



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Luke Hall MP

*Minister for Regional Growth and Local
Government*

**Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local
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Andy O'Brien
Chief Executive, East Staffordshire Borough Council
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3 March 2021

Dear Mr Robinson and Mr O'Brien,

Burton upon Trent Town Deal

In September 2019, the Government announced the initial 101 places invited to develop Town Deal proposals as part of the £3.6 billion Towns Fund.

Burton upon Trent was included in this initial 101 places and we were pleased to receive Burton upon Trent's Town Investment Plan in December. We are grateful for your hard work, and that of your team and Town Deal Board, in developing this set of project proposals to deliver long-term and sustainable economic growth in Burton Upon Trent.

I am delighted to be offering you a Town Deal for Burton upon Trent to a value of up to £22.8 million. The draft Heads of Terms for this deal are attached to this letter. A list of the projects that we are content to support within this funding envelope is also attached, with conditions as appropriate; it is for Burton upon Trent to choose which projects to proceed with.

I understand that you will need to secure the agreement of the Town Deal Board to take up this offer. I would therefore request that you do so and return to us the signed Heads of Terms as confirmation by 24 March 2021. My officials are of course on hand to answer any questions you may have.

This is an exciting opportunity to come together to drive long-term economic and productivity growth in Burton upon Trent, particularly as we meet the challenges presented by Covid-19. I look forward to working with you to make Burton upon Trent's plans a reality.

Yours sincerely,

LUKE HALL MP

Heads of Terms offer for Burton upon Trent

Introduction

A historic town with a rich heritage, Burton upon Trent benefits from being a strong logistics centre, two key breweries and extensive natural assets. Nevertheless, it faces several challenges, most significantly in relation to skills, employment, enterprise and connectivity.

Government will work with East Staffordshire Borough Council and its Town Deal Board to support the delivery of a Town Deal, with the goal of ensuring all Burton upon Trent residents have a share in the town's success.

The commitment

This document lays out the Heads of Terms offer to Burton upon Trent, under the Towns Fund. This is not a contractually binding document and the offer is subject to various conditions being met. The Heads of Terms will act as a Memorandum of Understanding for the future development and delivery of Burton upon Trent's Town Investment Plan and project proposals. It sets out joint expectations as Burton upon Trent enters the business case development phase.

Government will provide up to **a total of £22.8 million from the Towns Fund**, which will be used to enable Burton upon Trent to become a resilient, better, brighter town by enhancing its Trent location, by the forest, while better connecting and future proofing the lives of the people.

Burton upon Trent has proposed a range of projects that will contribute towards achieving this vision. These include:

- Delivering a University Regional Learning Hub
- Introducing High Street Linkages
- Creating a New Pedestrian & Cycle Crossing over the River Trent
- Improving the Trent and Mersey Canal Towpath
- Developing the Cycle Network Enhancements
- Delivering the Burton and South Derbyshire College - Specialist Education Offer

Burton upon Trent will need to prioritise these projects within the funding envelope being offered. Funding for individual projects will be subject to successfully completing Phase 2 of the Towns Fund process. This includes detailed project development and business case assurance at local level.

Process, governance and assurance

Local partners will work with government to demonstrate the feasibility, viability and value for money of their projects by developing and submitting the Town Deal Summary Document, including (as per the Further Guidance and Stage two guidance: business case development):

- A list of agreed projects
- Details of business case assurance processes followed for each project
- An update on actions taken in relation to the Heads of Terms key conditions and requirements

- A Delivery Plan (including details of the team, working arrangements and agreements with stakeholders)
- A Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
- Confirmation of funding arrangements and financial profiles for each project
- Undertaking Public Sector Equalities Duty analysis
- Approval from the Town Deal Board and Lead Council

Burton upon Trent should conduct project assurance in line with agreed routes for each individual project and should provide further details of planned community and private sector stakeholder engagement, including how relevant stakeholders will be engaged in the development of individual business cases.

If the priority projects identified for funding do not progress, MHCLG cannot guarantee that funding can be assigned to alternative projects or that if it is those will be to the same value. This may result in an overall reduction in the amount of funding received.

Within two months of accepting this offer, Burton upon Trent should confirm in writing details of projects being taken forward and a plan for addressing key conditions relating to those projects and the overall Town Investment Plan. This should be sent to towns.fund@communities.gov.uk, copied to the town lead.

Burton upon Trent must then complete business cases for the projects being taken forward and submit the Summary Document within 12 months of the deal being agreed. MHCLG will then provide the agreed funding up to the maximum amount of **£22.8m** for those projects, provided that all conditions are met.

Signed:

Chair of the Town Deal Board

Chief Executive of lead Council

MHCLG Secretary of State / Minister

Date

ANNEX TO THE HEADS OF TERMS: PROJECTS WITHIN SCOPE OF THE TOWN DEAL

The Town Deal offer is a maximum of **£22.8 million** of MHCLG funding in total.

Within this maximum amount, Burton upon Trent may take forward projects selected from those listed below.

This funding will be subject to successfully completing Phase 2 of the Towns Fund process as set out in the Towns Fund Further Guidance, including detailed project development and business case assurance at local level. It is also dependent on final spending profiles, including the RDEL/CDEL split being provided, and the further project-specific conditions set out below being met.

Project	Funding offer limit	Match	Expected outputs and outcomes	Conditions	Fast track (Y/N)
<p>University Regional Learning Hub</p> <p>A new Regional Learning Centre for Burton, located at the historic Brewhouse. It is designed to provide relevant higher education skills and training that responds to the need for clear progression routes & working in partnership with local providers to achieve that objective</p>	£2m	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased capacity and accessibility to new and improved skills facilities for 360 people pa Increased benefit for the public education over the long term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	N
<p>High Street Linkages</p> <p>The project will introduce town centre living with key walking and cycling routes to the nearby Washlands area, as well as delivering other hospitality & commercial uses, which will help transform the riverside into an attraction</p>	£3m	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remediation of a site to provide a key town centre gateway between the High Street and the Washlands A mixed use masterplan for the High Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A detailed delivery plan to be provided along with quantified outputs and outcomes for this project. 	N

<p>Library and Enterprise Hub</p> <p>Relocation of three key County Council services into a single premises at the town centre Market Hall, enabling further re-development opportunities at the riverside</p>	£7.3m	£1m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of new public spaces: circa 410m² • New, upgraded or protected community hubs, spaces or assets, where this links to local growth: circa 980m² • 40% increase in library attendance annually (based on DCMS research) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	N
<p>New Pedestrian & Cycle Crossing over the River Trent</p> <p>A new pedestrian and cycling bridge that crosses the River Trent. The project will enable the provision of a key link in the creation of an east to west route for active modes across the town</p>	£7.5m	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New or upgraded cycle or walking paths. • Wider cycling infrastructure • Reduced travel time for 650 residential properties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	N
<p>Improvement of Trent and Mersey Canal Towpath</p> <p>Enhance the Trent and Mersey Canal towpath throughout Burton in three main sections</p>	£0.53m	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New or upgraded cycle or walking paths: 4.2km but up to 8.9km • 85% increase in walking and cycling (based on increases following similar improvement measures) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	Y
<p>Cycle Network Enhancements</p> <p>A package of sustainable transport measures accelerating the delivery of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).</p>	£1.43m	£4.875 m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New and upgraded cycle paths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	Y
<p>Burton and South Derbyshire College</p> <p>-</p>	£3.10m	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in capacity and accessibility to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	Y

Specialist Education Offer Create a Health & Social Care Realistic Environment for learners.			new or improved skills facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new learners assisted:90 pa 		
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General conditions

There are also the following requirements for the process and governance:

- **TIP improvements:** Provide further details of planned community and private sector stakeholder engagement and relevant stakeholders will be engaged effectively in the development of individual business cases.
- **Assurance:** The business cases for projects will be taken through East Staffordshire Borough Council, in line with local assurance processes.
- **Public Sector Equalities Duty:** Burton Upon Trent will undertake programme-wide level impact assessment, relevant project-level impact assessment and relevant Environmental Impact Assessments.

If the priority projects identified for funding do not progress, MHCLG cannot guarantee that funding can be assigned to alternative projects or that if it is those will be to the same value. This may result in an overall reduction in the amount of funding received.

Within two months of accepting this offer, Burton upon Trent should provide the following information to towns.fund@communities.gov.uk, copied to the town lead (annex a in business case guidance):

- Details of the projects being taken forward (including for each project the capital/revenue split and the financial profile)
- Overall capital/revenue split and financial profile for the Town Deal
- A plan for addressing key conditions relating to those projects and the overall Town Investment Plan.

Burton upon Trent must complete business cases for the projects being taken forward and submit the Town Deal Summary Document within 12 months of accepting this offer. Business cases should follow the Lead Council's usual assurance processes and be undertaken in partnership with the Town Deal Board.

If the town wishes to alter the projects being developed, change them for other projects, or otherwise depart from the conditions placed on the projects above, they will inform the Towns Hub as soon as possible setting out clear justifications and evidence. A form for requesting such changes is in the business case guidance.