

# City of Preston Town Fund Board

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## City of Preston Town Fund Board

13 March 2023

**Present:** Mr J Chesworth in the Chair; Councillor M Brown, Mr R Binns, M Close, Mr D Gordon (sub for Mr Burns) Ms K Illingworth - Turner, Ms A Parkinson and Mr A Phillips

**Also in attendance:**

Ms J Wilding	– Director of Resources & S151 Officer
Mr C Hayward	– Director of Development and Housing
Mr C Blackburn	– Assistant Director (Head of City Growth and Regeneration)
Mr M Flemming	–
Mr M Cowburn	–
Ms Palmer	– Regeneration Manager
Ms N Billington	– Head of Policy and External Relations
Mr Z Bapu	– Senior Member Services Officer

**Apologies:** Councillor Borrow, Ms J Anthony, Connor and Mr Burns

### CD58 Declaration of Interests

There were none.

### CD59 Minutes

**Resolved** – That the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as an accurate record.

### CD60 Towns Fund Implementation Report

Mr M Cowburn provided an updated implementation report on Towns Fund projects and a general update on the Towns Fund work programme. Updates were provided in respect of current status of projects and forthcoming milestones. Mr Cowburn informed the Board that there were no concerns to report, and the projects were progressing well. In relation to the Educate Preston project and the idea of making it mobile it was

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requested that the Project Leads and Group consider the possibility to make investment in the central location too as per the original plan.

### Communication Update

Claire Stephenson and Nicole Billington provided the Board with an update on Communications relating to the Towns Fund Board. A PR Protocol was also presented to the Board for agreement. A number of media initiatives and ideas were highlighted to the Board and potential collaboration with partners including contractors.

The Board made the following comments and observations:-

- More needs to be publicised about the use of local contractors for major projects in the City as these are strategic choices the Board and the Council have made.
- Impressed with the progress made in relation to Communications.
- A lot of positivity had been created through the Communications work which was welcomed by the Board.

**Resolved** – That the Board agreed to

- (i) Note the February Monitoring Updates;
- (ii) Note the review into the introduction of the LUF M&E Board merging with the Towns Fund Board
- (iii) Note the move to a mobile Educate Preston Delivery Model, verbal updated provided by Mark Flemming; and
- (iv) Approve the PR Protocol.

### **CD61 Any Other Business**

It was reported that Jane Anthony was started a new role and was leaving Uclan and as such was resigning from the Board. The Chair thanked Jane on behalf of the Board for all her contributions and wished her well for the future.

Anne-Marie Parkinson also informed the Board that she too was leaving the Board as a Member following her role as the LEP representative coming to an end. The Chair thanked Ann-Marie for her contributions and input which had been greatly appreciated by the Board.