

**NOTE OF A MEETING OF THE
NELSON TOWN DEAL BOARD
HELD REMOTELY VIA TEAMS
ON 23RD JULY, 2021**

PRESENT

S. Barnes (Chairman – in the Chair)

Members of the Board

<i>Councillor N. Ahmed</i>	<i>Pendle Borough Council (PBC)</i>
<i>Councillor M. Aslam</i>	<i>PBC</i>
<i>Councillor M. Iqbal</i>	<i>PBC</i>
<i>Councillor Z. Ali</i>	<i>Nelson Town Council</i>
<i>D. Mendoros</i>	<i>Pendle Vision Board</i>
<i>C. Smith</i>	<i>Pendle Engineering Ltd</i>
<i>D. Rothwell</i>	<i>Lancashire Enterprise Partnership</i>
<i>A-M Parkinson</i>	<i>Lancashire Enterprise Partnership</i>
<i>F. Starkie</i>	<i>Department for Works and Pensions</i>
<i>P. Hartley</i>	<i>In-Situ</i>
<i>C. Bennett</i>	<i>Positive Action in the Community</i>
<i>R. Bashir</i>	<i>Building Bridges</i>
<i>C. Parker</i>	<i>Homes England</i>
<i>D. Gordon</i>	<i>Lancashire County Council</i>

Consultants/Advisors

R. Jenkins *Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)*

Officers in attendance:-

D. Langton *Chief Executive, PBC*
J. Whittaker *Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager, PBC*
N. Watson *Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager, PBC*
J. Stockton *Senior Regeneration Officer, PBC*
J. Eccles *Committee Administrator, PBC*

(Apologies were received from A. Melton.)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the requirement to declare any interest they had on any item of business on the agenda.

2. MINUTES

AGREED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. NELSON TOWN DEAL OFFER

First, the Chairman thanked Members of the Board for their contribution and support throughout the bid process and to Council officers for their hard work in securing a £25m Town Deal offer for

Nelson. D. Langton was given a special mention as he was leaving the Council shortly. Hatch consultants were thanked for their work on the bid and the knowledge they brought to the process. S. Barnes was also thanked for the part he had played in chairing the Board. Members agreed that this funding was significant and had the potential to deliver significant change across Nelson.

J. Stockton then presented a report seeking agreement to the draft Heads of Terms offer for a Town Deal for Nelson. It outlined the next phases of work in the development of the Deal and development and delivery of the Town Investment Plan, and sought agreement on additional capacity and expertise to help the Board through this process.

The draft Heads of Terms offer needed to be signed by the Chairman of the Board and the Lead Local Authority and returned by 5th August 2021. Once the Heads of Terms had been agreed, towns had two months to confirm which projects would be taken forward as part of their Town Deal. If these were approved, HM Treasury compliant business cases would need to be completed for each project, appraised and a Town Deal Summary Document submitted within 12 months of the Head of Terms being agreed. Projects could be submitted as and when they were ready. Once the project Summary Document was agreed by MHCLG, Year 1 funding would be approved and released.

The report recommended that Hatch be commissioned to help co-ordinate and carry out some of the work required over the next 12 months, including the development of the business cases for each of the projects. This would be paid for using Capacity Funding secured earlier in the year for this purpose, subject to the Council agreeing to waiver Standing Orders.

AGREED

- (1) That the Heads of Terms offer for a Town Deal for Nelson be agreed.
- (2) That the next phases of work and associated timescales for bringing forward the deal and securing the release of funding be agreed.
- (3) That Capacity Funding be used to appoint Hatch to support the Board through the Stage 2 process (subject to approval by Pendle Borough Council).
- (4) That R. Jenkins liaise with MHCLG colleagues to find out why the £29.4m bid had been reduced to the offer of £25m and for this feedback to be emailed to Board members.

4. ALLOCATION OF FUNDING

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report which asked members to consider options for achieving the saving of £4.9m between Nelson's Towns Fund ask and the Heads of Term offer. A copy of the Investment Plan Summary, outlining the Towns Fund ask and match funding for each project was set out at Appendix 1 of the report. It was agreed that match funding would be crucial in maximising the investment benefits for Nelson.

AGREED

- (1) That project leads be asked to review their projects to see if savings could be made either by reducing the scope of their project or identifying new potential sources of match funding and for these to be brought back to the next meeting.

(Nelson Town Deal Board 23.07.2021)

- (2) That Nelson residents and businesses be informed about the Town Deal offer and the next steps.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next date of the meeting would be Friday, 13th August at 10.00a.m.

6. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

AGREED

That in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the next item of business on the grounds that if a member of the public and press were present during consideration of the item, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information which was of a commercially sensitive nature.

7. NELSON TOWN DEAL OFFER

Consideration was given to the draft Heads of Terms offer which formed Appendix 1 to Item 3 above. This would act as a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town Deal Board, Pendle Borough Council (as the Accountable body) and the Government for the future development and delivery of Nelson's Town Investment Plan.