

REPORT OF: HOUSING, HEALTH AND ENGINEERING SERVICES
MANAGER

TO: NELSON TOWN DEAL BOARD

DATES: 25th September 2020

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EVIDENCE OF NEED AND AREAS OF FEEDBACK

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To share with the Board the key evidence based reports which will underpin the Nelson Town Investment Plan. To invite feedback and consider the key areas of need and opportunity in the development of other aspects of the Plan elsewhere on the agenda.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Town Deal Board:

1. Note and provide feedback on the draft Socio-Economic Narrative report and the draft Impact of Covid-19 on Pendle report.
2. Consider the key thematic messages arising from these reports in the development of other aspects of the Plan.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

1. To ensure that the development of the Town Investment Plan is closely linked with a robust evidence base.

ISSUE

Background

1. In order to secure Town Deal funding, there is a need to prepare a well evidenced Town Investment Plan. The Plan must set out a sound understanding of the **town's context** in terms of its level of need and the major challenges and problems it faces, as well as the strengths and opportunities that could be capitalised on to boost growth and improve well-being.

2. It is also essential that Covid-19 forms part of the evidence base and is factored into decision making. Towns must outline how Covid-19 is impacting upon their local economy and show how this is reflected in their strategy and prioritisation.
3. At the last meeting of Board, Hatch presented some of headline messages regarding the socio-economic challenges that are facing the town. Attached at Appendix 1 is the more detailed **draft Socio-Economic Narrative report** from which these message were drawn. This will form a key part of the evidence based for the Town Investment Plan.
4. Attached in Appendix 2 is a **draft report on the Impact of Covid 19 on Pendle**. The report draws on available data to draw out the emerging impacts on the economy, on business, on people and on place. Where possible, this data has been taken down to a Nelson level to help inform the Town Investment Plan. The study will be supplemented with qualitative information drawn from ongoing discussions/interviews with a range of stakeholders and local businesses.
5. A headline presentation will be given by Hatch at the Board meeting summarising the key thematic messages from the reports, setting the context for discussion on other items on the agenda relating to the draft Strategic Framework, the project long list and the town specific criteria to be included in the Project Prioritisation Framework.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: The context analysis will underpin the strategy of the 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: Draft Socio-Economic Narrative report

Appendix 2: Draft report on the Impact of Covid-19 on Pendle