

Moving BioQuarter forward

At Tuesday's Policy and Sustainability Committee a decision will be taken by councillors which will allow the development of the area known as BioQuarter to move forward.

As it stands there are several entities involved in the development including The City of Edinburgh Council and NHS Lothian. Now to unlock the potential of the site – where the land is already publicly owned – the existing partners will form a company and seek a commercial partner to add the vital spark and some funding to take BioQuarter [to the next level](#).

Identified in the Local Development Plan as an area where life science businesses will develop and which will support growth and regeneration in the south east of the city, it is an area of huge importance to Edinburgh. It will add to the economy, and it will be an area of inclusive growth as more jobs will be available – and these jobs will be attractive to people living nearby.

In addition the area will become a 20 minute neighbourhood with 400 new homes and 200 affordable. It is also possible – as the Council Leader, Adam McVey told us in this interview – that the tram could be extended to BioQuarter from the city centre.

None of this will happen overnight, but what will happen

tomorrow at the next council meeting could unlock the next steps.

You can watch the Policy and Sustainability Committee at this link [here](#) on Tuesday 5 October from 10am.

The BioQuarter is the collective name given to the life sciences campus at Little France that is home to the Royal Infirmary Edinburgh as well as many other buildings and institutes. The public sector partners leading the development of the BioQuarter are NHS Lothian, Scottish Enterprise, University of Edinburgh and the Council.



BioQuarter



1.0 Introduction

A transformation of Edinburgh BioQuarter is planned. The shared vision of the BioQuarter Partners (City of Edinburgh Council, NHS Lothian, Scottish Enterprise and the University of Edinburgh) is to unlock BioQuarter's full innovation potential and transform the site into Edinburgh's Health Innovation District - a new mixed-use, urban neighbourhood of Edinburgh, centred around a world leading community of health innovators and companies.

In order to deliver this new and exciting vision, the expertise and financial backing of a private sector partner are required. The investment level and speed of development needed to unlock BioQuarter's full potential exceed the resourcing of the BioQuarter Partners by themselves.

As agreed in principle by the BioQuarter Strategy Board in January 2020, a compliant procurement exercise is currently in the pre go live stage. The intention is to select an investment and development private sector partner with the financial means and development experience to accelerate delivery of the vision.

Preparations for the procurement exercise are going well and the team is on track for the procurement exercise to go live in October 2021.

