

REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

20 January 2021

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and was an online remote meeting in compliance with the Council Procedure Rules Relating to the holding of Remote Meetings and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Present:

Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher (In the Chair)

Councillors: Paddy Brown, Tom Cassidy, Jim Lindridge, Brenda Loynes, Ann Marshall and Leisa Smith

Officers: Denise McGuckin, Managing Director
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

8. Apologies for Absence

None

9. Declarations of Interest

None

10. Minutes of the meeting held on 23 July 2020

Received

11. **Towns Fund – Hartlepool Town Investment Plan** (Assistant Director, Development and Growth)

Type of decision

Non-key decision

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is for the Regeneration Services Committee to consider the Town Investment Plan and make a recommendation for approval to the Finance and Policy Committee.

The Town Investment Plan responds to the invitation from Government to develop proposals for a Town Deal of up to £25m.

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

The report provided background information in relation to the proposals for a Town Deal of up to £25m as part of the Government's £3.6bn Towns Fund Programme. Members approval was sought to refer the draft Town Investment Plan, attached as a confidential appendix to the report to Finance and Policy Committee **(This item contained exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation Order 2006) namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (Para 3) (including the authority holding that information)).**

The Plan identified three legacy challenges to overcome for the town to prosper which included the jobs value gap, social mobility and skills constraints and dysfunctional and disconnected central area, details of which were provided, as set out in the report. A number of projects had been prioritised and would be included within the Town Investment Plan:-

- Health and Care Centre for Excellence
- Tees Valley Civil Engineering Institute
- The Wesley Chapel
- Marina Connections
- Re-Imagining Middleton Grange Shopping Centre

In support of the report, the Managing Director provided a detailed and comprehensive presentation in relation to the proposals. The presentation included background information in relation to the development and vision of the Town Deal Board, outputs and outcomes, legacy challenges,

opportunities for the future, consultation results, project filtering criteria, priority projects together with the next steps.

In the discussion that followed, the Managing Director responded to queries raised arising from the presentation. Clarification was provided in relation to funding and process arrangements as well as the anticipated timescales for a response from the Government in terms of the outcome of the bid. Members welcomed the proposals and spoke in support of the proposed projects and commented on the benefits as a result. Emphasis was placed upon the importance of connectivity to the Waterfront and the need to consider the financial impact in terms of money management. Members were pleased to note the potential opportunities to develop additional schemes in the future as a result of the proposals.

In concluding the debate, the Chair provided feedback on his involvement as a Member of the Town Deal Board and took the opportunity to place on record his personal thanks to Alby Pattison, the Chair of the Board and all Board Members for their contributions. Thanks were also expressed to all officers in the Regeneration Team for their hard work in taking this project forward, the benefits of which were outlined.

The Committee agreed the following recommendation with no dissent.

Decision

That the Town Deal Investment Plan attached as a confidential appendix **(This item contained exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government) (Access to Information) (Variation Order 2006) namely, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (Para 3) (including the authority holding that information).** be supported and be referred to the Finance and Policy Committee for approval.

12. Date and Time of next meeting

The Chair advised that the next meeting would take place on 17 February 2021 at 10.00 am.

The meeting concluded at 10.35 am.

H MARTIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 27 JANUARY 2021