

Workington Towns Deal Board Meeting
Friday 24th January 2020
Draft Minutes

Attendance

Board Members

Val Ayre	Cumbria County Council
Cllr Alan Barry	Cumbria County Council
John Coughlan (Chair)	TSP Engineering
Valerie Hallard	Churches Together in Workington
Mark Jenkinson MP	MP for Workington
Bridget Johns	CVS
Cllr Mike Johnson	Allerdale Borough Council
Cllr Janet King	Workington Town Council
Cllr Paul Scott	Allerdale Borough Council
Anthony Wareing	Workington Heritage Group
Corinne Watson	Cumbria LEP
Karen Wilson	Lakes College

Officers

Chris Bagshaw	Workington Town Council
Alison Hatcher	Cumbria County Council
Kevin Kerrigan	Allerdale Borough Council
Francesca Robinson	Allerdale Borough Council
Lizzy Shaw	Cumbria County Council
Julie Ward	Allerdale Borough Council

1. Introductions

The Chair welcomed all Board Members and their supporting officers to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Sami Falou	BEIS
Jonny Lowe	Iggesund
Stuart Farnell	Scoop
Ian Martin	Amcor

3. Overview of Towns Fund

Board members considered a paper outlining the key principles and purpose of the Towns Fund and the potential funding opportunities available. Allerdale Borough Council is the lead Council for the Towns Fund but there is a requirement to establish a Town Deal Board which will serve in an advisory function to the Lead Council.

Towns are required to develop a Town Investment Plan by Summer 2020 which will help to determine the level of investment from the Towns Fund.

It was agreed that it would be beneficial for a work plan to be developed for the Board to ensure the Investment Plan is delivered on time along with a profile of spend

Allerdale Borough Council, as Lead Council, had put forward a suggested amendment to the boundary of the intervention area proposed by Government to reflect the administrative boundary for Workington as well as including the strategic employment sites at Oldside and Lillyhall.

The Board noted the proposed new boundary. It was noted that the wider area was likely benefit from investments within the proposed intervention area.

4. Board Terms of Reference

The Board noted the Terms of Reference for the Board which were agreed by the Allerdale Borough Council Executive on 15 January.

It was agreed that future meetings would be hosted by partner organisations as well as Allerdale Borough Council.

5. Town Investment Plan update

It was confirmed that Allerdale Borough Council were in the process of seeking tenders for consultants to support the development of a Town Investment Plan for Workington.

It was agreed it would be beneficial to collate details of existing strategies, plans, projects, land ownership and priorities for partners within the Towns Fund Area. It was agreed that it will be important for the Board to agree a Vision and strategic priorities for Workington and identify the interventions required to achieve this. Consideration should be given to the establishment of sub groups to assist the work of the Board.

It was agreed that it would be beneficial for the Board to consider examples of good practice elsewhere and to liaise with the Boards of other towns in Cumbria working on Town Deals to share experiences. Cumbria LEP are to facilitate this. It was noted that CALC were looking to bring together Town Councils involved in Town Deals.

It was agreed that Allerdale Borough Council would provide access to a Teams site to facilitate the sharing of information with board members.

6. Community Engagement

The Board noted that community engagement is extremely important in the development and delivery of the Town Investment Plan.

The Government has created a on the My Towns campaign to support the towns fund nationally and further information relating to this is awaited.

A press release relating to the establishment of the Town Deal Board was agreed.

7. Next steps

Next Board meeting – Friday 14th February 2020 – 14:30. To be held at TSP offices in Workington – please note that no phones or laptops are allowed on site.

Future meeting dates and venues will be circulated in advance to ensure maximum attendance. The meetings to be held at Allerdale House, TSP offices and Lakes College.

Meeting closed at 15:20