

## **Regeneration Plan Update**

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### **Purpose**

As part of the government's Plan for Neighbourhoods, the Clacton Town Board is leading the development of a Regeneration Plan. This plan will outline a long-term vision for the next 10 years, along with a more detailed 4-year investment plan for the town. According to the published Prospectus, the plan needs to be submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) sometime between spring and winter.

This paper provides an update on progress so far, how the work aligns with the Clacton Town Centre Masterplan, and a draft timeline for taking the Plan forward.

We are still waiting on further guidance from MHCLG about what exactly needs to be included in the plan and how it will be assessed, so some of the details in this report may need to be updated as things become clearer.

### **Recommendation for the Board**

1. To note the proposals and timetable for the development of the Regeneration Plan.
2. To nominate up to three Board Members (or nominated representatives) to be on the Steering Group, to act as advisors on the form and process for the development of the Regeneration Plan once more detailed guidance is published.

### **Background**

Clacton is one of 75 places chosen by Government for the new Plan for Neighbourhoods, empowering local people to take back control of their future with a long-term flexible funding pot of up to £20 million of funding and support over the next 10 years. The Clacton Town Board is responsible for developing a Regeneration Plan to deliver the strategic objectives of the programme.

In consultation with the community, the board will generate a vision for the future of Clacton and set out a pathway to deliver that over the course of the 10-year programme (and beyond), considering opportunities to attract and combine new and existing private, public, and philanthropic funding streams. It will include an initial four-year investment plan, focusing on areas of opportunity and seeking to maximise existing assets and identify the "interventions" the Board intends to pursue.

The list of interventions in the guidance falls under the following themes: Regeneration, High Streets, and Heritage; Housing; Work, Productivity, and Skills; Cohesion; Health and Wellbeing; Transport; Safety and Security; and Education and Opportunity.

## Resourcing the development of the Regeneration Plan

In March 2025 the Board agreed to allocate funding to support the development of the Regeneration Plan, including external resources to assist with drafting the plan, facilitating workshops, and testing funding prioritisation.

On this basis Tendring District Council, on behalf of the Clacton Town Board, will commission a resource who brings with them a mix of skills including strategic thinking, data analysis, community and stakeholder engagement, regeneration expertise, design and project management.

The consultants will help the Board to shape the Regeneration Plan built on the outcomes of local engagement led by CVS Tendring and others, and will work with the Board to ensure that the local community and stakeholders continue to be central to shaping the final plan.

Tendring District Council is developing the brief for the work, and is in the process of soft market testing, to find appropriate consultants and to test the budget allocation of £40,000.

## Governance Arrangements

The Project Team, led by a designated project manager at Tendring District Council, will oversee the procurement and daily management of consultants. They will ensure the project adheres to the Council's internal processes as the Accountable Body. Additionally, they will facilitate connections to other projects, including the masterplan, and ensure that consultations and communications are well-structured and coordinated.

The Project Steering Group will support the Project Team by contributing to the final consultancy brief upon the release of new guidance. They will also act as a critical friend, providing support between Board meetings and linking to engagement work streams.

The Clacton Town Board will ultimately be responsible for shaping and approving the final Vision and Investment Plan before its submission to MHCLG. The consultants will present to, and facilitate workshops with, the Board at key stages of the project.



## Links to the new Spatial Masterplan for Clacton Town Centre

Funded through the Government’s Community Regeneration Partnership (formerly the Levelling Up Partnership), Tendring District Council also plans to develop a spatial masterplan that will develop existing visioning work into an action-focused, deliverable and phased delivery plan, harnessing culture as a driver for town centre regeneration, laying the groundwork to realise the Council’s ambition for a cultural quarter in Clacton. The masterplan will:

- Identify key areas for intervention, including key development sites and projects which could help enhance the vitality of the town centre
- Set out urban design and wayfinding strategies, to support connectivity and legibility within the town centre, and communicate the key areas identified
- Establish an Action Framework, mapping out ongoing and planned projects, to help coordination and collaboration on driving regeneration and tracking impacts.

The Clacton Town Board will be a key consultee in the formation of the masterplan, which will be in development from the Autumn 2025 through to Spring 2026.

## Timetable

The indicative timetable below includes the following assumptions:

- That MHCLG approve the governance and boundary proposals submitted last month by early June. This in turn will release the additional capacity funding and trigger Tendring District Council's governance processes as the Accountable Body.
- That MHCLG publish further guidance on fund delivery, Plan submission, assessment and approval in the coming weeks, so this can feed into the consultancy brief.
- That engagement timescales with the various cohorts are agreed by the sub-groups.

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\* Includes Board & stakeholder workshops