

Fred Winter Centre (FWC) Update (Cllr How) Via email on 28.10.2021

FWC Build Update

- The FWC has experienced some setbacks due to funding, which has halted work on the site for 3 weeks.
- According to Paul Spooner, the issues that have caused this continue to be fire safety regulations and changes demanded by different building inspectors. This includes the opinions of subsequent inspections overriding the opinions (and work carried out) from prior visits.
- Spring Housing has been seeking additional finance to pay for these additional works and has secured a loan that allows work to continue. They are also continuing to seek other opportunities for funding.
- Unfortunately, they were not successful with a bid to the Heart of England Community Foundation.
- With work now continuing the revised timescales (with dates expected next week) are:
 - Phase 1 - Hub and Foodbank, Cafe space available (see below) - End of November
 - Phase 2 - Residents - Before Christmas
 - Phase 3 - Full Launch - January

Cafe Update

- Prospective occupiers of the cafe are Cork and Tile, a Portuguese Restaurant with an existing location in Exeter
- The restaurant strives for authenticity with a menu that is not anglicised
- They are excited about offering a training kitchen to help address some of the issues with the exiting worker shortage
- To answer questions on affordability, they are proposing to give permanent discounts to residents and occupiers and have a scheme that allows residents to save for special events (for example).
- They are in the process of submitting plans to Calztec, but claim they can move quite quickly and begin installation in early December.

Operations and Communications Update

- Hiring for the Hub is complete, with the exception of a weekend concierge position
- Successful funding bid from HSBC for the digital hub to provide training on accessing vital services on the web
- Website design in process, to be launched alongside the main centre launch
- Potential residents are being kept up to date with the progress of centre in anticipation of being able to move in

Occupier Update

- The Foodbank desperately need a place to relocate for the winter months (where demand and receipt of food is highest) from their existing cabins by Tesco. Request for offer of suitable premises.
- CASW struggling to find volunteers
- All other Occupiers optimistically waiting to gain access to the building to begin their operations.