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St. Ives Skate Park Regeneration Project is awarded £450,000 from St. Ives Town Deal as first major project funding is allocated

A community led project to deliver the design, build and finish of a new state-of-the-art skatepark in St. Ives has been awarded major funding under phase one of the wider investment to the town. The Accelerated Towns Fund money was announced by the government at the beginning of July, with St. Ives being offered up to £500,000 for projects contributing to the economic regeneration aims of the fund. St. Ives Town Deal is looking to pick up a total of £25million with a full investment plan going to government later this year.

Sarah Stevens, Chair of the St. Ives Town Deal Board explains; “The skatepark was chosen because it had already been submitted to the Town Deal board as an Expression of Interest via the website and was already a well-developed project. The Skatepark Group have also already raised a considerable amount of money which will be used to match the government grant and make the new skatepark even more fabulous. It’s a community aspiration and been talked about for years and it will bring real and significant benefits to this residential area of town, where further projects are being planned for local community benefit”

The Town Deal in St. Ives is working hard to engage the community and gather all ideas that will enhance and improve the town and lots of ideas have been pouring in. The Skate Park was quick to recognise the potential of the new funding and was an early applicant for funding.

Senara Wilson Hodges from The Skate Park Projects says; “This is a total game changer for our whole community and we are stoked that the Town Fund has recognised what a brilliant project this is. We have seen a huge amount of local support and engagement around the idea of building a world class skatepark in St. Ives and that is reflected in the money we raised as a community. This is about coming together to support our young people and showing that we are prioritising their health and well-being. When local families, children and young people discover that our dream is finally becoming a reality they will be beyond happy. This is a change that will affect not just this generation, but those to come”

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Editors notes:

For more information on St.Ives town deal visit www.stivestowndeal.org

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For more information on The St.Ives Skate Park Project visit

<https://www.facebook.com/stivesskateparkproject/>

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