

SUBJECT: REGENERATION PROJECTS AND PLACEMAKING GRANT SUBMISSION

MEETING: CABINET

DATE: 15th September 2021

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide Cabinet with an overview of the Welsh Government Transforming Towns programme and associated funding opportunities. The report also sets out the proposed prioritisation of projects that can be delivered in this financial year in order to secure the funding, and the operational programme management arrangements that will be implemented to monitor progress.
- 1.2 To consider interim arrangements for the temporary trial re-opening towns measures, while long-term options are designed up and consulted upon.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To agree to the prioritisation of regeneration activity throughout the County and endorse the proposed Placemaking Grant submission for 2021/22 of £791,429 made under the Welsh Government Transforming Towns funding, and endorse the indicative programme for 2022/23, noting that the projects and funding balance may change due to prioritisation and deliverability.
- 2.2 To note the operational programme management arrangements that will be implemented for regeneration that will monitor and oversee the projects within the programme.
- 2.3 To agree that the temporary trial re-opening towns measures listed in paragraph 3.11 remain in place for up to 18 months while long-term options are designed up and consulted upon (albeit that the trial measures will continue to be adjusted in response to Member and stakeholder feedback). To continue to authorise the Chief Officer Enterprise to make any adjustments to the temporary trial measures deemed necessary, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and Ward Member(s), in response to stakeholder feedback.

3. KEY ISSUES:

Placemaking Grant

- 3.1 The Council has secured an equal one-tenth share of a Welsh Government Transforming Towns 'Placemaking' grant awarded to the Cardiff Capital Region and administered by RCT Council. Monmouthshire's share for 2021/22 is £554,000 which together with the required match funding from MCC of £237,429, provides a total fund of £791,429.
- 3.2 Appendix 1 sets out the grant categories and criteria that have been set by Welsh Government.

- 3.3 Appendix 2 sets out the proposed allocation of grant funding for 2021/22 and an indicative funding allocation for 2022/23. The proposed grant submission is informed by ideas arising from the reopening towns work and suggestions from Elected Members, Town Councillors and business representatives provided during the review of the re-opening towns meetings. Although there is currently no guarantee that funding will be available in 2022/23, the Welsh Government's commitment to placemaking and town centre regeneration make it highly likely that such a funding stream will continue. The two-year approach set out in this report enables officers to establish a forward work programme as well as give the potential to bid for additional in-year money should it become available.
- 3.4 The proposals have been sifted by compatibility with the grant criteria, deliverability (the 2021/22 projects must be concluded in this financial year) and impact/outcomes. Due to these criteria, not all towns will benefit equally, with some towns benefitting only from the 'all towns' funds. Villages and local centres are not eligible for this grant funding. Magor is currently not defined as a town but it would be able to benefit from the 'all towns' funds should it become a town as a result of the Boundary Commission proposals (there may also be funding available under the GI category).
- 3.5 The project list is subject to change as certainty of deliverability evolves.

Transforming Towns Revenue Funding

- 3.6 In addition to the above funding proposals, in 2021/22 WG has made available revenue funding through their Transforming Towns programme with £75k nominally allocated to each local authority, with an element of match funding expected. Funding is available for:
- Master plans or placemaking plans;
 - Green infrastructure audits;
 - Project feasibility and specialist consultancy; and
 - Consultancy work associated with the planning and reconfiguration of town centres as a result of Covid-19.
- As with the Transforming Towns Placemaking grant, the revenue funding has a town-centre focus.
- 3.7 To this end, MCC has bid for funding to commission a masterplan for Chepstow. This has been proposed for a number of reasons. The masterplan would pull together the various ongoing plans that impact on Chepstow town centre (e.g. the Transport Study, Town Council Place Plan and tourism via the Wye Valley Villages project) offering the necessary overarching strategic vision, co-ordination and governance. It would be the mechanism for consultation on the long-term future of the High Street and would have a focus on support to businesses and destination marketing including Chepstow as a destination 'arts' town. These cumulative proposals seek to enhance the long-term vitality and viability of the town. Should the bid be successful, we would seek to work with Chepstow County Councillors and Town Council in the preparation of the brief.
- 3.8 Should additional WG revenue funding be made available in the very near future, MCC would seek to commission a masterplan for Monmouth. However, the money is to be spent in 2021/22 so timescales are tight. The WG expectation for future capital funding is that it forms part of a town-based strategy or masterplan, hence the focus on securing

funding for masterplans via this revenue grant opportunity. Of the three towns without a current masterplan or strategy, Chepstow and Monmouth are considered to be in greatest need. Future funding will be sought for Abergavenny.

Transforming Towns Business Fund

- 3.9 The following bids have been submitted under the Transforming Towns Business Fund. The proposals were prepared in conjunction with business groups and Town Councils insofar as this was possible during a very tight bidding period during August:
- Shop Local – Countdown to Christmas - MCC led project £18,000
 - Virtual High Street pilot and digital skills training package - MCC led project £55,000
 - Town Council led projects £15,000
 - Croeso – Y Fenni Business Community led project £2,550

Longer term regeneration priorities

- 3.10 The 2021/22 Placemaking Grant bid submission and 2022/23 proposal are a reflection of known deliverable projects that meet the grant criteria. They have been shaped by stakeholder engagement via the re-opening towns review meetings held in June 2021, Business Resilience Forum meetings and the multidisciplinary officer working group. The grant criteria mean the funding cannot simply be distributed evenly amongst each of our towns, nor would doing so result in meaningful outcomes. The recent review of the re-opening towns pandemic response trials identified a clear, shared ambition for regeneration in each of our towns, subject to further engagement and consultation on any proposed permanent changes. Delivering on this ambition will require the coordination, sequencing and prioritisation of projects, which will be the subject of a future Cabinet report to shape the Council's regeneration strategy going forwards.
- 3.11 One clear limitation at present is the absence of an overarching vision or strategy for Chepstow, Monmouth and Abergavenny, which would inform future priorities and grant submissions. The revenue grant bid for Chepstow, and provisional bid for Monmouth, go some way to help address this. A summary of the feedback received for each town from the stakeholder sessions is given below:

Abergavenny

Although involving difficult decisions at the time, it was universally agreed that the pedestrianisation of much of Abergavenny's town centre in recent years has been a success. The temporary trial measures proposed for retention for a further period of up to 18 months are the part-time pedestrianisation of Cross Street; the provision of planters, pods, parklets and outdoor trading space in Cross Street, Frogmore Street and St John's Square; the provision of a contraflow cycle lane on Lion Street; and infrastructure to support and promote active travel. A number of smaller scale interventions have been suggested for coming years relating to the trial measures, but Abergavenny would benefit from an overarching strategy and vision for the town to coordinate various projects and future potential.

Caldicot

The recent Cabinet decision to support the Levelling Up Fund submission for the Newport East constituency for Caldicot builds upon the previous Cabinet decision for Caldicot to be

the focus for Targeted Regeneration Investment (TRI) grant funding, which itself builds on the 2014 Town Vision and 2016 Strategy and Action Plan and recent Active Travel investment. These decisions provide a clear and relevant framework to inform future work in Caldicot. Caldicot town centre is already pedestrianised so the main temporary trial measures proposed for retention for a further period of up to 18 months are the provision of planters, pods, parklets and outdoor trading space; and infrastructure to support and promote active travel.

Chepstow

As stated in para 3.7 of this report, a £75k bid has been submitted seeking Welsh Government revenue funding for an overarching strategy to coordinate and inform future work and priorities, coordinating with the Town Council's emerging Place Plan. The temporary trial measures proposed for retention for a further period of up to 18 months are the part-time closure of High Street to vehicular traffic other than blue badge holders accessing the disabled person parking bays on Bank Street; changes to the crossing areas on Moor Street/Welsh Street and at Beaufort Square; the provision of planters, pods, parklets and outdoor trading space; and infrastructure to support and promote active travel. In response to stakeholder feedback, a zebra crossing is to be provided at Beaufort Square, and additional disabled person parking provided on Upper Nelson Street to ensure access for all during festivals and events.

Monmouth

Active Travel funding has been secured for this financial year (2021/22) to consider options for permanent changes to Monnow Street to create a more people-friendly environment that supports and promotes active travel. As with Chepstow, an overarching strategy is needed to draw together and coordinate various projects and proposals and to shape the future regeneration priorities. Should additional WG revenue grant become available early enough this financial year, a bid will be submitted for this work. Earlier this year, Cabinet approved the Levelling Up Fund submission for the Monmouthshire constituency, which focuses on regenerating Monmouth. The temporary trial measures proposed for retention for a further period of up to 18 months are the widened pavements to Monnow Street and the associated provision of planters, pods, parklets and outdoor trading space in Monnow Street and Agincourt Square; and infrastructure to support and promote active travel.

Usk

Usk benefits from a masterplan commissioned jointly by Monmouthshire County Council, Usk Town Council and Llanbadoc Community Council. It is proposed that this is adopted by MCC to inform and guide future decision-making, and this will be subject to a separate Member report. The temporary trial measures proposed for retention for a further period of up to 18 months are the provision of planters, pods, parklets and outdoor trading space around the town centre. The temporary traffic lights on Bridge Street were removed in May 2021.

Interim Arrangements

- 3.12 The current temporary trial re-opening towns measures are underpinned by emergency Traffic Orders, which expire after 18 months (January 2022). The associated street café licences were issued for a temporary period until September 2021, and so a decision is

needed on whether or not to review each licence, which in turn requires certainty about the extension of the trial of the temporary measures. It is recommended to Cabinet that the trial measures outlined in paragraph 3.11 be allowed to remain in place for up to a further 18 months, providing an interim period during which permanent measures are considered, designed and consulted upon. An Experimental Traffic Order can allow the trial measures to remain in place for up to another 18 months. This would allow the trial measures to continue to be tested, with adjustments made as necessary in response to Member and community feedback, which can be provided via our website, contact centre or email to the Regeneration Officer lead for the town in question (see para 3.16 below). Cabinet approval is sought to continue to authorise the Chief Officer Enterprise to make adjustments to trial measures in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and Ward Member(s). In some instances, such as Chepstow, Experimental Orders could allow different trial measures to be considered, utilising feedback from the re-opening towns review meeting and discussions with other stakeholders including a newly forming disability action group.

- 3.13 Although Magor is currently out of scope for the Placemaking grant, due to it not being a town at present, if Cabinet approves the use of Experimental Traffic Orders to retain the temporary measures for up to another 18 months, it is proposed that this applies to Magor too. The temporary trial measures in question comprise the partial closure of Magor Square to vehicular traffic including some on-street parking bays, the provision of space for outdoor trading, planters, and active travel improvements. Further community consultation is proposed to identify which, if any, of these changes might become permanent.
- 3.14 In terms of the other villages, the only trial measures for potential retention in Raglan and Tintern are the 20mph speed limits. Subject to consultation with the Ward Member and Community Council, it is proposed that consultation is undertaken to make these speed limit changes permanent.

Programme Management Arrangements

- 3.15 An increasing level of project work due to the increasing array of grants available requires effective programme and project management arrangements for the newly formed Regeneration team. This operational project management will oversee 'live' projects within the Enterprise directorate and will develop a pipeline of 'shovel ready' projects to maximise future grant opportunities.
- 3.16 The programme management arrangements will be led by the Head of Placemaking, Regeneration, Highways and Flooding and include relevant officers who undertake the role of project managers or project sponsors.

Multidisciplinary Officer Meeting

- 3.17 Now that the town centre work is moving from covid response to future-looking regeneration, it is proposed to replace the monthly re-opening town meetings with a quarterly multidisciplinary officer meeting focused on future regeneration opportunities. This will be a forum to bring together colleagues from various services to ensure everyone is aware of current workstreams and project progress, and to share ideas for the future pipeline of projects, knowledge of local issues and awareness of new funding opportunities.

Place-based Project Management

3.18 Following the appointment of two project managers into the Regeneration team, they will be allocated across the County as town regeneration leads as follows:

Abergavenny	Daniel Fordham
Caldicot	Daniel Fordham
Chepstow	Jane Lee
Magor	Jane Lee
Monmouth	Daniel Fordham
Usk	Jane Lee
Wye Valley Villages	Jane Lee

This will be reviewed as necessary, for example if the LUF bids are successful. Roger Hoggins continues to support these workstreams as Head of Strategic Projects.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

4.1 A Wellbeing of Future Generations Equalities Impact Appraisal has been completed in relation to the interim retention of the trial re-opening towns measures and is attached at Appendix 3. A Wellbeing of Future Generations Equalities Impact Appraisal has been completed in relation to the proposed grant programme and is attached at Appendix 4. There no corporate parenting of safeguarding concerns, nor issues in relation to our economic impact duty. Amendments, where needed, provide mitigation in relation to impacts on protected characteristics, specifically disability in relation to Chepstow in particular.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

5.1 Table One below therefore provides an options appraisal of the proposal:

Options	Benefits	Risks	Comments/Mitigation
Do Nothing	No additional demand on colleague time and capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocated funding is lost and projects not implemented 	The grant funding will help support our town centres.
Proceed with the submission of the placemaking grant as set out in Appendix 2.	Projects are delivered, town centre vitality and viability are supported, funding is not lost,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some towns may feel 'unloved' and projects not progressed in all towns 	The rationale behind the submission is sound, and future funding is expected to be available.
Put Experimental Traffic Orders in place as an interim measure to allow the trial measures to be thoroughly tested for up to 18 months while permanent solutions are identified, designed and consulted on. To continue to authorise the Chief Officer Enterprise to make adjustments to trial measures in	<p>Temporary trial measures remain in place to support our town centres and to thoroughly test them.</p> <p>Businesses who have invested in outdoor trading spaces can continue to benefit, subject to an appropriate licence being in place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The trial measures might be perceived as having been made permanent without engagement The trial measures may become tired or worn 	<p>Clear communication will clarify that the measures remain trials during the interim period.</p> <p>The trial measures will continue to be adjusted as needed in response to Member and community feedback and can be removed if insurmountable problems arise.</p>

consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and Ward Member(s).			
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6. REASONS:

- 6.1 The proposed grant submission is informed by ideas arising from the re-opening towns work and suggestions from Elected Members, Town Councillors and business representatives provided during the review of the re-opening towns meetings, as well as feedback from the Business Resilience Forum and the officer working group.
- 6.2 Project work and funding opportunities are increasing. We need to ensure we can maximise the benefit of this funding to Monmouthshire's communities by successfully bidding and delivering on projects. The newly established physical regeneration team gives us an opportunity to review how we best do this, with new project management arrangements to ensure timely and effective project delivery and to develop a pipeline of 'shovel ready' projects to maximise future grant opportunities.
- 6.3 The Experimental Traffic Orders will allow the trial measures to continue to be tested, with adjustments as necessary, supporting businesses and communities while permanent changes are considered, designed and consulted upon. Cabinet is invited to continue to authorise the Chief Officer Enterprise to make adjustments to trial measures in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and Ward Member(s).

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 The match funding contribution for the Transforming Towns Placemaking grant has been allocated within the capital programme. This is approximately £238,000 per annum based on a 30% contribution.
- 7.2 Wherever possible and reasonable we will include regeneration and/or highway officer time for project management in future grant applications, to help financially support the teams' resource needs.
- 7.3 The Experimental Traffic Orders will be undertaken using existing staff resource and budget.

8. CONSULTEES:

Enterprise DMT

SLT

Economy and Development Select: At its meeting on 26th July 2021, the Economy and Development Select Committee considered a report reviewing the re-opening towns work and setting out the transition to future long-term regeneration proposals for each of our towns. The Committee noted that Members will be engaged on a town-by-town basis to help shape emerging proposals and to help inform and engage the local community. The Economy and Development Select Committee asked that regeneration projects relating to high streets periodically return to that forum for scrutiny. At its meeting on 7th September 2021, the Economy and Development Select Committee will consider the proposals set out in this report. Any feedback will be verbally reported to Cabinet.

Re-opening Towns Officer Working Group: supports the proposed bid, interim arrangements and project management arrangements.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

10. AUTHOR:

Mark Hand (Head of Placemaking, Regeneration, Highways and Flooding)

11. CONTACT DETAILS:

E-mail: markhand@monmouthshire.gov.uk Tel: 07773 478579

Appendix 1: WG Placemaking Grant 2021-22 criteria

Appendix 2: Proposed WG Placemaking Grant 2021-22 submission and 2022/23 programme for Monmouthshire

Appendix 3: Wellbeing of Future Generations Assessment for interim retention of trial measures

Appendix 4: Wellbeing of Future Generations Assessment for the regen grant programmes

Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

Place Making Intervention	Scheme Detail	Eligible Applicant	Maximum Allocation of grant
<p>Residential Units in Town Centres</p>	<p>To convert vacant floor-space on upper floors into new residential accommodation. The minimum requirement from each scheme is 1 x 1 bedroom self-contained flat.</p> <p>Schemes are expected to be a mix of one and two bedroom units with ratio determined by layout of building and planning consent.</p> <p>Schemes should comply to the minimum floor space as recommended in the most up to date Welsh Housing Quality Standards, currently this is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 46m² per one bedroom flat 2. 59m² per two bedroom flat <p>Student accommodation, bedsits and studios are not eligible for grant funding</p> <p>Where acceptable to Local Planning Authorities potential conversion of ground floor, as well as upper floors may be considered for areas not considered to be core retail, where no alternative commercial use can be found.</p>	<p>Occupiers or property owners of properties within town centres who either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Own the freehold, or • Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned final grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works. 	<p>Up to £250,000 per property</p>
<p>Commercial Property Improvement Grants</p>	<p>The Property Improvement Grant is available to commercial building occupiers and owners within town centres. Its purpose is to enhance building frontages together with the upgrade of vacant commercial floor space to bring it back into beneficial business use.</p> <p>New/ upgraded floor space must be for business use, with each scheme determined on its individual</p>	<p>Occupiers or property owners of commercial properties within the designated area who either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Own the freehold, or • Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned final grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works. 	<p>Up to £250,000 per property</p>

Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

	<p>merits at the discretion of local officers, and then approved by local and regional project boards. In particular offices, independent leisure, retail, food and drink uses will be considered. Mixed-use schemes will also be considered, but private student lets, will not be considered.</p> <p>Offices or commercial premises above retail units will also be considered for support.</p> <p>WORKS</p> <p>External External works to the building can include work deemed necessary for the structural integrity of the property. Items might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shopfronts;• Signage;• Windows and doors;• External lighting;• Roofs and chimneys;• Rainwater goods (guttering and down pipes);• Rendering, stone cleaning and repairs, re-pointing; and• Structural works. <p>Internal Internal works to the building can include all work, visible or structural, necessary to complete the project to Building Regulations. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Windows and doors;• Improved accessibility;• Walls, ceilings, lighting;		
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Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Efficiency measures when included as part of the overall scheme; • Utilities and services, including heating; • Welfare facilities (e.g. essential washroom and cleansing facilities only); and • Structural work <p>New Build New build commercial floor-space could be eligible, where a local need for this has been identified.</p>		
<p>Green Infrastructure</p>	<p>The provision of Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity projects in town centres. Specifically but not exclusively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Walls • Green Roofs • Rain Gardens • Greening. • Pocket Parks <p>Other Green Infrastructure or general greening measures are eligible subject to approval of Welsh Government. Any intervention needs to be strategic and underpinned by a Town Centre Green Infrastructure Audit.</p> <p>This support will not contribute to ongoing maintenance costs in future financial years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils • Occupiers or property owners of commercial properties within the designated area who either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Own the freehold, or ○ Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned final grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works. 	<p>Up to £250,000 per project</p>
<p>Public Realm</p>	<p>The provision of small scale public realm enhancements where they are aligned with a natural</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities. • Business Improvement Districts BIDs 	<p>Up to £250,000 per scheme.</p>

Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

	<p>clustering of regeneration activity in town centres. Where there is demonstrable social and economic impact. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The removal or dropping of curbs for access and egress; • The widening of pavement areas so as to provide outdoor seating and amenity areas; • Permanent planters and screening provision; • Enhancing features to a key project within the town or city centre; <p>Other measures may be eligible for support subject to approval of Welsh Government.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town and Community Councils 	
Strategic Acquisition	<p>Acquisitions within town and city centres. This support should not be used to acquire properties that are subject to, or could benefit from planning enforcement measures. Specifically, this support could be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire properties in order to complete land assembly for larger strategic proposals; • Acquire properties for demolition in order to deliver improved connectivity and permeability in centres; • The acquisition of properties in order to provide greenspace, play facilities or enhanced public realm. • Demolition costs are eligible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts BIDs • Town and Community Councils • Social Businesses and B – Corps 	Up to £250,000 per acquisition.
Town Centre Markets	<p>The delivery of the ‘Every Town a Market Town’ philosophy. The development and enabling of local markets for the provision of produce, craft, food and value added products. This capital only funding will deliver:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) • Town and Community Councils • Social Businesses and B – Corps 	Up to £250,000 per location.

Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provision of permanent electricity supplies to enable market trading; The acquisition of trading stalls, stands and platforms. <p>Works must conform and be aligned with the Welsh Government best practice guide for the establishment of local markets. This work should be aligned with any post Covid – 19 Town Centre works and planning.</p>		
Town Centre Meanwhile Uses	The establishment of temporary meanwhile or pop – up uses in currently vacant premises in town centres. The support should be wholly aligned with the Welsh Government Meanwhile Uses Best Practice Guide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authorities Business Improvement Districts BIDs Town and Community Councils Social Businesses and B – Corps 	Up to £250,000 per location.
Town Centre External Trading support.	The provision of outdoor seating, planters, coverings, servery areas and building canopies. This support is in line with the Covid – 19 response grant 2020/21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authorities Business Improvement Districts Town Centre Businesses BIDs Town and Community Councils 	
Shop Frontage Enveloping Schemes	External shop frontage enhancements whereby no internal modification or redevelopment is undertaken. Adjacent or closely situated properties need to be targeted in a given town so as to achieve a critical mass and greater impact. It is suggested that a minimum of 6 properties should sign up to this support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupiers or property owners of commercial properties within the designated area who either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Own the freehold, or Hold a lease with a seven year minimum period remaining at the planned final grant payment date and who have secured their landlord's written consent to the proposed works. For projects that request less than £50k in grant a legal charge is not required so a lease with five years remaining at the final grant payment date is acceptable. 	Up to £250,000 per location.
Digital Towns	The furthering of the 'digital towns' agenda through the provision of capital items to support Wi-Fi analytics and Lora Wan networks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authorities Business Improvement Districts BIDs Town and Community Councils. 	Up to £250,000 per town centre.

Appendix 1: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant criteria 2021/22

Active Travel	Provisions supporting or facilitating active travel routes in town centres where this cannot be funded through other means. Specifically the provision of bicycle storage, lockers and retrofit of show and hygiene facilities in commercial premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Authorities• Business Improvement Districts BIDs• Town and Community Councils• Social Businesses and B – Corps• Private sector partners	Up to £250,000 per application.
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Appendix 2: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant submission 2021/22 and proposal for 2022/23

Appendix 2: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant submission 2021/22 and proposal for 2022/23

Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant allocation	70%	£554,000
MCC match funding (minimum requirement)	30%	£242,000
TOTAL	100%	£796,000

2021/22 Proposed indicative submission

Project	Placemaking Grant project category	Location	Priority	Estimated cost	Deliverability	Notes
43 Frogmore St - upper floor conversion to shared workspace	Commercial Property Improvement Grants	Abergavenny	1	£63,000		Cost based on 70% of total project cost. Space to be occupied/managed by Gwagle, who operate existing co-working space on Nevill Street.
Cross Street interventions leading to pedestrianisation - quick win projects	Public Realm	Abergavenny	1	£25,000		Cycle-friendly gates, signage at junction with Monk Street. Costs TBC.
Borough Theatre Refurbishment	Commercial Property Improvement Grants	Abergavenny	1	£250,000		Match funding. Dependent on timely award of Active Travel funding
Caldicot Goes Pop!	Town Centre Meanwhile Uses	Caldicot	1	£11,000		Upgrades to existing Town Team pop-up unit
Caldicot shop front improvements - continuation of 20/21 grants scheme	Shop Front Enveloping Schemes	Caldicot	1	£150,000		To include existing commitments and new projects. Funding allocation could be increased if other projects underspend.
Caldicot Town Team market gazebos	Town Centre Markets	Caldicot	1	£7,000		To support expansion of Town Team-managed market
Chepstow town centre public realm	Public Realm	Chepstow	1	£10,000		Funding for green roof shelter for trade waste bins and creation of seating area in Chepstow town centre.
Chepstow Green Wall	Green Infrastructure	Chepstow	1	£25,000		Issues around maintenance requirements which are apparently intensive/costly
Various projects generated through the GI Action Plan	Green Infrastructure	Abergavenny, Chepstow, Monmouth	1	£65,000		Cost is for delivery of GI Action Plan projects in town centres. Other deliverable projects available outside town centres. £80k if Magor Undy included

Appendix 2: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant submission 2021/22 and proposal for 2022/23

Town centre outdoor adaptation grants - continuation of 20/21 grants scheme	Town Centre External Trading Support	All towns	1	£130,000		To include existing commitments and new projects. Funding allocation could be increased if other projects underspend.
Town centre wifi and Smart Town Data	Digital Towns	All towns	1	£60,000		To be delivered by Rural/Digital Programmes Team
TOTAL				£796,000	The indicative figures show an overspend of £4571	

Appendix 2: Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant submission 2021/22 and proposal for 2022/23

Assumed Transforming Towns Placemaking Grant allocation	70%	£556,500
MCC match funding (minimum requirement)	30%	£238,500
TOTAL	100%	£795,000

2022/23 Indicative proposal

Project	Placemaking Grant project category	Location	Priority	Estimated cost	Deliverability	Notes
Church Road, Caldicot Phase 2	Public Realm	Caldicot	2	£250,000		
Hanbury House - improvement to shopfront and lettable areas	Commercial Property Improvement Grants	Chepstow	2	£80,000		Costs TBC
Welsh Street car park - improve pedestrian environment at entrance	Public Realm	Chepstow	2	£110,000		Potential to improve disabled access to High Street.
20 Monnow Street	Commercial Property Improvement Grants	Monmouth	2	£75,000		Improvements/repairs pending redevelopment/refurbishment
Shopfront enveloping schemes	Shopfront enveloping	Abergavenny and Monmouth	2	£280,000		Locations tbc but likely to be Lower Cross Street in Abergavenny and Monnow Street and Church Street in Monmouth
TOTAL				£795,000		