

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

TOWNS FUND BOARD

30 April 2021

MS Teams

PRESENT - Mary Stuart, University of Lincoln (Chair), Holly Mumby-Croft MP; Becky McIntyre, Director of Governance & Partnerships, North Lincolnshire Council; Lesley Potts, Head of Economy & Growth, North Lincolnshire Council; North Lincolnshire Council; Simon Green, Deputy Chief Executive North Lincolnshire Council; Helen Manderson, North Lincolnshire Council; Diana Taylor, Marketing Humber; Peter Campey, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy; Jo Corney, Department of Work and Pensions (DWP); Susan Oliver, H&WRA, Voluntary & Community Sector Alliance; Gurpa Singh, 2Sisters Food Group; Lisa Quinn, MHCLG

Debbie Frary was also in attendance.

APOLOGIES – Apologies were received from; Cllr Rob Waltham MBE, Lisa Oakley, Nationwide; Duncan Willey, PPH Commercial; Dr Faisal Baig, North Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group (NLCCG); Roj Rahman Community Representative; Samantha Cook, Hampton by Hilton; Ruth Carver, Greater Lincolnshire LEP; Sophie Day, British Steel and Andrew Percy MP.

The meeting was held as a Teleconference via MS Teams.

82 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** - The Chair welcomed all those present to the meeting. A welcome was made to new board members and introductions were made around the Board.

83 **NOTES AND ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS – Resolved** - The minutes of the meeting of the Scunthorpe Towns Fund Board held on 5 March 2021, be approved as a correct record.

84 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS** – It was noted that Mary Stuart, Chair, did not wish to take part in any discussions relating to the Developing the People and Communities Project due to North Linsey College being a partner with the University of Lincoln.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

85 **PROJECT PRIORITISATION AND RESPONSE TO HEADS OF TERMS** – Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, outlined the draft response to government in relation to the conditions of the grant. The funding gap was outlined and key points were highlighted in respect of what has been considered as part of the project prioritisation process following a paper to the Board at a previous meeting:

Total Funding Ask	£26,993,500
Revenue Funding	£ 2,500,000

New Programme Cost	£24,493,500
Funding Offer	£20,900,000
Gap	£ 3,593,500

The process for project prioritisation considered the following criteria:

1. Strategic Fit and Financial completion
2. Deliverability of a ‘full fat’ projects across the programme ensuring no ‘dilution’ of projects in the programme.
3. Alternative funding options for delivery of projects
4. Risk – it is essential that the board and the accountable body consider the risk in relation to each project and the whole programme.

It was highlighted to the Board that there are only a small number of projects within the Towns Fund Programme therefore unlikely that any will fall away and release funds during the programme. It was also noted for consideration of the Board that there are other funding streams available that could potentially fund some of the towns fund projects. Three Options were highlighted to the Board for their consideration and decision. Option 2 was agreed unanimously by the Board on the following basis:

- The small number of projects in the programme have direction and are unlikely to fall away
- Overprogramming is a risk to the programme
- Option 2 gives assurance of achieving what has been set out to achieve
- Skills is a high priority for the area, however, other funding streams are available for skills and other investment is being made in the skills area
- People and communities work is intertwined and being undertaken in all other projects

The board were given a further opportunity for any comments and views against Option 2 before final agreement. No objections to Option 2 were received.

Peter Campey, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, requested to be informed if there were any projects that could be fast tracked to enable government to discuss these with Treasury. It was noted that there may be some possibility to fast track part of some projects. The Board were asked to consider the following projects for fast tracking:

- Creating 21st century connectivity
- Advanced Manufacturing park
- Integrated Health, Innovation and Emergency Services hub

It was agreed for Peter Campey, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council to discuss the possibility of fast tracking these projects/parts of these projects outside of the meeting.

A discussion was held regarding revenue and the need to think about operating costs required for the projects. Peter Campey, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, agreed to discuss this further outside of the meeting with Becky McIntyre, North Lincolnshire Council, as the S151 Officer.

A discussion was held regarding stakeholder engagement, which is a general condition in the Heads of Terms, to provide further details of planned community and private sector engagement and noted to use the forward plan in the TIP when doing the programme submission. It was reported that the Project Leads have been asked to bring a full

engagement plan for their project to the next Programme Board. This will then be incorporated into the Comms plan.

It was noted that a draft Monitoring and Evaluation report also needs to be submitted on 24 May 2021. This is being built around the outcomes in the TIP as well as additional outcomes. The Board were also informed that the Programme Board had agreed that the Equalities report would be written as one full one for the whole programme which is also due to be submitted on 24 May. Due to the nature of the Board meeting dates and the final submission date it was requested for the Board to agree to the following reports being signed off by the Chair, S151 Officer and Chief Executive on 21 May 2021 prior to submission to government on 24 May 2021:

-Project Reprioritising Response

-Engagement plan

-Equalities report

-Draft Monitoring and Evaluation report

-The Governance Framework agreed at a previous meeting to also be submitted on 24th May.

The Board agreed this request.

Resolved - The Board agreed to Project Reprioritisation Option 2 unanimously in the context of a full discussion regarding other options and other funding streams being explored and North Lincolnshire Council continuing to support work in skills. It was also noted that the community voice is threaded through the whole Towns Fund programme. The Board agreed for the Project Reprioritising Response, Engagement Plan, Equalities report and draft Monitoring and Evaluation report to be signed off by the Chair of the Board, S151 Officer and Chief Executive of the Accountable Body on 21 May 2021 prior to submission on the 24th May. The Board agreed for a discussion to take place outside the meeting with Peter Campey, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council regarding the possibility of fast tracking or part fast tracking 3 Projects - Creating 21st Century Connectivity, Advanced Manufacturing Park and Integrated Health, Innovation and Emergency Services hub. The Board agreed for a discussion to take place outside the meeting with Peter Campey, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Becky McIntyre, S151 Officer, North Lincolnshire Council, in respect of project Revenue costs. The Board agreed for one Project Engagement plan to be produced for the whole programme and incorporated into the Comms Plan.

86 **PROGRAMME BOARD/PROJECT TEAMS - UPDATE** – An update report was circulated to the Board giving a high level outline of progress so far on each project. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, gave a further broad update to the Board and the following key highlights were noted:

-Advanced Manufacturing Park – The 1st workshop had been held with ARUP and the University and discussions are now starting to take place to embed the project into the private sector.

Creating 21st Century Connectivity – Project is progressing well and a start has been made on what the funds will be used for.

-Integrated health Innovation and Emergency Services Hub – A business case is being put together for the acquisition of land and engagement around the project is starting with communication with the blue light services.

-Enabling a Future for Clean Growth – It was noted that this project is heavily reliant on the Development Consent Order (DCO). It was noted that this needs to be closely

monitored as it is the biggest risk. It was suggested for the Project Lead and Sponsor to give a presentation to the board on this project at the September meeting.

-Transforming the Scunthorpe Housing Market – This project is gathering pace and it was suggested for the Project Lead and Sponsor to attend the next meeting in June to give a presentation to the Board.

-Developing Cultural Arts and Heritage Offer – This project is starting to gather pace and meetings have taken place with partners. It was suggested for the Project Lead and Sponsor to attend the meeting in November to give a presentation. The risk of requiring £10m match funding was noted. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, also agreed to discuss with the Project lead and Sponsor the need for a community voice throughout the project and how this can be achieved to ensure the project is not consultancy lead. It was noted that there may be an opportunity for the project to be considered through the Levelling up Fund (LUF).

It was noted that the Programme Board agreed for the Equalities report to be written as one report for the whole programme.

Resolved –The report was noted. The Board agreed for the Project Sponsors and Project Leads to attend future board meetings to give project presentations as suggested.

87 PROJECT UPDATE - Urban park - A highlight report was circulated to the board with the agenda. It was noted that the defrayal of the £1m accelerated fund had been achieved and currently waiting for confirmation of the recording mechanisms for the evaluation and monitoring from MHCLG. Work is progressing and the new target date for completion is 31/5/21, this date needs to be confirmed with MHCLG. A discussion was held regarding community engagement with the Urban Park. It was noted that the UTC are being involved to develop some art for town centre. A suggestion to incorporate green social prescribing in respect of the tree planting was made. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, agreed to discuss this with the Project Lead. Video footage and images were shown to the Board to enable the development so far to be seen.

FHSF – A Highlight report was circulated to the Board and noted that this was a confidential item. A request was made to the Board to continue to bring the progress of this FHSF project to the board. This project is not governed by the Towns Fund, however, is in the context of the Towns Fund Projects.

Resolved – The reports and the confidentiality of the FHSF report were noted. The completion date of the Urban Park project to be confirmed in writing to MHCLG. The Board agreed for Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, to discuss further with the Project lead and Sponsor the Community Engagement element of the Urban Park Project and the involvement of green social prescribing. The Board agreed it was useful for the FHSF highlight reports to continue to be brought to this Board.

88 COMMS UPDATE – A plan was circulated to the board with the agenda. It was noted that the 1st e-newsletter ‘Renew’ had been circulated. A second edition is due out in May which will involve podcast interviews with some Board Members and also a focus on a particular project. It was requested for Board members to confirm by email to Debbie Frary if they wished to be included on the circulation list to receive the e-newsletter. It was suggested the link to the newsletter to be included on the website. Peter Campey, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, also highlighted the importance of comms in respect of what has been achieved by the Towns Fund so far. Susan Oliver, H&WRA, Voluntary & Community Sector Alliance, offered her support with comms to the none e community. **Resolved** – Board members to confirm the inclusion of the e-

newsletter circulation list. It was agreed for the newsletter link to be on the Towns Fund website.

89 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Storytelling** – The Board were informed of the opportunity by MHCLG to be involved in storytelling as a board in respect of the following:

-To write a wider narrative around the programme

-To work with TFB to create a piece of storytelling that will be published, and it was noted that one area that has not yet been covered was governance.

Capacity Fund – The Board were informed that a bid had been submitted to government and had been successful resulting in receiving the full amount of funding of £70K. it was reported that this will be used to support the programme board in terms of full business case and any fast tract projects.

The Chair thanked everyone for their time and the quality of discussion taken place at the meeting. A thank you was also noted to the Project teams for the movement and progress being made.

Resolved - The Board agreed for the Head of Comms to draft the narrative on the wider programme. The Board agreed for Becky McIntrye, North Lincolnshire Council, to undertake an interview on governance and the outcome to be brought back to the Board. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, to send the link to Board members to the Storytelling work that has already been undertaken by other Towns Fund Boards.

90 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING** – The Chair confirmed the next meeting as Friday 25 June 2021, 9.30am. It was agreed for the possibility of the meeting to be held on site at Church Square to be determined.