

Margate Town Deal Board

Advert for Community Representative

Thanet District Council is setting up a Margate Town Deal Board as part of the Government programme of funding for towns.

The Town Deal Board will be the vehicle through which a vision and strategy for the town's economic growth will be defined. As part of the Government's '[Towns Fund](#)', the Board is required to produce a Town Investment Plan and to inform the Town Deal negotiation with the Government. The Investment Plan will be required to inform business cases that will be used to apply for funding to deliver the strategy.

The role of the Board is to:

- Develop and agree an evidenced based Town Investment Plan
- Develop a clear programme of interventions to improve the town's economic growth
- Coordinate resources and influence stakeholders

As the Lead, Thanet District Council is required to develop a Town Deal Board in order to produce the Town Investment Plan by summer 2020. The Plan will inform the second stage, which includes building a business case based on what's included in the Investment Plan with the Government.

The Council has received an allocation of funding with the anticipation that this will be used for:

- Convening the Town Deal Board
- Running business and wider community engagement events
- Developing the Town Investment Plan
- Providing technical expertise for business case development

The Prospectus set out by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) can be found here - [Towns Fund Prospectus](#).

The Towns Fund

MHCLG states that the ambition of the Towns Fund is to address growth constraints through the provision of funding as a 'tool to design and deliver a growth strategy for the area'. It goes on to say that understanding what will attract businesses and the wider link between amenity value and economic development will be key.

In order to develop a long term and sustainable delivery plan, the government stipulates that the Board must include and harness a diverse range of perspectives. These include business, philanthropists, investors, education, communities and civil society, as well as local authorities. Towns need to understand their assets and, crucially, ensure they are all playing their part in the growth of the economy.

The Towns Fund will provide the core public investment in Town Deals – additional funding may come from other sources or parts of government. The objective of the Fund is to drive the economic regeneration of towns to deliver long term economic and productivity growth through:

- Urban regeneration, planning and land use
- Skills and enterprise infrastructure
- Connectivity

The Board

There are a number of required representatives, including all tiers of local government and the local MP, alongside representatives from The Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), Jobcentre Plus and other anchor institutions. The Board will also include local businesses, investors and organisations that represent the community.

The Department for Housing, Communities and Local Government have defined criteria to direct the development and delivery of the Investment Plan and ultimately the Town Deal. All stakeholders need to understand the criteria and requirement of the plan and be able to jointly work towards the development of this plan.

A Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct will be produced by Thanet District Council for all Board members to follow. These will be available online when approved by the Board. All members of the Board will be required to have a named substitute if they are unable to make a Board meeting.

The Board meetings are proposed to be quarterly following the submission of the Investment Plan in the summer, the proposal is to have them more regularly in the run up to the deadline. Dates are to be confirmed.

Community representative

Communities should have a meaningful role in decision-making for the future of their town, and the Board will draw on the local knowledge and insight that communities can provide on the barriers to driving local growth and productivity. The Board should include community representatives from prominent local civic organisations such as representatives from local community forums, voluntary and community sector organisations, or Councils of the Voluntary Sector.

The Margate Town Deal Board is looking for two representatives to sit on this Board, to represent Margate's communities.

Community Member Brief

- Ability to commit for at least one year
- Ability to work in groups and across multiple stakeholders
- Experience of applying interpersonal, influence and networking skills to work with groups, building commitment and consensus
- Demonstrate commitment, passion and advocacy for the local area whilst remaining impartial and acting with integrity
- Experience of working with multidisciplinary stakeholders in a similar situation
- Agree to communicate with other sectors/organisations to report on the activities of the Towns Fund Board on a regular basis
- Commitment to dedicate time to the Margate Town Board and to respond swiftly to communications/requests between meetings
- Experience of working within an environment of agreeing actions and outcomes based on defined criteria.

For further information please contact Louise Askew, Head of Strategic Partnerships on 01843 577178 or louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk.

To apply

Expressions of interest are requested and it is important that these should reflect how, and to what extent you feel you meet the criteria in the brief and are knowledgeable about the requirements of Margate.

Please send an email to louise.askew@thanet.gov.uk , Head of Strategic Partnerships, by 5pm on Monday 23 March, 2020.

Your email should outline your interest and relevant experience, considering the 'Community Member Brief' and the requirements of the Town Deal as set-out by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. These will be reviewed by a panel from the Board including: Graham Razey OBE, Cllr Ruth Duckworth, Sam Causer and Richard Ash and facilitated by Louise Askew.

Depending on the number of applications, interviews may be held. Interviews will be from 3pm on Monday 30 March at the Yarrow Hotel, Broadstairs.