

<h1>Agenda Item 4</h1>	
Report to:	Blackpool Town Deal Board
Subject :	Community Engagement
Relevant Officer:	Nick Gerrard, Growth and Prosperity Programme Director
Date of Meeting:	01/05/2020

Community Engagement

1. Purpose of the report

To provide the Board with an update on activity undertaken with regards to community engagement and the development of a consultancy brief.

2. Recommendations

- For the Board to note the report and that the outcome of the tender process will be reported once submissions have been evaluated by the Evaluation Panel according to the criteria and scoring template contained in the brief, any interviews undertaken by Skype and a recommendation circulated to the Board.

3. Background

A paper was presented to the Board on March 27th outlining the requirements of the Towns Fund (as understood prior to the issuing of formal guidance) with regards to community engagement and a proposed approach.

The Board highlighted importance of involving Blackpool’s voluntary sector throughout the engagement process was highlighted in order to avoid disconnection from the community as well as appointing the services of an external consultant to co-produce an engagement plan. A process of mapping all community assets was proposed in order to identify existing opportunities for engagement, community leaders and the mechanisms that currently support Blackpool’s social infrastructure. In this way a blanket approach would be avoided.

As community engagement cannot be carried out fully effectively in the current environment (other than potentially by electronic means), it was proposed that the Board agree a Community Engagement brief of requirements including possible use of digital platforms/ social media and procure a preferred consultant in place ready to go ahead as soon as it becomes possible.

In order to create a brief for consultants as agreed at the Board a sub group of 9 members (with Paul Smith, Tracy Hopkins, Dick Cartmell and Tina Redford representing the Board) was brought together. Tracy Hopkins produced a document entitled “Creating a sustainable future for Blackpool” which was used to shape the Community Engagement Brief which was

agreed by the Sub Group, circulated to the Board for comment on 15th April, and then finalised in the light the comments received. The final copies of the brief and tender documentation are embedded below.

The brief was submitted to 9 consultancies on the 20th April by email. A response date for all tenders has been set as 4th May after which an Evaluation Panel of 3 derived from the Sub Group with Tracy Hopkins representing the Board will assess submissions and prior to Skype based interviews the appointment being recommended to the Board.

In view of the timescales and the lockdown and the likelihood that the earliest it will be possible to appoint the successful consultants being mid-May that the recommendation to appoint is circulated to the Board via email.

Once the consultants are appointed there will be an inception meeting at which, amongst other matters, the relationship to the associated approach on communications and marketing (including the core message agreed at the last meeting) will be agreed. It is recognised that there will be a very positive message to be disseminated encouraging the community to look forward to shaping Blackpool's future.

Appendix A: Tender Documents Submitted



Bpool Town Brief
200420 (final).docx



Appendix D Method
Statements and Evalu:



Appendix E Pricing
Schedule.xls

Figure 1 tender documents submitted