partner package of works.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Registered Provider Delivery (Capital Programme)	Public/ Private	£70m	Various	429 Homes	Various	2027	There have been no projects completed during this period.  A scheme with 26 units has started on site in March 2025. A further 36 units are still on site and should be delivered Q3/Q4 2025/26.
HRA Programme (Capital Programme)	Public	£50.7m	Various	266 Homes	Various	2027	14 units completed this financial year. 12 of these were from the completion of the Crosswells Road scheme (council house new build programme) and 2 new units were completed at Thorn Close (part of Highrise refurbishment programme).  A further 79 new units should be delivered next financial year, with the majority being delivered by the end of April 2025.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Sandwell General Hospital Site, West Bromwich	Private	£18.75m	Approved	121 Homes 0.7 ha	TBC	2025	DC/20/64894  An update meeting took place, the scheme had not progressed any further due to uncertainty of timescales around the decommissioning of the hospital building. A further meeting is required Spring/ Summer.
Carrington Road	TBC	TBC	Approved	TBC	TBC	2027 +	Item is on the forward plan for July Cabinet to present options and recommendation for progressing with Osco, for the development of the site for assisted living accommodation and retail unit.

### Town Centre Theme

Theme Manager – Luke Dove

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Plan for Neighbourhoods	Public	£20m	No Status	TBC	2024	2027+	On 4 March, Government announced the Plan for Neighbourhoods Programme, where Smethwick is set to benefit from up to £20millon investment. This programme replaces the Long-Term Plan for Towns Programme.  The three strategic objectives have been updated, becoming broader. Key timescales shared in the prospectus included April 2025 submission to confirm governance and area boundary; Spring 2025: release of capacity funding and Winter 2025: submission of Regeneration Plan and 4-year investment plan.
West Bromwich Masterplan sites	Public/ Private	£165m	Various	1100 Homes	Various	2026	Procurement Delivery Partner procurement is underway. Cabinet approved in March 2025. Official launch following UKREIIF 2025. Preferred partner likely to be identified February – April 2026.

### Transport Theme

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
A4123 Multi Modal Corridor (Capital Pipeline)	Public	£12m	Permitted Dev	Connectivity Improvements	2025	2027	The A4123 Walk/Cycle and Bus Measures Project Outline Business Case has been submitted to WMCA for SAF approval. Project team are awaiting outcome/ further discussions will be held to gain approval and then funding agreement.
A461 Multi Modal Corridor (Capital Pipeline)	Public	£12.5m	Permitted Dev	Connectivity Improvements	2025	2027	Detailed designs are being developed by Waterman infrastructure. There is currently a delay of 6 weeks to deliverables.
Sandwell BC LCWIP West Bromwich - Cradley Heath (Capital Pipeline)	Public	£4m	Permitted Dev	Connectivity Improvements	2025	2027	Unfortunately, the bid for development funding from ATF5 for the project was not successful, and therefore funding is expected from the integrated settlement for these projects.
SANDWELL WM LCWIPs Smethwick - West Bromwich - Wednesbury	Public	£5m	Permitted Dev	Connectivity Improvements	2025	2027	Unfortunately, the bid for development funding from ATF5 for the project was not successful, and therefore funding is expected from the integrated settlement for these projects.

### Transport Theme

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
WBHE Sustainable Access Wednesbury to Dudley (Tipton) (Capital Pipeline)	Public	£16m	Permitted Dev	TBC	2025	2027	Delivery start updated to 2025. Detailed designs are being developed by Waterman infrastructure. There is currently a delay of 6 weeks to deliverables.
Inclusive Growth Corridor Smethwick to Bham (Capital Pipeline)	Public	£16m	Permitted Dev	Connectivity Improvements	2025	2027	Grove Lane OBC submitted end of February. Feedback has been received from TFWM and discussions are ongoing.  Public consultations to take place at Smethwick Hub and the New Hospital a delegated report is currently being produced for this.  CPO's valuer has now been appointed and have been out to site visits. We will be scheduling a meeting to discuss the information they have obtained.

## **SUMMARY OF BUSINESS CASE PROJECTS**

9

**BUSINESS CASE** 

**Education and Skills - 2** 

Housing – 2

Sustainability - 1

Transport – 4

### **Education and Skills Theme**

Theme Manager – Sue Moore

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Causeway Green Primary School, Oldbury (Capital Programme)	Public	£17m	Outline Planning Approved	School Replacement	2025	2026	RIBA Stage 3 due to complete March 2025. RIBA 3 will provide indicative construction cost to inform capital appraisal and a report to Cabinet is scheduled for June 2025.
George Betts	Public	£9m	No Status	New School	2025	2026	No further update from the DfE. The scheme was to be re-procured late 2024 with early stages of the scheme re-visited to bring the project within budget.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Brandhall Urban Village, Oldbury (Capital Programme)	Sandwell	£36m	Approved	190 Homes Eco-Park	2025	2027+	School: Designs are currently being updated and progressing to Riba Stage 3/4.  Eco-park: A draft masterplan has been circulated by LDA and initial officer comments provided. Further revisions in discussion with Parks team and revised Masterplan due April 2025 due to be completed by May 2025.  Demolition of Clubhouse - working through Capital Appraisal process at present with a view to commence pre-demolition survey work from April 2025 onwards and a potential start on site in the Summer to demolish the building.  Housing: Progressing with Procurement and land appropriation. Likely to appoint a Land Agent in Summer 2025 and advertisement of opportunity in the Autumn.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Former Rolfe St Baths	TBC	£12.6m	No Status	63 New homes		2027+	On-site ground investigations completed, report due April 2025.  Noise Investigations completed and report received.  Grant claims submitted to Homes England for project costs incurred for survey work.  Meeting now to be arranged with Octopus and BCHG to progress the development of the scheme -
							BCHG to progress the development of the scheme April 2025.

### Sustainability Theme

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Heat Network Commercialisation (Capital Programme)	Public/ Private	£50m	No Status		2023	2027+	Green Heat Network Fund (GHNF) secured (£939,421 for Commercialisation and £4m for Construction).  Cabinet approval in January 2025 to move forward with commercialisation stage.  Greenfield Nordic (Granlund) appointed via GLA/LEA Framework as lead consultant for techno-economic matters.  Colleagues are in the process of procuring external legal advisors via CCS Framework.  Re-engaging with major stakeholders, particularly the NHS, the Council itself (housing & corporate property), Sandwell College, Leisure Centre etc.

### Transport Theme

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Birchley Island Upgrade (A4123 / M5 J2) – Oldbury (Capital Programme)	Public	£30m	Permitted Dev	TBD	2025	2027+	Contractor appointed under Leicestershire Medium Schemes Framework. Early Contractor Involvement.
Dudley Port Integrated Transport Hub (Phase 1A), Oldbury	Public	£2.4m	Permitted Dev	TBD	2024	2025	TFWM are liaising with Sandwell officers to upgrade lighting and improve access to the station.
West Bromwich East Towpath Link	Public	£4.8m	Permitted Dev	TBD	2025	2027	Work on 'Yewtree Gap', Ockerhill running north to Walsall is in final stages of completion with some works due to be completed in Spring 25. Tame Valley canal improvement of 4.2km would need an investment of ballpark 2.7 million as there are additional complexities on the site which add to the risk budget. Ocker hill to Pudding Green (Mainline) is 3.7km and costs will be circa 2.1 million. No investment has yet been secured.  Investment updated from £3m to £4.8m and Delivery End updated from 2025 to 2027 as directed by CRT.

### Transport Theme

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Galton Bridge & Engine Arm Aqueduct restoration	Public	£2m	Permitted Dev	TBD	TBD	2026	There has been no progress on a bid although this is on the Trusts priority list for any funding opportunities which present.

# SUMMARY OF DELIVERY PROJECTS

**14** 

**DELIVERY** 

**Education and Skills - 1** 

Health – 1

Housing - 6

Sustainability – 1

**Town Centre – 3** 

Transport – 2

### **Education and Skills Theme**

Theme Manager – Sue Moore

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Millennium Centre Expansion (Capital Programme)	Public	£2m	Approved	Expanded Community Centre	2024	2025	Levelling Up Partnership Project  DC/25/70154 planning permission approved March 2025.  Social Value plan is due to be finalised as part of construction contract arrangements.  Work is expected to commence on-site Summer 2025.

### **Health Theme**

Theme Manager – Luke Dove

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Haden Hill Leisure Centre, Rowley Regis (Capital Programme)	Sandwell Council	£23m	Approved	New Leisure Centre	2024	2026	RIBA 3 report reviewed by SMBC Officers and Sport England and all in agreement to move to RIBA 4. Report taken to Cabinet on 5 Feb and recommendation approved.  Planning Application DC/24/70103 approved 28 March 2025.  No further information from MHCLG as to whether spend can be pushed back to 26/27. Decision is likely to be made by Summer 2025.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Friar Park, Wednesbury (Capital Programme)	Public/ Private	£11.5m	No Status	630 Homes	2026	2027+	Sandwell Council and WMCA (JV)  Tenders for developer procurement under evaluation.  EA Permit anticipated December 2025  Planning permission for remediation works is anticipated Summer 2025.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
London St, Smethwick	Private	£75m	Approved	392 Homes	2025	2026	DC/22/67165.  Developer is reconsidering how to deliver this scheme so commencement date is delayed. This has been updated from 2024 to 2025. No further update to report.
Rolfe Street Canalside, Smethwick (Capital Programme)	Public	£2m	No Status	115 Homes	2023	2025	Government approved the 12-month delivery extension request for this project, resulting in a delivery deadline of March 2027.  Engagement continues with Historic England, who has requested the retention of a fourth building. A structural survey is underway to determine the viability of this.  High level costs were received in January for the retention of the three buildings and facades (as per the Heritage Impact Assessment and Feasibility Study). Subject to the survey results of the fourth building, costings may need to be reviewed.  Once received the survey results, the project approach will be agreed with key stakeholders and a planning application will be produced and submitted.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Updated: March 2025

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End
Grove Lane Regeneration, Smethwick (Capital Programme)	Public	£4.35m	No Status	145 Homes	2024	2027

Government approved the 12-month delivery extension request for this project, resulting in a delivery deadline of March 2027.

#### **Statement of Reasons**

Land referencing is now complete and has been added to the Statement of Reasons. The Statement of Reasons will be submitted to the Secretary of State in Summer 2025.

#### **Planning Application**

Planning application is likely to be submitted in June 2025.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Langley Baths (Capital Programme)	TBC	£7.3m	Permitted Dev	17 new homes 0.46ha	2024	2026	Status updated from on-site to Delivery.  Detailed design is being progressed to enable a planning submission and delegated approvals for a housing scheme.
LUF Round 3 Grove Lane (Capital Pipeline)	TBC	£20m	No Status	TBC	2025	2027+	DLUHC LUF - £18,063,128 SMBC - £2,007,014.00  The Memorandum of Understanding has now been signed by both parties.  The first payment from MHCLG was received in March 2025.

### Sustainability Theme

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Battery Energy Storage, Danks Way Hill Top, West Bromwich	Private	£40m	Approved	20 New Jobs 2 Apprentices 264 Construction Jobs	2023	2024	DC/22/67275 (Avon Utilities & Generation, JRB Regeneration Limited).  Formal completion of lease is complete.

### **Town Centre Theme**

Theme Manager – Luke Dove

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Former Outdoor Market, Union Street (Capital Programme)	Public	N/A - Investment included as part of Town Centre £4.66m Investment	No Status	Remediation	2025	2026	LUP Masterplan Project Site currently in use as a site compound. Remediation project due to commence post May 2025.
High Bullen Car Park (Capital Programme)	Public		No Status	Remediation	2024	2025	LUP Masterplan Project Remediation contract awarded.
Spires Health Centre (Capital Programme)	Public		No Status	Remediation	2024	2025	LUP Masterplan Project  Remediation contract awarded.

### Transport Theme

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
M5 J1 (Ph1 Development of SOBC only)	Public	£3m	Permitted Dev	Connectivity Improvement	2023	2027	No update to provide. Further modelling commissioned using strategic modelling to provide some robust evidence on the benefits of the scheme.
SPRINT A34/A45 PH2, West Bromwich	Public	£300k	Permitted Dev	TBD	2024	2027+	CRSTS Programme.  Sprint Phase 2 runs through Solihull, Birmingham, Sandwell and Walsall.  Construction commenced in early 2024, focusing on extending bus lanes and improving junctions for faster and more reliable bus services. In Sandwell (and Walsall), officers are looking at how the next phase of the scheme can be delivered.

## **SUMMARY OF ON-SITE PROJECTS**

26

**ON-SITE** 

Digital – 2

**Education and Skills – 2** 

**Employment – 1** 

Health – 2

Housing – 6

Sustainability – 2

**Town Centre – 3** 

Transport – 8

### Digital Theme

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Improving Digital Connectivity	BT Openreach	f40m	Permitted Dev	Outputs  Full Fibre Connectivity	2023	End 2026	Openreach continue to build in the following exchange areas.  96,000 homes and businesses now have access to Openreach Full Fibre. Their plan to build at pace across the region continues. Openreach plan to bring Full Fibre to 50,000 further properties over the next two years.  Openreach have invested £28.9 million in Sandwell's digital connectivity to date, with a further £15.4 million planned until the end of 2026.  As part of BT Group, they employ 4,000 people in the West Midlands and spend over £640 million annually with local suppliers. They have upgraded 1200
							Sandwell Council MDU properties to Full Fibre and working to provide to another 3,200 properties.

### Digital Theme

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Updated: October 2024

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Netomnia and Brsk Broadband Full Fibre Infrastructure	Netomnia and Brsk	£30m	Permitted Dev	120,000 connections	2023	2025	Netomnia recently merged with Brsk. Ready for Service (RFS): Netomnia - 43,700 Brsk 24,000. This is the number of residential and business premises who are connected and can contact their Internet Service Provider (ISP) YouFibre and request a contract/ service.  The target date for areas in the 'progress stage' to be moved to RFS is currently end of Summer 2025 - Netomnia: 500, Brsk 12,000.  Premises in 'planned' stage have a target date for RFS for before the end of 2025 Netomna 150, Brsk 7,000.  At present there are at least a further 10,000 premises planned for 2025 in Sandwell so far.

### **Education and Skills Theme**

Theme Manager – Sue Moore

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Midland Met Campus, Smethwick (Capital Programme)	Public	£18.552m	Approved	30 New Jobs 6 Apprentices 100 Construction Jobs 0.867 ha	2022	2026	Towns Fund Project (NHS Trust Led) DC/23/68220 Approved 25 Oct 2023  Delivery End Date updated from 2025 to 2026 (Construction complete November 2025 and operational January 2026).  Topping out achieved in March 2025.  An event is planned for 22 May 2025 inviting NHS Trust, Sandwell Council Leader, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Infrastructure and Cabinet Member for Business, Towns Fund Board Chair and other key partners to celebrate the impact this facility will have on Smethwick/ Sandwell.

### **Education and Skills Theme**

Theme Manager – Sue Moore

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Cradley Heath Skills Campus (Capital Programme)	Public	£9m	Approved	4 New Jobs 1 Apprentice 32 Construction Jobs	2024	2026	Towns Fund Project (Sandwell College Led) DC/22/67785 – Application Approved June 2023  Project commenced on-site in November 2024.  Topping out achieved and Press Release published in February.  Additional £300k grant funding allocated to the project following reduction of BBI project grant funding, resulting in the project now being £9.3million.  Construction anticipated to complete November 2025. Facility to be operational from January 2026.

### **Employment Theme**

Theme Manager – Luke Dove

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Metro Depot, Wednesbury	Public TfWM	£68.3m	Approved	150 New Jobs 2 apprentice 400 Construction jobs	2023	2026	DC/20/64976.  Target cost currently in development. Agreement is expected imminently following assurance of cost and schedule. This will drive an updated estimate for the scheme. Target completion remains 2026.  Whilst the Target Cost requires agreement, work has been continuing under Advanced Reimbursable Cost. The total value of work authorised through the ARC is £15.8m, with £8m spend to date.  Note: Investment value increased from 50,000,000 to 68,300,000 as directed by TfWM.  12 Apprentices supported to date, 3 of which are Sandwell residents.  35 construction jobs employed through Midland Metro Alliance, plus supply chain/ contractors.

# **Health Theme**

Theme Manager – Luke Dove

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Rowley Regis Parks Improvements (Capital Programme)	Public	£3.18m	Approved	1 Apprentice 10 Construction Jobs	2022	2026	Changing Rooms and enlarged Car Park works completed January 2025 and the MUGA upgrade and phase 1 planting completed February 2025.  Additional £414k Towns Fund Grant secured in December 2024 to fund additional scope of works including toddler play area, beech tree maze, ecological signage, entrance improvements to Ross and Mackmillan Road. Scope of works also include replacement of play area at Haden Hill Park (near car park). Delivery End Date updated from 2024 to 2026 to allow additional time to deliver additional works. This remains within Towns Fund Delivery Period.  Procurement commenced for Sons of Rest refurbishment works.  41 jobs supported to deliver this project to date, including 33 construction jobs.
Wednesbury Greenspaces (Capital Programme)	Sandwell Council	£1.65m	N/A	Improved quality of greenspaces	2024	2025	Levelling Up Partnership Project. Phase 1 green spaces nearing completion.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Land at Hall Green Road, West Bromwich	Countryside Properties	£35.7m	Approved	223 Homes 172 Construction jobs 8.59 ha	2021	2025	DC/20/65059  A programme for topping and remedial works is ongoing and due to complete Summer 2025. Works onsite to slow down as there are 3 homes left to sell.  Remedials to open space is ongoing. The LEAP facilities have been completed and are now open for the public.  140 construction jobs has been supported to date against target of 126. 16 are Sandwell residents and 42 local to Sandwell.  7 apprentices supported to date, 2 of which are Sandwell residents and 1 local to Sandwell.
Fountain Lane, Oldbury	Lovells	£47m	Approved	246 Homes 6.02 ha	2021	2025	DC/20/64152 246 residential units including 80 apartments. Of these, 114 are affordable housing.  221 units built to date and 25 units under construction. Sales - 107 Open Market properties Legally Completed.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Updated: March 2025

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End
Swan Lane, West Bromwich	Private	£29.8m	Approved	147 Homes	2023	2026

Green Square Accord - DC/22/66532

Demolition, remediation and piling operations are all completed.

Many of the apartment blocks and houses have ongoing foundations work with a few close to being handed over to groundworks contractor for next build phased.

Sewer connections are completed. Main Services ongoing with footpath construction to follow.

The gasholder is approximately 60% filled.

Jobs: 29 (Currently 23 in factory and 6 in Development RP Team).

Apprentices: 1 (A groundworker apprentice is on site and main contractor is looking to place 2 carpentry apprentices).

Construction Jobs: 43 (This is the average trades operatives on site per day).

Land Remediated: 4.09 (Updated from 4.07 to 4.09 now remediation works is complete).

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Phoenix Collegiate, Wednesbury	Private	£17m	Approved	105 Homes 4.8 ha	2025	2027	DC/23/68742 Full application for 105 dwellings approved October 2024 subject to conditions. No further update to report.  Works have commenced on-site.
Tipton Town Centre (Capital Programme)	Sandwell Council	£33.3m	Pending	65 Homes 0.47 ha	2023	2026	A second round of public consultation took place in February / March 2025 on the urban greening proposals.  Planning application approved October 2024 to redevelop these sites with 55 new, socially rented apartments. Contractor procured for this work, expected to begin by summer 2025  Planning application approved to convert and refurbish a derelict locally listed building, plus build a further 15 new council apartments.  A series of traffic calming, environmental and urban greening improvements are proposed for the town centre, including along the canal branch walkway.

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Former Gas Showrooms, West Bromwich	Black Country Housing Group	£6m	Pending Approval	26 new homes 0.107ha	2024	2025	DC/24/69626 Full application for 26 apartments, car parking, landscaping and external works approved January 2025.  Disposal to BCHG completed 29th January 2025. Works commenced on site.

# Sustainability Theme

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Retro-fit Council Housing Stock (Capital Programme)	Public	£155.5m	Permitted Dev	400 Construction Jobs 20 Apprentices	2022	2027	HRA & Government Grant. Energy Efficiency Council House Stock.  SHDF Wave 2.1 Update 625 properties programmed to benefit from SHDF Wave 2.1 funding to receive retrofit work by September 2025. (32 in Smethwick, 313 in Wednesbury and 280 in Oldbury) (Originally September 2024).  264 properties started. Works now to include PV Solar installation.  Devolution Pilot feasibility being completed, £11.2m proposed grant funding with £11.2m match funding over 3-year period with completion of 2000 properties by September 2028.

#### **Sustainability Theme**

Theme Manager – Tammy Stokes

Updated: March 2025

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End
Energy from Waste Plant, West Bromwich	Enfinium	£500m	Approved	400 con jobs 2 ha	2021	2025

#### DC/17/61177

It's not unusual for projects of this scale and complexity to experience delays. The priority remains the safe delivery of a modern, state-of-the-art facility.

Specific examples of delays in the programme include:

- Boiler erection: Progress on the boiler erection has been slower than planned due to unforeseen installation complexities.
- Administrative and electrical building interfaces: Delays in these workstreams have constrained follow-on activities.
- Programme compression and float reduction: The accumulation of delays has reduced overall programme float.

Target for jobs updated from 38 to 40 as directed by Enfinium.

Jobs: 9 achieved: Plant Manager, Operations Manager, Maintenance Manager, 6x Shift Team Leaders.

Construction Jobs: 700 construction jobs supported: Peak construction in March, will lower going forward.

Community Funding approved: £8,783.00

Community Café Funding approved: £2,700.00

### **Town Centre Theme**

Theme Manager – Luke Dove

Updated: March 2025

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End
Retail Diversification Programme (Capital Programme)	Public	£14.7m	Various Approved	255 Construction Jobs	2023	2026

#### **Acquisitions:**

King Square and Former Wilko Site - Completed 2024.

Kings Square Cinema - Complete 29 January 2025.

#### **Indoor Market:**

Progressing well, on track to deliver July 2025 and public opening August 2025.

#### **Demolition:**

Former Wilko Site - The demolition is expected to complete July 2025.

#### Former Wilko Site Meanwhile Use:

A design has been prepared for the public realm space following the demolition of former Wilko Site.

### **Town Centre Theme**

Theme Manager – Luke Dove

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Wednesbury Community Safety (Capital Programme)	Sandwell	£400k	N/A		2023	2025	CCTV and deployable cameras installed and operational.  Nuisance bike measure due to be completed by end Mar 25.  Radio link scheme due to go live April 2025. Safety Business Forum in place for Town Centre businesses and partners.  Social Value Achieved: -  Green Space - Big Clean Up: 20 volunteers x 8 hours  Employment Session for Community Payback Ex-Offenders: Attendees 6 ex-offenders  Rubbish Removal: 3 Vans  Fencing Repair  Work Experience: A contractor who implemented the nuisance bike measures provided one week of work experience to a local student, adding significant value.  During conversations with the boxing club our neighbourhood's officer and partners collaborated to find access to funding support for the Boxing Club.

### **Town Centre Theme**

Theme Manager – Luke Dove

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Wednesbury Town Centre Masterplan (Capital Programme)	Public	£4.66m	Various	Masterpla n	2023	2025	Levelling Up Partnership Project that has a number of elements (Masterplan Development, Site development, Public Realm).  Masterplan approved July 2024.  LUP funding is delivering initial phase of the masterplan to remediate 3 sites to close viability gap for development.

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
ULEV Charging Scheme (Capital Pipeline)	TfWM	£1.67m	Permitted Dev	Connectivity Improvement	2024	2025	CRSTS Programme – WMCA.  The on-street programme is continuing to deliver and there are currently 14 chargers live across Sandwell.  LEVI Capital procurement is being led by WMCA procurement and are expecting to go to market in the 1st financial quarter of 25/26

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Metro Line 1 renovation	Public	£10m	Permitted Dev	TBD	2024	2027	WMCA led project.  Phase 1 – Track laying and tram stop construction is well underway on Flood Street, with the new road configuration on The Minories also completed.  The final structure for phase one of the scheme, the Hanson's Ale Bridge, was installed across Birmingham
Wednesbury - Dudley Metro Extension	Public	£160m	Permitted Dev	TBC	2021	2024	New Road in June 2024.  Birmingham Street remains closed to traffic from Castle Hill, with access to the mosque now via the new configuration in Bourne Street.  Tram stop construction work continues in a number of other locations along the extension, including at Dudley Town Centre, Dudley Castle, Tipton Road, Sedgley Road, Horseley Road and Great Bridge.  With Dudley Bus Station now closed, Metro activity has commenced in this area.  Phase 2 - Work on Parkhead Viaduct is nearing completion. We continue to prepare to re-engage with construction activity on other areas of Phase Two.

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Smethwick Connected (Capital Programme)	Public	£3.8m	Permitted Dev	1 apprentice 10 Construction Jobs	2022	2024	Towns Fund Project.  Phase 5 is near completion, with the council undertaking works to link Birmingham Canal to Heath Street.  An additional Phase 6 has been agreed by the Smethwick Partnership Board to deliver connectivity improvements linking Birmingham Canal to Windsor Academy via Black Patch Park. The Project Adjustment Form was approved by MHCLG in April 2025.
Canal Connectivity Rowley Regis (Capital Programme)	Public	£2.3m	Permitted Dev	1 apprentice 20 Construction Jobs	2022	2024	Towns Fund Project – Canal River Trust  Wrights Bridge works commenced on 6th January.  Bridge due to open to navigation in April. Pedestrian access will open in May.

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update
Blackheath Interchange (Capital Programme)	Public	£2.9m	Permitted Dev	TBD	2022	2025	Investment amount reduced following MHCLG approval of Project Adjustment Request, changing the scope of works to ensure a positive BCR.  Pre-liminary works finalised and a contractor was appointed in February 2025 (McPhillips).  Works commenced on-site on 31 March. Construction will complete in November 2025.  Monthly newsletters have been shared with the Town Centre Business and Traders.  The First phase of work will be night works (7pm-6am). Project Team and the contractor are engaging with businesses continuously (in person) with updates and assuring any concerns.  Materials for the public realm area are chosen.

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Updated: March 2025

Project	Developer		Planning	Outputs	Start	End
Rowley Regis Connected (Capital Programme)	Public	£1.5m	Permitted Dev	10 Construction Jobs	2024	2025

**Towns Fund Project** 

Phase 1 (Moor Lane) and Phase 2 (Oldbury Ringway) completed September and December 2024.

Phase 3 (Cradley Heath) redesign is complete. Costs have increased since original design and factor in upgraded materials. Letter Drop consultation will take place March 2025 with an estimated Start onsite May 2025 (8 – 12-week programme). The increased costs do apply pressure, but the project team, PMO and Finance will be reviewing project budget and spend to date.

The Rowley Regis Town Deal Board allocated an additional c£124,000 from the underspend on Blackheath Bus Interchange to deliver a scheme in Old Hill. Subject to MHCLG approval, the funds will upgrade footpaths on Wrights Lane, refurbish steps and fit new handrails. This path is a route to a local school and is frequently used by students. A Project Adjustment Request has been approved by MHCLG in April. Work is expected to start Summer 2025. The project team are exploring further funding to complete further improvement works across the route leading into a residential area.

Project has supported 17 construction jobs to date, against the target of 10.

Theme Manager – Andy Miller

Updated: March 2025

Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End
West Bromwich Connected (Capital Programme)	Public	£1.1m	Permitted Dev	10 Construction Jobs	2022	2026

Phase 1 - West Bromwich Inner Ringway is complete.

Phase 2 - Parkway to Europa Avenue to Town Centre, is in progress and due to complete April 2025.

- Traffic Signals Bull Street/ Trinity Way is complete.
- Works on High St, Roebuck Lane and Beeches Road In progress.

#### Phase 3 - Spon Lane

- Detailed design completed February 2025 following several liaisons with Highways Design Team and AECOM.
- Project lead is preparing for public consultation.
- Estimated construction start on-site Summer/ Autumn 2025.

#### Phase 4 - Hill Top to Walsall Canal

- Prelim designs and topographical survey is complete.
- Detailed design is in progress.
- Estimated date for Public Consultation is May 2025
- Estimated construction start on-site Autumn 2025

Delivery End Date updated from 2025 to 2026.

12 construction jobs supported to date, against the target of 10.

# **SUMMARY OF COMPLETE PROJECTS**

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**COMPLETE** 

**Education and Skills - 6** 

**Employment – 1** 

Health - 3

Heritage – 2

**Housing - 1** 

Sustainability – 2

**Town Centre - 1** 

Transport – 2

Theme	Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update March 2025
Heritage	Town Hall Quarter	Sandwell Council	£7.575m	N/A	Floorspace	2021	2024	Project officially completed in November 2024. Notably, in 2025 the project was recognised with the prestigious Victorian Society's Conservation Award, further highlighting its positive impact and commitment to heritage preservation.
Transport	Midland Met Canal Gateway	Public	£1.5m	Permitted Dev	TBC	2023	2024	(Sustrans and Towns Fund) Project is complete. Further works are planned by SMBC to upgrade the alley and install a pedestrian crossing at the end of the alley crossing Heath St to complete the access to the hospital as part of Phase 5 Smethwick Connected.

Theme	Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update August 2024
Education and Skills	Digital Den, West Bromwich	Public	£42,600	Permitted Dev	Digital Facilities and Learners Assisted	2022	2022	Towns Fund Project Greets Green Community Centre Completed March 2022 Published on Regen Website
Education and Skills	Windsor Olympus Academy, Smethwick	Public	£20m	Approved	New School	2021	2023	DfE Delivery. DC/21/65892 Completed September 2023 Published on Regen Website
Education and Skills	Shireland CBSO Academy, West Bromwich	Public	£16.29m	Approved	New School	2022	2023	DfE Delivery. PDC/22/6650 Completed September 2023 Published on Regen Website
Education and Skills	Central St Michaels, West Bromwich	Public	£2.7m	Approved	14 Jobs 1 Apprentice 29 Construction Jobs	2022	2023	Towns Fund Project Sandwell College. DC/22/66495. Operational September 2023. Opening Ceremony held March 2024 Published on Regen Website
Education and Skills	Ron Davis Centre, Smethwick	Public	£358k	Approved	1 Apprentice 15 Construction Jobs	2022	2023	Towns Fund Project SAFL Delivery. DC/22/66762 Published on Regen Website
Education and Skills	Elm Tree Primary Academy, Wednesbury	Public	£10m	Approved	New School	2022	2023	DfE Delivery. DC/21/65308 Site of former Manor High School. Completed September 2023.

Theme	Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update August 2024
Employment	Ambulance Service Hub, Oldbury	Private	£22m	Approved	475 New Jobs 6 Apprentices	2021	2022	Stoford Delivery Planning Ref - DC/20/65084 Published on Regen Website
Health	Sandwell Aquatics Centre, Smethwick	Public	£89.6m	Approved	16 Apprentices 254 Construction Jobs	2022	2023	Public Funds sourced from SMBC, WMCA, BCLEP, DCMS, OC DC/19/62642 SAC Opened to the public July 23.
Health	Wednesbury Health Centre/ King St Housing, Wednesbury	Public	£5.6m	Approved	35 Homes 1 Apprentice 35 Construction Jobs	2021	2023	DC/18/62165
Heritage	Heritage Action Zone (HAZ), Wednesbury	Public	£3.6m	Various	1 Apprentice 71 Construction Jobs	2021	2024	SMBC & Historic England Project. Completed April 2024
Sustainability	Heat Network Dev Phase, West Bromwich	Public	£390k	N/A	Business Case	2022	2023	Outline Business Case was approved by Cabinet 12 July 2023. Project updated to complete. Commercialisation project now added to the pipeline.

Theme	Project	Developer	Investment	Planning	Outputs	Start	End	Performance Update August 2024
Sustainability	Grid Scale Battery Storage Facility, West Bromwich	Private	£30m	Approved	20 New Jobs 2 Apprentices	2021	2023	Pivot Power EDF Renewables DC/20/64437 Event planned for autumn 2023 to mark project completion.
Town Centre	Urban Greening, West Bromwich	Public	£1.22m	Permitted Dev	Public Realm improvement.	2022	2024	Towns Fund Project All capital works complete (Phases 1 and 2). Multistory are continuing to deliver their Cultural Programme. They will be holding a Celebratory event in the Summer.
Transport	SPRINT A34/A45 Phase 1	Public	£5m	Permitted Dev			2022	TfWM Scheme
Housing	Woods Lane (Phase 2), Rowley Regis	Private	£6.8m	Approved	36 Homes 0.72 ha	2023	2024	DC/21/66444 (Keon Homes Ltd) Residential development of 36 new dwellings arranged around a shared courtyard-style space and comprising a mix of both townhouses and apartments.
Health	Midland Metropolitan University Hospital	NHS Balfour Beatty	£700m	Approved	New Hospital	2015	2024	DC/15/58384. Pre-Opening Ceremony held on 20 September 2024 with the formal opening of the hospital on 6 October 2024.