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Recommendations

## SECTION 16 - RECOMMENDATIONS

The successful implementation of the masterplan strategy will depend on maintaining the momentum gained through recent consultations with stakeholders and the public. Consolidation of potential partnership arrangements together with close liaison between planners and landowners will help to secure a way forward for the regeneration of the canal.

The strategy has made a number of recommendations, which will need to be actively pursued in order to progress the masterplan:

- Respond to the feedback from the final public exhibition of the masterplan strategy
- Ensure that the masterplan is accepted as the framework for the delivery of regeneration in Ulverston
- Produce a detailed Delivery Plan and Programme that identifies a process for implementation
- Agree on the most appropriate arrangement for the creation of a Development Trust that will allow for a strong partnership to manage the canal and the masterplan in a sustainable manner
- Engage a high calibre Project Manager to coordinate the creation of the Trust and also to drive the masterplan forward
- Pursue discussions with GSK to finalise terms, based on a preliminary negotiated “agreement in principle” for hand-over of canal to a Development Trust. There will be a need to determine the financial responsibility for maintaining pumping

and abstraction operations

- Continue discussions and maintain good relationships with other stakeholders – Booths, Kirkland Developments, South Lakeland Caravans, Auction Mart Company etc
- SLDC to finalise the legal issues regarding the lease with South Lakeland Caravans
- Establish potential funding from NWDA and other major agencies for implementation of the masterplan strategy
- There is an urgent need to progress the Technology Park proposal to benefit from ERDF funding whilst this is still available
- Identify funders for smaller projects e.g. skate park, viewing tower, workshops, eco-housing, craft units and workshops etc.
- Commence land assembly – consider CPO where necessary to achieve co-ordinated scheme – if CPO is proposed then ensure that an end developer is in place
- Produce Development Briefs for the Technology Park, Canal Head, Sites A/B
- Undertake the Phase II Geo-environmental Site Assessments to determine levels of contamination and mitigation requirements
- Prepare Flood Risk Assessment and mitigation proposals for all projects in the Environment Agency’s indicative

flood plain area

- Undertake traffic assessments at Booth’s roundabout and North Lonsdale Road/A590 junction
- Undertake a detailed Feasibility Study for the Auction Mart, potential funding already identified
- SLDC to relocate the depot out of the immediate area
- Rathbones to relocate to part of the vacant SLDC depot site
- Provide business advice/feasibility study for Rame Farm in order to identify potential diversification opportunities
- Re-introduce the canal towpath and associated routes into the Greenways implementation programme
- Seek to establish the masterplan document within the Local Development Framework
- Monitor progress against timescale for delivery and review the Strategy document on an annual basis in order to be responsive to new developments and opportunities

### Conclusion

Ulverston Canal Head and Canal Corridor present a complex and challenging environment for regeneration. Public support for the main principles of the masterplan has already been demonstrated through the response to consultation. Positive dialogue with the Partnership and other key stakeholders has

provided encouragement to pursue those components within the Strategy, which require additional discussions in order to secure a fruitful outcome.

The masterplan strategy provides a realistic

framework that will generate enthusiasm from existing stakeholders and potential partners and will enable Ulverston to implement flagship projects as part of the Market Towns Initiative. A dynamic partnership has already begun to emerge as a result of the masterplan

consultations. It will be important to seize those opportunities, which are available at present, both in terms of funding and good will, in order to set the wheels in motion and begin to deliver the strategy for Ulverston.