

**A Town Deal for Birkenhead**  
**Minutes of the Town Deal Board**  
**28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 10am**  
**Egerton House, Birkenhead**

REFERENCE	ITEM	Action
PART 1		
1	<p><b>Welcome and apologies</b>  Leigh-Anne Stradeski (LS) as Chair welcomed the Board and visitors.</p> <p>In attendance:  Leigh-Anne Stradeski - Eureka! Science &amp; Discovery  Sue Higginson - Wirral Met College  Paula Basnett - Wirral Chamber of Commerce  Sophie Bevan - LCR CA  Richard Mawdsley - Wirral Waters – Peel L&amp;P  Liam Kelly - Make CIC  Cllr Pat Cleary - Wirral Council  Cathy Palmer - Wirral Council  Jane Morgan - Wirral Council  Kate Pierce - Wirral Council</p> <p>Apologies were received Cllr Tony Jones, Cllr Janette Williamson, Mick Whitley MP, Louise Healey, Dean Paton, Sally Shah and Mark Lightburn.</p>	
2	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>Declaration of interest were given from:  Sue Higginson (SH) - Education Engagement Network Project and Eureka! project  Paula Basnett (PB) - Egerton House project  Richard Mawdsley (RM) - Sustainability Central Hub  Leigh-Anne Stradeski (LS) - Eureka! project  Liam Kelly (LK) – Argyle Street Creative Hub</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Any declarations of interest to be emailed to Kate Pierce (KP)  <b>ACTION:</b> KP asked that the Register of Interest form be completed and returned by email.</p>	Board Members
3	<p><b>Meeting Minutes</b></p> <p>The Board receive and approve the minutes of its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022.</p> <p>KP updated the Board on the outcome of the actions.</p>	

4	<p>KP provided an update on the Town Deal programme and assurance route:</p> <p><b>Tranche 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tranche 1 full business cases have now been approved by the Council and DLUHC.</li> <li>• Draft Grant Fund Agreements for 2 of the projects have now been completed.</li> <li>• Funding for both of these projects has been passed to the grant recipients and delivery on site had commenced.</li> <li>• The remaining 3 GFAs are being finalised. Legal and property issues are being resolved.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tranche 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full business cases for 3 of the 4 projects (Joy, Sustainability Central Hub, Transport Shed) have been approved.</li> <li>• The full business case for Waterfront Animation &amp; Connectivity Project is still to be determined.</li> <li>• DLUHC asked that a Project Adjustment Form be completed to separate the Waterfront Animation &amp; Connectivity projects into 4 separate projects. DLUHC are currently reviewing the revised Project Summary Documents and an outcome is expected imminently.</li> </ul> <p>A formal Change Control application to reallocate the funding from the EXPO Village project (no longer progressing) to 4 projects within tranche 2, has been approved by DLUHC.</p> <p>Equality Impact Assessments have been completed for all projects.</p> <p><b>Audit and governance</b>          KP provided an update regarding the new governance assurance process put in place by DLUHC.</p> <p>The Board discussed the rising construction costs and noted that, while board members remained confident in delivery, rising costs might impact on funding profiles and result in value engineering of projects.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> LS to consider raising the issue of rising costs of construction and the potential impact on project delivery, with the Regeneration Portfolio Board.</p> <p>SH and PB both raised issues with their respective projects at Education Engagement Network and Egerton House. In both cases it was reported that delays in the project were being experienced where council input was required and that this might jeopardise delivery.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> KP to update LS and continue to facilitate discussions with relevant council officers.</p>	<p>LS/CP</p> <p>KP</p>
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	<p>The Board asked for an update on progress of all projects before the next meeting.  <b>ACTION:</b> KP to prepare update and circulate.</p> <p>Cathy Palmer (CP) provided a progress update on the council’s regeneration portfolio and Levelling-Up fund applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The delivery of the commercial district is 2-3 weeks ahead of schedule.</li> <li>• Plans are in the process of being drawn up for the new market.</li> <li>• A consultation hub is planned in central Birkenhead as a ‘drop in’ engagement space to keep people informed of regeneration plans and receive feedback from the local community.</li> <li>• A Levelling-Up bid for Liscard has been submitted.</li> </ul> <p>SH offered the involvement of students from Wirral Met College in a scrutiny panel.</p> <p>LS provided an update on the new Eureka! Science &amp; Discovery Centre and confirmed a series of stakeholder launch events the w/c 24<sup>th</sup> October. The public opening occurs on 11<sup>th</sup> November.</p> <p>RM updated the board on progress at Wirral Waters, the opening and occupation of the Hythe, delivery of residential accommodation at East Float, the quality of new public realm, and the focus on Modern Methods of Construction making Wirral Waters a construction centre of excellence in regard to this.</p> <p>The Board discussed the need for further improved connectivity to be delivered to ensure a quality offer in Birkenhead and to make the best of the campus of Town Deal projects. The Board expressed concern that delivery of the LCWIP (sustainable transport) project was behind schedule.  <b>ACTION:</b> CP/SB to bring this to the next Left Bank working group and report back to the Board.</p> <p>SH updated the Board with the Education Engagement Network project and the progress being made with design of the hub now completed and curriculum in place for a number of the spokes. SH also confirmed the good partnership working that was taking place and that the College are leading on the Sustainability theme of the Skills Development Fund.</p> <p>The board discussed the need for ‘placed based’ intervention and support, rather than thematic approach.  <b>ACTION:</b> SB to raise this and progress.</p>	<p>KP</p> <p>CP/SB</p> <p>SB</p>
5	<b>Communications</b>	

	<p>The Board received a presentation from Jane Morgan (JM), Culture Manager at Wirral Council, regarding the Left Bank communications and engagement strategy.</p> <p>JM presented the new logo for Left Bank and asked Board members to use it where appropriate.</p> <p>The Board discussed the need to tell the regeneration story in a way that was relevant to the local community. The Board resolved to discuss further at the next meeting and agree some approaches to communication that have been found to be effective in their own organisations.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Move item to next agenda. JM to provide an update.</p>	KP/JM
6	<p><b>Project updates</b></p> <p>Updates were provided by all project leads earlier in the meeting.</p>	
7	<p><b>Spotlight on the Board</b></p> <p>Due to time constraints the Board agreed to move this item to the next meeting.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> KP to include on next agenda</p>	KP
8	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>None</p>	
9	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>Mid December</p> <p>The next meeting will be in person - venue tbc</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> KP to arrange next meeting</p> <p>LS thanked PB for the use of the room and facilities at Egerton House. Both SH and RM offered to host future meetings.</p> <p>LS thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.</p>	KP