



Blackpool Town Deal Board meeting 13

Friday, 8 October 2021

Via Microsoft Teams

Blackpool Town Deal Board

Paul Smith- Chair (PS)	Business in the Community
Anna Blackburn (AB)	Beaverbrooks
David Gaffney (DG)	England Arts Council
Heather Murray (HM)	DWP
Jane Cole (JC)	Blackpool Transport
Neil Jack (NJ)	Blackpool Council
Paul Maynard (PM)	MP for Blackpool North
Peter Cole (PC)	Chartered Surveyor
Peter Swann (PS)	Coolsilk
Richard Fee (RF)	Nikal
Steve Williams (SW)	Force Technology
Tina Redford	LeftCoast

Also in attendance

Nick Gerrard (NG)	Blackpool Council
Robert Latham (RL)	Blackpool Council
Mark Gillingham (MG)	Blackpool Council
Michael Hodgson (MH)	Blackpool Council
Andy Divall (AD)	Blackpool Council
Rob Green (RG)	Blackpool Council
Peter Legg (PL)	Blackpool Council
Graham Cowley (GC)	BITC
Rosie Jenkins (RJ)	Cities and Local Growth, BEIS/DLUHC

Notes and actions	By whom
<p>1. Welcome, apologies and introduction</p> <p>a) Apologies for absence received from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott Benton (MP for Blackpool South) • Alan Cavill (Blackpool Council) • Ben Mansford (Blackpool Football Club) • Bev Robinson (Blackpool & The Fylde College) • Dick Cartmell (Together in Lancashire) • Kate Shane (Merlin Entertainments) • Tracy Hopkins (Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre VCFS) 	



Notes and actions	By whom
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trish Armstrong-Child (Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust) 	
<p>2. Declaration of interests</p> <p>a) The following declarations of interest were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neil Jack (in respect of Blackpool Council-led projects) 	
<p>3. Minutes of meeting 12, 17 September 2021 and matters arising</p> <p>a) The Board approved the minutes of meeting number 12 (17 September 2021).</p> <p>b) Community Renewal Fund/ Levelling Up Fund Update: Noted that whilst the outcome of Blackpool’s CRF and Levelling-Up Fund bids was expected near to Budget Day on 27 October 2021, the changes in government with the establishment of the Department of Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (DLUHC) to replace the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) could result in some further delays, yet to be confirmed.</p>	
<p>4. Town Deal Investment Panel (TDIP)</p> <p>a) SW gave a short presentation on the Town Deal Investment Panel’s key activity since the last meeting of the Board in reviewing and appraising business cases and the Board noted the following minutes of the Town Deal Investment Panel meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting 6 (17 September 2021). • Meeting 7 (22 September 2021). • Meeting 8 (28 September 2021). <p>b) The Chair thanked the TDIP for the diligent and thorough work which they had undertaken on the Board’s behalf.</p>	



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<p>5. Blackpool Youth Hub business case</p> <p>a) SW noted that following the Board discussion at the last meeting a short Business Case Review and Recommendation paper had been prepared for the Board in addition to the Business Case appraisal summary, the independent appraiser’s full appraisal and the full business case.</p> <p>b) SW gave a short recap presentation of the Youth Hub scheme, its appraisal and recommendation of the TDIP.</p> <p>c) HM noted that whilst the Town Deal funded project stood alone, in view of the continuing uncertainty about whether the project would also receive Community Renewal Funding she raised the possibility of pursuing DWP grant funding if Blackpool’s CRF bid is unsuccessful. Whilst DWP grant funding does not cover property and staffing costs it was agreed that HM would look into how this funding could be used to assist if required to supplement the Town Deal Funding.</p> <p>d) It was noted that a NEET (young people not in education, employment or training) Strategy Group is currently in the process of being set up to ensure all necessary people are on board and that the service is not being duplicated elsewhere. As well as being co-produced, particular attention will be paid to the look and feel of the Youth Hub to ensure young people will engage with the service. DWP will be monitoring job outcomes and staff performance of those who relocate from the job centre setting.</p> <p>e) The Board were satisfied that the business case process was thorough, fit for purpose and robust and approved the Youth Hub business case for sign off by Blackpool Council and submission to DLUHC.</p> <p>f) In line with the TDIP’s recommendation the Board also requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provision of a future update on the status of the Community Renewal fund application, and the implications for the Towns Fund project funding, delivery and outcome timescales, and, • An update on working arrangements with the DWP. 	<p style="text-align: center;">HM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NG</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NG</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PL/HM</p>
<p>6. Enterprise Zone Infrastructure business case</p>	



Notes and actions	By whom
<p>a) SW noted that the Board had received a short Business Case Review and Recommendation paper in addition to the Business Case appraisal summary, the independent appraiser’s full appraisal and the full business case.</p> <p>b) SW gave a short recap presentation of the Enterprise Zone scheme, its appraisal and recommendation of the TDIP.</p> <p>c) The following updates were noted in response to the TDIP’s three recommendations following the independent appraisal of the business case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Item 1: Additional evidence of demand provided for commercial premises at Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone and the likelihood of securing development and job outcomes, post infrastructure delivery. Information provided to STEER 1 October 2021 and confirmed by STEER in an email of 6 October 2021 as actioned and complete. ii. Item 2: More explicit consideration of securing these development outcomes within the risk assessment and delivery plan Information provided to STEER 1 October 2021 and confirmed by STEER in an email of 6 October 2021 as actioned and complete. iii. Item 3: More detailed land value uplift modelling and sensitivity analysis should be undertaken to strengthen the Economic Case and underlying assumptions should be assessed by independent market advisors Duxbury's Commercial commissioned and now provided this and it is subject to final review. It was noted that TDIP’s recommendation to approve the business case, whilst conditional on the first two items, was not conditional upon this third item. <p>d) RG gave an overview of the project timescales with project completion expected mid-2023 and units to be constructed in parallel with highway construction.</p> <p>e) SW thanked the TDIP and various teams for all of their hard work on the business cases.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NG</p>



Notes and actions	By whom
<p>g) The Board noted that the two conditional recommendations from the TDIP had been met and that the third, non-conditional recommendation re land value uplift, was in hand.</p> <p>h) The Board were satisfied that the business case process was thorough, fit for purpose and robust and approved the Enterprise Zone business case for sign off by Blackpool Council and submission to DLUHC.</p>	
<p>7. Public sector equality duty (PSED)</p> <p>a) AD (Blackpool Council Equality and Diversity Manager) gave a brief explanation of the equality duty paper, noting that an equality assessment has been undertaken for each business case and for the overall Town Deal programme and made the Board aware of areas that were being further considered for future diversity-related action areas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability accessibility. • A standardised programme level model for equality monitoring of project delivery. • Possibility of assigning a board member to have specific responsibility for driving E&D in programme delivery. • Maximising “levelling up” opportunities of local priority groups relating to protected characteristics. <p>b) The Board noted the report and the actions being undertaken to meet the public sector equality duty.</p>	
<p>8. Any other business</p> <p>a) Blackpool central: RF gave an update on the Blackpool Central project, the planning application for which was before the Council’s Planning Committee on 12 October 2021.</p> <p>b) High streets task force visit on 6 and 7 October 2021: PC and NG gave an update on the High Street Task Force strategy session with stakeholders in which a presentation was delivered on the regeneration of Blackpool and that a report with recommendations</p>	



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<p>would be presented to the Council and utilised in a renewed Town Centre Strategy and action plan that was being prepared.</p> <p>c) Town Prospectus: GC gave an update on the successful soft launch of the refreshed Town Prospectus in the House of Lords on 6 October 2021.</p> <p>d) Submission of Summary Business Cases : NG confirmed that in the light of the Board’s decisions today the first three approved business cases (for the Illuminations, Youth Hub and Enterprise Zone) would be submitted to Government by Friday 15 October 2021 following sign off by Blackpool Chief Executive Neil Jack under the delegation given to him by the Council’s Executive.</p>	
<p>9. Dates of Next Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friday, 5 November 2021, 1pm to 3pm• Friday, 12 November 2021, 1pm to 3pm	