

# CLEATOR MOOR TOWN DEAL BOARD

# AGENDA

Venue: This meeting will be a virtual meeting

Date: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Time: 3.30pm

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- 1. Meeting protocol
- 2. Attendances and apologies for absence
- 3. Minutes of meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022 <u>cm\_tf\_minutes\_24\_02\_22.pdf (copeland.gov.uk)</u>
- 4. **Register of Interests review** For the Board to note/ update any declarations of interests in Agenda items
- 5. **Cleator Moor Town Deal Campus Town funding reallocation** For the Board to agree the proposals for the reallocation of funding from Campus Town for submission to DLUHC by CBC on behalf of the Cleator Moor Town Deal Board.

### **Contacts:**

| Email:   | towns.fund@copeland.gov.uk                        |
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| Website: | https://www.copeland.gov.uk/regeneration-projects |



# Item 5 – Cleator Moor Town Deal Board Campus Town funding reallocation

### Why is this report coming to the Cleator Moor Town Deal Board?

Following the previous Board meeting, Cleator Moor Town Deal Board were advised on 31<sup>st</sup> March at its regular Plan Development meeting by UCLan that the University would be withdrawing the Campus Town project. After undertaking comprehensive planning and due diligence with architects, cost consultants and property advisors, UCLan had concluded that even with grant funding, the business case was not viable from a long-term investment perspective.

This has provided the opportunity to request a reallocation of funding from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) to other projects in the Cleator Moor Town Deal. Government will review the request against the following criteria:

- Strategic alignment with the needs of the town as demonstrated in the Town Investment Plan;
- Deliverability by 2025/26;
- The spend profile is realistic and can be met by 2025/26;
- Outputs and outcomes are broadly consistent with the themes agreed in draft Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) plans;
- The proposal is likely to maximise DLUHC investment and the town is likely to be able to demonstrate good value for money at summary document stage.

The proposal is to request the reallocation of funds back into projects in line with the original ask at Town Investment Plan (TIP) submission and in line with the funding offer limit within the Heads of Terms. The rationale in support of the funding request would be to offset the risk of escalating capital costs impacting on delivery. The additional Towns Fund investment would also be used to deliver additional low carbon improvements to increase the long-term sustainability measures in the capital builds and thus, reduce ongoing revenue liabilities for the new Cumberland authority post-LGR; service charge and outgoings for business tenants and occupiers, and fees and charges for residents and other users of the leisure facilities.

| Projects          | Current funding offer | Proposed change | Proposed Towns<br>Fund request |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Enterprising Town | £7.05M                | + £0.65M        | £7.70M                         |
| Revitalised Town  | £4.43M                | + £0.41M        | £4.84M                         |
| Campus Town       | £2.75M                | £0.00M          | £0.00M                         |
| Healthy Town      | £2.75M                | + £0.25M        | £3.00M                         |
| Connected Town    | £5.52M                | + £0.51M        | £6.03M                         |
| Total             | £22.50M               | + £1.82M        | £21.57M                        |

Discussions have been ongoing with our contact within the Cities and Local Growth Unit and our Towns Fund Partner to understand whether the Town Deal Board can ask for reallocation into projects which takes them above the funding offer limit within the Heads of Terms. Guidance is not clear on this point, so in recognition that there is little time before Cleator Moor is required to submit its summary documentation and this will need to be resolved prior to summary document submission, it is proposed that a parallel request is made for the full reallocation.

This additional funding would be requested to offset the risk of escalating capital costs impacting on delivery of Healthy Town as a project that is less able to scale to adjust. Healthy Town can most benefit from the delivery of further low carbon improvements to increase the long-term sustainability measures in the capital builds and reduce ongoing revenue liabilities for the new Cumberland authority post-LGR and thus a need for cost recovery through fees and charges.

| Projects          | Current funding | Proposed | Proposed Towns |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------|----------------|
|                   | offer           | change   | Fund request   |
| Enterprising Town | £7.05M          | + £0.65M | £7.70M         |
| Revitalised Town  | £4.43M          | + £0.41M | £4.84M         |
| Campus Town       | £2.75M          | £0.00M   | £0.00M         |
| Healthy Town      | £2.75M          | + £1.18M | £3.93M         |
| Connected Town    | £5.52M          | + £0.51M | £6.03M         |
| Тс                | tal £22.50M     | + £2.75M | £22.50M        |

Copeland Borough Council (CBC) will request DLUHC to positively confirm that they are in support of one of the above scenarios by the end of May to update the business cases ahead of approvals of summary documentation for submission to Government by the end of June. The Board will be kept appraised of feedback and timescales.

### **Recommendation:**

That Cleator Moor Town Deal Board:

a) Agree the proposed two scenarios outlining funding reallocation for CBC to submit to DLUHC on behalf of the Cleator Moor Town Deal Board.