

Taunton Strategic Advisory Board

Terms of Reference

November 2017

Statement of Purpose

The Board will collectively shape Taunton's long-term development and success as a growing, sustainable, healthy and prosperous Garden Town for current and future generations. In this capacity, the Board's interests will be on supporting the realisation of the vision for Taunton, and strategic matters covering inter-related themes such as:

- Delivery of housing, employment and economic growth
- Major infrastructure & regeneration schemes
- The quality of the environment, social, health & cultural issues
- Skills and education as well as outstanding lifelong learning
- Innovative solutions through design and new digital technology

Geographic Focus

The Board's primary focus will be **Taunton** and its immediate hinterland.

Functions and Responsibilities

The Board will:

- Act in an advisory, rather than a formal decision making capacity, providing clear and independent advice to TDBC, SCC and other key bodies
- Provide a meeting point for ideas and collaboration between public, private and voluntary sector bodies, creating an holistic view of Taunton's development as a Garden Town
- Shape the development and timely delivery of key strategies and plans necessary to promote the long term success of Taunton
- Provide effective and constructive challenge to key projects and programmes, to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of the area
- Identify threats and opportunities that may impact on delivery, and advise on approaches to address and capitalise on these

- Develop and foster strong relationships with relevant bodies that have a key role or interest in supporting, funding and realising the vision for Taunton's future growth
- As individual partners and as a board, to champion Taunton locally, regionally, nationally and globally
- Promote effective communication and active engagement of communities and key stakeholders in shaping and delivering Taunton's future vision

Frequency and Nature of Meetings

The Board will meet on a quarterly basis, for approximately two hours.

Typically, the Board will receive a high level of overview of progress at each meeting, giving an opportunity for members to challenge and contribute ideas. In addition, each meeting will typically include two main items for discussion by Board members.

Smaller work groups of Board members may be convened from time to time to consider particular topics on more detail. Outcomes of these workgroups will be reported to the main Board.

Board Membership

The membership of the board reflects its role in shaping the overall economic, social and environmental wellbeing of Taunton.