

City of Preston Town Fund Board

City of Preston Town Fund Board 16 July 2021

Present: Mr J Chesworth in the Chair; Ms R Connor, Vice Chair; Councillors M Brown and Borrow, Mr A Phillips, Ms M Close, Mr R Binns, Mr M Flemming, Ms A-M Parkinson and Mr D Gordon (sub for Mr Green)

Also in attendance:

Mr J Crellin	– Assistant Director (Head of City Growth & Regeneration) City Development
Ms B Joyce	– City Development
Mr Z Bapu	– Senior Member Services Officer

Apologies: Mr P Green and Ms K O'Reilly

CD6 Towns Fund - Implementation Update (Confidential)

The Board received an update and progress report on the Towns Fund implementation. Mr Flemming, Chair of TIG informed that formal grant was expected imminently. The external business case appraisal summary was presented to the Board. Preston Corporate Management Team Review of the projects was presented to the Board. Project milestones and their current status were highlighted. Report number 2 for each of the Projects were presented in detail to the Board.

The Board Members made the following comments and observations:-

- There was a PR opportunity to highlight other funding that has been unlocked through the Towns Fund Board.
- The value added benefits, social benefits and community benefits will need to be highlighted.
- Key messages to include the full value of the projects and the relevant contributions.
- Impact of Covid-19 to be included in future reports along with the above.
- Harris Quarter Assets project although a challenging one for the Authority however the Council were working extremely hard to ensure the project is progressed.
- Timescales on projects were discussed and the process if any are not making the deadlines. The use of project extension form was detailed to the Board.

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Jane Dalton provided an update and progress report on Stakeholder Engagement work to date. A timeline of events and the strong messaging around the programme were highlighted. It was reported that there were discussions on-going with the BBC One Show about an opportunity to do some behind the scene work on the Wallace and Gromit Bench work with the view to airing it at the time of the unveiling in September.

Andrew Dewhurst provided an update and progress report on the implementation of the pop up projects and their costings.

Board Members made the following comments and observations:-

- The MET space could be used for events in conjunction with the Bench unveiling on 10 September 2021.
- Accessibility for all was important and had been considered.
- Opportunity to use the visit of Ranvir Singh to UCLAN in September.
- The narrative and stories behind the projects needs to be continued to be highlighted in the Communications.
- It was suggested that the local contributions such as use of local businesses in the development and delivery of the project should be highlighted as it was a key component of the Preston Model.

Resolved – That the Boards

- (i) Noted the content of the July progress monitoring report;
- (ii) Noted that a social value / community benefit framework be presented to the Board in September;
- (iii) Approved the proposal for the external appraisal of full business cases for Animate and Renewal of HQ Assets;
- (iv) Approved the establishment and proposed membership of the stakeholder engagement sub group as set out in the report;
- (v) Details of the variations to projects that are in danger of missing timescales to be circulated to the Board prior to the next meeting.

CD7 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Board will be held on Friday 13 August at 10.30am on MS Teams.