

King’s Lynn Town Board meeting – 22 November 2024

Recruitment of King’s Lynn Town Board Members: Accountable Body recommendations

Background

At its meeting on 27 September 2024, the Town Deal Board agreed to recruit new board members from the Private Sector.

Prior to general release of the opportunity, it was agreed that Board Members and support officers were free to discuss the opportunity with their business contacts. From this, one prospective candidate was identified, and an informal discussion was held with the Chair of the Town Board and the then Chief Executive of the borough council in September. Graham Slater later confirmed his interest in joining the King’s Lynn Town Board. The Chair and Chief Executive considered Graham’s experience, knowledge and interest, and agreed to recommend him as a Board Member in addition to any candidates identified following the recruitment drive.

At the same time, a recruitment pack was compiled, giving detail about the role and the commitment required, as well as information on the Town Investment Plan, organisation and governance, and the Town Deal projects.

The opportunity was publicised by the Borough Council as the Accountable Body. An accompanying press release was sent to 81 media contacts, which included local print and broadcast media. The opportunity was posted on both Vision King’s Lynn and the Borough Council social media pages (Twitter and LinkedIn) and included one video involving five Board members. Reach information is available as follows:

Twitter	LinkedIn
650 impressions	708 views
91 engagements	2,434 impressions
	105 clicks
	7 reposts

Facts / Issues

- Interested parties were asked to submit a CV and a covering letter, setting out their motivation and how their experience and capabilities fit the role.
- Five applications were received.
- Shortlisting was completed by a recruitment panel, consisting of the Chair of the KLTB, the Chief Executive of the Borough Council and the Board Member representing the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce.
- Three people were shortlisted and invited for interview.
- The recruitment panel supported by the Regeneration Programmes Manager was convened on 14th November 2024.

The panel considered that the three candidates provided individual positive and strong responses, and each application and interview demonstrated:

- Strong awareness and understanding on the Town Investment Plan and projects.
- Current key skills and experience.
- Commitment and enthusiasm to promote the town and its regeneration.

Proposal

Following the process, the recommendation is to appoint:

- Laura Dunn – private sector representative (marketing)
- Zach Stanford – private sector representative (manufacturing)
- Kirsty MacLeod – private sector representative (marketing)
- Graham Slater – private sector representative (manufacturing)

Pen portraits for each prospective member have been completed and are appended to this report.

Decision required:

The Board is asked to:

1. Agree Laura Dunn, Zach Stanford, Kirsty MacLeod, and Graham Slater to become King's Lynn Town Board Members.
2. Agree that the Accountable Body may approach the candidates to confirm the Board's decision and ask for their written acceptance to the role.
3. Note that following receipt of acceptance, these persons will be considered to be a Board Member.
4. Note that subject to the above steps, new members will attend King's Lynn Town Board meetings with effect from the January 2025 meeting.