

# Economy Skills Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board

Reset and Recovery – Regeneration & Growth Team

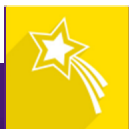
4 February 2021



# Business Growth Team

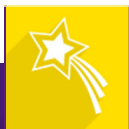
## Administration of Discretionary Grants and other Business Support Funding Schemes.

- 1<sup>st</sup> National Lockdown - £2.9m in support to 315 businesses and £96k to 46 market traders;
- Nov 2020 £629k of ARG support to 554 businesses with December's still being processed;
- AIM for Gold grants;
- Black Country Small Grants.



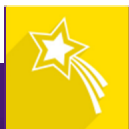
## Sign-posting Businesses to partner services who provide specialist Business Support.

- Navigate and sign-post businesses to relevant support '*no wrong door approach*';
- Government backed COVID grants and loan schemes;
- EU Exit advice from Black Country Growth Hub and Dept International Trade;
- SWEDA – support for Business Start Ups;
- Economic Intelligence;
- Workshops hosted by partners Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Small Businesses



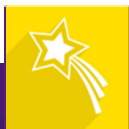
## Facilitating Communication of key messages and positive news stories across the business community

- Sandwell Business Ambassadors;
- Think Sandwell Business Support website;
- Made In Sandwell;
- Social Media .



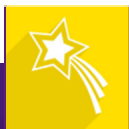
## Working with Employment & Skills to secure job opportunities arising from Regeneration investment and associated procurement activities

- Social Value – Community Benefit Clauses;
- Inward Investment;
- Foreign Direct Investment.



## Supporting local supply chains to secure procurement opportunities

- ‘Meet the Buyer Events’;
- Procurement Clusters;
- Networking Opportunities;
- Local Spend.



# Planning Regeneration Team

## Town Investment Plans



- West Bromwich
- Rowley Regis
- Smethwick
  
- Potential £25m per town = £75m investment across Sandwell
  
- Accelerated Funding of £750,000 per town awarded



# Town Investment Plan Priorities



Reinvigorate the town centre



Connectivity within and between the communities



Maximise local impact of major investments in hospital and Aquatics Centre



Making town centres more inclusive



Unlock land to aid regeneration



Stimulate  
COVID  
Recovery



Raising education and skill aspirations



Support good quality jobs



Deliver more housing



Regenerate and upgrade local assets



Stalled sites





# Accelerated Funding

## West Bromwich

Outdoor Market Redevelopment £440k

Cycling and Walking Infrastructure (Phase 1) £310k

## Rowley Regis

Blackheath Town Centre Pedestrian and Cyclist connectivity to Rowley Regis Train Station - £176,508

Oldbury Town Centre Pedestrian and Cyclist connectivity - £213,141

Tividale Park Improvements - £133,949

Bearmore Open Space Improvements - £45,980

Warrens Hall Improvements - £66,550

Haden Hill Park Improvements - £57,200

## Smethwick

Tollhouse Way Cycle and Walking Scheme - £750,000



# Priority Regeneration Projects

## Wednesbury

- Friar Park – 700+ new homes
- Wednesbury Heritage Action Zone

## West Bromwich

- West Bromwich Masterplan
- West Bromwich Interim Planning Statement
- Towns Fund/Future High Streets



## Smethwick

- Smethwick to Birmingham Corridor Area Framework and Masterplan (800+ new homes, primary school and job opportunities)
- Towns Fund
- Rolfe Street



The team is supporting the survival of the local economy by responding to unprecedented challenges which change almost daily. The team are also working to ensure that the local economy has the opportunity and support it needs to once again thrive post COVID, through attracting Investment and re-imagining our places.

