



WE ARE COLCHESTER

BOARD MEETING 6 July 2020

DECISIONS & ACTION POINTS

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1. Towns Fund submission date. The Board considered options to submit in July 2020, October 2020 or January 2021. The Board noted that there was no competitive advantage to any of the submission deadlines. The Board ratified the decision to submit in October 2020.

2. Government advance of £1M. The Board agreed that further discussion would take place to identify and agree priority projects by mid-August 2020.

3. Delivery Partner Coordination. The Board noted with thanks the support which will be available for the Colchester bid from Nichols, with detailed further discussion to be coordinated by CBC officers.

4. Advisory Group feedback. The Board noted feedback from the Advisory Group meeting held on 9 June 2020, including the emerging CBC recovery plan, matched with Town Deal themes, and an associated poll of Advisory Group members linked to How We Connect, How We Grow and How We Live themes. The Board noted and agreed recommendations from the Advisory Group that the bid retained How We Connect/Grow/Live emerging opportunities, moved at pace to a small number of deliverable impactful projects, focused on jobs, youth and skills, climate and public realm, testing against post Covid-19 crisis social change/need, and adding to the ‘destination Colchester’ experience for ‘pull factor’ and employment.

5. Project Timeline. The Board noted the overall context (full timeline) from Pre Covid-19 Scoping (early 2020) to anticipated Development and Implementation Phases (2021-27). The Board noted and agreed the submission timeline and high-level tasks to be undertaken between July and October 2020, followed by the Assessment Phase (November and December 2020).

6. Branding & Engagement. The Board noted the draft Engagement Plan and the need for changes to the methodology of public engagement in response to Covid-19, to include virtual meetings and online feedback. The Board also noted the need to ratify branding for pre-submission work which could be developed further over time. The Board agreed to give any feedback regarding branding to the Project Office by 8 July 2020, which will be communicated to the Chair. The Board also agreed to liaise with the Project Office regarding any other areas of potential engagement support.

7. Next meeting. August/September 2020 to be confirmed.