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BEgroup

Kidsgrove Town Deal Investment Plan

Kidsgrove Town Deal Board meeting

25th June 2020

Structure

- Our commission
- Town Deal guidance
- Progress to date
 - Early stage priorities – progress update
 - Scheme shortlisting
- Questions & discussion

Our Commission

Our Commission

Baseline

- A baseline assessment looking at the assets, opportunities and challenges in the Kidsgrove Town Deal area to inform the Town Deal Board plans and priorities for investment

Produce a Town Investment Plan

- Produce a compelling Town Investment Plan, in consultation with the Town Deal Board that secures funding for the interventions proposed.

Town Deal Guidance

Town Deal Guidance

Expectations

- Provide a direction for the economic turnaround of the town over a decade.
- Governance – robust arrangements and subject to challenge.
- Community engagement – must include a community engagement plan.
- Covid-19 – must demonstrate the impact on the town's economy.
- 90% capital. Six year funding from 2020/21

Content

- Section 1: Context, strategy, engagement and delivery
- Section 2: Prioritised list of projects – Rationale, theory of change, costs, timescales, impact, funding sources.

- Three submission dates – End July, October and January.
- ***'There is no advantage in coming first: each Town Investment Plan will be assessed on its own merits'***

Town Deal Guidance – post submission

MHCLG will consider:

- The in-principle case for, and viability. of each of the projects.
- Evidence of good practice.
- Outputs, outcomes and indicative benefit cost ratio (BCR).
- Match funding potential.

Three potential scenarios

- In-principle agreement to projects – Heads of terms offered.
- In-principle agreement with conditions – Head of terms offered.
- Reject - a second chance if initially unsuccessful.

Next steps

- Develop projects in detail - comprehensive business cases within one year.
- Town Deal summary document.
- Funding release.

Progress update

Progress to date

- Consultation – gaps and additional detail
- Call for projects – 47 responses
- Working groups for early priorities
- Scheme shortlisting

Progress on early priorities

Kidsgrove Town Centre

Two working group meetings delivered

Town centre 'masterplan' under development

- Rail station – new station building and 'transport interchange'
- Canal footpath and access improvements
- Town centre reconfiguration – services and accommodation

– Next Steps

- Land ownership and land assembly
- Confirming partners' aspirations and commitments
- Engagement with JCP and Post Office
- Moving from aspirational to realistic option

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Enterprise

Kidsgrove property review – highlights:

- Industrial – Growth potential along A34 corridor; skewed supply
- Office – any growth within existing underutilised spaces or repurposing older buildings
- Retail – refurbishment/renewal of existing stock

One “Enterprise” meeting held so far. Focus of the discussion:

- Chatterley Valley – viability gap vs. Town Deal ask. Smaller/starter units – West Ave/Butt Lane
- Enterprise Centre – Town Hall suitability?

Next Steps

- Chatterley Valley – review Harworth development appraisals / determine potential support from public sector partners to address viability gap - Board appetite?
- Review suitability of West Ave/Butt Lane site / identify others
- Identify potential options for TD investment

Health and Well-being

Initial meeting held

- Kings School
- Need to re-arrange due to low attendance

Next Steps

- Clarity on Kidsgrove Leisure Centre – Timescales? Costs? Funding gap? Operating model? NULBC commitment? Associated projects?
- Health hub - Services? Accommodation? Progress and commitment to date?

Employment and skills

Further one-to-one meetings undertaken

Emerging ideas

- Town centre based employability service
- Digital skills fund
- School enterprise and work experience scheme
- Town centre live / work space

Fit with the fund – 90% capital

- Next Steps
- Newcastle Employment and Skills Group meeting – 25th June
- Options development – increase/decrease scope
- Shortlisting

Emerging short list

Approach to shortlisting

- Two stage process
 - Strategic fit
 - Assurance
- Strategic fit
 - Town Deal objectives
 - LEP Local Industrial Strategy
 - NULBC Economic Development Strategy
- Assurance
 - Economic: Transformational? Economic return?
 - Commercial: Does demand or support exist? Is the scheme viable / sustainable?
 - Financial: Affordability and opportunities to leverage funding
 - Management: Timescales? Track record of the lead organisation?

Ranked priorities

- Station redevelopment - buildings/public realm/links to town centre and canal)
- Chatterley Valley
- Shared service hub / town centre residential/mixed-use
- Canal towpath / Harecastle tunnel improvements / Canal-side artwork / floating market
- Town centre Masterplan
- Town centre enterprise centre
- Public wifi / 5G
- Improved walking and cycle routes
- High street employability and digital support service
- Kidsgrove Sports Centre
- Small industrial units (e.g. Talke/Butt Lane near AAH Pharma)

Implications and next steps

- Reinforces the early priorities and packages.
- Supported by the TIP guidance.
- Still need to consider other scheme – 5G? Walking and cycling provision?

Questions