

# Newcastle Town Deal Investment Plan

Newcastle Town Deal Board meeting

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020



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## Structure

- Town Deal guidance and template
- Advance payment
- Town Deal delivery partner support
- Progress on priorities
- Risks
- Questions & discussion

# Town Deal Guidance

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# Town Deal Guidance

## Expectations

- Provide a direction for the economic turnaround of the town over a decade.
- Governance – robust arrangements and subject to challenge.
- Community engagement – must include a community engagement plan.
- Covid-19 – must demonstrate the impact on the town's economy.
- 90% capital. Six year funding from 2020/21

## Content

- Section 1: Context, strategy, engagement and delivery
- Section 2: Prioritised list of projects – Rationale, theory of change, costs, timescales, impact, funding sources.
- Three submission dates – End July, October and January.
- ***'There is no advantage in coming first: each Town Investment Plan will be assessed on its own merits'***.

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## Town Deal Guidance – post submission

### MHCLG will consider:

- The in-principle case for, and viability. of each of the projects.
- Evidence of good practice.
- Outputs, outcomes and indicative benefit cost ratio (BCR).
- Match funding potential.

### Three potential scenarios

- In-principle agreement to projects – Heads of terms offered.
- In-principle agreement with conditions – Head of terms offered.
- Reject - a second chance if initially unsuccessful.

### Next steps

- Develop projects in detail - comprehensive business cases within one year.
- Town Deal summary document.
- Funding release.

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## Town Deal advance payment

### Advance payment of £1m for Newcastle Town Investment Plan area

- £1m advance payment
- Funding for capital projects that can be delivered this financial
- Focus on Town Deal priorities and specifically:
  - Improvement to or new parks and green spaces and sustainable transport links.
  - Improvements to town centres including repurposing empty commercial properties.
  - Demolition or site remediation where this will have an immediate benefit.

### Process and timescales

- Respond to MHCLG by 14<sup>th</sup> August
- Confirmation of award early September
- Spending by end of March

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# Town Deal advance payment

## Potential schemes

- Purchase of York Place and meanwhile uses
- Zanzibar site
- Keele – Newcastle Lodge
- Employment and Skills – Lancaster Place
- Knutton
- Transport schemes

# Town Deal Support package

## MHCLG funded Town Fund delivery Partnership

- ‘Town Co-Ordinator’
- Package of support available to Town Deal areas
  - Critical friend
  - Sharing best practice
  - Building capacity – mainly through [www.Townsfund.org.uk](http://www.Townsfund.org.uk)
  - Engaging communities
  - Advice and guidance across several ‘core services’



# Progress on priorities

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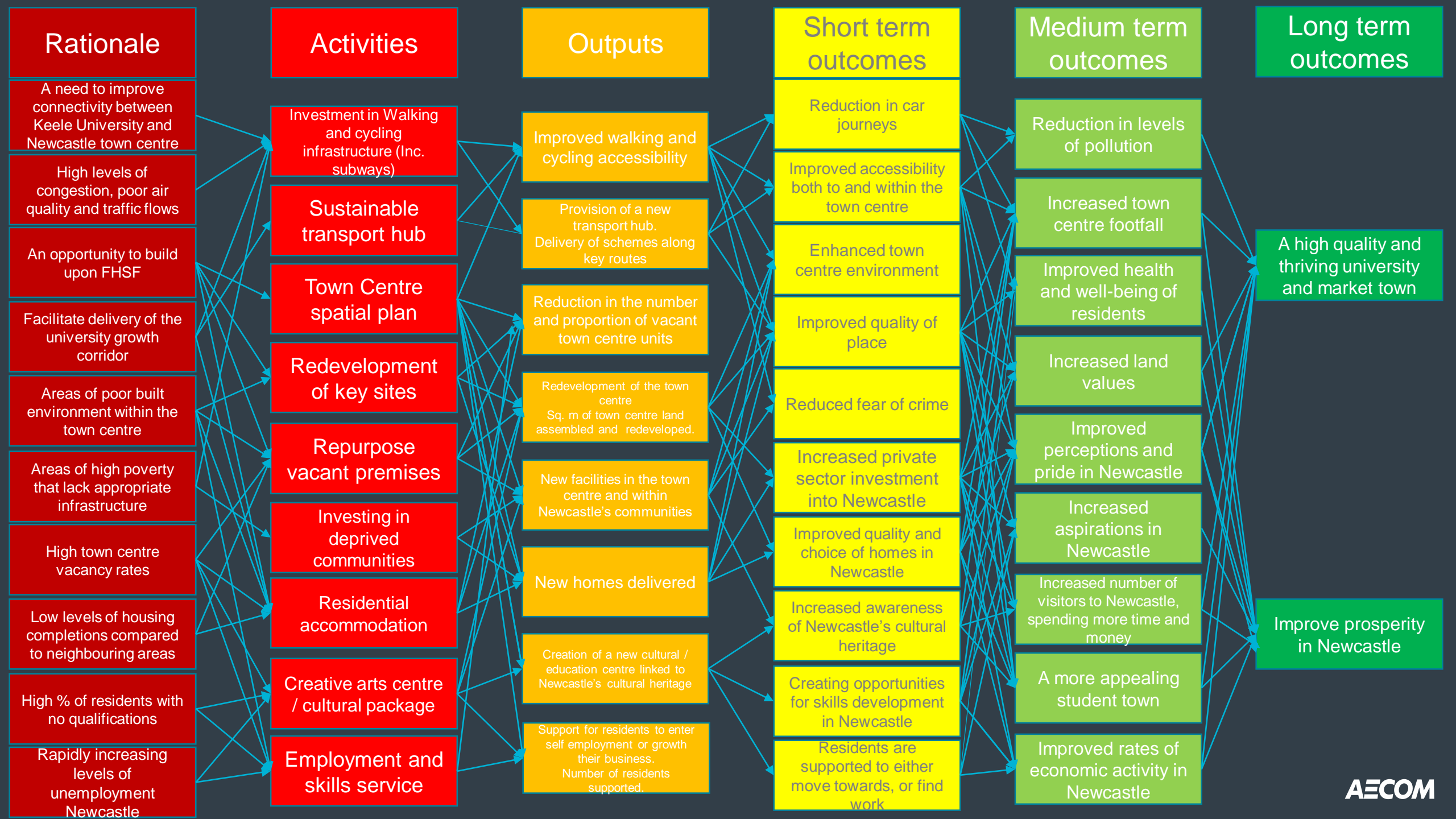
# Overview

## Three spatial areas:

- Town Centre
- Keele Growth Corridor
- Deprived communities

## Three thematic areas:

- Growth
- Connectivity
- Levelling up



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# Newcastle Town Centre

Three working group meetings

Town centre 'masterplan' under development

- Links to Future High Streets Fund.
- Key development sites.
- 'Centre for circus'
- Transport routes including subways and cycling and walking.

Next Steps

- Uses of identified sites
- Land ownership and land assembly
- Prioritised transport schemes including walking and cycling routes and funding for scheme development

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# Transport

Two working group meetings

## Keele SMART transport hub:

- Concept stage with work ongoing to identify footprint
- Further discussion on concept, timings and fit with Town Deal timescales
- Next steps – footprint and cost – Town Deal ask

## Walking & Cycling network

- Strategy for investment - LCWIP
- Schemes being prioritised
- Initial focus on town centre links out to wider area including Keele

## Kidsgrove Station hub

## Next Steps

- Identify footprint and cost for Keele Hub
- Prioritise transport projects

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## Knutton

Initial option identified - £1.7m Town Deal Funding 'ask'

- De-risking the redevelopment of the former Recreation centre site
- Construction of new village hall and village green
- Contributory funding toward the provision of new changing / showering facilities on The Wammy (enabling the development of land at Black Bank Road)
- Contributory funding towards the cost of redeveloping two of the wings to Knutton Business Centre
- Traffic calming measures on the High Street
- Knutton Clinic acquisition

Aspirational option - £3.7m Town Deal Funding "ask".

- Sustainable urban drainage scheme
- improved road junction at Lower Milehouse Lane / Knutton High Street
- Addressing shallow coal works

## Next Steps

- Refinement of options

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## Employment and skills

Further one-to-one meetings undertaken and meeting of the Newcastle Employment and Skills Group

### Town Centre based employment and skills service

- Particular focus on 16-24 and ESA claimants
- Digital skills fund.
- Work experience.
- Advice, support and signposting.

Fit with the fund – 90% capital

### Next Steps

- Identify the cost of purchase and refurbishing premises
- Partner commitments
- Identify sources of revenue funding

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## Chatterley Valley

- Viability gap vs. Town Deal ask
- Review of development appraisals for current scheme
- Proposal to look at funding access road
- Lack of clarity on wider support
- A joint Town Deal project?



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## Implications and next steps

- Finalise the vision statement
- Spatial Plan for all aspects of the Town Deal
- Further detail and refinement of priorities
- Develop Town Deal Investment Plan

# Project risks

# Risks

Description	Mitigation	Likelihood	Impact	Owner
Uncertainty regarding Town Deal Guidance and the level of detail required in a TIP	Review of all TIP guidance and FAQs. Monthly meeting with MHCLG and the Town Deal Hub to ask questions and clarify points.			AECOM/ NULBC
Advance payment – the short and unexpected deadline associated with advance payment distracts effort away from, and slows progress on, the main Town Deal	Early project meeting initiated to identify potential advance payment schemes and establish a workplan and actions up to the 14 <sup>th</sup> August			NULBC / AECOM
Advance payment – unable to agree of bring forward scheme for the advance payment on 14 <sup>th</sup> August	Plan and action log in place that clearly identified the next steps and key information gaps associated with the proposed advance payment schemes			NULBC / AECOM
Opposition / lack of support for the shortlisted projects	Effective and comprehensive consultation strategy is adopted to ensure stakeholder views are accounted for; ensure a proposed investment idea are evidence based; developing an agreed and robust mechanism by which projects are shortlisted and prioritised will also help to mitigate this risk.			AECOM
Uncertainty regarding support for major and large scheme Town Deal Projects	Engagement with project partners to reach a confirmed position of each project. Key decisions to be raised up the project board for a decision			NULBC / AECOM / Board
Project progress slows over the summer due to annual leave at a critical stage in the project's timeline.	Annual leave planner in place with AECOM able to draw upon wider resource of the Economics Team if required.			AECOM / NULBC

# Questions