

REPORT FROM: Director of Resources

TO: Neighbourhoods Board

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PLAN FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS – NEXT STEPS FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. This report outlines the proposed next steps for community engagement and seeks the Board's guidance on aligning existing interventions with the broader intervention list provided under the Plan for Neighbourhoods (PfN) programme.

Recommendations

That the Board:

1. Review and approve the draft work plan for ongoing community engagement and overall programme delivery priorities.
2. Agree to allocate the capacity funding to support enhanced community engagement and programme delivery.
3. Approve the formation of a short term collaborative Steering Group, consisting of Board Members, community organisation representatives, and officers, to review and align current interventions with the PfN intervention list.
4. Undertake an assessment of the potential need for additional external support, particularly around technical delivery and engagement capacity.
5. Request a follow-up report for a future Board meeting to outline proposed changes and inform the development of the PfN Investment and Regeneration Plan.

Reasons

1. To help identify gaps in the engagement and development work carried out as part of the Long Term Plan for Towns and to support targeted research aligned with the broader ambitions of the Plan for Neighbourhoods.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. The recommendations will also ensure that the Board receives timely updates on progress towards developing the PfN Investment and Regeneration Plan. |
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ISSUE

1. With the appointment of the Programme Manager and Community Development Officer, the Council is now in a position to commence detailed alignment of the existing Long Term Plan for Towns interventions with the expanded PfN framework.
2. A draft programme management work plan is attached in Appendix 1
3. The work plan includes identifying engagement gaps and developing outreach strategies to connect with underrepresented community groups, ultimately informing a revised and inclusive Investment Plan.

NEXT STEPS

4. Establish a Steering Group to guide intervention alignment and community engagement strategies.
5. The Steering Group will also explore the need for external support in technical or delivery areas.
6. Prioritise the original and emerging investment themes to ensure a focused, community-led delivery model.
7. Update the Board regularly on progress and ensure alignment with the updated engagement strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

8. The Board is asked to consider the above proposals and advise on the preferred approach for progressing community engagement and intervention planning under the PfN programme.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None arising directly from this report.

Financial: PBC will be the accountable body for the fund

Legal: Subsidy Control regulations will need to be adhered to. External advice can be sought and funded through the capacity support being made available.

Risk Management: Programme risk will be monitored and reviewed via the Project Initiation Document (PID) risk register.

Health and Safety: None arising directly from this report.

Sustainability: The PfN provides scope to embed sustainability considerations in all investment decisions.

Community Safety: Improving community safety is a recognised area of opportunity under the PfN.

Equality and Diversity: There are no direct implications at this stage, though all engagement and intervention planning will be inclusive and equitable.

APPENDIX ONE

Programme Management Work Plan