

# Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard

## Agenda

**Tuesday 20 October 2020 at 13:30**

**This meeting will be held online.**

**1. Welcome and Opening Remarks**

The Chair will welcome attendees to the meeting and make opening remarks.

**2. Apologies**

To receive any apologies for absence.

**3. Minutes**

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2020 as a correct record.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of interest from members relating to any item on the agenda.

**5. Approval of Town Investment Plans**

To receive and approve the Town Investment Plans for Rowley Regis, Smethwick and West Bromwich for submission and to authorise the Interim Director – Regeneration and Growth to make minor amendments prior to submission, if required, in consultation with the Chair of the Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard.

**6. Update on Towns Fund Timeline**

To receive the timeline for the next stages of the Towns Fund programme.

Contact: [democratic\\_services@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk)

**David Stevens**  
**Chief Executive**

Sandwell Council House  
Freeth Street  
Oldbury  
West Midlands



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

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## Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard

**2 October 2020 at 11.30am**

**Present:** Jude Thompson, Black Country Chamber of Commerce (Chair)  
Tom Hawley, Homes England  
Ninder Johal, Local Enterprise Partnership  
Dilip Awtani, Liberty Group  
Chris Hinson, Local Board Chair – West Bromwich  
Alan Taylor, Local Board Chair - Smethwick  
James Morris, MP Halesowen and Rowley Regis  
Nicola Richards, MP West Bromwich East  
Shaun Bailey, MP West Bromwich West  
Graham Pennington, Sandwell College  
Mark Davis, SCVO  
Geoff Foster, SCVO  
Cllr Maria Crompton, Sandwell MBC  
Sandeep Shingadia, Transport for West Midlands

**SMBC Officers:** David Stevens, Chief Executive  
Lesley Hagger, Executive Director – Children’s Services  
Alison Knight, Executive Director - Neighbourhoods  
Tammy Stokes, Interim Director - Regeneration and Growth  
Surjit Tour, Director - Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer  
Rebecca Jenkins, Towns Fund Programme Manager  
Alex Oxley, Planning Regeneration Support Officer  
Joshua Singh, Planning Regeneration Officer  
Alan Reynolds, Senior Planner  
Hayley Insley, Planning Regeneration Team Leader  
Tariq Karim, Area Manager Youth Service  
Santokh Singh, Neighbourhood Engagement Manager

**Also present:** Julian Pye, Arup  
Samantha Hadley, James Morris MP’s Office  
Armani Akbar-Roy, Arcadis  
Scott Chapman, Nicola Richards MP’s Office  
Ben Lucas, Metrodynamics  
Claire Chen, Metrodynamics  
Gail Harris, Shaun Bailey MP’s Office

11/20 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting of the Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard.

12/20 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from the following Superboard members:-

Adrian Eggington, Chair of Rowley Regis Local Board  
Josh Jordan, Sandwell Youth Parliament  
Councillor Danny Millard, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Economic Growth  
Karen Woolley, Federation of Small Businesses

13/20 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

14/20 **Declarations of Interest**

The following declarations of interests were made at the meeting.

Ninder Johal – insofar as he is the Chair of the Wolverhampton Board;  
Graham Pennington – in relation to any matters relating to Sandwell College;  
Alan Taylor – in relation to any matters relating to Sandwell College;  
Tom Hawley – as Homes England was sometimes asked by other Government Departments for feedback on applications and submissions.

15/20 **Update on TIP Approval and Submission Timelines**

Rebecca Jenkins, Towns Fund Programme Manager provided an update on the Timelines for approval and submission of the Town Investment Plans (TIPs).

Sandwell's three TIPs – Rowley Regis, Smethwick and West Bromwich – are being prepared for submission as part of Cohort 2, which require submission on 30 October. The shortlisted projects for inclusion in the three TIPs were to be considered by the Superboard later in this meeting (see Minute No. 18/20 below).

16/20 **Update on Engagement Activities**

The Superboard received an update on engagement activities that have taken place as part of Phase 1 of the Towns Fund Programme. This was broken into two Stages. Stage 1 was engagement as part of ideas generation, whilst

Stage 2 was more targeted and designed to shape the proposed interventions and test their feasibility and acceptability. The findings from the Stage 2 engagement would shape the details of the Outline Business Cases for projects and inform the full business cases, which would be developed subject to a Town Deal being agreed.

James Morris MP asked if engagement would continue in relation to the Town Investment Plans. It was confirmed that the intention was to continue to engage local residents and work was already underway identifying key groups in each area to take this forward.

Ninder Johal sought assurances around how organisations had been identified for engagement. The Superboard was advised that support had been offered by SCVO on this, and the members of the Local Boards were also being asked to ensure that local communities were reached, and their views gathered.

17/20

### **Learning from Cohort 1 Town Investment Plans**

Julian Pye, Arup, provided the Superboard with an overview of the learning that had been identified from those Town Investment Plans (TIPs) that had been submitted as part of Cohort 1. A number of key learning points had been identified and these had been considered when developing Plans for Sandwell.:-

- Make your TIPs personal;
- Stakeholder engagement;
- Evidence base;
- Project Prioritisation;
- Golden Thread (coherence across projects and with identified priorities);
- Visualise (use of maps);
- Outputs vs Outcomes;
- Capital Strategy;
- Risk;
- Governance.

It was further reported that Check and Challenge sessions were being arranged and held to highlight any elements of TIPs that needed further refinement.

18/20

### **Approval of Shortlisted Projects for inclusion with the Town Investment Plans**

The Chairs of each of the Smethwick and West Bromwich Towns Fund Local Boards, and Tammy Stokes, Interim Director – Regeneration and Growth on behalf of the Chair of the Rowley Regis Towns Fund Local Board presented the shortlisted projects for inclusion with the Towns Investment Plans. The Superboard's approval of these projects was sought.

The Superboard received an overview of the prioritisation process and criteria that had been followed by the Local Boards. This had previously been agreed by the Superboard at its meeting on August 2020 (Minute No. 8/20 refers).

Chris Hinson, Local Board Chair – West Bromwich presented the shortlisted projects from their Local Board:-

- Securing Sandwell's Engineering: Sandwell's Centre for Civil & Mechanical Engineering Skills;
- Digital Den;
- West Bromwich Town Centre Development;
- West Bromwich Green Corridor;
- West Bromwich Travel Scheme;
- West Bromwich Town Hall Quarter.

Feedback on the proposals had been sought and an overview of the feedback from local elected members and young people was provided to the Superboard.

Nicola Richards MP sought clarity on the anticipated benefits of the West Bromwich Town Hall Quarter project. The project aimed to improve the interior and exterior of the Town Hall, which would allow for greater community use and use as a cultural and entertainment venue. It would also be physically linked with West Bromwich Central Library, bringing together a cultural hub for the town.

Dilip Awtani requested detail on how capital funding figures had been arrived at for the projects. It was confirmed that figures had been developed through work between Council engineers, planners, finance and the Strategic Investment Unit. In addition, when developing a final Business Case for the projects these figures would be revisited in more detail.

Tammy Stokes, Interim Director – Regeneration and Growth presented the update from the Rowley Regis Local Board on behalf of its chair, Adrian Eggington. The shortlist of projects in Rowley Regis was:-

- Britannia Park Project; improving connectivity between Blackheath Town Centre and Rowley Railway Station;
- Rowley Regis Education Facility;
- Canal Network Improvement: Dudley No. 2;
- Canal Network Improvement: Old Mainline;
- Rowley Regis Travel Scheme;
- Energy Efficiency Scheme;
- Blackheath Bus Interchange and Social Space.

It was clarified that the proposals for Blackheath Bus Interchange and Social Space related to pedestrian prioritisation, not pedestrianisation.

Feedback on the proposals had been sought and an overview of the feedback from local elected members and young people was provided to the Superboard.

Tom Hawley, Homes England queried the responsibilities of the Canals and River Trust in relation to towpaths. The Superboard was advised that dialogue had been held with the Trust, however it did not have the capital funds to carry out improvement works. The works proposed in the projects would allow for future maintenance to be more cost-effective helping to keep the canals usable for the community.

James Morris MP asked a number of questions around the link between the Energy Efficiency Scheme and upskilling of local young people, the Blackheath bus interchange and social space and the need for clear communication with the local community. In relation to the Energy Efficiency Scheme the Superboard was advised that the intention was to make use of air source heating, which is a developing technology – by introducing local young people, and residents who wanted to retrain, to this technology they would be well placed to obtain employment in a growing field. In relation to the Blackheath bus interchange and social space, it was confirmed that Blackheath Town Centre would be kept open for the traffic that was needed – Blackheath was a town that had shown resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic and the proposals were intended to strengthen the town's continued attractiveness as a shopping destination for local people. The importance of clear communication and engagement with the local community on the proposals for Blackheath was acknowledged.

Alan Taylor, Local Board Chair – Smethwick presented the update from their Local Board. The list of projects in Smethwick was comprised of:-

- Smethwick Travel Scheme: Cycle and Walking Provision
- Grove Lane regeneration: Housing development;
- Youth, Community and Sports Smethwick: Albion Family in the Park;
- Rolfe Street Regeneration;
- Centre for Health Education;
- Sandwell Adult Family Learning: Ron Davis Centre.

Alan Taylor reported the feedback received on the proposed shortlist from Smethwick Councillors and raised in the latest Local Board meeting and reported that not all of the feedback on the proposed shortlist was positive. Councillors had fed back that they would have welcomed more of a spread of projects across the TIP boundary and felt that there may have been other ideas for projects. There had also been some remarks around the fairness of the scoring process. In response to this, the Chair reported that he had requested that an independent check be made on the scoring of the Smethwick projects on the long list to ensure that this had been fairly applied and he confirmed that the scoring had been fair.

Tom Hawley, Homes England asked if any communication had taken place in relation to those projects including housing elements with his organisation. It was confirmed that Homes England, and other partners such as the West Midlands Combined Authority, are involved with masterplanning for Grove Lane, no specific dialogue had yet been entered into around match-funding.

Ninder Johal asked about the traffic in the Smethwick High Street area following emergency changes. Officers confirmed that the changes had been brought in under emergency powers relating to COVID-19 and would be subject to a review. Further, it was clarified that the proposed cycle path would not take up road space but would make use of the embankment on Tollhouse Way.

The Chair thanked the Local Board Chairs, members of the Local Boards, officers and all involved with the process to shortlist projects.

**Agreed** that the Shortlisted Projects for inclusion in the Town Investment Plans for Rowley Regis, Smethwick and West Bromwich, as attached as Appendix 1, be approved.

19/20

### **Update on Accelerated Funding Projects**

The Superboard was updated on the Accelerated Funding Projects that had been successful in each town. These were:-

#### **Rowley Regis**

Blackheath Town Centre Pedestrian and Cyclist connectivity to Rowley Regis Train Station;  
Oldbury Town Centre Pedestrian and Cyclist connectivity;  
Tividale Park Improvements;  
Bearnore Open Space Improvements;  
Britannia Park Phase 1 Improvements;  
Warrens Hall Improvements;  
Haden Hill Park Improvements.

#### **Smethwick**

Tollhouse Way Cycle and Walking Scheme.

#### **West Bromwich**

Outdoor Market Redevelopment;  
Improvements to West Bromwich Town Hall.

The importance of communicating these projects to the community was highlighted as it could help encourage engagement with other Town Investment Plan projects.

Meeting ended at 1.25pm.

## West Bromwich Town Investment Plan - Shortlisted Projects

Project Name	Description	Provisional Ask of the TIP	Match Funding Identified
<b>Securing Sandwell's Engineering: Sandwell's Centre for Civil &amp; Mechanical Engineering Skills</b>	The project will regenerate Sandwell' College's 'Engineering Centre', based in Phoenix Street in West Bromwich. A centre offering opportunity in Construction and Engineering for Adults and young people in programmes for the unemployed, reskilling of the workforce and apprenticeships	£2.2m - £3.7m	Sandwell College c.£330,000
<b>Digital Den</b>	This project creates free to use and supported access to digital and online service, training and qualifications and careers and education support. The overall aim is to reduce digital exclusion and in doing so, reduce financial exclusion.	£42.6k	
<b>West Bromwich Town Centre Development</b>	This project aims to deliver comprehensive regeneration and transformation of the West Bromwich retail submarket through major site assembly and demolition works.  It involves the potential acquisition of Queens Square and Kings Square shopping centre and the demolition of underperforming sites. This is to deliver a significant number of town centre homes, improve the towns declining retail offer, re-purposing surplus accommodation and unlocking large areas of brownfield land for planned regeneration.	£15m	
<b>West Bromwich Green Corridor</b>	An urban greening proposal that fall into 4 sections that begin with a central linear park and form a route past and through new and existing development through to Dartmouth Park, supported by a wider cultural arts programme.	£2.2m	Arts Council (amount tbc)

<b>West Bromwich Travel Scheme</b>	Improved Cycle routes better connecting residents across West Bromwich to Sandwell Valley, Dartmouth Park, the town centre and creating improved cycle provision and crossing facilities.	£3.2m	
<b>West Bromwich Town Hall Quarter</b>	The council is looking to relocate public into the Town Hall and Central Library, creating a public services zone across multiple assets. This involves building a significant extension built on the side of the town hall and renovation of existing buildings.	£8.1m	Council disability access budget - £100,000 From partner (tbc) £250,000

## Rowley Regis Town Investment Plan – Shortlisted Projects

Project Name	Description	Provisional Ask of the TIP	Match Funding Identified
<b>Britannia Park Project</b>	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	
<b>Rowley Regis-Education Facility</b>	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
<b>Canal Network Improvement: Dudley No2</b>	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.	£750k	
<b>Canal Network Improvement: Old Mainline</b>	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	Greener Cities Fund £120k
<b>Rowley Regis Travel Scheme</b>	Improvement of walking and cycling routes within Blackheath, Cradley Heath and Oldbury improving pedestrian mobility via sustainable modes of transport.	£1.3m	

<b>Energy Efficiency Scheme</b>	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
<b>Blackheath Bus Interchange and Social Space</b>	Pedestrian prioritisation of Blackheath Town Centre, creation of new bus interchange and social space for improved pedestrian mobility.	£3.7m	

## Smethwick Town Improvement Plan – Shortlisted Projects

Project Name	Description	Provisional Ask of the TIP	Match Funding Identified
<b>Smethwick Travel Scheme: Cycle and Walking Provision</b>	Creating cycle and pedestrian links from two railway stations to the town centre and local hospital. The scheme aims to improve access and connectivity within Smethwick by delivering cycling and walking infrastructure improvements and improving safety	£4.8m	TBC - AQ Centre LEP Transforming Cities Fund – WMCA
<b>Grove Lane Regeneration: Housing Development</b>	Acquisition and remediation 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 (subject to business case)
<b>Youth, Community and Sports Smethwick: Albion Family in the Park</b>	A dedicated Youth, Community, Sport and Education Space in the renovated West Smethwick Park, creating a financially sustainable, all-year youth, community, sport and education offer for Smethwick.	£1.25m	Heritage Lottery £5m FA Premier League & Football Foundation £1.5m
<b>Rolfe Street Regeneration</b>	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
<b>Centre for Health Education</b>	Major new skills resource, covering training from entry level to L7 skills, linked to the hospital development. Providing a university presence in Smethwick	£14m	Amounts TBC

<b>Sandwell Adult Family Learning: Ron Davis Centre</b>	The expansion of the Ron Davis centre through the addition of three extra classrooms, enabling the expansion of the successful Sandwell Adult Family Learning services	£300k	
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**Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard  
Town Investment Plans**

**20 October 2020**

<b>Subject:</b>	Town Investment Plans
<b>Presenter:</b>	Adrian Eggington - Chair Rowley Regis Local Board Alan Taylor – Chair Smethwick Local Board Chris Hinson – Chair West Bromwich Local Board
<b>Contact:</b>	tammy_stokes@sandwell.gov.uk rebecca_jenkins@sandwell.gov.uk

**1 Recommendations**

To receive and approve the Town Investment Plans for Rowley Regis, Smethwick and West Bromwich for submission and to authorise the Interim Director – Regeneration and Growth to make minor amendments prior to submission, if required, in consultation with the Chair of the Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard.

**2 Purpose of the report**

2.1 To outline the requirements from the Town Investment Plans and to present them to Superboard for approval

**3. Background and Main Considerations**

3.1 On 6<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Sandwell's TIPs are for an application of £25m.
- 3.5 In addition to the main fund, Rowley Regis, Smethwick and West Bromwich have been successful with applications for £750,000 each within the Towns Fund accelerated funding programme.
- 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 At its meeting on 2 October, Superboard approved the shortlisted projects for inclusion within each of the TIPs.
- 3.9 Guidance was released by MHCLG outlining that TIPs should be structured in two parts and provided detail around the contents. TIP Part 1 provides the narrative around the submission and must be structured according to

the three main sections (Context analysis, Strategy, Engagement and delivery). TIP Part 2 is an excel template to populate with details around each of the projects put forward within the TIP. An unlimited number of appendices are able to be submitted to support the submission however it has been advised that any key messages from appendices are distilled and included in the main text to aid assessment.

- 3.10 Findings from the assessment of Cohort 1 submissions have also been released to support Cohort 2 Towns preparing their TIPs. These findings were reported to Superboard on 2 October and have been incorporated within the three Sandwell TIPs.
- 3.11 The three draft TIPs will be subject to a Check and Challenge with the Towns Hub Delivery Partner ahead of consideration by the Local Boards at their meetings scheduled 13-15<sup>th</sup> October. Findings from the Check and Challenge Sessions, and comments from the Local Boards will be presented to Superboard during the meeting.
- 3.12 The proposed TIPs will be circulated to the Superboard as late papers to enable final drafting to take place following the Check and Challenge sessions and Local Board meetings.
- 3.13 If following Superboard's consideration of the TIPs, further minor amendments are required to the TIPs, e.g. to address points of clarity, spelling, grammar, and layout, it is proposed that these be made by the Interim Director – Regeneration and Growth in conjunction with the Chair of the Towns Fund Superboard.

## **Appendices**

Rowley Regis Town Investment Plan (to follow)  
Smethwick Town Investment Plan (to follow)  
West Bromwich Town Investment Plan (to follow)

## **Source Documents**

TIP part 1 and part 2 templates  
Towns Fund Guidance, June 2020

**Sandwell Towns Fund Superboard  
Update on Towns Fund Timeline**

**20 October 2020**

<b>Subject:</b>	TIP Approval and Submission Timeline
<b>Presenter:</b>	Rebecca Jenkins - Sandwell Towns Fund Programme Manager
<b>Contact:</b>	rebecca_jenkins@sandwell.gov.uk

**1 Recommendations**

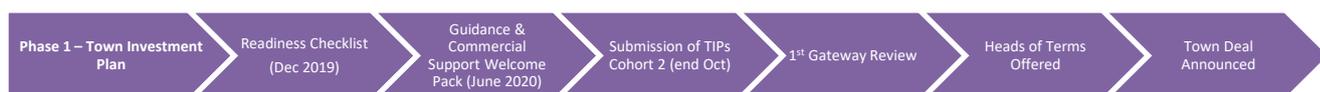
That the Superboard notes the timeline for submission of the Town Investment Plans and subsequent phases of the programme

**2 Purpose of the report**

To outline the timeline for submission of the Town Investment Plans and subsequent phases of the programme.

**3. Background and Main Considerations**

- 3.1 On 6<sup>th</sup> 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.
- 3.2 Detailed guidance on the Towns Fund was published in June 2020.
- 3.3 The Towns Fund Programme is split into 3 Phases. The first phase leads to the announcement of a Town Deal with Government. The second phase leads to the release of funding to enable project delivery to commence.



- 3.4 The first phase requires a Town Investment Plan (TIP) to be submitted. All of Sandwell's TIPs are being preparing for submission on 30 October 2020 in Cohort 2.
- 3.5 The Council's Cabinet delegated authority to the Superboard to approve the three TIPs. The TIPs will be presented to Superboard on 20 October for approval.
- 3.6 Following Superboard approval to the TIPs, they will undergo final proof reads and be submitted. The next stage will be for the Government to conduct their Gateway Review. It is unclear at present how long this will take as the Government will be assessing the majority of Towns Fund Towns within Cohort 2.
- 3.7 Further details about the format of the Gateway Review are expected, however early indications are that an assessment of the TIP Part 1 will be made first and if this meets the Government's requirements, each project within the TIP Part 2 will then be assessed.
- 3.8 Subject to a satisfactory Gateway Review, the Government will offer Heads of Terms which will be reviewed by the Council as Accountable Body.

3.9 A summary of the key activity leading to the announcement of a Town Deal is detailed below:

Phase One	Final version of TIPs submitted to Superboard Members (nb/ these will be circulated as late papers after the agenda dispatch to allow for amends following Local Board discussion and Check and Challenge Sessions)	16 October
	Superboard approval of Town Investment Plans	20 October
	Final proof reads, visual amends and signatures obtained	27 October
	Last date for submission of TIPs	30 October
	Government conducts Gateway Review	Timescale tbc
	Heads of Terms Offered	Timescale tbc
	Superboard meets for update on Gateway Review and Heads of Terms	Timescale tbc
	<b>Town Deal Announcement</b>	Timescale tbc

3.10 Following announcement of a Town Deal, we will enter Phase 2 of the Towns Fund Programme and work will commence to develop the TIP projects to Full Business Case stage.

## 5. Source Documents

Towns Fund Guidance, June 2020