

CHEADLE TOWNS FUND

INTERIM BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Date	31 January 2020 at 3.30pm	
Venue	The Boardroom, Alexandra Hospital, Mill Lane, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 2PX	
Present	Marge Falconer - Executive Director, The Alexandra Hospital Mary Robinson - MP for Cheadle, Conservative David Meller - Councillor Cheadle Hulme North, Labour Tom Morrison - Councillor Cheadle Hulme North, Lib Dem Suzanne Jones - Strategic Area Lead NW, BEIS Rob Munroe - Chair of Cheadle Village Partnership Dr Viren Metha - Cheadle Medical Practice Simon Elliott - Head of Rail Programme, TfGM Caroline Simpson - Corporate Director of Place, Stockport MBC Robert Goulsbra - Head of Development and Regeneration Stockport MBC	
Apologies	Stuart Bradley - Stockport President GM Chamber of Commerce	
Item		Action
1	Welcome and Introductions	
	The attendees present introduced themselves.	
	Apologies received on behalf of SB.	
2	Appointment of Interim Board Chair	
	It was agreed that the board would sit as interim positions at present.	
	CS proposed interim chair of Marge Falconer. Seconded by both SE and RM.	
	MF appointed as interim chair.	
3	Background, Context and Work to date – Presentation SMBC	
	CS presented to the board the background and context to the Towns Fund, the work to date and initial considerations for Cheadle.	
	SJ provided additional context and steer from Government to the board.	
	SJ cautioned that although the funding was up to a maximum of £25 million it would be scaled in part to the size of the Town Fund area applying. The funding is not guaranteed and each Town Fund has to construct a bid for funding.	

	Advised to construct the bid case around what are the challenges for Cheadle and how will the Town Fund make a difference to Cheadle, Stockport and Greater Manchester.	
	Increased economic productivity is an important focus for the fund.	
	The importance of linking any objectives and potential outcomes of projects back to a relevant policy base was highlighted. This policy base, amongst others, would include the Government's Industrial Strategy and the GM Local Industrial Strategy.	
	Encouraged to focus on a small number of large projects as opposed to multiple smaller projects.	
	Discussion on the boundary for the Cheadle Town Fund area. The presented boundary has been revised from the baseline ONS sub area now focusing on Cheadle including key areas. The presented boundary was supported by the Board with the inclusion of Kingsway School. The revised boundary and rationale will be submitted to MHCLG for confirmation by 28 February.	SMBC
4	Capacity Funding	
	Outlined by CS funding by Government to support towns to prepare and submit their bids.	
	The funding is revenue, guidance states it can be used for: • Convening the Town Deal Board • Running engagement events and activities • Developing the Town Investment Plan • Commissioning or procuring technical expertise for the business case.	
	Proposed that the funding be used to support: a) Community and Business Engagement. This could be carried out with the Cheadle Village Partnership. b) Technical Feasibility. On the options for the Strategic Outline Business Case. c) Developing the Socio-Economic Business Case. Baseline evidence, undertaken by economic consultant.	
	The Capacity Funding paper presented was supported and agreed by the board. SMBC were tasked with implementation.	SMBC
	As part of economic and commercial evidence it will be critical to engage with local businesses through the Chamber of Commerce.	
5	Next Steps and Future Meetings	
	SMBC to circulate information on Capacity Funding options prior to next meeting.	SMBC
	Next meeting in six weeks, Friday 20 March at 3.00pm in the Alexandra Hospital Boardroom.	

END