

**REPORT OF:** HOUSING, HEALTH AND ENGINEERING SERVICES  
MANAGER

**TO:** NELSON TOWN DEAL BOARD

**DATES:** 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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## **BUILDING THE FINAL PROJECT LONG LIST AND THE DRAFT PROJECT PRIORITISATION FRAMEWORK**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To outline the approach to developing and prioritising projects for the Nelson Town Investment Plan.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the Board agree the approach to developing and prioritising projects outlined in the attached report and note the findings of the initial project 'sift'.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

1. To put in place a sound process for helping the Board to determine which projects should be prioritised for funding in the Nelson Town Investment Plan.

### **ISSUE**

#### **Background**

1. The Town Deal Board has already started to develop a long list of potential projects and this has regularly been shared at Board meetings (Appendix 1).
2. It is important to ensure that the projects which we ultimately put forward in the Town Investment Plan fit with the overarching aim the Towns Fund, the vision and objectives of our Plan and with MHCLG's requirements around, for example, value for money, viability, deliverability, etc.
3. It is also likely that the value of the projects on the long list will be greater than the funding available to us. As a result of all these things, there will need to be some form of project appraisal and prioritisation process.

4. MHCLG are keen to see evidence of this process in the Town Investment Plan, to ensure that decisions around which projects are seeking money from the Towns Fund have been made in a robust and consistent way.
5. Part 1 of the attached report by Hatch (Appendix 2) outlines an appraisal and prioritisation framework which can be used by the Board to help with this process. This is a two stage process involving an initial 'sift' of projects requiring Towns Funding, followed by a more detailed assessment to help arrive at a short list.
6. Part 2 of the report feeds back on an assessment of the current project long list against the 'Sift 1' criteria in the framework. This showed that all of the projects 'pass' this initial sift and are worthy of developing in more detail to enable the more detailed assessment of them to take place.
7. Further discussion will be had at the meeting around what might be missing from the list, reflecting on the evidence review, clean growth and COVID.
8. Criteria for the 'Sift 2' assessment process will also be discussed.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

**Policy:** If agreed, the process outlined in this report will be used to prioritise the projects requiring money from the Town Fund within the Nelson Town Investment Plan.

**Financial:** None directly arising from this report.

**Legal:** None directly arising from this report.

**Risk Management:** None directly arising from this report.

**Health and Safety:** None directly arising from this report.

**Sustainability:** None directly arising from this report.

**Community Safety:** None directly arising from this report.

**Equality and Diversity:** None directly arising from this report.

## **Appendix 1: Initial Project Long List**

## **Appendix 2: Report by Hatch - Building the Project Long List and the Draft Project Prioritisation Framework**