

HAZEL GROVE District Centre Action Plan 2023

Stockport Council has been working with the Institute of Place Management (IPM) to understand what Hazel Grove needs to thrive and be strong. A stakeholder workshop was held in Spring 2022 and brought together local stakeholders including retailers, key employers, landowners, community groups, residents and Ward Members. Feedback from this workshop along with detailed information on how Hazel Grove District Centre is performing formed the basis of IPM's report which culminated in a series of recommendations based on IPM's 4Rs Framework – Restructuring, Rebranding, Repositioning and Reinventing, with suggested quick wins and longer term priorities.

The District Centre Manager for Hazel Grove has been working with partner organisations and local stakeholders to develop a formal Action Plan for Hazel Grove based on the recommendations within the IPM report. The Action Plan that follows reflects the priorities of the Hazel Grove community, it is a partnership approach to help create a strong viable centre for everyone's benefit.

Anyone living or working in Hazel Grove, has a role to play – if organisations work together, small individual actions can have a big collective outcome.

Along with stating how each Action will be delivered the Plan also states by whom and the following specific role is allocated to each organisation:

Deliverer – delivers the service needed to complete the action

Enabler – helps create the conditions needed to achieve the action

Funder – gives money to pay for an action

Influencer – helps change other people's opinions or behaviours to achieve the action

Policymaker – creates policies that reinforce the action

Supporter – encourages and approves the action

Business Support (Pillar 1)						
What?	Why?	How?	Who (& roles)?	When by?	How will we know if we've been successful?	June Progress Update
1.Reduce building vacancy rates	To help create new businesses and jobs	<p>Work with property owners and new business start-ups / innovators to identify correct business support, advice and funding.</p> <p>Maintain occupancy and vacancy spreadsheet with new and closing business reasons.</p> <p>Drop in sessions with access to Enterprise You and other partners.</p>	<p>Stockport Council <i>(enabler, influencer & deliverer)</i></p> <p>Agents and property owners <i>(influencers)</i></p> <p>Growth Company <i>(deliverer)</i></p>	Dec 2023	<p>Vacancy rates in Dec 2023 v. Dec 2022 figures.</p> <p>We can look at case studies on new businesses, created jointly with Growth Hub, Build a Business Programme (BAB), and Enterprising You.</p>	<p>Introductions made at 2 new premises and support offered followed up with business support information via email</p> <p>3 businesses re located premises on A6</p> <p>One business closure identified</p>
2.Build a database / network of contacts for local businesses	To keep companies up to date on business support and funding available	<p>Establish constant contact with businesses who wish to sign up for receiving information on Council activity and partner support.</p> <p>Support Businesses with enquiries and</p>	<p>Stockport Council <i>(enabler)</i></p> <p>Growth Company <i>(deliverer and influencer – if we tailor</i></p>		<p>Monitor take up on events with partners.</p> <p>Feedback from businesses on how useful the support is</p>	<p>Retail crime Information circulated to traders with security advice for small retail premises</p> <p>Promoted Workplace Wellbeing Workshop and free accountancy clinic for traders</p> <p>Promoted fostering services to raise profile and use of café space for drop in sessions</p>

		resolving any issues-acting as a point of contact	products to suit businesses BAB (<i>enabler</i>) Property owners (<i>enabler</i>)		We can tailor future workshops / events to businesses in particular areas	Guardians of Grub campaign for the Hospitality and Food Service sector free e-learning course to help reduce costs, carbon and improve profits circulated to hospitality businesses.
Physical Regeneration (Pillar 2)						
3.Co-ordinate local volunteers to organise regular litter picks	Supports an improved appearance and identify litter sources	District Centre Mgr to put Groups in touch with each other and to introduce to Neighbourhoods to supply equipment. Support Groups as part of Stockport's Spring Clean campaign. Utilise existing groups and exploring funding opportunities	Community groups (<i>supporter</i>) Stockport Council (<i>enabler</i>)		Local Groups and Organisations having programme of litter picks completed	Supported Friends of Torkington Park and Great Moor and District WI to complete Stockport Spring Clean litter picks along A6 and side roads off it including walking route from Hazel Grove train station with District Centre Manager supplying equipment and arranging for bags to be collected
4.Grotspots-Identify 3 sites to add greenery and be maintained by volunteers	To have a visible change in Place appearance-to see improvements	Work with Groups to take ownership of specific sites and support with equipment and look for funding opportunities for on-going maintenance	Council (<i>enabler</i>) Community groups (<i>supporters</i>)	Dec 2023	Plans progressed. Improved sense of arrival. Groups identified to support maintenance	Meeting arranged with Hazel Grove Community Association to discuss improvements to front of building. Agreed window box planters and new noticeboard with Community Association and Estates Team. Discussion with Volunteer to support upkeep of planters at Health Clinic and with local landlord to support the

						maintenance of the site. Working with HS property Services to co-ordinate regular maintenance
5.Audit of existing car parking signage to increase their visibility	To improve accessibility to businesses	District Centre Manager to review existing signs working with Highways	Council (enabler) Community groups (<i>supporters</i>)	Dec 2023	New signage in place	Audit completed of car parking signage and passed to Highways to discuss costings of new signage.
Events and Animation (Pillar 3)						
6.Develop an events calendar	Work with all local partners and stakeholders to maximise opportunities for support and funding to connect local economy and community and local groups on events etc	Event sub group to lead on Planning and marketing-can be more efficient as well as links to sponsors or supporters-events similar to Worker Bee Markets and potential Christmas event / lights switch on. Trading hours advice in relation to increased marketing / events.	Retailers and businesses (<i>enablers</i>) Community groups (<i>supporter</i>)	Jun 2023	Footfall Counters	A further visionary group meeting is needed to progress this further to identify leads
7.Local artwork and cultural improvement projects	Work with local community groups and businesses on projects such	Assist local groups to look at funding opportunities and apply for bids to Council funds and	Community groups (<i>supporters</i>)	Dec 2023	Plans progressed	Working with Drawing Board productions with shutter artwork plans being shared with traders including Halloween and Spring '24 trails.

	as shutter artwork	partner funding (GMCA etc)	Stockport Council (<i>enabler</i>)			Friends of Torkington Park connected with Marple based Artist to explore Skatepark artwork-meeting arranged on site to discuss further
8. Identify micro-public spaces which could be quickly activated through basic placemaking improvements	Additional greenery, seating, murals, pockets parks etc.	District Centre manager to identify locations-cost out improvements seek funding opportunities	Community groups (<i>supporters</i>) Stockport Council (<i>enabler</i>)	Dec 2023	Plans progressed	Focus is on establishing volunteer base for identified grot spots and then expand further.
9. Support Hazel Grove Carnival	Review funding and resources of existing activities to ensure they are sustainable and can be delivered in a consistent way. Act as a point of contact for the Carnival and the Council	Establish links and funding opportunities and existing business links for sponsorship	Community groups (<i>supporters</i>) Stockport Council (<i>enabler</i>)	July 2023	Carnival feedback	Carnival contacted and support offered.
Vision and Strategy (Pillar 4)						
10. Establish a "Visionary Group" a district centre	To meet bi-monthly and discuss all work across all 4 Pillars to help	Plan, connect and facilitate on projects in the District Centre.	Stockport Council (<i>enabler</i>)	Mar 2023	Group established with regular meetings planned	Visionary Meeting held and contacts from this group are being used to support projects such as tidy ups and planter maintenance

partnership group or taskforce to manage both short and long-term change.	identify barriers to entry	Produce a one page summary of actions and meeting dates/locations to hand deliver to traders.	Community groups <i>(supporters)</i> Businesses <i>(supporters)</i>			
11. With a sub-group or existing group of local hospitality businesses to focus on issues regarding the management and promotion of the evening economy.	To understand the business support needed, help tackle issues and develop relationships to encourage responsibility in the locality and keeping it clean and tidy	To work within existing pub watch schemes	Retailers and businesses <i>(enablers)</i> Council <i>(enablers)</i>	Dec 2023	Evening economy businesses on database and feedback from businesses	An evening economy business visits planned for 13 th June Database being added to through District Centre visits.
12. Work with stakeholders and develop its on-line social media/local publications profile	To counter negative perceptions	Using existing comms to extend and build a network of stakeholders. Compile a regular newsletter for traders to circulate wider.	Retailers and businesses <i>(enablers)</i> Council <i>(funders)</i> Community groups <i>(supporter)</i>	Dec 2023	Stronger social media presence	A further visionary group meeting is needed to progress this further to identify leads

