

ACTION LOG

Kidsgrove Town Deal Board

APPROVED

3rd October 2024, 16:30 – 18:07

Present: Board members: Gill Burnett (GB) - Sports Centre; James Dennison (JD) - CRT; Dan Gray (DG) - Aspire; Lisa Healings (LH) - VAST; Paul Hodgkinson (PH) - Keele Uni; Josephine Locke (JL) - KTCCIC; Simon Martin (SM) - CRT; Cllr Simon Tagg (ST) – NuLBC; Rob Timmis (RT) - King's Academy; Emily Verow (EV) - King's Academy; Cllr Paul Waring (PW) - Kidsgrove TC; David Williams (DW) - MP.

Support Officers: SCC - Gail Edwards (GE); NuLBC - Trudi Barnard (TB), Elaine Burgess (EB), Hal Higgins (HH), Simon McEneny (SMc), Brian Meredith (BM), Sarah Wilkes (SW).

Others: EMR - Dan Robson, Bali Sethi - part.

Apologies: Jon Gray (BEIS/DLUHC); Rob Leese (DWP); Zoe Papiernik-Bloor (Audience Agency); Cllr Philip White (SCC Member).

	Issue	Action	By	Due Date	Compl
1.	Welcome & introductions David Williams, the local MP, was welcomed to the board.				
2.	Declarations of interest None received.				
	Action Log of previous meeting was accepted as a true record.				
3.	Overview of project and spend status Presentation covering all of the projects in the TIP is attached. Two projects are giving concern over delivery timescale, which will be covered in more detail agenda items 4 and 5. No formal decision is required from the board at this stage but need to agree direction of travel for these projects. The Chair reminded board that MHCLG will not allow new projects. Q&A/Comments:	Suggestion to increase board meeting frequency to be more responsive to needs of projects as proposals will need quick decisions to enable delivery within TD timeframe.	TB	Jan 2025	Ongoing

<p>KIDSGROVE SPORTS CENTRE (KSC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GB added that swimming lessons are going really well, fully booked and looking to increase number of instructors. • SW confirmed project is financially complete but NuLBC continues to liaise with the Centre to monitor financial health. • TB confirmed that outputs agreed with MHCLG have been delivered. • SM advised that NuLBC is working with the Centre and Sport England to install solar panels on the roof of the building. The CIC has successfully applied for grant funding for sustainable energy. <p>CHATTERLEY VALLEY (CV)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EB confirmed that the KTD funded element (unlocking the site) is complete. Peacock Hay Road is now open. • SM added that NuLBC was working separately with Haworth and Lucideon, CV did not work out financially for Lucideon who are currently looking at another site in the Borough. • PH - Whilst it would have been good to have Lucideon on the site, in terms of macro-economic development for the area, it would have been displacement. A site for inward investment that grows the overall job pool is a good thing. • DW wanted to understand measurables for site including scrutiny for the next steps. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EB confirmed that longer term outcomes will be monitored for up to 3 years after end of funding period. ○ NuLBC and SCC representatives meet with Harworth bi-monthly to run through progress. • SM mentioned that Harworth will be erecting a building on site as a 'show-home' for prospective investors, <p>KIDSGROVE STATION</p> <p>See item 4 below for full update on the Station project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHCLG are aware of delay to completion and a PAR will be required once ground investigation is complete. <p>SHARED SERVICES HUB (SSH)</p> <p>See item 5 below for full update on the SSH project.</p> <p>CANAL</p>	<p>Regular meetings with Haworth to monitor marketing of site.</p>	<p>SM</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
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	<p>JD confirmed that work will start in second week of Jan 2025.</p> <p>SPEND PROFILE 100% spent on Sports Centre & Chatterley Valley. Minimal spend on Station/SSH covering technical fees, surveys and similar. Canal spend early in 2025. Project management funding 3/4 spent, so some left for additional requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DW requested more information on milestones for expected expenditure. 	Monitoring forms for period Apr-Sept 2024 to be circulated to board ahead of submission.	TB	21 Nov 24	Completed
4a.	<p>Kidsgrove Station – Update on progress with insurance issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMR representatives updated on the current status of the station project. Key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme length from spades in the ground to completion is 32 months. Quoted cost for insurance policy is £216k, bulk of which is excess liability cover – although expensive it is comprehensive. EMR have had to establish how policy will work going forward as may not exist after Oct 26. DfT will confirm this as a ‘key contract’ which will pass to any successor operator. NR/NuLBC also listed as ‘named insured’ parties. Coal Authority has confirmed NuLBC can apply for the permit. The Grant Funding Agreement with EMR needs amendment to cover the GI cost. 	Progress review prepared for next board meeting.	EMR BM	Jan 2025	Presentation to board at meeting
4b.	<p>Kidsgrove Station – Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NuLBC to apply for the Coal Authority permit - structural engineers (DYSE) to complete the application, acting as agent on behalf of NuLBC EMR to procure the insurance policy - final cost to be supplied by Marsh; final approval awaited from EMR exec; secure final approval from DfT. EMR and NuLBC to agree variations to the Grant Funding Agreement. Aiming on completion of these ‘next steps’ by mid Dec 2024. Following completion of GI, the full implications for the future of the project will be better understood, including the cost of remediation, whether LTF will be available and the scope of any necessary variations/value engineering. Project completion currently Oct 2027. MHCLG are aware of the delay. A PAR will be submitted once GI is complete. <p>Q&A/Comments:</p>	Update at next meeting	EMR BM	Jan 2025	Presentation to board at meeting

	<p>PH: Given the programme delays, what level of contingency built into 32 months for OCIP. DR responded that the £216k quote is based on whole project requirement if everything goes to plan. The OCIP gives flexibility to change the period of insurance if, for example, the project may not progress following GI.</p> <p>DW: The additional costs for mitigation may require significant value engineering. How have these discussions taken place at board? SM responded that no value engineering for this project has taken place as yet (other than initial rescoping following the initial award of £16.9m). DG added that if Local Transport Funding (LTF doesn't fund mitigation then board will be required to look at how the agreed outputs can be delivered.</p> <p>SM explained that the County Council will be getting additional LTF from the DfT and officers are in contact with SCC regarding the station project. However, the amount and exactly when it will be available is unknown at the moment.</p> <p>Ministerial lobbying would be much appreciated to ensure that Kidsgrove station is still on the DfT's radar.</p>				
5a.	<p>Shared Service Hub – Discussion of options</p> <p>Much work has gone into trying to secure end-users for the SSH. Health and wellbeing seemed to be the way forward as the local PCT showed definite interest. However. Following a PCT board meeting, they confirmed they were unable to take space for the foreseeable future. Rather than build something with no confirmed end-users, the SSH sub-group proposed looking at options that would have more certainty in terms of end use.</p> <p>Potential proposals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enterprise units: These could be used by small businesses or service providers. Council officers to look at possibilities which could still include Dales garage site, the council owned car park and adjacent buildings. Involve King's Academy in some way to provide some of SSH services at the school, including better connections to the canal to improve pedestrian access. There are already some community facilities at the school, e.g. the bistro, but scope to provide facilities for other service providers. <p>The funding allocated to the project (c£6m) will cover both of these proposals and still leave funding available for public realm work. The combination of these</p>				

	<p>proposals will still meet the objectives of the TIP and agreed outputs. However, a PAR will need to be submitted to MHCLG once agreed by the board.</p> <p>Q&A/Comments: EV emphasised the need to get the offer right before planning the site/building. We need to think creatively about what will have the most impact for residents. The academy is already doing some of outreach work as are other partners and is willing to use some of the data that sits with the school to inform where gaps are.</p> <p>PH agreed that a ‘build it and they will come’ strategy is inappropriate, but we need to know for future proposals who will be owner/operator of whatever facility it is so we are not simply concentrating on capital outlay but something that is financially sustainable in short/med/long term. If there is an enterprise/innovation space angle to be explored, more than happy to help support and guide where appropriate.</p> <p>DW enquired if there was a business case for enterprise units? EB confirmed that a recent feasibility study for North Staffordshire had been undertaken showing need and demand. The Business Growth Hub also confirmed that units of the size proposed are particularly desirable. DW also enquired about a lead organisation for the units, which will be sorted once proposals are firmed up.</p> <p>The emerging revised proposal incorporates the original site, public realm that was always part of original proposal, plus facilities at King’s that have capacity to offer some elements of community offer.</p> <p>DECISION: Is the Board comfortable that proposals around these are worked up and brought back to Board.</p> <p>By show of hands, all Board members approved the decision, with one abstention.</p> <p>DECISION: Is the Board satisfied for officers to undertake due diligence on the car park and land by the garage to inform the business case. NB: This does NOT imply that any of sites in question will be purchased.</p>	<p>Proposals to be worked up in more detail and submitted to Board for discussion at next meeting.</p>	<p>EV/RT SM/EB/HH/TB</p>	<p>Jan 2025</p>	<p>Present ation to board at meeting</p>
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	By show of hands, all Board members approved the decision, with one abstention.				
6.	AOB DW requested more information on governance of KTD Board, e.g. liabilities, decision making process, project spend, viability, outputs, etc reported in board setting and more information on how to put forward proposals.	Meet with DG and officers to discuss in more details	DG/SM	Nov 2024	Completed
7.	Date of next meeting Date/venue to be arranged in Jan 2025.	Confirm date	TB	TBC	Completed

Abbreviations:

CIC – Community Interest Company

CRT – Canal & River Trust

DfT- Dept. for Transport

EMR – East Midlands Rail

GI – Ground investigation

KTCCIC – Kidsgrove Town Centre CIC

KTD – Kidsgrove Town Deal

MHCLG – Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Govt

NuLBC – Newcastle Borough Council

NR – Network Rail

OCIP – Owner Controlled Insurance Programme

PAR – Project Adjustment Request

PCT – Primary Care Trust

SCC – Staffordshire County Council

SSH – Shared Service Hub