

MAKING MANSFIELD PLACE BOARD

Agenda Item 5

Subject:	Towns Fund – Endorsements, DLUHC Reporting and Status	
Presenting authority / representative:	Mansfield District Council Geoff George Regeneration Programmes and Projects Manager	
Report author and contact details:	Geoff George ggeorge@mansfield.gov.uk	
Value of decision:	n/a	
Partners affected:	All	Date of consultation: 5 th October 2022
Purpose		
<p>This report provides the latest on the Towns Fund, referencing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Confirmation of the latest project endorsements by the Board by written procedure- Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) reporting and specifically, confirmation of the submission of a re-profile for the programme- Programme overview and project status summary		
Background		
<p>Previous reports have set out the background of the Government's award of £12.3M to support the Town Investment Plan. Following the Board's endorsement of three projects, summaries of a further two projects were circulated to Board members for consideration, for responses by the 21st September 2022.</p> <p>The same email referenced the required Towns Fund monitoring to DLUHC, referencing the overall programme's re-profile and project adjustment requests as a consequence of the completion of the (majority of) the Full Business Cases (FBCs). The report summarises the submission and requests the Board's a</p> <p>Finally, this report offers the latest update on progress for all projects.</p>		
Full Business Case Endorsements		
<p>Summaries of the projects for Mansfield Woodhouse Station Gateway and for the Warsop Health Hub were circulated to Board members for consideration for endorsement on the 7th September 2022, seeking a response by the 21st September 2022. A non-response was considered as an endorsement.</p> <p>It can be confirmed that both projects can now be considered as endorsed with those responding offering their support. Board members will recall that each project has a link Board members and their views and support have been taken into account and both projects have been subject to the usual checks and with a favourable external assurance.</p> <p>One Board member requested points of clarification on the Station Gateway project; a response has been offered and they are not considered material to the decision.</p> <p>As a consequence, a summary of each of the endorsed projects will be offered to DLUHC.</p>		
Project Monitoring and Submission to DLUHC		
<p>In August 2022, DLUHC's national Towns Fund Team wrote to all Towns Fund authorities, seeking details of progress on spend profiling and Project Adjustment Requests (PAR). In addition, as the first set of Project Summary Documents were being submitted, a completed Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Plan was required.</p>		

A submission of the relevant documentation was made by the required 9th September deadline, with a covering note in support of the submission, confirming that:

- The completed PAR spreadsheet was based on the completed FBCs to date, reflecting the reality of the position with all projects;
- None of the projects were subject to changes in costs or outputs, being a realistic re-profiling over the programme duration.

The PAR was signed by the S151 Officer and as Board members will recall, an agreement was reached with the Chair of the Place Board that this could be submitted to meet the deadline, noting that the intention to review the PAR and any implications thereof at this meeting of the Place Board.

Since submission, further contact has been made by the Towns Fund Team to confirm some additional requirements, notably, amendments to the M&E Plan to reflect the standard indicators only and in addition, as this was our first return to them, the completion of a “Part 2” form referencing our Heads Of Terms requirements, as follows:

- a commitment to address the Town Investment Plan improvement plan
- confirming the Towns Fund local assurance process for all projects
- the completion of a programme-wide impact assessment under its public sector equality duty

This additional requirement has now been met and the Part 2 submitted to the Towns Fund Team. Overall, the key points of note may be summarised as follows:

- The submission re-profiles more than 50% of spend from 22/23 into future years. This is an issue that may be of concern to the Towns Fund Team. It will be noted that the Board has little option but to present this, given the reality of the projects’ respective timescales, but it was stressed that the Council and the Board remain absolutely committed to delivery of the programme;
- The use of the standard indicators only have been noted;
- The Board awaits the conclusion of its one remaining FBC;
- The Towns Fund Team email noted the pressures on projects given costs inflation and related issues. In response, we agreed that such pressures were significant, given the increased costs of construction, labour and of inflationary pressures. However, it was confirmed that a close liaison was being maintained with each project lead to address any issues arising, keeping a close relationship with the Towns Fund Team.

The Board’s comments are sought and an update will be presented to Board members on receipt of any additional communication from the Towns Fund Team.

Progress

Overall, the programme is progressing well with 5 out of 6 business cases approved and project summaries submitted or about to be submitted to government. A summary of the position is shown below.

Project	RAG Rating	Comment
SMART Mansfield		Business Case approved and project mobilised. On track for completion by the end of 2023/24.
Warsop Health Hub		Business Case approved and project mobilised. Application for planning is currently being prepared for submission in October with start on site planned for May 2023.

Destination Mansfield Branding		Business Case approved and now in delivery phase with the place strategy due to be completed by December with the subsequent roll out of activity from early 2023 onwards.
Destination Mansfield Parks Berry Hill Park		The Business Case has been approved and now in delivery phase. Some risk around programme and achieving milestones as these have slipped somewhat since completion of the business case. However, a catch-up can be managed and the design team is now due to be appointed in November 2022 with start on site still targeted for September 2023.
Mansfield Woodhouse Station Gateway		The Business Case has been approved. Negotiations with Homes England regarding the Derelict Land Grant repayment need finalising to facilitate delivery of the project.
Vision West Nottinghamshire College Future Technology Exchange		Business Case drafted but still to be approved. Close contact is being maintained with the applicant, factoring in design changes to meet planning and cost finalisation challenges.
Exempt information: None		
Recommendation(s): It is recommended that the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notes the endorsement of two further projects, being the Mansfield Woodhouse Station Gateway and the Warsop Health Hub and the submission of the project summaries to DLUHC; - Notes the submission made to the Towns Fund Team, with any response to be shared with the Board on receipt; - Notes the overall progress with the programme. 		

1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

N/A

2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

N/A

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 N/A

4 DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS REPORT

4.1 N/A