



WE ARE COLCHESTER

BOARD MEETING

29 October 2020

DECISIONS & ACTION POINTS

Present: Simon Blaxill, Cllr Mark Cory (CBC), Adrian Pritchard (CBC), Alison Jennings (Homes England), Tracy Rudling (Community 360), Lucy Johnson (University of Essex), Adam Bryan (SELEP), Cllr Tony Ball (ECC).

Apologies: Ashleigh Seymour-Rutherford (Colbea), Mark Carroll (ECC), Mark Jarman-Howe (North East Essex Alliance), Chris Rhodes (Hiscox), Shona Johnstone (Homes England).

In attendance: Will Quince MP, Cllr David King (CBC), Cllr Mark Durham (ECC), Mandy Jones (CBC), Simon Thorp (CBC), Clare Ratcliffe (CBC), Matthew Brown (CBC), Robert Willis (ECC), Rebecca Collings (Nichols), Iain McNab (BEIS).

DECISIONS AND ACTION POINTS

1. Apologies & declarations of interest. Apologies were noted from Ashleigh Seymour-Rutherford (Colbea), Mark Carroll (ECC), Mark Jarman-Howe (North East Essex Alliance), Chris Rhodes (Hiscox), Shona Johnstone (Homes England).

There were no declarations of interest.

The Board also noted and welcomed Will Quince MP as a member of the Board.

2. Town Investment Plan Investment Propositions. The Board **noted and agreed** amendments to the draft Town Investment Plan part 1. In particular, amendments to Strategic Investment Programme 2 (Essex County Hospital reduction in Town Deal ask) and the addition of Jumbo (contribution to funding package).

The Board agreed that the final version of the Town Investment Plan should be submitted to government on 30 October 2020.

3. Next steps. The Board noted appreciation of Board members' support to date and anticipated future activities including bid assessment phase and detailed project and business case development in 2021 as a precursor to government check, challenge and funding award followed by project implementation from 2022.

The Board also noted an update on towns who had submitted bids in 'cohort 1' (July 2020). The Board agreed that Colchester was submitting a strong bid.

4. Branding and Strapline. The Board noted that various options for a strapline had been presented and agreed that its favoured option was: 'An amazing history and a brighter future.'

5. Supporting film. The Board noted and agreed the need for an innovative short film to support the bid. The objective of the film is to capture the essence of the diverse people of Colchester, their aspirations and needs – focusing on public realm, environmental concerns, Covid-19 recovery, digital/physical infrastructure and supporting younger people. The tone is intentionally personal and passionate, highlighting positive aspects of the town but also the need for improvement in order to keep people in Colchester to help the town to thrive. A preview of the film was shown and the Board agreed that it effectively supported the bid.

6. Final remarks. The Board noted the Chair's comments that submission of the bid was the conclusion of a process, with the need to remain involved in future. In turn, the Board expressed its appreciation to the Chair and the project team for their individual and collective contributions to developing an excellent bid.

7. Next meeting. To be confirmed.