

## **Brighouse Town Investment Plan**

### **The Towns Fund**

The Towns Fund was set up in 2019 with £3.6 billion to provide towns with the tools to design and deliver an economic growth strategy for their area. The fund is part of the government's ambition to level up the UK economy and drive economic regeneration of towns to deliver long-term economic and productivity growth. The objectives of the fund are to drive this economic growth through:

- Urban regeneration;
- Planning and land use;
- Skills and enterprise infrastructure, and;
- Connectivity.

It is also important that Town Investment Plans help support Clean Growth, Inclusive Growth and recovery from COVID 19. 100 towns across the country, including Brighouse, were invited to submit bids with the potential for £25m to be available for each town.

### **Development of the Brighouse Town Investment Plan**

A Town Investment Plan (TIP) has been developed for Brighouse over the last couple of months intending to address key needs and opportunities by building on and progressing the Brighouse Masterplan produced last summer and identifying additional projects to support economic growth. The needs and opportunities of Brighouse were identified by compiling a comprehensive evidence base, from which the vision and main objectives were developed. The proposed projects have been designed to deliver the benefits identified as key priorities by the local community and businesses, and meet the identified vision and objectives. The detailed funding bid for Brighouse's TIP will be submitted to the Government at the end of January 2021. We will then move to agreeing overall Heads of Terms with Government by March and then each of the projects will be developed in more detail over the remainder of 2021.

### **The Vision**

The course of the River Calder, nestled within the steep-sided Pennine Valleys, established Brighouse in early Roman times as a key crossing point of regional significance and a centre for 'making' across the region. The success of this settlement and its community is entwined with this natural setting and wealth, and has in turn driven the cultural, social and economic activities for which the town is renowned, from the development of the textile and stone industries through to valve and wire expertise on a global scale. The industrial and craft heritage of this Calderdale community within the region's 'Maker Belt' is therefore particularly strong due to the entrepreneurial spirit and engineering prestige which continues to drive national and international innovation.

**Our Vision** is to build on and celebrate this strong spirit by embracing the opportunities provided by Industry 4.0, particularly advanced manufacturing, ensuring that economic growth is sustainable, resilient and inclusive. Local skills and employment will be boosted contributing to increased prosperity for our

people and businesses as part of Covid-19 recovery. Brighouse's town centre will be reinvigorated as a vibrant place for independent shops, events and facilities, whilst the enhancement of active transport links will promote a healthy community with plenty of fresh air to breathe. A greater sense of place will be created by highlighting the stories of Brighouse's people, celebrating their innovations both past and present, and reconnecting them with the river that provides the historic lifeblood of this Pennine Town.

## The Objectives

### PLACE



**Reinvigorate Brighouse town centre as a distinctive destination offering a special leisure, retail, and cultural experience** of independent shops, events and facilities for both the community and wider regional visitors.

### HEALTH, WELLBEING & SUSTAINABILITY



**Maximise opportunities for low carbon and active transport** to contribute towards a Net Zero carbon future and **improve links to, and connectivity between, green spaces** to increase access to nature for local residents and

### ENTERPRISE



**Build on Brighouse's reputation as a key manufacturing hub, catalysing on advanced manufacturing opportunities and fostering improved links across Leeds City Region's supply chains and research institutions.**

### INCLUSIVE GROWTH



Provide **greater access to skills and employment opportunities locally** with a focus on the provision of apprenticeships and vocational learning for young people, re-skilling, up-skilling and creating employment opportunities and pathways to support **a just transition to Clean Growth and**

## The proposed projects

Project	Description
<b>PLACE</b>	
1. <i>Brighouse Canalside, Briggate and Bethel Street Public Realm</i>	<p>Make Brighouse more people friendly, promote local culture and make the town a more desirable place to live and visit by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving the Canalside area with a space for community events and a 'promenaded' treatment alongside the canal for public use.</li> <li>Tree planting and greening, as well as improving pedestrian walkways.</li> </ul>
2. <i>Brighouse Streets and Lanes Public Realm Improvement</i>	<p>Make Brighouse more people friendly and support the strong retail offer to enhance its identity, increase footfall to retail spaces and extend dwell time by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>planting trees and other greening of the area in addition to increased total area for pedestrians</li> <li>enhancement of use of pedestrian walkways.</li> </ul>
3. <i>Brighouse Market Offer Enhancement</i>	<p>Promote local culture and business growth and create a distinctive attraction within Brighouse by enhancing the market offer</p>
<b>HEALTH, WELLBEING AND SUSTAINABILITY</b>	
4. <i>Brighouse Thresholds and Pedestrian Linkages</i>	<p>Improve pedestrian and cyclist links, promote local culture and make the town a healthy, desirable place to live by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing high quality improvements to pedestrian/cyclist access and links between residential areas and the town centre</li> <li>greening of the streets and the inclusion of art and improved signage.</li> </ul>
5. <i>Brighouse Welcome</i>	<p>Encourage greater use of public transport and active travel as well as enhancing the image of Brighouse as a destination by improving passenger facilities at Brighouse Station</p>
<b>ENTERPRISE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH</b>	
6. <i>Industry 4.0 and Skills</i>	<p>Provide improved access to skills and employment opportunities in advanced manufacturing by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refurbishing the apprenticeship facility (ex-KITS site) to provide a manufacturing hub</li> <li>Providing state of the art advanced manufacturing equipment to support industry and skills development in robotics and green technologies</li> </ul> <p>Supporting apprenticeship training.</p>
7. <i>Capital Grants Fund</i>	<p>Support SME starts ups and existing SMEs affected by COVID through a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital Grants Fund for new kit/minor alterations (match required).</li> </ul>

## Your involvement

Brighouse's Masterplan was informed by extensive community consultation and views provided helped to shape the final projects that are being included in the TIP. Additional projects have been developed in discussion with local businesses to help support COVID 19 recovery.

We would very much welcome your involvement in the further development of the TIP projects over the next year – please let us know how you would like to be involved by completing this very short survey.

[SURVEY ON FUTURE CONSULTATION](#)