

ACTION LOG

Meeting

NEWCASTLE TOWN DEAL BOARD

Date

Tuesday 25 March 2025
(Start Time: 11.30am - 12.30pm)

Attendees: Trevor McMillan (Keele University), Cllr Stephen Sweeney (NBC), Dan Gray (Aspire) Fiona Wallace (New Vic) Jane Tunnicliff (NSCG) Henryk Adamczuk (Silverdale PC), Cllr Philip White (SCC)
Hal Higgins (NBC) Elaine Burgess (NBC) Brian Meredith (NBC) Sarah Wilkes (NBC), Gail Edwards (SCC), Steve D'Arcy (Tarpey Woodfine) Alicia Bowers-Smith (Tarpey Woodfine)

Minutes: Elaine Burgess

Distribution: Attendees & Apologies

Apologies: Simon McEneny, Anthony Harold, Adam Jogee MP, Ann Pittard, Carl Copestake, Rachel Laver, Andrew Robertson, Graham Bibby, Lisa Healings, Charlotte Pearce, Nigel Davies

'DRAFT'

REF.	ISSUE	ACTION	RESP.	DATE DUE	COMPL.
1.	Welcome & Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All were welcomed to the meeting which was held online. 				
2.	Declaration of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is noted that a number of people have interests in projects to be delivered. No specific conflicts of interest were registered. 				
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed. 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that a revised spend profile had been submitted to MHCLG who had accepted this. 				
4.	Review of Board Terms and Conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elaine presented an item on the Terms of Reference for the Board. A recent audit had noted that these were overdue for review and that the quoracy level needed looking at. It was confirmed that the wording of the terms of reference had been updated to reflect the current stage of delivery. The number of voting attendees attending was discussed and the need to avoid bias if too few voting members were available. It was confirmed that decisions could also be made via email votes if required. The new quoracy level of voting members was agreed as 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised Board Terms and Conditions to be emailed to Board members for signature. Board members to sign and return. 	EB All	28/03/25 28/04/25	
5.	Sustainable Transport <p>a) Bus Station</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A proposal was introduced for works at Newcastle bus Station. It was noted that this was one of the measures proposed in the sustainable transport project. Representatives from Tarpey Woodfine presented an overview of the concept, which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewable energy options – solar PV and preparations for introducing EV charging points for buses. Sustainable, low maintenance planting options Improved bus information displays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project proposals for the bus station to be progressed with further design and cost information. 	BM/EB /Tarpey Woodfine	Next Board meeting	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was confirmed that the sustainable transport project had been notified to MHCLG as one that may need to spend after March 2026 and MHCLG had approved this. To get to the next stage of design and cost estimate technical surveys will be required. Project approved to go to the next stage with design and cost estimates to be presented to the next Board meeting. <p>b) Pedestrian Signage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A proposal was introduced to upgrade pedestrian signage around the town centre as it is out of date and key destinations are not signposted. The current signage is also not accessible. Project approved to go to the next stage of a signage review and costed proposals. It was noted that the bus station would be the priority spend. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project proposals for signage to be progressed with further design and cost information. 	EB/BM	Next Board meeting	
6.	<p>Revised Astley Phase 2 proposal – music venue Astley Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following agreement at the last Board meeting that a Phase 2 Astley project would not proceed an alternative use for that money needed to be found. It was noted that the Town investment Plan and Business Case had placed this project in the diversifying town centre uses and increasing footfall element. It had also been assumed that phase 2 of the Astley project would be in York Place. The business case noted the existing Newcastle cultural offer and an intent to build on this. Some of the Shared Prosperity Fund activities had strengthened this offer. It was proposed that the idea of introducing a small-scale, grass-roots music venue at the re-developed York Place (to be called Astley Place) be considered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project proposals and costings to be developed and considered at the next Board meeting. 	EB/BM	Next Board Meeting	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that the planning application for York Place that was to be considered by Council in April 2025 did not include the music venue. Approval of this proposal was not being pre-assumed. Should the Board decide to progress with the project then a revised planning application would be submitted. • Joules Brewery had proposed that they would underwrite operation of the music venue in a similar way to existing cultural projects that they had supported. • Initial contact with the Music Venue Trust had been positive and they had the potential to offer consultancy support in development of the idea. • The proposed location of the music venue was shown as a corner unit diagonally opposite the Old Bulls Head. • It was confirmed that there would be no cross-over with Future High Street Fund funding that had been used for York Place. That had funded the purchase and partial clearance of the property and was not being used for its re-development. • GE offered to share contact details of the Foxlowe in Leek which may be a useful example of a community venue. 				
7.	<p>Programme Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A general programme update was given on the other projects. • Digital infrastructure is now in delivery stage and initial contact with community centres had been positive. • For sustainable transport, all the existing project elements are well into delivery and the circular bus route was operational. • EV charging points had been installed in castle Car Park and were operational. 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the permeability project there are some issues with cost increases that are being discussed. There is a need to work through what can be delivered with the funding available. For key gateway sites, the Midway is going to Planning Committee in April and a planning submission for Zanzibar is imminent. Keele in Town has successfully opened. For Knutton Village, the Football Changing Rooms are almost complete, the enterprise centre is substantially complete, pending a substation connection and progress is being made on the housing sites. Delivery at Cross Street, Chesterton is now well underway. Funding – Approximately £8 million has been spent and there are further funding commitments of £9 million. 				
8	Any Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None noted 				
9.	Date of Next Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 18 June 2025, 2.00pm. Venue to be confirmed. 				

EB/25/03/2025