

PRESS RELEASE11th May 2020**St Ives Town Deal Board begins work on Town Investment Plan**

At the end of 2019, the government announced a £3.6 billion Towns Fund to help one hundred towns around the country to increase economic growth with a focus on regeneration, improved transport, better broadband connectivity, skills and culture. St Ives is one of the towns that can apply to the Fund and work is starting in earnest with the formation of a St Ives Town Deal Board to lead the process.

The Town Deal Board represents private, public and community sectors. They are - Sarah Stevens (Chair), Steve Cross (vice-chair), Poppy Naylor, Andrew Baragwanath, James Butterworth, Libby Buckley, Raven Williams, Neil Davis, Rowena Swallow, Councillor Andrew Mitchell, Councillor Linda Taylor, Councillor Tony Harris, Derek Thomas MP. Cornwall Council has employed a dedicated member of staff to act as the Town Deal Lead for St Ives and Lucy Davis started this work on the 27th of April 2020.

Chair Sarah Stevens "I'm honoured to have been appointed to St Ives Town Deal Board and look forward to working alongside my fellow board members, businesses, local leaders and most importantly the local community. St Ives is my home. I saw this as a chance for me to use my skills to support the long-term investment into St Ives, building on our many assets and making it a better place to work, live, visit and enhancing the wellbeing for all.

The board has a real mix of skills and intrinsic links within the local community and I thank them all for getting involved to ensure St Ives gets the most value possible from this fund and we need your help to do this.

With a young family of my own and seeing them growing up as I did in St Ives, the future of the town matters to me, so let us know your thoughts and ideas, Have your say. The town has a brighter future if we all work together."

The Town Deal Board is now starting the first stage of forming a Town Investment Plan, which will set out the priority projects that St Ives wants to put forward to the Fund. They will be asking what do we want our local economy to do for us? How can we make it stronger and more resilient to external shocks? How can we make sure everyone who lives here is included and has the skills and opportunities they want?

The Town Investment Plan is due to be submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for consideration in October this year. If approved, St Ives will then work towards a Town Deal, detailing exactly how the money will be spent. The focus is on the economy and making St Ives a better place to live and ultimately a better place to visit.

The people of St Ives have shown great resilience in the face of covid-19 and new enterprise pathways are opening up, as businesses adapt to the changing conditions. The Town Investment Plan presents an opportunity to boost the local economy further, for example to strengthen local industries; expand local production and processing capabilities; generate renewable energy; create opportunities for young people and aspiring business start-ups; support small businesses to prosper and invest in local culture and heritage projects.

The St Ives Town Investment Plan must be business-led, and over the next few months the board will be working to engage as many businesses as possible. But it must also reflect what the community wants for the economic future of their town and there will be the chance for everyone to give their views.

The board are now setting up sub-groups to work on specific aspects of the Plan. Anyone - individuals and businesses - interested in getting involved in the process is welcome to join a zoom

meeting on Wednesday 27th May at 4pm. If you'd like to join the meeting, please email lucy.davis@cornwall.gov.uk before Tuesday 26th May and an invitation will be sent to you.

For more information about the St Ives Town Investment Plan, contact lucy.davis@cornwall.gov.uk
07395836210

PHOTOS

Sarah Stevens	Chair
Steve Cross	Vice Chair
Lucy Davis	Town Deal Lead for St Ives