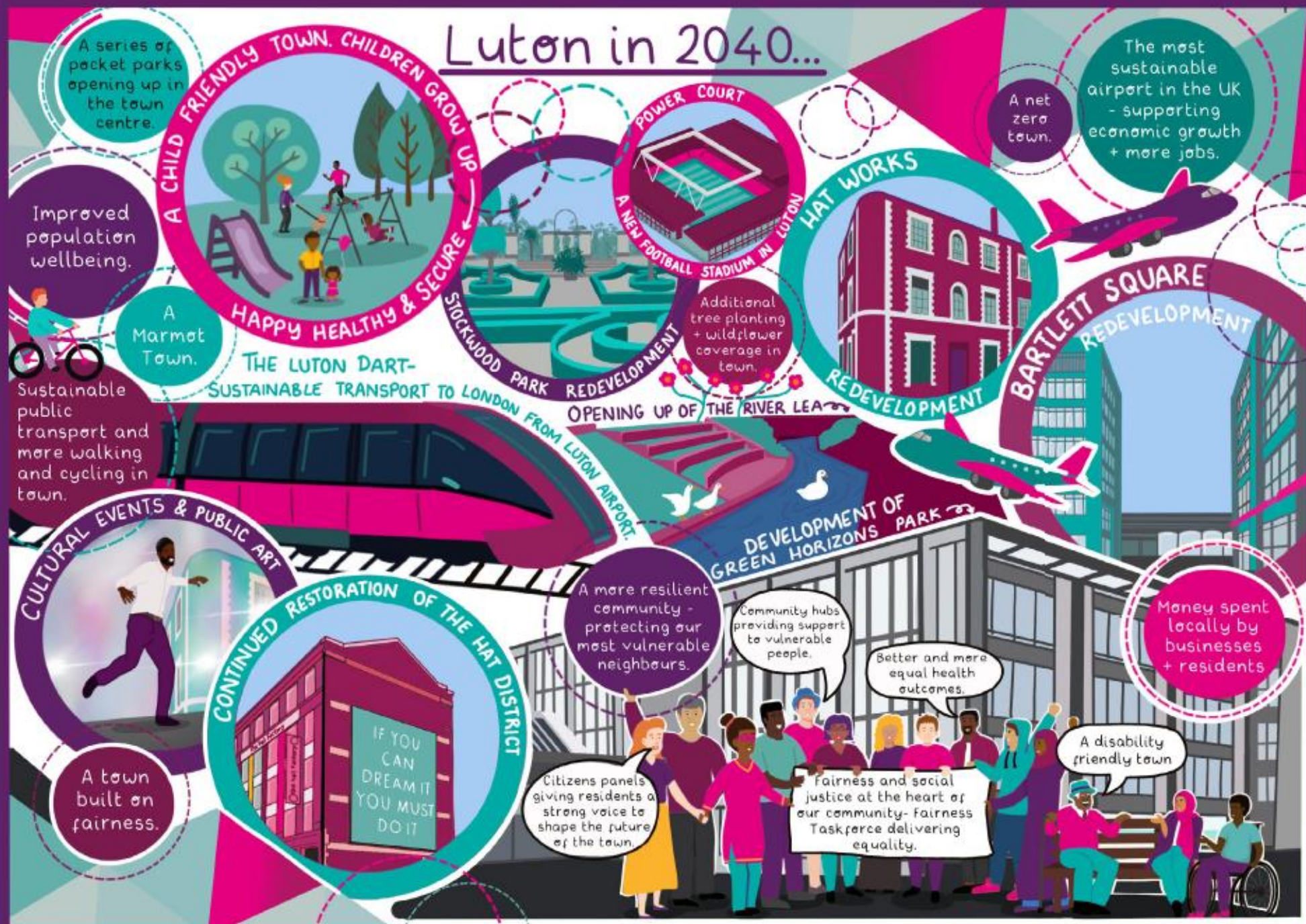




*A Place to Thrive*

# LGA Corporate Peer Challenge: Welcome back!

# Luton in 2040...



# Highlights Since March



5000 fewer people living in  
destitution since 2023



# Highlights Since March



Luton has the highest net new job creation in British cities and large towns 2010-2022, even ahead of London



Work has begun to restore Wardown Park Lake



Smoking prevalence reduced by 7% to 14.1% between 2023 and 2024



Luton has the second highest business start-up rate in the country



Establishment of full, improved set of council KPIs, and system-wide outcomes, targets and measures for Luton 2040.

#STEP  
FORWARD  
LUTON



# Highlights Since March



Hosted BBC's biggest ever  
One Big Weekend – including  
Coldplay's very own song  
dedicated to Luton.

# Highlights Since March



Funding secured for trailblazing 'Stable Homes built on Love' pathfinder programme in children's services



Launch of The Luton Programme, bringing £1 million in to Luton's creative sector, enabling the delivery of creative work that will improve the economic and social development of our town.



University of Bedfordshire ranked 1st in the University Green League

# Devolution and LGR

- Letter sent to join priority programme from Luton, Bedford and Milton Keynes
- Analysis and decision made to form a BLMK Strategic Authority – led by Luton
- Central Bedfordshire taking ‘open position’
- Waiting to hear back from Central Government
- No word on how local government restructure will impact Luton

# Engagement with Westminster

- Development of key lobbying items:
  - Central government funding
  - Housing and TA
  - Child poverty and two child benefit cap
  - adult social care
  - allocation of asylum seekers
- Letters to PM, deputy PM and other ministers
- Engagement with child poverty taskforce
- Briefing of councillors attending Labour Conference

# Portfolio holder and exec changes

- Reallocation of some elements of housing into finance portfolio
- New portfolio holder for children's health and wellbeing
- New portfolio holder for Adult Social Care

# Contextual Changes

- Airport expansion decision delayed
- Closure of Vauxhall
- IT services brought in house
- Asylum position

# Personnel Changes

- Public health
- DDAT
- Housing

# Overall Message from CPC

Luton 2040 is visionary and trail blazing. However, there is a need to address the following recommendations...



# Themes

1.

2040

2.

Member  
Development

3.

Finance and  
Transformation

4.

Place

# Theme: 2040

- Recommendation: **Establish a data driven roadmap**
- RAG rating: **Green**
- Key actions:
  - Creation of 40 outcomes and measures for 2040, with milestones and targets
  - Reset of 2040 governance structure
  - Implementation of council-wide strategic framework

# Theme: 2040

- Recommendation: **Partner and pledge development**
- RAG rating: **Orange**
- Key actions:
  - 2040 roadmap creates new framework for pledges
  - Work with partners underway to refresh pledges within framework with demonstrable actions
  - 'Focus areas' for 2040 identified and launched early 2025

# Theme: Finance and Transformation

- Recommendation: **Financial management**
- RAG rating: Orange
- Key actions:
  - CIPFA is currently undertaking a comprehensive independent external review of financial management.

# Theme: Finance and Transformation

- Recommendation: **Transformation capacity**
- RAG rating: **Green**
- Key actions:
  - The current portfolio is expected to deliver over £5m in budget savings over the coming year.
  - Work is continuing to drive the savings programme
  - towards the £13m target
  - New Head of Transformation appointed

# Theme: Finance and Transformation

- Recommendation: **People strategy delivery**
- RAG rating: **Green**
- Key actions:
  - The People strategy board has established five workstreams
  - Over 339 learning activities took place and 84% of our workforce participated in at least one learning event last year

# Theme: Place

- Recommendation: **Housing delivery**
- RAG rating: **Green**
- Key actions:
  - Amended Executive Portfolios
  - Staffing restructure
  - Member/officer board established to focus on housing delivery.
  - Identified parcels of “grey belt” land

# Theme: Place

- Recommendation: **Town centre**
- RAG rating: **Green**
- Key actions:
  - Appointed a new Head of Economic Growth and Strategic Regeneration
  - Work begun on Town Centre Delivery Plan
  - Formation of a dedicated Town Centre Taskforce

# Theme: Place

- Recommendation: **Economic growth strategy**
- RAG rating: **Green**
- Key actions:
  - Terms of Reference for the new Economic Growth Strategy agreed
  - Extensive stakeholder plan and evidence base developed
  - Regional economy strategy is also being produced.

# Theme: Member development

- Recommendation: **Executive decision-making**
- RAG rating: **Green**
- Key actions:
  - Refresh of the composition of the Executive
  - Mentors identified for new Portfolio Holders
  - Realignment of the Executive Portfolios
  - Quarterly Exec/CLT away days

# Theme: Member development

- Recommendation: **Councillor development**
- RAG rating: **Green**
- Key actions:
  - Exec Team Building Day
  - LGA Charter Plus accreditation for Member Development retained
  - Business and Member Support team moving into Democratic & Electoral Services



*A Place to Thrive*

**Thank you!**