



WE ARE COLCHESTER ADVISORY GROUP

19th August 2020

ACTIONS AND POINTS TO NOTE

The Advisory Group:

1. Noted an introduction, progress update (including Covid-19 response) & recap of the We Are Colchester (Town Deal) strategic vision
2. Noted the requirement to deliver the project on time, budget and to the required quality, recognising the constraints of the Town Deal bid and Town Investment Plan submission timeline & key milestones, including planned Board, Advisory Group, Town Assembly and other planned engagement.
3. Noted the principles for developing the Town Investment Plan and contributed to a discussion focused on developing these ideas – encompassing the 3 theme 'pillars' of How We Grow, Live and Connect.
4. Supported the strategy of developing proposals which align with the MHCLG Town Deal Prospectus Themes of: Skills Infrastructure, Enterprise Infrastructure Urban Regeneration, Planning and land use, Arts, Culture and Heritage, Local Transport, Digital Connectivity.

ACTIONS AND POINTS TO NOTE

5. Considered and supported ideas to be developed and recommended to the Board for agreement including 'Youth Zone', Public Realm strategy including sites supported by accelerated funding and improved walking/cycling infrastructure, 'Mini Holland' and 5G infrastructure.
6. Offered comments and suggestions for other project opportunities which were noted for consideration against the criteria set out by MHCLG.
7. Noted that developing ideas would be further scrutinised both within the project team and independently, with final decisions to be taken ultimately by Board before submission in October 2020.
8. Noted that Colchester Town Assembly would meet in September 2020.
9. Noted that Advisory Group would convene thereafter in September 2020 to consider against required criteria any further ideas emerging from the Town Assembly forum, then making recommendations to the Board.
10. Considered and supported the need for the Town Deal to help deliver a markedly 'greener and yet more distinctive and beautiful Colchester', that would complement the heritage and other strengths of our town by making Colchester a yet more attractive social and destination experience, for residents and visitors, helpful to our economic recovery and future prosperity and well-being.

APPENDIX

The Project Office noted comments from the following Advisory Group members, some of which for specific follow up discussion:

How We Grow – Paul Coffey (Coast Digital), Jane Gardner (Essex Police), Simon Prestney (Age Concern Colchester), Alison Andreas (Colchester Institute), Edward James (Historic England)

How We Live – Gwyn Owen (Essex County Council)

How We Connect – Alan Lindsay (Essex County Council), Alison Andreas (Colchester Institute)

Further comments were noted from Advisory Group Chair, CBC and ECC Officers.