

Towns Fund

Government Towns Fund (£25m for Crawley) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/towns-fund-prospectus>)

In September the Government announced that Crawley was one of 101 towns to benefit from an allocation of a £3.6bn Towns Fund to invest in regeneration projects. Up to £25 million is available for each town. Once approved, new Town Deals will improve connectivity, provide vital social and cultural infrastructure and boost growth – with communities having a say on how the money is spent. The Borough Council is expected to take the lead by forming a “Town Deal Board” made up of key partners to create a “Town Investment Plan”, BIDs are specifically referred to in the Town Fund Prospectus. The Council will be allocated £173,029 capacity funding to form the “Town Deal Board” and “Town Investment Plan”. The development timeline from the Prospectus is set out below.



Important: This could make a significant difference to the ambitions to improve Manor Royal and help deliver schemes identified in the Projects Pack and elsewhere. The BID has not yet been approached by the Council and it will be important that Manor Royal is not overlooked in the development of any Town Investment Plan.

Manor Royal Projects for consideration for support from the Towns Fund

The following projects are suggestions only. They are projects or initiatives for improvement required in Manor Royal for which there is no (or limited) available funding ie the BID cannot fund these alone. The final choice of what to fund is not a decision that can be made solely by the BID or the Council. It will have to be endorsed by the “Town Deal Board” and ratified by Government as part of a competitive process. In practice only a small number of these projects might be supported, or none.

Project area	Agree	Disagree	Priority (you can tick more than one)
Broadband (Ultrafast / Gigabit speeds)			
Support for Business Hub / Innovation Hub facility ⁽¹⁾			
Completion of superhub bus stop roll-out ⁽²⁾			
Completion of micro-park / trail roll-out ⁽²⁾			
Complete Cycling & Walking infrastructure improvements ⁽³⁾			
Site development for small industrial units up to 5k sq ft			
Creation of a fund to incentivise rent and attract businesses			
Publically accessible Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure			
Ensure dropped kerbs or raised tables (as appropriate) ⁽³⁾			
Ensure bus shelters are provided at all stops (with RTPI)			
Re-Energise Manor Royal Sustainable Energy project support			
Projects Pack unfunded public realm enhancements ⁽²⁾			
Gatwick Road Parade improvements / upgrade			
County Oak Corner upgrade			
Cobham Way Pocket Park & facilities			
Faraday Road & Newton Road area enhancements			

Notes:

- (1) As per Lichfields Economic Impact Study and other studies
- (2) As per Manor Royal Projects Pack (Allen Scott)
- (3) As per Manor Royal Transport Study (Steer Davies Gleave)