

Report to: Hastings Town Deal Board

Date of Meeting: 17 September 2020

Report Title: Town Hub Briefing Update 7th August 2020

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Town Fund – discussion with Town Hub support officer Rebecca Collins and specialist advisors.

Key points of advice to note:

1. The TIP needs to clearly show it has been developed using the principles of Theory of Change. **Theory of Change** is essentially a comprehensive description and illustration of how and why a desired change is required and what is expected to happen in a particular social and economic programme.
2. For this to be articulated in the TIP we require agreement amongst Town Board members of the following set of principles.
 - a. A clear vision for the town, one which is achievable and realistic
 - b. To set out the key challenges for the town from which to derive five or six clear aims and objectives for the Town Investment Plan and ones which the Town Fund can address. The aims and objectives can be broader than the Town Fund, and as part of the Town Deal would require wider investment and partnership working.
 - c. Clearly articulate why these challenges and objectives are important to the town and prioritise them.
 - d. All projects submitted will need to be tested on how they deliver against these broad objectives and their proposed outcomes/impact.
 - e. The TIP needs to be bold, transformational and not come across as an ad hoc set of project proposals, which using the Theory of Change process will avoid.
 - f. The process of prioritising projects needs to be compliant with the Treasury's Green Book
 - g. Some form of Value for Money assessment is necessary – further guidance to follow.
 - h. As well as fitting with the Town Fund themes, the key cross-cutting principle of clean inclusive growth also needs to be met for any objectives and programmes/projects