

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Delegated Officer Decision – 30 September 2022

Report Title

Town Deal: Approval of a Full Business Case & Submission of Summary Document to DLUHC

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No, but it has been included on the Forward Plan

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Paul Woodcock, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)

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Ward(s) Affected

Rotherham East

Report Summary

This report seeks to progress the next stage of Rotherham's Town Deal through the approval of a Full Business Case and the subsequent submission of a Summary Document to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing & Communities.

Recommendations

1. That a Full Business Case for 1 Town Deal funded project is approved following the report to Cabinet in May 2022 noting Full Business Cases will be approved by the Strategic Director of Regeneration & Environment in consultation with the Council's S151 Officer and Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy.
2. That the Assistant Director for Planning, Regeneration & Transport submits the Summary Documents to DLUHC by exercising the delegation "bidding for external funding and grant aid, special financial packages for economic development/regeneration for both revenue and capital schemes, and their subsequent implementation"

List of Appendices Included

Exempt Appendix 1 *Full Business Case: Eastwood/Parkgate Connectivity*
Exempt Appendix 2 *Project Summary Document*

Appendix 3
Appendix 4

Carbon Impact Assessment
Equality Impact Assessment

Background Papers

[Cabinet Report May 2022 Town Deal & Levelling Up: Update & Implementation](#)
[Town Investment Plan January 2021](#)
[Town Deal Cabinet Report 19th October 2020](#)

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

Name of Committee – Click here to enter a date.

Name of Committee – Click here to enter a date.

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

An exemption is sought for Appendix 1 and 2 under Paragraph 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is requested, as these items contain commercially sensitive information which could damage the Council's ability to deliver the Town Deal projects.

It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption would outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information because release of such information could jeopardise the Council's ability to achieve its aims for Town Deal.

Town Deal: Approval of a Full Business Case & Submission of Summary Document to DLUHC

1. Background

- 1.1 The Town Deal is a £3.6bn programme seeking to 'unleash the economic potential of 100 places across the country. In January 2021 Rotherham submitted a Town Investment Plan seeking £35m for projects across Templeborough, Eastwood and the Town Centre.
- 1.2 Rotherham's Town Deal Heads of Terms were accepted on 29th June 2021 bringing £31.6m of investment into the town. This triggered a 12-month period to develop locally assured Full Business Cases ahead of the submission of Project Summary Documents to DLUHC.
- 1.3 On 16th May 2022 a report was presented to Cabinet outlining the assurance process for the implementation of projects. This report made the recommendation 'that Cabinet note the implementation of projects will be subject to the Council's assurance framework and with Full Business Cases approved by the Strategic Director of Regeneration & Environment in consultation with the Council's S151 Officer and Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy.
- 1.4 This report now seeks approval to submit the final Full Business Case and the subsequent submission of Summary Documents by 30th September 2022.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 This Business Case refers to a project which will improve accessibility between Parkgate Shopping Centre, tram stop, Eastwood and beyond.
- 2.2 Parkgate Shopping Centre is a successful shopping parade situated just outside of the town centre, it is home to national brands of both retail and leisure providers. It has its own tram/train stop with connections to Sheffield.
- 2.3 Eastwood is one of the most deprived neighbourhoods in Rotherham. It sits at a strategic gateway to the town centre, close to Parkgate Shopping Centre and the historic Clifton Park. A programme of housing-based interventions is planned with development at York Road and Eldon Road which will diversify and improve the quality of the residential offer.
- 2.4 The two areas are disconnected by the River Don, Rotherham Canal and railway line. Three bridges connect the two areas, two of which are within metres of each other and can be accessed only by steps. At either side of the bridge landings the environment is poor and unwelcoming.
- 2.5 Rotherham has an ambition to ensure each of its communities are vibrant, safe and proud. That communities build on their existing assets to create a fair and prosperous economy providing chances for everyone and creating a legacy of high-quality well-connected places.

2.6 This project will improve the link between Eastwood and Parkgate by replacing the two rail and canal bridges with one accessible structure. The area around the landings will be improved with safer, dedicated pathways and a play area at Eldon Road playing fields.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 It is recommended that the local assurance is done through existing Officer delegations as proposed in the May 2022 Cabinet report. The Business Case approach is recommended in line with Government best practice and requirements for Town Deal.

3.2 A do-nothing option would see Rotherham unable to deliver against its Town Deal commitments.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 Full Business Cases have been reviewed by the Town Deal Board, Council Officers and the Cabinet Member for Jobs & The Local Economy

4.2 The Town Deal Board will retain oversight of the implementation of the Town Deal projects. The Board will continue to meet monthly or as needed.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The Town Deal Project Summary document is to be returned to DLUHC by 30th September.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications (to be written by the relevant Head of Finance and the Head of Procurement on behalf of s151 Officer)

6.1 Consideration of procurement implications has been given within the details of the Full Business Cases and where required through the Council's own Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules will be supported by pre-procurement business cases

6.2 Rotherham's Town Deal funding equating to £31.6m of investment into the town is included in the Council's approved Capital Programme. An allocation of revenue specific development funding was provided by Government. The funding has been used in support of developing the business cases.

6.3 A financial appraisal of the FBC has been undertaken. The FBC provides current cost estimates based on industry standard specifications, they include risk assessments and contingency provisions that will likely be amended post FBC submission according to the Council's and Government policy framework.

7. Legal Advice and Implications (to be written by Legal Officer on behalf of Assistant Director Legal Services)

7.1 The proposed schemes are legally viable and consistent with the requirements of the Town Deal funding

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct human resources implications arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 There are not considered to be any direct implications for Children & Young People and Vulnerable Adults.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 Equality Impact Assessments have been carried out and are included with each Business Case.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 CO2 emissions and impact on climate change will be a key fundamental consideration in the development of project designs and delivery. The full impact will be examined further during design and the appointment of contractors.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1. The Town Investment Plan was developed with the active engagement of partners. The proposals reflect a broad consensus among partners on priorities for investment.

12.2 Further consultation will continue post FBC completion

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 Full risk registers have been developed and included in the Full Business Case

13.2 The rising costs of construction materials and contractor availability is emerging as a major risk to the delivery of the Town Deal. Costs are regularly being reviewed and additional sources of funding investigated.

14. Accountable Officers

Lorna Vertigan, Strategic Regeneration Manager
Tim O'Connell, Head of RIDO

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