

Stakeholder Email Update December 22, 2020

Have Your Say on the £25m Keighley Town Investment Plan Projects

Between December 22 and January 4, people can have their say on projects proposed for the Town Investment Plan (TIP) designed to transform Keighley's economic growth prospects.

Visit <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/regeneration/towns-fund/keighley-town-fund/> and follow the link to the feedback form, where you can pick the projects you think are most important. This will help to develop Keighley's TIP for submission at the end of January.

Ian Hayfield, who is chair of the Keighley Town Deal Board and Director of Hayfield Robinson Limited, said: "This government funding is crucial to ensure a better future for the town, and the project ideas are really exciting. I'm extremely proud of the way we've all worked together as one Keighley-wide team."

Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw, Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport, said: "The Towns Fund represents a fantastic opportunity to deliver real economic and social change for everyone in Keighley in the years to come. Please do have your say on these projects."

The UK government's Towns Fund can provide up to £25m for Keighley to invest in capital projects designed to improve the town (eg property, connectivity, economic and cultural assets, skills and digital infrastructure).

The Keighley Town Deal Board, which includes businesses, the local MP, stakeholder organisations, the voluntary and community sector and representatives from Bradford Council and Keighley Town Council, is leading the work, with the support of many other local businesses and community stakeholders.

After agreeing a vision and objectives for the Keighley TIP, the Board gathered more than 50 initial ideas for projects. These have now been assessed against government criteria for projects suitable for inclusion in a TIP, resulting in a list of 36 projects under seven themes that could all make a real difference to the town.

The Board now needs to understand everyone's preferences, to help to inform Keighley's TIP submission, alongside key criteria such as deliverability and sustainability. The proposed projects are:

Town Centre Improvements. Ensuring the Town Centre is a thriving place for people to live and work, with an improved public realm, better accessibility and walkability, and preserved assets:

- Low Street Public Realm phase 2: Second phase of the regeneration of Low Street, including new paving, upgraded street lighting, new benches and bins, planters.
- Active Travel Investments: 7 Active travel projects (pedestrian, road refurbishment) across Keighley.
- Tree Planting Programme: A tree planting programme across Keighley, increasing greenery, absorbing pollution and reducing urban heat effects.
- Church Yard Improvements: Regeneration of the yard including improved access, landscape enhancement.
- Albert Yard Improvement: Regeneration of the yard including improved lighting, landscape enhancement.

Skills. Ensuring the town has the space to support skills for local employment and entrepreneurship, including by increasing the capacity and accessibility to new or improved skills facilities:

- Keighley Skills Hub: A new skills hub sponsored by Keighley College to deliver various types of classes (basic skills, communication, personal development, digital and IT) and support employment.
- Manufacturing Engineering Future Technology Hub: A new training hub sponsored by Keighley College, specialising in manufacturing and engineering skills.

Community and Enterprise. Supporting small business and the third sectors' development, improving commercial space and strengthen their impact on the local economy and community:

- Women Employment Project: A new social enterprise providing skills training packages relating to the textile industry for local BAME women.
- Building Improvement of Various Charities and Community Centres (x7 projects): Building improvements including layout, access, rooms, broadband, roof.
- Capital Assistance to Business Growth: Create a fund to support local businesses moving into better premises and purchasing adequate equipment.
- Refurbishment of Haworth Toilets: Refurbishment of the public toilets at a highly touristic location.

- Keighley Cougar Facilities Regeneration: Redevelopment of the main stand to provide modern facilities, including a business incubator.
- Dalton Mill Feasibility and Project: Repurposing of the Mill to transform it into a business and community centre focused on creative and digital industries.
- Stockbridge Community Centre: Creation of a new community centre in Stockbridge.

Culture and Heritage. Supporting the arts, creative activity, local heritage and landmarks, cultures and sub-cultures, in order to sustain the development of strong communities, strengthen identify, build a local place-brand, promote tourism and create economic opportunities:

- Community Art Hub: Create a cultural destination in Keighley Town Centre.
- Keighley Art and Film Festival: Support the development of the Keighley Art and Film Festival.
- Oakworth Edwardian Promenade: Restore an approximate 200-yard length of the promenade.
- Police Museum: Establish a police museum in the Town Centre.

Health and Sport. Develop assets and infrastructure that promote healthy habits, such as encouraging residents to walk or cycle daily and practice sports, and better value existing natural assets such as parks and rivers for leisure and physical activity:

- Centrally Located Keighley Health and Wellbeing Centre: Integrated health and wellbeing hub at the heart of Keighley, bringing together GP services including self-care and prevention, as well as community care, mental health, dental care services and a GP training hub.
- A River Worth Friends: Improvements of the river banks with walking and cycling routes and protected wildlife.
- Worth Valley Cycle Way: Building a safe, user-friendly cycleway from Oxenhope to Keighley.

Infrastructure. Developing key infrastructure to improve the town's connectivity – both physical and digital – and ensuring economic attractiveness and prosperity:

- Digital Airevalley Programme: Better and faster internet connection across Keighley.

- Real Time Bus Information: Extending the existing real time information system across the town.
- Keighley & Worth Valley Railway: Series of improvements on the railway line to increase the line capacity, flexibility of operations and subsequently traffic.
- Keighley Station Improvements: Refurbishment of the train station (roof, windows, ramps), improving the historic fabric of the station as well as accessibility.
- Dalton Lane Environmental Improvements: Upgrade to surfaces, landscaping, street furniture and lighting along Dalton Lane (Business Development Zone area).
- Traffic Changes in the Town Centre: Implementing a one-way system on Cavendish Street.

Commercial and Residential Property. A fund to restore and repurpose buildings, or remediate and redevelop sites for commercial and residential use in these areas:

- Royd Ings Business Development Zone: Site remediation, refurbishment and/or construction of modern buildings for commercial use (industrial or offices).
- Dalton Lane Business Development Zone: Site remediation, refurbishment and/or construction of modern buildings for commercial use (industrial or offices).
- Northside of Town Centre (e.g. Aire Valley Business Centre): Demolition of aged office and warehouse accommodation, to replace with new build light industrial sheds.
- Cavendish Street: Property refurbishment and repurposing on Cavendish Street.
- North Street: Property refurbishment and repurposing on North Street.
- Beck Street/Water Lane area: Site remediation, refurbishment and/or construction of modern buildings for commercial use (industrial or offices).
- Westside of Town Centre (e.g. West Lane area): Site remediation, refurbishment and/or construction of modern building for commercial use (industrial or offices) and some residential use.

- Southside of Town Centre (e.g. Prospect Mills area): Site remediation, refurbishment and/or construction of modern building for commercial use (industrial or offices) and some residential use.
- Eastside of Town Centre (e.g. Low Mills area): Site remediation, refurbishment and/or construction of modern building for commercial use (industrial or offices) and some residential use.

The government has put together a website about the Towns Fund Initiative and is encouraging local people to comment to inform the bidding process.

Visit: mytown.communities.gov.uk