



# Blackpool Town Deal Board Meeting

## No 12 – Agenda Item 9

Report to: Blackpool Town Deal Board  
Subject: Community Engagement Update  
Relevant Officer: Pauline Wigglesworth, Head Start Programme Lead  
Date of Meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### 1. Purpose of the Report

To provide an update on interim further survey undertaken on which an oral update will be given at the meeting.

### 2. Recommendation

For the Board to review and comment on the report.

### 3. Background

As previously reported to the Board. Whilst the number of respondents to the Commonplace survey was significant, there was a lack of submissions from community members with protected characteristics. In response to this issue, an amended survey was developed and an additional engagement exercise was carried out. This included targeted engagement with VCSE organisations alongside an offer of training to staff to support the facilitation of the survey. The aim of this additional exercise was to promote the inclusivity of the survey, with particular reference to the groups of people who are routinely excluded from engagement activity. A short report of this exercise is outlined below.

### 4. Interim report for the Short Town Deal Survey

99 respondents fed back to us – all online. This link has been distributed through 3rd sector and volunteer based organisations rather than online through the social media channels/Blackpool Council website. During this period it has also been amended so that groups of people can feed back as well as individuals.



Key themes from the responses are listed in the short-report below but one key over-arching theme is that the residents want to hear more about the projects.

### Demographics

When compared with the respondents for Commonplace the gap between female and male respondents has narrowed although overall there are still slightly more male respondents. Other categories such as those who have a disability, non-white ethnicities, young people and non-heterosexual categories have slightly increased numbers.

Which of the Town Deal projects have you heard about?

Town Deal Projects	Number of Responses
Relocation of the Blackpool central courts	59
Multiversity	19
Investment in infrastructure at Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone	47
Southern Quarter/ Revoe Community Sports Village	21
The Edge	28
Blackpool Illuminations modernisation	37
Blackpool Youth Hub	16
None of the above	22
Total	249

Which of the Town Deal projects would you like to feedback to us about?

Town Deal Projects	Number of Responses
Relocation of the Blackpool central courts	42
Multiversity	22
Investment in infrastructure at Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone	37
Southern Quarter/ Revoe Community Sports Village	24
The Edge	33
Blackpool Illuminations modernisation	48
Blackpool Youth Hub	26
Total	232



Relocation of the Blackpool central courts:

Key themes are around:

- Continuous/more communication with residents
- Transport accessibility
- Regeneration is a positive
- Entertainment
- Couple of negative comments about a casino

Multiversity

Key themes are around:

- Transport / accessibility
- Continuous/more communication with residents
- Regeneration/Education upskill is a positive

Investment in infrastructure at Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone

Key themes are around:

- Airport related (majority)
- Transport / accessibility
- Continuous/more communication with residents

Southern Quarter/Revoe Community Sports Village

Key themes are around:

- Continuous/more communication with residents
- Effective collaboration with Blackpool Football Club
- Regeneration is a positive
- General positive comments

The Edge

Key themes are around:

- Continuous/more communication with residents
- Concern as to whether there is a need for this provision
- Regeneration/New business is a positive
- Ensuring it is an accessible service for all/especially Young People



## Blackpool Illuminations modernisation

Key themes are around:

- Updating and modernising the illuminations offer to reflect the light shows on offer elsewhere
- Linking into the Town and other town-wide initiatives including involving local residents/creatives
- Ensuring transport systems are flexible to add to the experience
- Some support for extending the illuminations period and a small amount for keeping it within the current period
- Continuous/more communication with residents

## Blackpool Youth Hub

Key themes are around:

- Confusion over the purpose
- General positivity about the scheme
- Continuous/more communication with residents