

Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board Agenda

Monday 12 October 2020 at 5.45pm

Please click on the link below to view the meeting live:
[Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board – 12 October 2020](#)

This agenda gives notice of items to be considered in private as required by Regulations 5 (4) and (5) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

(a) To receive any declarations of interest from members relating to any item on the agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct and/or S106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

(b) To receive any declarations of the existence and nature of any political Party Whip on any matter to be considered at the meeting.

3. Additional Items of Business

To determine whether there are any additional items of business arising which should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

Public Items

4. Towns Fund Update

To receive an update on the Towns Fund process to date and to discuss how elected members can be further engaged with the process going forward.

David Stevens
Chief Executive

Sandwell Council House
Freeth Street
Oldbury
West Midlands

Distribution:

Councillor L Giles (Chair);
Councillors E M Giles, Moore and Rollins.

Contact: democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk

Information about meetings in Sandwell



Only people invited to speak at a meeting may do so. Everyone in the meeting is expected to be respectful and listen to the discussion.



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Members who cannot attend the meeting should submit apologies by contacting Democratic Services (democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk) Alternatively, you can attend the meeting remotely as per the 2020 Regulations.



All agenda, reports, minutes for Sandwell Council's meetings, councillor details and more are available from our website (<https://cmis.sandwell.gov.uk/cmis5/>)

Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board

Apologies for Absence

The Board will receive any apologies for absence from the members of the Board.

Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board

Declaration of Interests


Members to declare:-

- (a) any interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting;
- (b) the existence and nature of any political Party Whip on any matter to be considered at the meeting.

REPORT TO

**BUDGET AND CORPORATE
SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

12 October 2020

| | |
|--|--|
| Subject: | Towns Fund Update |
| Cabinet Portfolio: | Cabinet Member for Inclusive Economic Growth Councillor Millard |
| Director: | Tammy Stokes Interim Director – Regeneration and Growth |
| Contribution towards Vision 2030: |  |
| Contact Officer(s): | Alex Goddard alexander_goddard@sandwell.gov.uk |

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Scrutiny Management Board:

1. Consider the information presented to the meeting in relation to the Towns Fund and specifically the member engagement process.
2. Identify any recommendations it wishes to make in relation to the information presented to it.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board on the process used to identify Towns Fund project proposals and to seek its views on how elected members can be further engaged with the process going forward.

2 IMPLICATION FOR VISION 2030

- 2.1 The Towns Fund proposals will support all of the of Ambitions of Vision 2030 either directly or indirectly.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Towns Fund has previously been the subject of a report to the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board (4 February 2020) however now that shortlisted proposals have been agreed by the Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard it was felt that given the cross-cutting nature of the project proposals it was prudent to provide an update to the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The report considered by the Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard in relation to the approval of shortlisted projects is attached as Appendix F.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 5.1 There has been significant engagement carried out on the Towns Fund. The Engagement Strategy is attached as Appendix B and an update report submitted to the Superboard is attached as Appendix E.

6 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 The Towns Fund Governance Document is attached as Appendix A to this report.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Towns Fund Governance Document

Appendix B – Engagement Strategy

Appendix C – Towns Fund Programme Timeline

Appendix D – Process Slides

Appendix E – Engagement Update

Appendix F – Approval of Shortlisted Projects

Tammy Stokes
Interim Director – Regeneration and Growth

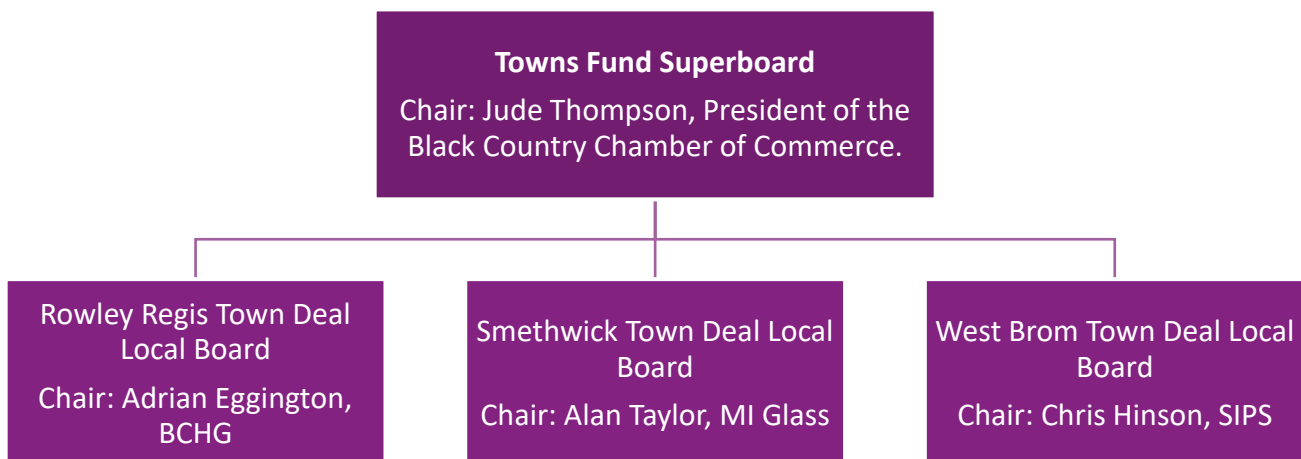
Towns Fund Governance Document September 2020

1. Purpose of Document

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to outline the governance arrangements for Sandwell’s Towns Fund Programme.
- 1.2 It includes Roles and Responsibilities, Code of Conduct for Board Members, Decision Making arrangements, Scrutiny arrangements, Transparency and Accountability and a List of Members of the Towns Fund Superboard, and three Local Boards

2. Governance Diagram

- 2.1 Governance will be provided to this programme through the Towns Fund Superboard, and three Local Boards.



- 2.2 In accordance with the Towns Fund Guidance published June 2020, the Sandwell Superboard will be classed as the *Town Deal Board* and form the body which makes the Towns Fund Agreements with Government. The three Local Boards will be constituted as working groups of the Superboard.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 Towns Fund Superboard

3.1.1 The Superboard will sign off each stage of a Town Investment Plan and Town Deal.

3.1.2 The Sandwell Superboard is classified as the **Town Deal Board** in accordance with the Government's Towns Fund Guidance (June 2020)

3.1.3 The Superboard is responsible for:

- **Leadership/ Direction** - Provide strategic direction across all of the Town Deal Areas
- **Coherent Governance** - Ensure a coherent approach across all of the Town Deal Areas, maximising cross town initiatives where possible
- **Consistency** - Ensure interventions are not competitive across the Town Deal Areas and act to build the local economy
- **Alignment to Strategic Priorities** - Ensure alignment of the Town Investment Plan (T.I.P) to Local, Regional and National strategies
- **Shape and Approve Town Investment Plans**
- **Approve the Stakeholder Engagement Plan** – ensuring that communities' voices are involved in shaping design and decision making at each phase of development, and ensuring diversity in its engagement with local communities and businesses
- **Town Deal** - overseeing each step of agreeing a Town Deal and overseeing compliance with the Heads of Terms Agreement with government.
- **Upholding the Seven Principles of Public Life (Nolan Principles)**

3.1.4 The Chair of the Superboard is responsible for:

- Upholding the Seven Principles of Public Life (Nolan Principles)
- Leading the Superboard to achieve its objectives, maintaining an overview of activity, and championing the supporting partnership working
- Ensuring that decision are made by the Board in accordance with good governance principles
- Signing the Heads of Terms Agreement with government



3.2 Town Deal Local Boards (Rowley Regis, Smethwick and West Bromwich)

3.2.1 The Town Deal Local Boards are constituted as working groups of the Superboard.

3.2.2 The Town Deal Local Boards will be responsible for:

- Developing the strategy and vision for the town
- Develop and agree an evidence-based T.I.P and inform the Town Deal, including the amount of investment secured
- Develop a clear programme of interventions
- Coordinate resources and influence stakeholders
- Helping develop intervention business cases

3.2.3 The Chairs of the Town Deal Local Boards are responsible for:

- Upholding the Seven Principles of Public Life (Nolan Principles)
- Leading the Local Boards to achieve their objectives, maintaining an overview of activity, and championing the supporting partnership working
- Reporting progress to the Superboard

3.3 Sandwell Council

3.3.1 Sandwell Council will be the Accountable Body for the Town Deal.

2.3.2 Sandwell Council is responsible for:

- Upholding the Seven Principles of Public Life (Nolan Principles)
- Developing a delivery team, delivery arrangements and agreements
- Ensuring that decisions are made by the Superboard are in accordance with good governance principles.
- Ensuring transparency through the publication of agendas and minutes of the Superboard on CMIS
- Developing agreed projects in detail and undertaking any necessary feasibility studies
- Undertaking any required Environmental Impact Assessments or Public Sector Equality Duties
- Helping develop detailed business cases
- Liaising with potential private investors in identified local projects and schemes
- Signing the Heads of Terms Agreement with Government
- Monitoring and evaluating the delivery of individual Towns Fund projects
- Submitting regular monitoring reports to Towns Hub
- Receiving and Accounting for the Town's funding allocation



4. Code of Conduct

All Members of the Superboard and Local Boards will sign the Councillor Code of Conduct which is based on the Seven Principles of Public Life (Nolan Principles) and contained within Article 13 of the Council's constitution.

Members of the Superboard and the Superboard as a whole will be required to declare and register any gifts and/or hospitality which will be maintained by the Council.

5. Decision Making

4.1. The Council's Principles of Decision Making will apply to the Superboard, as laid out in article 13 of the Council's Constitution. 'elected member' is taken to refer to Superboard member:

13.02 Principles:

- Proportionality (i.e. the action taken is proportionate to the desired outcome);
- Decisions are taken on the basis of due consultation and professional advice from officers (Decisions taken by elected members will be based on information provided in a written report prepared by the responsible officer/s);
- Respect for human rights and giving due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty;
- A presumption in favour of openness (Reports will only be considered in private where they contain exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)(see Part 4 Access to Information Rules – Rule 10);
- Clarity of aims and desired outcomes (The written reports submitted to elected members will contain a clear recommendation of the professional officer for every decision they are asked to take)

4.2 Quorum – the Superboard will be considered quorate with one quarter of voting members present.

4.3 Voting – any matter will be decided upon by a simple majority of those members present in the room and eligible to vote.

4.4 Confirmation of minutes - The Chair presiding shall put the question that the minutes submitted to the meeting be approved as a correct record.

4.6 Declarations of Interest



4.6.1 Members shall be required to declare interests in accordance with any relevant statutory provisions and the Members' Code of Conduct as set out in Part 5 of the Constitution.

4.6.2 Where a Superboard member has a disclosable pecuniary interest or pecuniary interest in the business of the authority he/she must withdraw from the room or chamber where the meeting considering the business is being held unless the member has obtained a dispensation from the Council's Monitoring Officer.

6. Scrutiny

Scrutiny of Sandwell's Towns Fund Proposals will be provided by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Arrangements.

7. Transparency and Accountability

7.1 Superboard Agendas and Minutes

7.1.1 The Council will publish Superboard meeting agendas on CMIS 5 clear days before the meeting.

7.1.2 Draft minutes of the Superboard will be published within 10 clear working days; and

7.1.3 Approved minutes of the Superboard will be published within 10 clear working days

7.2 Member profiles

7.2.1 Profiles of Superboard Members will be published on CMIS.

7.3 Conflicts of Interest

7.3.1 Members of the Superboard will be required to declare any conflicts of interest (commercial, actual and potential). This will be maintained by the council in a declaration of interest register which will be managed by Sandwell Council.

7.3.2 Members should take personal responsibility for declaring their interests before any decision is considered by the Superboard. These will be formally noted within the published minutes of meetings of the Superboard including action taken in response to any declared interest.



8. Membership

8.1 Towns Fund Superboard

| Representative | Organisation | Individual |
|---|--|---------------------|
| Chair | Jude Thompson - President of the Black Country Chamber of Commerce | |
| Board Members | Federation of Small Businesses (FSP) | Karen Woolley |
| | Homes England Rep | Philip Farrell |
| | LEP/ Local Business Leader | Ninder Johal |
| | Liberty Group – CEO Jahama Group | Dilip Awtani |
| | Local Board Chair – West Bromwich | Chris Hinson |
| | Local Board Chair – Smethwick | Alan Taylor |
| | Local Board Chair – Rowley Regis | Adrian Eggington |
| | MP (Halesowen and Rowley Regis) | James Morris |
| | MP (Warley) | John Spellar |
| | MP (West Bromwich East) | Nicola Richards |
| | MP (West Bromwich West) | Shaun Bailey |
| | Sandwell College CEO | Graham Pennington |
| | SCVO CEO | Mark Davis |
| | SVCO Board Member | Geoff Foster |
| | SMBC Leader | Cllr Maria Crompton |
| | SMBC Cabinet Member for Inclusive Economic Growth | Cllr Danny Millard |
| | Transport for West Midlands | Sandeep Shingadia |
| | WMCA | Gareth Bradford |
| | Sandwell Youth Parliament | Josh Jordan |
| | Police Representative | Keeley Bevington |
| SMBC Officers (attending in advisory capacity) | SMBC CEO | David Stevens |
| | SMBC Executive Director, Children Services | Lesley Hagger |
| | SMBC Executive Director, Neighbourhoods | Alison Knight |
| | SMBC Interim Director - Regeneration and Growth | Tammy Stokes |

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|
| | SMBC Monitoring Officer | Surjit Tour |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|

8.2 Town Deal Local Boards

| West Bromwich | | |
|--|---|--|
| Representative | Organisation | Individuals |
| Chair | Chris Hinson (SIPS) – Business Ambassador | |
| Core Representatives | Local Cabinet Members | Cllr Taylor Cllr Hadley Cllr Underhill |
| | Town Lead Member | Steve Melia |
| | WMCA Officer Level | Officer Level TBC |
| | West Bromwich BID | Lisa Hill |
| | West Midlands Police | Sgt Michael Bradley Sgt Steve Horton |
| | Sandwell & West Birmingham CCG | Andrew Lawley |
| Local Community Representatives | Albion Foundation | Rob Lake |
| | Kaleidoscope | Monica Shafaq (CEO) |
| Cultural Representative | Multistory | Emma Chetcuti (Manager) |
| Town Specific | YMCA | Steve Clay (CEO) |
| | Sandwell College | Simon Griffiths |
| BME and/or Faith Representative | West Bromwich African Caribbean Centre | Mr Shane Ward |
| Voluntary Sector Representative | Greets Green Community Enterprise | CEO Wendy Brookfield |
| | The Gap Centre | Andrew Bent |
| | SCVO | Leona Bird |
| Young People's Representative | Representative tbc | |
| SMBC Officers attending in an advisory capacity | SMBC Director Town Lead | Stuart Lackenby |
| | SMBC Employment and Skills | Kelly Thomas |
| | SMBC Service Manager for Culture | Jane Lillystone |
| | SMBC Interim Director – Regeneration and Growth | Tammy Stokes |
| | SMBC Service Manager – Assets | David Harris |

| Rowley Regis | | |
|--|--|--|
| Representative | Organisation | Individuals |
| Chair | Adrian Eggington – Black Country Housing Group (BCHG) | |
| Core Representatives | Local Cabinet Members Town Lead Member WMCA Officer level Business Rep and Local Resident West Midlands Police Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG | Cllr Crompton Cllr Millard Lorraine Ashman Officer level TBC Wayne Edwards Sgt Nicola Rock Andrew Lawley |
| Local Community Representatives | Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local Agewell Murray Hall Community Trust | Helen Trueman Deborah Harrold Manjula Patel |
| Cultural Representative | Black Country Touring | Matt Andrews |
| Town Specific | Sandwell College | Ann Sheridan |
| BME and/or Faith Representative | Central Methodist Church Cradley Heath Central Mosque | Mrs C Chambers Mohammed Asif |
| Voluntary Sector Representative | Cradley Heath Community Link SVCO | Alecia Baker Leona Bird |
| Young People's Representative | Representative tbc | |
| SMBC Officers attending in an advisory capacity | SMBC Employment and Skills SMBC Service Manager for Culture SMBC Interim Director – Regeneration & Growth SMBC Service Manager – Assets | Kelly Thomas Jane Lillystone Tammy Stokes David Harris |



| Smethwick | | |
|--|---|--|
| Representative | Organisation | Individuals |
| Chair | Alan Taylor (MI Glass) – Business Ambassador | |
| Core Representatives | Local Cabinet Members Town Lead Member WMCA Officer level Business Rep and Local Resident West Midlands Police Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG | CLlr Ali CLlr Shaeen Zahoor Ahmed Officer level TBC Omar Rashid Sgt Joanne Parke Andrew Lawley |
| Local Community Representatives | Brasshouse Community Centre Smethwick CAN | Jennifer Harrison Gareth Brown |
| Cultural Representative | Brushstrokes | David Newall |
| Town Specific | Sandwell College Action for Children Liberty Engineering Albion Foundation | David Holden Kerry Hall John Wood Rob Lake |
| BME and/or Faith Representative | Guru Nanak Gurdwara | Jatinder Singh |
| Voluntary Sector Representative | St Albans Dorothy Parkes SCVO | Tonia Flannagan Robert Bruce Leona Bird |
| Young People's Representative | Representative tbc | |
| SMBC Officers attending in an advisory capacity | SMBC Director Town Lead SMBC Employment and Skills SMBC Service Manager for Culture SMBC Interim Director – Regeneration & Growth SMBC Service Manager – Assets | Lesley Hagger Kelly Thomas Jane Lillystone Tammy Stokes David Harris |



SANDWELL TOWNS FUND

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY

Consultation and Engagement Statement

The following statement was agreed by the Towns Fund Superboard:

This stakeholder engagement plan will clearly outline an inclusive stakeholder list and communication strategy as to ensure a transformational, locally driven and community owned submission to the Town Fund for Sandwell's three towns.

Purpose of Consultation and Engagement Strategy

The purpose of the Consultation and Engagement Strategy is to consider how stakeholders will be involved in the development of the Sandwell Town Funds Programme. The stakeholders will be involved in the design and development of a sustainable future for the towns of Rowley Regis, West Bromwich and Smethwick.

Stakeholders are being engaged to seek their involvement and views to shape and deliver the best solutions to meet the needs of local communities.

The Consultation and Engagement Strategy is aimed at a wide range of businesses and stakeholders; the engagement and consultation techniques used will vary depending on which method would be the most effective for each group involved in the process and the stage of the programme.

Town Funds Background

As Sandwell Council embarks on an exciting period of transformation, inward investment and expansion. A significant opportunity has arisen to secure funding from Towns Fund in three of the six towns in Sandwell.

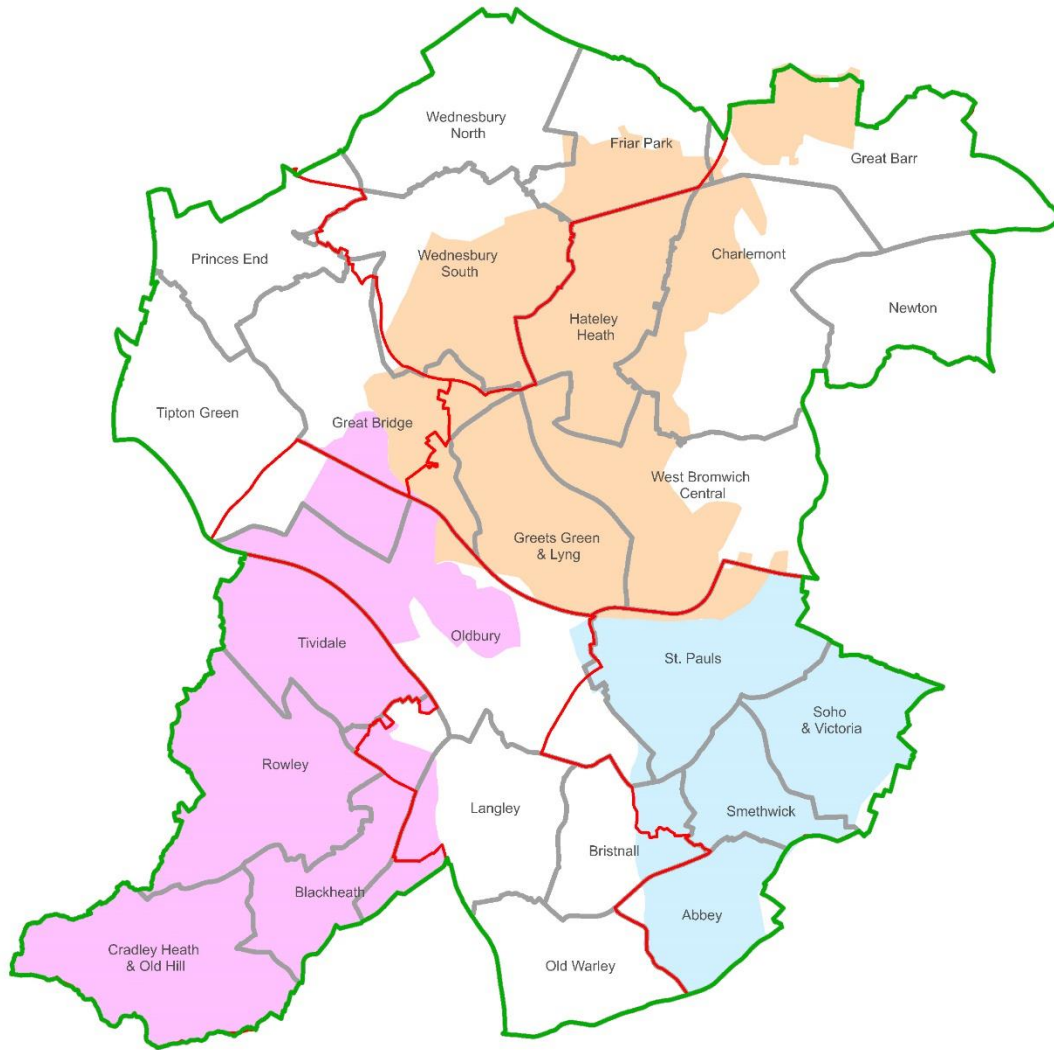
The Government has announced that West Bromwich, Smethwick and Rowley Regis can bid for up to £25m each of funding to deliver interventions in planning and regeneration, skills and enterprise infrastructure, and connectivity (transport and digital).

The benefits of gaining funding from the Programme will contribute to the Sandwell 2030 Vision and economic growth in the towns through linking to existing integrated regeneration strategies. There are also wider benefits to be realised by the towns achieving stronger heritage, a sense of place and by cultural and civic assets benefiting. Leading to increasing tourism and making places more attractive to live, work, visit and invest in.



Sandwell Towns Fund Boundaries – West Bromwich, Smethwick and Rowley Regis

Sandwell Towns - West Bromwich, Smethwick and Rowley Regis



Key

— Borough Boundary

— Ward Boundaries

— Six Towns Boundaries

Towns Fund Boundaries

West Bromwich

Smethwick

Rowley Regis



NORTH

June 2020

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STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INVOLVEMENT PRINCIPLES

Co-deliver

- We will work together to deliver services and make the decisions together.

Co-design

- We will work together to define issues and design the best responses.

Engagement Structures

- We will work together through effective and meaningful structures.

Consultation

- We will consult by completing informal and formal consultations to influence decisions.

Information

- We will engage by sharing information and utilising social media.

Compliance

- We will engage in relation to statutory or regulatory requirements

Social distancing

- All consultations and engagements will be completed within government guidance and guidelines.

TOWN FUND PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Towns Fund is focused around 3 themes:

- **Urban Regeneration, Planning and Land use:** ensuring towns are thriving places for people to live and work, by: increasing density in town centres; strengthening local economic and cultural assets; site acquisition, remediation, preparation, regeneration and use of planning tools to bring strategic direction and change.
- **Skills and Enterprise Infrastructure:** driving private sector investment and ensuring towns have the space to support skills and small business development.
- **Connectivity:** local transport schemes complementing regional and national networks, improved digital connectivity (5G and Fibre).



STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The programme will follow the Government's Towns Fund Guidance and ensure that planned interventions are consulted with local people and where possible communities are part of producing originating ideas, setting objectives and the longer-term vision.

One of the key elements of the town funds guidance are that there should be ongoing engagement and genuine partnership arrangements. The town boards (Superboard and Local Boards) have a cross-section of people that reflect a broad range of groups and communities across Sandwell.

Evidence from previous Neighbourhood and Regeneration Programmes in Sandwell has demonstrated that consulting with local communities from the outset is likely to lead to a sense of pride and connectivity to projects following their completion. This then positively impacts upon local communities benefiting more widely from the overall outcomes of the programme.

The stakeholder engagement strategy plan has been revised in light of Covid-19 to reflect that there will be a much greater emphasis on completion of engagement through virtual methods and via social media, but where possible we will try to facilitate face to face engagement.

As there has been increased levels of community action and volunteering since the start of the pandemic across Sandwell, it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to reflect new and emerging priorities in local Neighbourhoods and in the final Town Investment plans. We will ensure that the community consultation and engagement is completed sensitively and appropriately to facilitate physical and social connectivity and diversity across the three towns.

A stakeholder mapping exercise has been completed to identify stakeholders and select appropriate methods for engagement and consultation.

Key major stakeholders are brought together within the programme governance as participants of the Towns Fund Superboard, or three Local Boards all of which will be chaired by people independent of the Council.

The first phase of the Towns Fund Programme runs from March 2020 – October 2020. This Phase will lead to the creation of a Town Investment Plan (one for each Town). This Phase of the programme is split into two key stages.

Stage 1

Ideas Generation (Evidence base compiled, local priorities for Towns Fund identified and Ideas generated for interventions)

Stage 2

Investment Development (Development of outline business case for Interventions and compilation of Town Investment Plan (TIP))



The nature of consultation and engagement will differ during each of these stages.

Stage 1

During Stage 1, the project team will undertake a broad ranging stakeholder consultation in each of the 3 towns with key identified stakeholders and will listen to local residents and community groups by gaining their views on local priorities and ideas for improvements.

The project team will draw heavily on existing data and consultation (e.g. gathered through Vision 2030 consultation, through the formation of the Inclusive Economy Deal and regular survey work such as the SHAPE survey for young people).

The Government's MyTown website was established at the start of the Towns Fund Programme and many local residents have already engaged with this forum to offer ideas. We will continue to review content on the MyTown website.

Stage 2

During Stage 2, proposed projects will start to become more defined and explored for feasibility and viability. At this stage engagement and consultation will be used in a more targeted way to shape the interventions and test their feasibility and acceptability.

Young People's Engagement

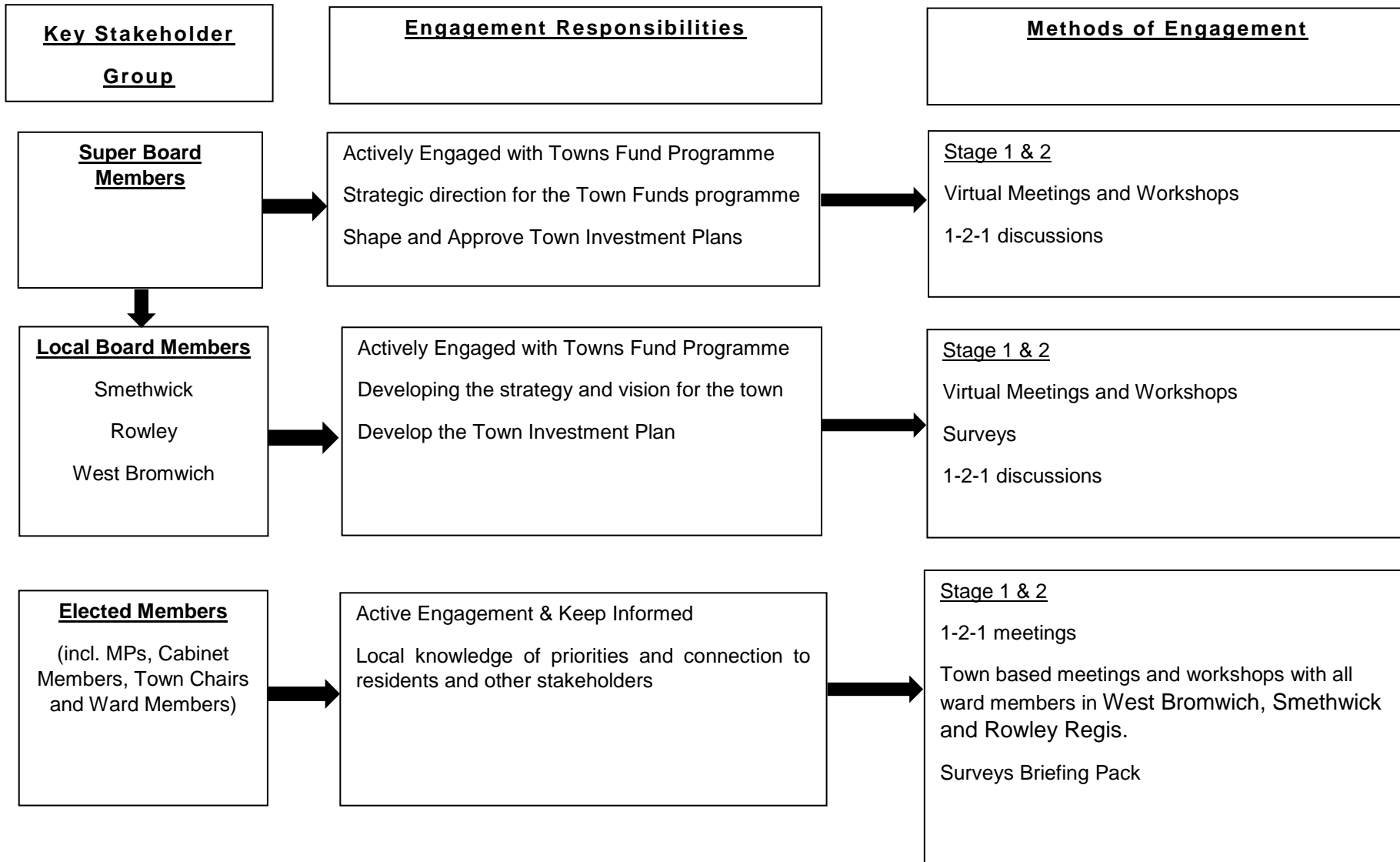
Young people have an important contribution to make in decisions that impact their lives, and their communities. Young People's views will form an integral part of the plans across the three towns. A young people's virtual reference group will be established to conduct engagement with young people and to support the Superboard and Local Boards. In addition, a young person's representative will be supported to participate in the Superboard and Local Board meetings.

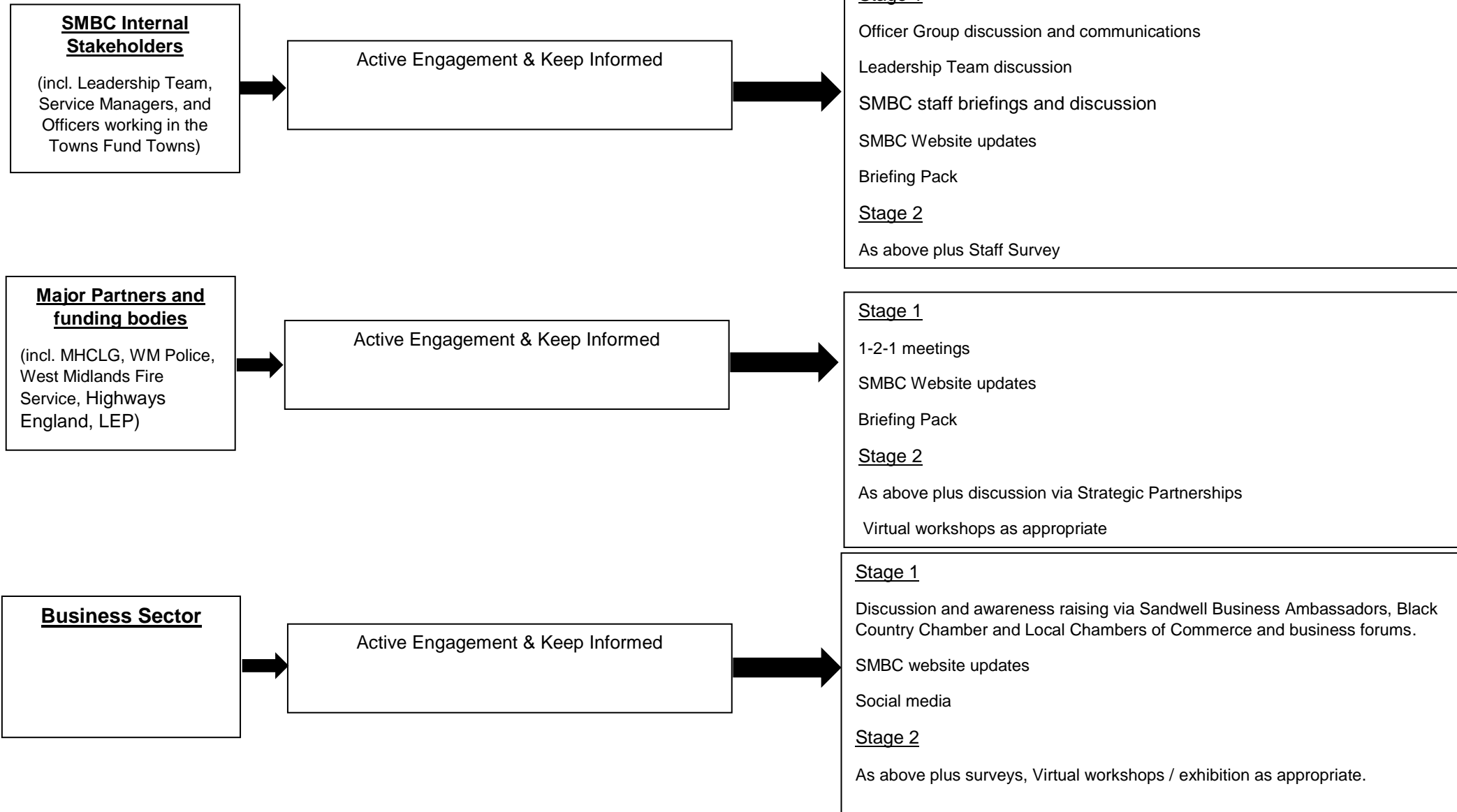
Staff briefings

Virtual staff consultation focus group meetings are to be held in August via Microsoft teams. There will be an opportunity for us to promote the survey at these meetings to engage with SMBC staff around the local priorities that they can identify with through work or by living in West Bromwich, Smethwick and Rowley Regis. This will build upon feedback gained through the 2030 Vision previously and current work on the Council's Big Plans for a Great Place work stream.



Engagement Plan





Community & Voluntary Sector Groups
(incl. local community groups, SCVO, Sandwell Consortium, Libraries, Religious and Faith Groups) A detailed stakeholder identification exercise has taken place for this group

Active Engagement & Keep Informed

Stage 1
SMBC website and survey questions
My Towns Website & #MyTowns
Press Releases
Social Media
Briefing Pack
Stage 2
As above plus surveys via key contacts eg SCVO and SCIPs. Virtual workshops as appropriate.

Local Residents

Active Engagement & Keep Informed

Stage 1
Publicity Campaign to raise awareness of Towns Fund incl. press release and social media (July)
Consultation survey on priorities (August)
My Towns Website & #MyTowns (ongoing)
SMBC website (ongoing)
Information within Towns & signposting to website (JCDecaux)
Young People's Reference Group engagement
Stage 2
Further publicity campaign
Surveys
Young People's Reference Group engagement



Engagement Timeline

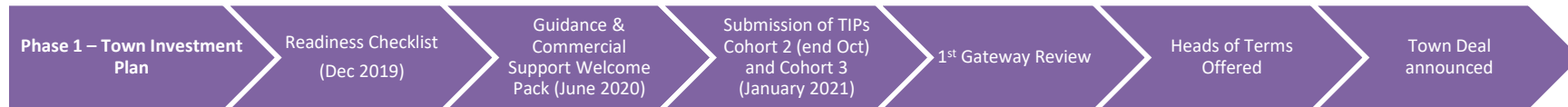
| | March - June | July | August | September | October | Nov/ Dec |
|--|---|------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Superboard and Local Boards Engagement | Ongoing (incl. 1:1s, board meetings and briefings) | | | | | |
| Major Partners Engagement | Ongoing (incl. 1:1s, briefings and workshops) | | | | | |
| Business Sector | | Awareness raising via social media | Stage 1 survey dissemination via Business Ambassadors, Chamber and Business Forums | Stage 2 survey dissemination via Business Ambassadors, Chamber and Business Forums | | Announce Town Deal |
| Ward Member Briefings | | Initial Briefing | Discussion around Town vision, priorities and long list of interventions | Discussion around short list of interventions | | Announce Town Deal |
| Community and Voluntary Sector | | 1:1s | Stage 1 survey dissemination via SCVO and SCIPS 1:1s | Stage 2 survey dissemination via SCVO and SCIPS | | Announce Town Deal |
| Young People | | | Reference Group Established and consider priorities and ideas put forwards | Reference Group input into short listed projects | Input views on Draft TIP | Announce Town Deal |
| Press Release & Social Media | | Towns Fund Awareness Raising | Announce launch of stage 1 survey | Announce launch of stage 2 survey | Announce TIP approval at Superboard | Announce Town Deal |



| | March - June | July | August | September | October | Nov/ Dec |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------|---|
| Website | | Launch initial website content | Update with survey information and background pack for each Town | Update with proposed interventions and stage 2 survey | Update with TIP summary | Announce Town Deal and process for Phase 2 |
| Survey | | | Stage 1 Survey Launched (test priorities and gather ideas) | Stage 2 Survey (input into interventions) | | |
| Presence in Towns | | | JCDecaux | | Sandwell Herald Feature | |



Towns Fund Programme Timeline



TIP Timeline

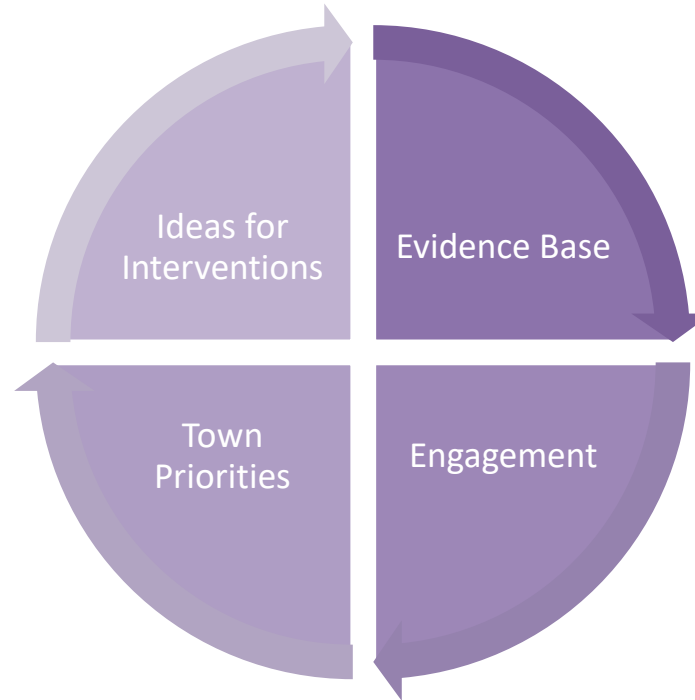
Two key stages for each Town leading to the Town Investment Plans (TIP)

Stage 1 – Ideas Generation

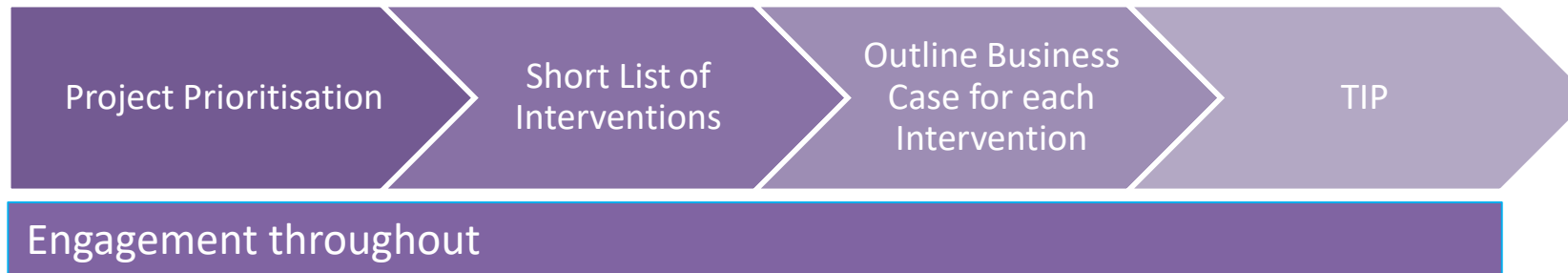
Stage 2 – Intervention Development



Stage 1 – Ideas Generation

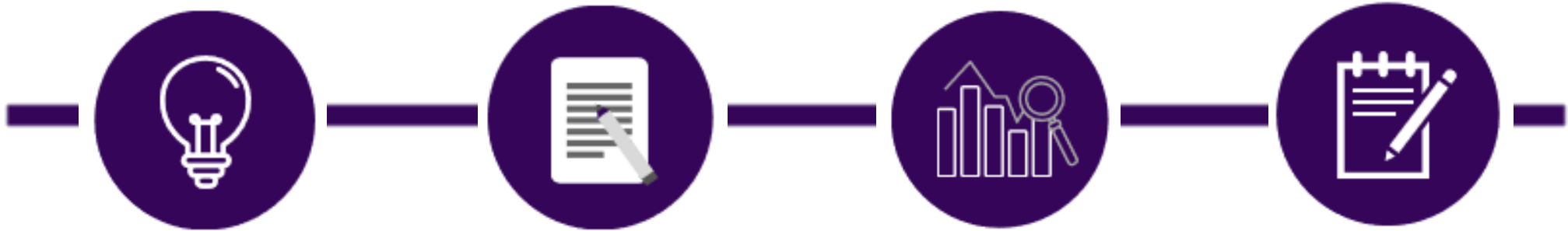


Stage 2 – Intervention Development



Project Prioritisation





**1
Sift Ideas Generated**

Sift ideas to ensure that the project is broadly compatible with the criteria outlined in Towns Fund guidance and with Sandwell Council’s aspirations as set out in the Vision 2030. This will lead to a long list of projects

**2
Complete a Project Proforma**

Complete a project proforma for each project on the long list

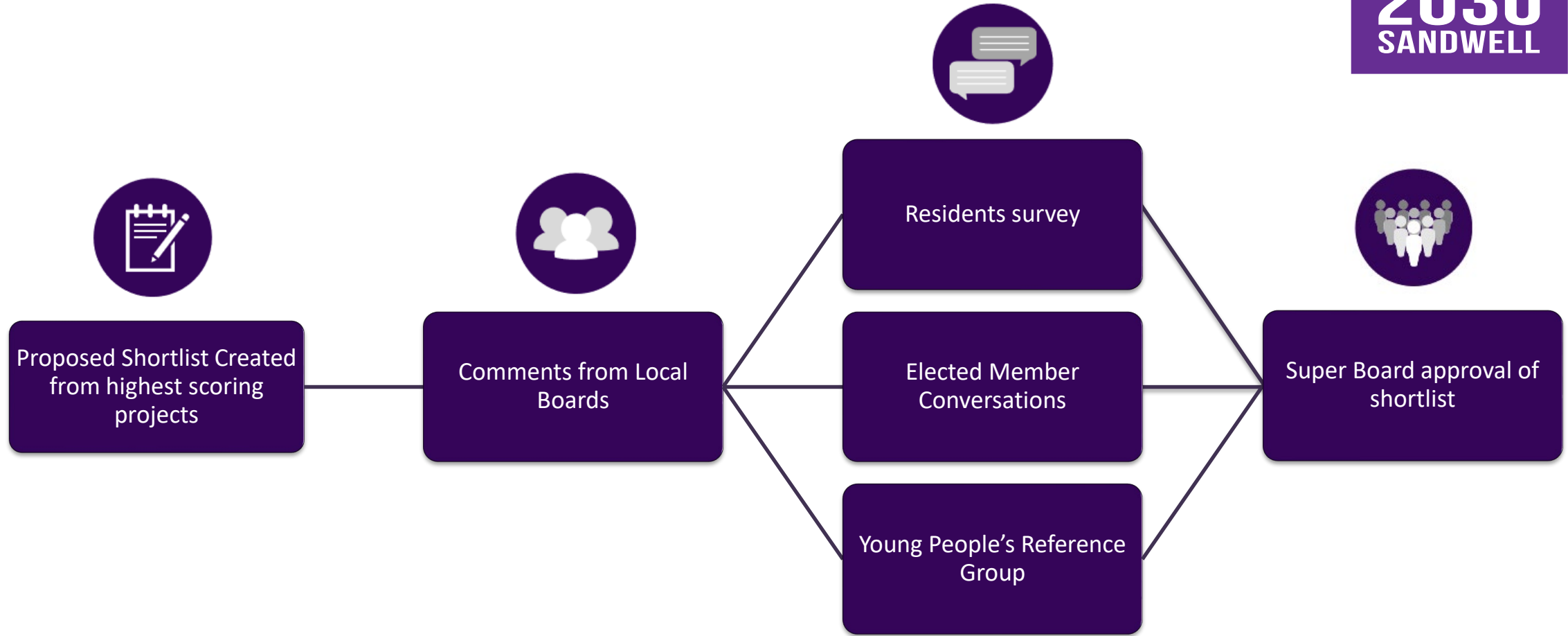
**3
Score the long list of projects**

Score the long list of projects against success criteria

**4
Short list the projects**

Short list the projects based on the scoring to determine which projects will be included within the TIP for investment from Towns Fund.





Report to Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard

2 October 2020

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Subject: | Update on Engagement Activities |
| Presenter: | Interim Director – Regeneration and Growth Tammy Stokes |
| Contact: | Rebecca Jenkins, Towns Fund Programme Manager rebecca_jenkins@sandwell.gov.uk Santokh Singh – Neighbourhood Engagement Manager Santokh_singh@sandwell.gov.uk Tariq Karim – Area Manager, Young People’s Service tariq_karim@sandwell.gov.uk |

1 Recommendations

That the Superboard receive an update on the Engagement activities undertaken during Phase 1 of the Towns Fund Programme.

2 Purpose of the report

- 2.1 To provide an update on engagement activities undertaken during Phase 1 of the Towns Fund Programme and to identify key findings.

3 Current position/Background Details

- 3.1 At its meeting on 5 August 2020, the Superboard considered and approved an engagement strategy for Phase 1 of the Towns Fund Programme. The strategy identified two stages for engagement and consultation prior to the TIP submission. The first stage focuses on

ideas generation, and the second focuses on the development of our interventions.

- 3.2 Key stakeholders have been identified and invited to participate in the governance structure of the Towns Fund through membership of the Superboard and Local Boards.
- 3.3 There was a gap identified in young people's participation within the Towns Fund Programme. Young people have an important contribution to make in decisions that impact their lives, and their communities. A young people's virtual reference group has been established to conduct engagement with young people and to support the work of the Superboard and Local Boards. In addition, a young person's representative has been invited to participate in the Superboard meetings.

Summary of Engagement Activity – Stage 1 Ideas Generation

- 3.4 Stage 1 engagement activities focused on gathering views around the Towns Fund priorities for each Town and inviting ideas for improvements that could be taken forward as Towns Fund Projects. The engagement findings led to a set of priorities for each Town and a long list of projects.
- 3.5. A range of engagement and consultation methods were used as follows:
- **Use of data from previous engagement and consultation** (e.g. gathered through Vision 2030 consultation, through the formation of the Inclusive Economy Deal, SHAPE youth survey and play sufficiency assessment)
 - **#MyTown responses:** a website and # for anyone to submit comments on the Towns Fund Programme
 - **Social Media:** press releases, facebook, twitter and linked in inviting comments and signposting to residents survey
 - **One to One interviews:** conducted with stakeholders and partners in each Town
 - **Local Board and Superboard discussions**
 - **Youth engagement:** Face to face and virtual engagement via youth service, Discussions amongst SHAPE youth forum, and specific survey for Sandwell College students focusing on West Bromwich opportunities
 - **Consultation with elected Members**
 - **Phase 1 Residents Survey:** Informing residents about the emerging Towns Fund priorities for each Town and inviting comments and asking residents to identify what improvements they would like to see in their Towns

Summary of Stage 1 Findings

3.6 Rowley Regis

3.6.1 The residents survey invited views on the Towns Fund priorities identified by the Local Board. There were 142 responses with 92% of the survey respondents agreeing with the suggested priorities for Rowley Regis. Respondees identified additional priorities they would like to see addressed such as digital inclusion for older people or refurbishment of shop fronts.

3.6.2 **Young People:** Young people on the whole were supportive of the priorities identified by the Rowley Regis Local Board. The key issues and feedback from young people were around the need for better youth, recreational and leisure facilities, improvements to parks and open spaces, concerns around the perception of crime and safety and improved and safer transport options. Young people agreed with the priority around better access to more post 16 education opportunities in Rowley but asked that this be matched with better job prospects. Younger children felt constrained by their ability to play freely, referencing gangs, kidnapping and drug crime as concerns.

3.6.3 The findings from the Stage One engagement have supported the priorities for Rowley Regis Towns Fund as:

- Connectivity within and between the communities
- Making town centres more inclusive
- Raising education and skill aspirations
- Improving asset base
- Stalled sites

3.6.4 General findings from all the engagement activities in Rowley Regis included that people wanted to see more “brown land” to be used for re development instead of green spaces, existing green spaces to be improved, improved cycling routes, more education and skills development to developing young people and more affordable housing.

3.6.5 The engagement findings have contributed to project identification for the long list including the education facility for Rowley Regis, improvements to green spaces (through the accelerated funding proposals, and Britannia Park proposal), improvements to cycling routes through the

travel scheme, exploration of stalled sites, addressing safety concerns through the designs of Blackheath Town Centre improvements, and walking and cycling routes.

3.7 Smethwick

3.7.1 The residents survey invited views on the Towns Fund priorities identified by the Local Board. There were 208 responses with 90% of the survey respondees agreeing with the suggested priorities for Smethwick. Respondees identified additional priorities they would like to see addressed such as regeneration of old and historical buildings and investment in the high street.

3.7.2 **Young People:** The feedback from young people in Smethwick endorsed the local town board priorities. The key asks from young people were for better and improved youth facilities, improvements in green spaces to existing Multi Use Games Areas, skate parks, lighting and gym equipment. They also re-enforced the need for improved cycling lanes and better connectivity around the town. They saw the need for new and better education facilities in Smethwick but emphasised for this to be matched with better employment and career opportunities, ensuring that young people and talent was retained in the town. Younger children enjoyed playing out in the community with 92% saying they felt safe whilst playing out and identified major roads as the only constraining factor.

3.7.3 The findings from the Stage One engagement have supported the priorities for Smethwick Towns Fund as:

- Maximise local impact of major investments in hospital and Aquatics Centre
- Deliver more housing
- Regenerate and upgrade local assets
- Support good quality jobs

3.7.4 General findings from all the engagement activities included that people wanted to see education facilities/ training to support local people, improved/ safer connections to the whole of the town (roads, walking and cycling), improvements to public services, improved security provisions (Crime, ASB & fly tipping), environmental considerations (including development of green spaces), creation of more opportunities

for local people and businesses, housing improvements (including new low cost homes) and improved parking facilities.

3.7.5 The engagement findings have contributed to project identification for the long list including the Health and Education Centre proposal, improvements to cycling and walking provision, improvements to heritage assets, regeneration for housing, and green space improvements.

3.8 West Bromwich

3.8.1 The residents survey invited views on the Towns Fund priorities identified by the Local Board. There were 177 responses with 90% of the survey respondents agreeing with the suggested priorities for West Bromwich. Respondees identified additional priorities they would like to see addressed such as free parking, climate change and more places for social activities in West Bromwich.

3.8.2 **Sandwell College survey:** 632 students from Sandwell college responded to an online survey which asked them 10 questions relating to their experiences in West Bromwich, what improvements they wanted to see and what challenges they faced. Key findings included a cleaner high street, an arcade or gaming centre, a new drinks and food hall and more green space. Additionally, 25% asked for full fibre internet access and new live entertainment venues.

3.8.3 **Young People:** The wider consultation with young people endorsed the local board priorities. Some of the key issues and improvements resonated with those of students from the College, especially around youth, leisure and recreational facilities, including a games centre, youth lounges and social spaces for eating and drinking in the town centre. Crime and safety remain high on young people's agenda especially during the evenings. The young people felt that whilst they welcomed raising aspirations through education and improving provision this needed to be coupled with better job and career opportunities. Younger children want to see improvements in outdoor spaces where they can play freely and especially in more built up areas.

3.8.4 The findings from the Stage One engagement have supported the priorities for West Bromwich Towns Fund as:

- Reinvigorate the town centre
- Unlock land to aid regeneration
- Support good quality jobs
- Stimulate COVID Recovery

3.8.5 General findings from all the engagement activities included that people wanted to see opportunities created for all of the community (Age, Race, Religion), improvements to the retail offering, improved security provisions, improved connections to the whole of the town (roads, walking and cycling) and improved housing.

3.8.6 The engagement findings have contributed to project identification for the long list including improvements to the Town Centre through outdoor market improvements (accelerated funding), green corridor and town centre retail development, facilities for young people through social space in the Town Centre and Town Hall proposals and improving access to job and career opportunities through strengthening the mechanical engineering training offer. Concerns around safety in the town centre will be considered throughout the full business case development phase of all the Towns Fund proposals.

Summary of Engagement Activity underway – Stage 2 Intervention Development

3.9 During Stage 2, engagement and consultation is being used in a more targeted way to shape the proposed interventions and test their feasibility and acceptability. The findings from the stage 2 engagement will shape the details of the Outline Business Cases for projects and inform the full business cases (which will be developed subject to a Town Deal being agreed).

3.10 The following methods are being used:

- Phase 2 Residents Survey: 21 September – 30 September
Informing local people about the proposed shortlisted projects in each of the towns, inviting their views on the project they feel will be most impactful and what they would like to see included in the shortlisted projects for their Towns. Promotion on social media, press release, discussions with local groups, board members,

stakeholders, businesses, elected members are some of ways we have been promoting the survey.

- Youth Engagement – reference group meetings, further consultation with Shape Youth Forum and wider engagement through detached youth work and social media is planned in each town week commencing 21st September. Feedback will be provided at each local board meeting and a summary at Super Board.
- #MyTown responses
- Social Media
- Local Board and Superboard discussions
- Project specific workshops
- Consultation with elected Members

3.10 The residents survey will close on 30 September. A high-level analysis will be shared with the Superboard during the meeting on 2 October as part of the discussion around the proposed shortlist for each Town. The detailed analysis will be available for the Superboard meeting on 20 October and included in the Town Investment Plans.

3.11 A summary of the discussions with the Young People's Reference Group will be provided during the meeting on 2 October.

4. Source Documents

Engagement Strategy approved by Superboard 5 August 2020
Youth Engagement Proposal

Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard Shortlisted Projects

2 October 2020

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Subject: | Shortlisted Projects |
| Presenter: | Alan Taylor – Chair Smethwick Local Board Chris Hinson – Chair West Bromwich Local Board Tammy Stokes (on behalf of Adrian Eggington) – Chair Rowley Regis Local Board Rebecca Jenkins - Sandwell Towns Fund Programme Manager |
| Contact: | rebecca_jenkins@sandwell.gov.uk |

1 Recommendations

That the Superboard approves the Shortlisted Projects for inclusion in the Town Investment Plans for Rowley Regis, Smethwick and West Bromwich.

2 Purpose of the report

- 2.1 To outline the progress of the Towns Fund programme and to present the proposed shortlisted projects to Superboard for approval

3. Background and Main Considerations

- 3.1 On 6th September 2019 it was announced that 101 Towns had been identified by Government to benefit from the Towns Fund. In Sandwell, West Bromwich, Smethwick, and Rowley Regis were identified. On 1st November 2019, the Government released the Towns Fund prospectus, providing some additional information about the purpose and scope of the funding as well as setting out key timescales for progressing the Town Fund.
- 3.2 Detailed guidance on the Towns Fund was published in June 2020.

- 3.3 The objective of the fund is to drive the economic regeneration in Towns to deliver long term economic and productive growth through;
- 3.3.1 **Urban regeneration, planning and land use;** ensuring towns are thriving places for people to live and work, including by; increasing density in town centre, strengthening local economic assets including local cultural assets; site acquisition, remediation, preparation, regeneration; and making the full use of planning tools to bring strategic direction and change.
 - 3.3.2 **Skills and enterprise infrastructure:** driving private sector investment and ensuring towns have the space to support skills and small business development.
 - 3.3.3 **Connectivity:** developing local transport schemes that complement regional and national networks, as well as supporting the delivery of improved digital connectivity.
- 3.4 The Town Fund comprises £3.6b of funding across 101 towns. Investment of up to £25m in each Town is available. The amount of funding allocated to each Town will be based on the Town Deal agreed with Government. The Government will consider proposals for more than £25m in exceptional circumstances and this will be subject to additional scrutiny and process. Guidance has been given that Towns applying for more than £25m should have a strongly evidenced case for the regional / national significance of their project proposals.
- 3.5 In addition to the main fund, an accelerated funding announcement was made on 30 June 2020 for up to £750,000 for each Town for projects to be delivered in this financial year. Superboard approved the projects to be submitted for the accelerated funding on 5 August 2020.
- 3.6 The Superboard and three Local Boards have been established to oversee and shape the Sandwell Towns Fund Programme.
- 3.7 The first phase of the Towns Fund Programme is to submit a Town Investment Plan (TIP). Sandwell's 3 TIPs are due to be submitted on 30 October 2020 as part of Cohort 2.
- 3.8 A key part of the TIP is to identify a set of projects to be put forward for funding driven by a Vision for the Town and a set of Priorities. Details of the Visions and Priorities for each Town were shared with Superboard on 5 August and are included in Appendix A.

3.9 Project Prioritisation Process and Criteria

3.10 At its meeting on 5 August 2020, the Superboard approved a project prioritisation process and criteria to prioritise the project ideas generated into a set of projects within the TIP that represent the best chance to transform the Town's economic prospects and be successful against the Towns Fund criteria

3.11 A 4-staged process was approved as follows:

- Stage 1 – Sift the ideas generated to ensure that the project is broadly compatible with the criteria outlined in Towns Fund guidance and with Sandwell Council's aspirations as set out in the Vision 2030. This will lead to a long list of projects
- Stage 2 – Complete a project proforma for each project on the long list
- Stage 3 – Score the long list projects
- Stage 4 – Short list the projects based on the scoring to determine which projects will be included within the TIP for investment from Towns Fund.

3.12 Superboard approved that the following criteria be used to conduct the stage 1 sift:

- Vision 2030
- Economic Growth
- The Town's Towns Fund Priorities (as determined by the evidence base)
- Towns Fund objectives as stipulated within the MHCLG guidance
- Clean Growth
- Inclusive Economy Deal and Community Wealth Building Principles
- Potential for Match Funding

3.13 Superboard approved that the following criteria be used to score the long list projects (with those marked in bold carrying a heavier weighting)

- **Local Need** (*Strategic, evidence based, place focused rationale for the intervention*)
- **Local Support** (*Does the project have clear and evident stakeholder support?*)
- **Deliverability** (*Can the project be delivered within 5 years?*)
- **Longevity** (*What are the long term financial benefits? Are they sustainable?*)
- **Value for Money** (*Are the costs proportional and represent Value for Money*)
- Clean Growth (*Contribution to clean growth & environmental sustainability*)
- Inclusive Economy and Community Wealth Building Principles (*Is the project consistent with Inclusive Economy requirements?*)
- Match Funding (*Is there potential for match funding*)

3.14 The process and criteria have been applied and feedback sought on the proposed shortlisted projects from the Local Boards ahead of the launch of the resident’s survey and youth engagement.

3.15 Projects that were identified through the Towns Fund process but are not proposed to be included in the shortlist are proposed for inclusion in a pipeline of interventions for each Town for future investment.

West Bromwich

3.16 Nine projects, totalling £36m, were put forward for the long list. These were considered in the prioritisation process.

3.17 Scores for the projects ranged from 64 to 111. The highest scoring projects within the £25m funding window have been put forward in the proposed shortlist.

3.18 The proposed shortlisted projects for West Bromwich are as follows: -

| Project Name | Description | Provisional TIP Ask | Match Funding identified to date |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------------|---|
| West Bromwich Digital Den | Establishing a digital hub that enables digitally excluded residents to gain access to online training resources. This includes access for children to educational resources and helping the unemployed with career support. | £42,600 | |
| West Bromwich Green Corridor | Creating new urban green spaces across West Bromwich, beginning with a central linear park, building a route through the town up to Dartmouth Park, alongside a revamped outdoor Town Centre market offer. | £2.2m | Arts Council amount tbc |
| West Bromwich Town Hall Quarter | Relocation of public services into the Town hall and Central library on West Bromwich High Street by extending the existing building and opening up space for community organisations and business. | £8.1m | £100,000 – Council disability access budget £250,000 from partner tbc |
| West Bromwich Travel Scheme | Improved cycling and walking routes linking Sandwell Valley, Dartmouth Park, The Town Centre and throughout West Bromwich. | £3.2m | |

| Project Name | Description | Provisional TIP Ask | Match Funding identified to date |
|---|--|----------------------------|---|
| Securing Sandwell's Engineering: The Sandwell Civil and Mechanical Engineering Centre | The project will regenerate Sandwell' College's 'Engineering Centre', based in Phoenix Street in West Bromwich. The Project will deliver new opportunities in construction and engineering for local adults and young people. | £2.2m - £3.7m | c.£330,000 – Sandwell College |
| West Bromwich Town Centre development | A comprehensive regeneration and transformation of the West Bromwich retail market through major site development work, unlocking a host of transformational pipeline projects (including the Sandwell College Science centre) | £15m | |

3.19 The West Bromwich projects that are proposed to fall within a pipeline for future investment are as follows: -

| Project Name | Description |
|----------------------------|--|
| KPG Community Hub | Community Hub for individuals and businesses to seek and provide information and training. |
| Laptop/ Tablet Loan Scheme | Council led scheme to provide loan of laptops/ tablets to support voluntary and community organisations to facilitate innovative digitally inclusive activities. |

3.20 A summary of the discussion and comments on the proposed shortlist raised by the West Bromwich Local Board are as follows: -

3.21 There was a consensus as a board to move forward with the six proposed shortlisted projects for development as part of the TIP.

3.22 In relation to specific projects, board members raised queries around:

- the design of the Town Hall Quarter to ensure it is complementary to the look of the Town Hall and Library,
- the retail diversification proposal and why site assembly is required,
- ensuring through the digital den project that technology remains up to date
- ensuring that urban greening proposals consider the potential for ASB and include detailed consideration of maintenance e.g. cleaning and CCTV

Rowley Regis

3.23 15 projects, totalling £28m, were put forward for the long list. These were considered in the prioritisation process.

3.24 Scores for the projects ranged from 112 to 65. The highest scoring projects within the £25m funding window have been put forward in the proposed shortlist.

3.25 The proposed shortlisted projects for Rowley Regis are as follows: -

| Project Name | Description: | Provisional TIP Ask | Match Funding identified to date |
|---|---|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Britannia Park Project | The construction of new changing room and centre facilities, general improvements to park entrances, walkways and cycle routes throughout the park, improved lighting and security to make it a more attractive venue | £1.5m | |
| Rowley Regis Education Facility | The construction of a satellite education facility located in Cradley Heath through a partnership between Sandwell College and SMBC. The project will provide options for three groups of learners: 16-18-year olds; 19-24-year-old NEET; 25+ (un)employed adults. | £11.2m | Amount TBC |
| Canal Network Improvement: Dudley No2 | Tow path improvements along Dudley No.2 Canal (between Windmill Edge Bridge and access to Old Hill Train Station) to improve walking and cycling along this route and access improvements to estate areas | £750,000 | |
| Canal Network Improvement: Old Mainline | Tow path improvements along Old Mainline and Gower Branch canal from Tividale Aqueduct (Netherton Tunnel) to High Bridge (Rounds Green Road) to improve walking and cycling along this route and access improvements to estate areas. This includes Rose Lane and John's Lane tunnels, and building connections to Rattlechain TIP development site | £1.4m | £120,000 Greener Cities Fund |
| Rowley Regis Travel Scheme | Improvement of walking and cycling routes within Blackheath, Cradley Heath and Oldbury improving pedestrian mobility via sustainable modes of transport | £1.3m | |

| Project Name | Description: | Provisional TIP Ask | Match Funding identified to date |
|---|--|----------------------------|---|
| Energy Efficiency Scheme | Installing air source heat pumps at Darley House, Addenbrooke Court, Wesley Court and nearby blocks, improving fuel efficiency, reducing fuel poverty and replacing outdated heating systems. Utilising this first of kind project in Sandwell to upskill young residents and those seeking new opportunities to train and learn new skills in a growing and sustainable industry. | £5m | TBC |
| Blackheath Bus Interchange and Social Space | Pedestrianisation of Blackheath Town Centre, creation of new bus interchange and social space for improved pedestrian mobility | £3.7m | |

3.26 The Rowley Regis projects that are proposed to fall within a pipeline for future investment are as follows:

| Project Name | Description |
|--|---|
| Multi-Use Games Area | To install a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) or similar play area at Massey's Bank, Tividale. |
| Digital Connectivity – Digital Inclusion Training Programme | Council led scheme to provide loan of laptops/ tablets to support voluntary and community organisations to facilitate innovative digitally inclusive activities. |
| Garratts Lane, Cradley Heath | Implementation of assisted technology into the Accord Housing Development in Garratts Lane. |
| Land off Temple Way (Rattlechain TIP), Oldbury | The reclamation of a former landfill site and development of a sustainable community comprising around 540 aspirational homes within Tividale. |
| Land off Lower City Road, Oldbury | To redevelop the land off Lower City Road and the adjacent tip site to use the land for a canal side housing development. |
| Trees for Cities: Schools Programme | To create edible playgrounds to transform areas in school grounds into vibrant outdoor classrooms that excite and teach children about growing and eating healthy food, working with Trees for Cities to inspire other schools in the area and share resources. |
| Improving fuel efficiency: St Giles, Moorlands Ct: Air source heat pumps | Replacing the aging domestic heating systems at the St Giles and Moorlands Court, with a centralised air sourced heat pump district heating system. |
| Holy Trinity Church, Oldhill | Development of Holy Trinity Church and Centre for the benefit of the wider community of Old Hill including for the churchyard to be a safe multi-use green space. |

3.27 A summary of the discussion and comments on the proposed shortlist raised by the Rowley Regis Local Board are as follows: -

3.28 There was a consensus as a board to move forward with the seven proposed shortlisted projects for development as part of the TIP.

3.29 In relation to specific projects, board members raised queries around:

- Accuracy of the cost for the Satellite Education Facility, Cradley Heath and clarification was given that this was based on a set formula that pans costs per square feet for new builds, that the DFE has provided
- Costs for Blackheath Bus Interchange and Social Space and clarification was given that surface works look minimal, however lots of work is required underground due to previous subway and toilets

Smethwick

3.30 16 projects, totalling £48m, were put forward for the long list. These were considered in the prioritisation process.

3.31 Scores for the projects ranged from 73 to 121. The highest scoring projects within the £25m funding window have been put forward in the proposed shortlist

3.32 The proposed shortlisted projects for Smethwick are as follows:

| Project Name | Description | Provisional TIP Ask | Match Funding identified to date |
|--|---|----------------------------|---|
| Smethwick Travel scheme: Cycle and Walking Provision | Creating cycle and pedestrian links from two railway stations to the Town centre and the local hospital. The scheme aims to improve access and connectivity within Smethwick by delivering cycling and walking route improvements. | £4.8m | TBC - AQ Centre LEP Transforming Cities Fund – WMCA |
| Grove Lane Regeneration: Housing Development | Purchase of selected sites within the Grove Lane area to accelerate regeneration for housing delivery. The first phase of a comprehensive major regeneration project to deliver in excess of 800 new homes and associated infrastructure. | £4.35m | TBC – WMCA, Homes England |

| Project Name | Description | Provisional TIP Ask | Match Funding identified to date |
|--|---|----------------------------|--|
| Sandwell Adult Family Learning: Ron Davis Centre | The expansion of the Ron Davis centre through the addition of three extra classrooms. This will enable the expansion of the successful Sandwell Adult Family Learning services and develop English and other employability skills within the local community. | £300,000 | |
| Youth, Community and Sports Smethwick: Albion Family in the Park | A dedicated Youth, Community, Sport and Education Space in the renovated West Smethwick Park, creating a financially sustainable, all-year round youth, community, sport and education offer for Smethwick. | £1.25m | Heritage Lottery £5m, FA Premier League & Football Foundation £1.5m |
| Centre for Health Education | A three-way partnership between the Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust, the University of Wolverhampton and Sandwell College to create a new local and regional centre of excellence in Health Education and the first University campus in Sandwell | £14m | Amounts TBC |
| Rolfe Street Regeneration | Demolition and remediation to provide a stand-alone development ready site, which will provide much needed housing and potential space for small enterprises, to support the wider regeneration of the Town and link to the opportunities around the Hospital | £2m | Potential source that could be approached for 10% Potential match funding opportunity from WMCA |

3.33 The Smethwick projects that are proposed to fall within a pipeline for future investment are as follows:

| Project Name | Description: |
|---|---|
| Park Improvements | Improvements to parks within Smethwick Town that will complement the improvements recently made or those that are forthcoming from other funding streams. The improvements will include general cosmetic works such as repaving and draining, pool works, reinstating football and cricket pitches and landscaping. |
| Laptop Loan Scheme | Council led scheme to provide loan of laptops/ tablets to support voluntary and community organisations to facilitate innovative digitally inclusive activities. |
| Cape Arm Canal Bridge and Towpath Works | Modifications of bridge on Cranford Street over the Cape Arm Canal and towpath construction for Midland Metropolitan University Hospital. |

| Project Name | Description: |
|--|--|
| Chance Glassworks Regeneration Project | To regenerate the Chance Glassworks into a mixed-use site of residential, enterprise, educational and leisure space |
| Bearwood Community Hub | Adaption of the St Mary's Church Hall Complex into a community hub for Bearwood, to provide a combination of desk space, events space and community and childcare facilities. |
| Bearwood Places for People | Re-imagining the Bearwood neighbourhood urban environment. Engaging consultant urban designers and community facilitators to work with SMBC, TfWM, the local community, schools, businesses and other stakeholders. |
| Soho Foundry | Develop the site in stages as an innovative and sustainable centre for learning, entrepreneurship, culture and heritage, contributing to social cohesion and place-making and supporting local economic growth. |
| Youth Bus | Work with young people to design and commission a new Sandwell Youth Bus & when completed, deliver regular Youth Bus sessions around Sandwell. This would replace the existing Youth Bus which is now mechanically over 21 years old and has become very unreliable over the past 3 years. |

3.34 A summary of the discussion and comments on the proposed shortlist raised by the Smethwick Local Board are as follows: -

3.35 There was a consensus as a board to move forward with the six proposed shortlisted projects for development as part of the TIP.

3.36 In relation to specific projects, board members raised queries around:

- The scoring mechanism and how scoring had been awarded. This was clarified in the meeting.
- Whether the Travel Scheme Project would fully address the transport links in the North of Smethwick, traffic congestion hot spots, availability of bus services and the possibility of using the bridge to alleviate congestion. The project will focus on cycle and pedestrian links from two railway stations to the Town centre and the local hospital and will lead to improvements to some of the hot spot areas.
- Housing mix and suitable accommodation, especially for those with disabilities and responding to high demand for 3 – 4-bedroom homes
- The level of training to be offered through the Health and Education proposal. This was clarified as providing training from Level 3 up to Level 7

Shortlisted Project Next Steps

3.37 Subject to Superboard approval of the project shortlists, all projects will then be refined and an outline business case created alongside completion of the TIP Part 2 document for submission. This will include further refinement of the financial ask of the TIP including confirmation of match funding and bringing the ask of the TIP from the shortlisted projects to within the £25m funding available. The Outline Business Case will also

include an outline of project delivery arrangements and risks, and the incorporation of specific design details arising from consultation activities.

- 3.38 If the TIPs are successful and a Town Deal agreed with Government, projects will then be developed to Full Business Case Stage and a Second Gateway Review conducted by Government before the release of funding.