

Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board

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Wednesday 10 June 2026


Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board

The **Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board** will meet in the **Reception Room - Town Hall, Dewsbury** at **4.00 pm** on **Thursday 18 June 2026**.

The items which will be discussed are described in the agenda and there are reports attached which give more details.



Sophie Johnson
Chair

The Dewsbury Town Board members are:-

Member	Responsible For:	
Sophie Johnson (Chair)	Director, Northfield Consulting	Community Sector
Paul Burnett	Empire House – Targetfollow	Business Sector
Fara Butt	Shire Beds Ltd	Business Sector
Andi Eccles	Leadership and Management Coach	Education and Community Sector
Christine Fox	Director of Customer and Community Service, Connect Housing	Housing Sector
Chief Supt Jim Griffiths	West Yorkshire Police	Central Government
Peter Mason	Managing Director, Mood Developments	Developer Sector
Iqbal Mohamed	Member of Parliament	Central Government
Jackie Ramsay	Dewsbury Arcade Group Chair	Business and Community Sector
Anum Rehman	Youth Voice Champions Group	Community Sector
Helen Rose	Director of External Relations, Kirklees College	Education Sector
Palvinder Singh	Principal and Chief Executive, Kirklees College	Education Sector
Martin Walsh	Martin Walsh Associates	Business Sector

Agenda

Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

Pages

1: Membership of Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board

To receive any updates in respect of the membership of the Board and apologies for absence from Board Members who are unable to attend this meeting.

2: Declaration of Interests

1 - 2

Members will be asked to say if there are any items on the Agenda in which they have any disclosable pecuniary interests or any other interests, which may prevent them from participating in any discussion of the items or participating in any vote upon the items.

3: Minutes of Previous Meeting and Action Tracker

3 - 14

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 12th February 2026.

The action tracker is attached for information.

4: Admission of the Public

Most agenda items take place in public. This only changes where there is a need to consider exempt information, as contained at Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. You will be informed at this point which items are to be recommended for exclusion and to be resolved by the Board.

5: Deputations/Petitions

The Board will receive any petitions and/or deputations from members of the public. A deputation is where up to five people can attend the meeting and make a presentation on some particular issue of concern. A member of the public can also submit a petition at the meeting relating to a matter on which the body has powers

and responsibilities.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10, Members of the Public must submit a deputation in writing, at least three clear working days in advance of the meeting and shall subsequently be notified if the deputation shall be heard. A maximum of four deputations shall be heard at any one meeting.

6: Public Question Time

The meeting will hear any questions from the general public.

Questions should be emailed to executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk no later than 5:00pm Monday 15th June 2026.

Members of the public can ask questions relating to the work of the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board or issues set out on this agenda.

7: Chair's Update

To receive a verbal update from Sophie Johnson – Chair of Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board.

8: Terms of Reference

15 - 34

To receive a report on the updated Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board Terms of Reference.

Contact: James Blamires, Project Officer

9: Pride in Place Update

35 - 46

To update the Board on the latest position of the Pride in Place Programme. This includes an outline of progress with the working groups, interventions, and key performance indicators and sets out recommendations for the Board to support delivery.

Contact: Andy Raleigh, Interim Strategic Lead Town Centre Regeneration

10: Town Deal Project Update

47 - 56

To receive an update on the Town Deal Projects.

Contact: Michelle Illingworth, Project Officer.

11: AOB

To consider any other business.

12: Date of Next Meeting

4pm, Thursday 10th September 2026

Location: Dewsbury Town Hall

For Terms of Reference please visit

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/regeneration-and-development/pdf/dewsbury-town-board-terms-of-reference.pdf>

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KIRKLEES COUNCIL

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board

Name of Board Member

Item in which you have an interest	Type of interest (e.g. a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")	Does the nature of the interest require you to withdraw from the meeting while the item in which you have an interest is under consideration? [Y/N]	Brief description of your interest

Signed: Dated:

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your disclosable pecuniary interests under the new national rules. Any reference to spouse or civil partner includes any person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or as if they were your civil partner.

Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses.

Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -

- under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
- which has not been fully discharged.

Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.

Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.

Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) - the landlord is your council or authority; and the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.

Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -

(a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and

(b) either -

the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or

if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

Dewsbury Town Board

Thursday 12th February 2026

Present: Sophie Johnson (Chair)
Fara Butt
Andi Eccles
Christine Fox
Chief Supt Jim Griffiths
Peter Mason
Iqbal Mohamed
Jackie Ramsay
Helen Rose
Palvinder Singh
Councillor Graham Turner
Martin Walsh

In attendance: Joanne Bartholomew, Service Director, Development
Sean Baylis, Estates Consultant to Kirklees College
Thomas Fish, Acting Head of Town Centres
Regeneration
James Blamires, Project Officer
Michelle Illingworth, Project Officer, Dewsbury Town
Investment Plan
Steven Plumstead, Director of Curriculum for
Construction, Engineering and Land-based studies –
Kirklees College
Andy Raleigh, Project Manager, Town Centres
Charlie Wells, Programme Manager (Freelance)
David Wildman, Service Director, Skills & Regeneration

Observers: Richard Butterfield, Historic England: Yorkshire
Partnerships Team

Apologies: Councillor Nosheen Dad
Paul Burnett

32 Membership of Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board
Apologies were received from Councillor Nosheen Dad and Paul Burnett.

33 Declaration of Interests

Sophie Johnson, Andi Eccles, and Martin Walsh, declared an interest as shareholders in the agenda item relating to the Arcade Town Deal Project Update. The report was submitted to the Board for information.

Jackie Ramsay declared an interest as Member and Chair of the Arcade Group in the agenda item relating to the Arcade Town Deal Project Update. The report was submitted to the Board for information.

Peter Mason declared an interest as Member of the Arcade Group in the agenda item relating to the Arcade Town Deal Project Update. The report was submitted to the Board for information.

Palvinder Singh declared an interest as Principal and Chief Executive of Kirklees College, in the agenda item relating to the Construction Skills Village (Kirklees Build). The report was submitted to the Board for information.

Peter Mason declared an interest in the agenda item relating to the Neil Jordan House Update and did not participate in this item, notwithstanding that it was submitted to the Board for information only.

34 Minutes of Previous Meeting and Action Tracker

RESOLVED –

That, subject to the amendment of Minute 26 to read as below, the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 6th November 2025, be agreed as a correct record:

‘Jackie Ramsay reported that the food festival, Dewsbury-on-sea events, clothes swaps and workshops were bringing additional footfall into the town.’

The action tracker was noted.

35 Admission of the Public

Agenda Items 32-48 and 50-51 were considered in public session.

36 Public Question Time

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, Gill Young attended the meeting and asked the following question which they had submitted in writing:

“The 10 year Regeneration Plan for Dewsbury contains a number of snapshot statistics about Dewsbury. In order that the Neighbourhood Board, and members of the public, can see the effect of any actions taken under the Plan, would the Board consider publishing data on such things as footfall, shop openings/closures, crimes against people in the town, crime against property and works to buildings at its quarterly meetings.”

A response was provided by the Chair.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, Christine Cagna attended the meeting and asked the following question which they had submitted in writing:

What is the purpose of info@dewsburytownboard.co.uk?

A response was provided by the Chair.

Christine Cagna asked a supplementary question regarding an email sent on 14th November 2025 to the Dewsbury Town Board which had not received a response. The Chair asked that the email be forwarded to her for a written response.

37 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

38 Chair's Update

The Chair gave the Board an update on the timeline of activity over the following months. These included:

- March 2026: Working groups would take place
- April 2026: Further working groups, and formal funding finalised.
- June 2026: Updated terms of reference to be agreed and published

RESOLVED –

That the Chair's update be noted.

39 Dewsbury Arts & Culture, Strategic Thinking - Pride in Place

Charlie Wells, Arts and Creative Producer updated the Board on Dewsbury Arts and Culture, Strategic Thinking, Pride in Place. A vision for Arts and Development Plans 2026 – 2033 was presented, with key themes being:

- Legacy – Previous projects such as Creative Town and Taking the Lead had engaged over 26,000 residents of Dewsbury and future projects would build on this success.
- Consistency – Communication would be embedded and it was hoped there would be capital funding within the events budget to support infrastructure. Specialist roles would be needed to deliver the vision of a multi-year programme. Existing arts venues such as Shove it Studios and theatre venues would be utilised and a bi-weekly Arts Trail was in development.
- Engagement – perception was a challenge, and advocates would be valuable in terms of positive communication, particularly within the Town Centre (eg: The Arcade) and encouraging ownership from local people.
- Partnership – links existed and would be built upon with enthusiastic partners eg: Woven, The Children's Art School.

Opportunities for external investment through other funding streams would be widened by partnership working, as multi-partner bids could be made for larger strategic funding such as from the Arts Council. Collaborative working would also help develop confidence in the development and submission of bids.

Outputs included:

- Bi-monthly Arts Trail (6 events per year) inc. 1–2 art commissions per cycle.
- 2 major free family friendly events delivered annually.
- Annual Food Festival with decreasing public subsidy.
- Collaboration frameworks for venues and creatives.

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- Branding, maps, digital assets for cultural tourism including a 'good news' site.
- Strengthened creative businesses (music, art, makers).

Charlie Wells outlined the short term (1-4 years) and medium term (5-9 years) outcomes which would lead to the following long-term impact for Dewsbury by 2033:

- Dewsbury as a recognised cultural destination.
- A thriving day-to-evening cultural economy in the town centre.
- Strong, resilient creative organisations leading their own growth.
- Regeneration supported by culture: improved wellbeing, pride, investment, footfall, and business vitality.
- A self-sustaining creative ecosystem embedded in the town.

During discussion of the item, the Board noted that there would be £50,000 available next year for the activity, which they felt may need to be focused on narrow objectives to achieve the biggest impact. The Board suggested that a unique selling point for Dewsbury may be useful, that funding should be front-loaded and that match funding be sought. A suggestion was also made that a map of arts venues be created to provide a visual guide to the arts in Dewsbury, as had been created in other towns. The success of events such as the Food Festival and Dewsbury on Sea was noted and that these should be undertaken again.

The Board suggested that engagement be made with traditionally excluded residents such as disabled residents or parents with young children, and that business be approached for their support in engagement activities.

Charlie Wells noted the suggestions and informed the Board that there would be a "good news site" for positive communication.

RESOLVED –

That the update in respect of Dewsbury Arts and Culture, Strategic Thinking – Pride in Place be noted.

40 Pride in Place Update

James Blamires, Project Officer, updated the Board on the latest position of the Pride in Place programme for Dewsbury.

The Board were informed that since the last Board meeting Dewsbury's Regeneration Plan had been submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) on 27 November 2025. Receipt had been acknowledged and the plan had successfully passed the government's initial triage stage. In early January 2026, information and updates requested by MHCLG had been submitted and a final approval outcome was expected by no later than the end of March 2026.

James Blamires also informed the Board that intervention development, monitoring frameworks, and evaluation models were being drafted so that project activity could commence quickly after funding was released in April 2026.

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A refreshed set of Working Groups were being established to ensure the Pride in Place programme remained community led. The 4-year Investment Plan emphasised Board led thematic working groups shaping local priorities.

The Working Groups would:

- Lead the next phase of detailed intervention design.
- Shape delivery plans and identify Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and success measures.
- Ensure continued alignment with community priorities and feedback.

Each working group would be chaired by a Board member and supported by a range of key stakeholders drawn from a range of expertise, experience and community insight.

The Working Groups were focused on:

- Safety & Security
- Place (Redeveloping Underused Sites)
- Creativity & Cultural Events / Creative Economy
- Business Support

During discussion the Board requested that a list of working group members be drawn up and made available to the public. In answer to a question on which working groups most needed additional members, the Board were informed that the Business Support Working Group needed the most input. The Board were asked to consider recommending additional members for the working groups. Governance arrangements for the groups were being considered and an update would be brought to the Board.

It was proposed that details of opportunities to take part in Pride in Place network/engagement events be shared with Board members and suggested that an update be provided in respect of communications, including information on the numbers of social media posts and the level of engagement with these.

RESOLVED –

That the Pride in Place Update be noted.

41

Construction Skills Village (Kirklees Build)

Steven Plumstead and Sean Bayliss, Kirklees College, presented an update on the Construction Skills Village to identify how Kirklees College could deliver on the objectives of the Dewsbury Town Board funding to increase constructions skills training in Dewsbury.

In 2024 initial provision was established on site to deliver Multiskills, Joinery, Level 1 Plumbing and Level 1 Electrical through external cabins and some minor internal reconfiguration, but to expand the provision, additional work was required. It was proposed that refurbishment of areas within Springfield Sixth Form, and a new build onsite, would be the best option for delivering projected growth in the curriculum.

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The curriculum would be expanded, with the introduction of Level 2 Plumbing, Level 2 Electrical and Level 1 Joinery in 2026/27, and Level 1s in Brickwork, Plastering and Painting and Decorating, and Groundworks in 2027/28.

The initial phase would be completed during the summer closure in 2026. The second phase involved the new build construction of a 538m² facility over two storeys with construction learning areas on the ground floor and classrooms to the first floor. These works would be completed in 2027 following planning and design in 2026. Indicative costs and timelines were provided for the consideration of the Board.

The Board acknowledged the legacy of the initial project, welcoming the growth from temporary modular units to College provision, and the benefits of partnership working between the Board, Kirklees College and Kirklees Council was noted. In answer to a question the Board was informed that the provision would be slightly smaller than that available in Huddersfield, however the provision in Leeds was at capacity, and so additional provision was welcomed and necessary. Students had been able to observe the specialist work involved in the refurbishment of the Arcade, gaining valuable heritage skills, which was a rare opportunity. It was noted that, despite challenges nationally, recruitment of tutors was not an issue.

RESOLVED –

That the update in respect of the Construction Skills Village (Kirklees Build) be noted.

42 Neil Jordan House Update

Thomas Fish, Acting Head of Town Centre Regeneration, presented a report on Neil Jordan House to inform Board members of current progress.

The Board were reminded that Neil Jordan House was a Grade II Listed former station master's house; a two-storey stone building with a pitched and hipped blue slate covered roof incorporating ornate carved feature stonework. It had been used as office accommodation and occupied a prominent position fronting Dewsbury Ring Road (A638) at its junction with Wellington Road. The property was positioned opposite Dewsbury Railway Station.

After soft market testing in 2023 and 2024 showed limited interest, the property had been marketed for sale in April 2025. Since then:

- Three cash offers for business/office use had been received.
- Three parties have expressed interest in residential conversion, with one formal proposal currently under evaluation by Cushman & Wakefield.
- Registered Providers of affordable housing had confirmed they were not currently interested in a purchase or undertaking conversion projects.

Neil Jordan House was a key heritage asset in Dewsbury town centre. Its redevelopment supported the Dewsbury Blueprint and Kirklees regeneration aims. The transformation of Field House (Station Apartments), directly opposite, demonstrated the positive impact and viability of similar schemes.

Risks if the property were to remain unsold were:

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- Ongoing holding costs (security and maintenance).
- Further deterioration leading to higher future repair costs.
- Increased risk of anti-social behaviour, vandalism, and break-ins, impacting town centre safety and perception.

An update would be submitted to the next Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board meeting about the proposal currently being assessed by Cushman and Wakefield

Assuming the development progressed further, the preference of the Council was currently Development Partnering via Procurement Process. This would involve the development partner entering an option agreement with the Council and obtaining the relevant planning consent before entering a Building Lease for the duration of construction. Finally the freehold would be transferred to them; this enabled greater control over delivery but would require more Council resources.

During discussion the Board were informed that the site had been purchased in 2022 as part of the Daisy Hill Neighbourhood Project regeneration scheme, a decision which had been made by the Board after robust discussion, taking into account the risks of both acquiring and not acquiring the property. It had been understood at the time that the property may have to be sold, but that this would allow a level of control to be retained in respect of when, and the standard to which, the property would be redeveloped.

RESOLVED –

That the update in respect of Neil Jordan House be noted.

43

Arcade Town Deal Project - Update

Andy Raleigh, Strategic Partnership Lead, Town Centres, presented an update on The Arcade project. Scaffolding had now been removed, and apprentices from Kirklees College had been given the opportunity to work with a specialist stonework team from York. Stages of the project completed recently included the feature glazed and slate roofs to the central arcade, lift shaft masonry, the removal of first-floor internal render and the plastering of the event space.

Lime rendering had commenced and new external shop fronts were in manufacture. The partitioning of units and plastering was underway, as was the internal shop fronts and stone plinth installation.

Forthcoming Dewsbury Arcade dates:

- Contract Completion date - 1st April 2026
- William Birch programme date - 2nd June 2026
- Arcade Group soft launch with summer food and drink event - June/July 2026
- Grand reopening - September 2026

In answer to a question, the Board were informed that the glazing did not include solar shading, as the building was listed and limited to clear glass. A walk-round the Arcade for Board Members could be organised prior to the next Board meeting.

RESOLVED –

That the update in respect of The Arcade Town Deal Project be noted.

44 Reallocation of Town Fund Grant

Andy Raleigh, Strategic Partnership Lead – Town Centres, provided an update to the Board regarding progress on the plan to reallocate Town Deal Grant.

The Board were invited to note the contents of this report and to approve the recommendations to reallocate Town Fund grant to support the Dewsbury Market and Town Park scheme.

The background to the decision was set out; Dewsbury's Town Investment Plan (TIP) had been submitted in January 2021 following agreement from Cabinet and the Dewsbury Town Deal Board (DTDB). The TIP had been accepted, and the Council awarded £24.8m to deliver the plan.

To maximise the full grant awarded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in line with the programme end point, it was proposed that Town Fund Grant be reallocated from the following Town Deal projects:

- Building Grant Revival Scheme
- Creative Cultural Programme
- Sustainable Transport Modes

At the August 2025 meeting of the Town Board, a funding reallocation of £1,299,081 to the Dewsbury Arcade had been approved. It had been noted that remaining unallocated grant money would be held for use within the Dewsbury Market and Town Park scheme, with the detail of any reallocation being shared at a subsequent Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board.

It was now proposed that the unspent Town Fund Grant be reallocated to support the Dewsbury Market and Town Park scheme which was in procurement and had a forecast spend of £26,161,653, requiring £3,651,627 of additional funding to be added to the original budget of £22,510,026. The increase in scheme cost was due to inflation and project prolongation.

The additional budget would be met by reallocating the unspent Town Deal grant and Council match funding from other projects within the Town Deal Programme. These projects have either been paused or had been completed under budget.

It was recommended that all £1,087,318 of the unspent Town Deal grant be reallocated to the Dewsbury Market and Town Park scheme. The underspend of Council match funding would then be reallocated to meet the shortfall in the Market and Town Park budget in line with financial procedure rules and applied within the Town Deal Programme where required.

It was established during discussion that if the underspend was not reallocated, it may have to be returned. The Board raised examples of other market towns in the region that had refreshed their markets and had varying levels of success. Officers assured the Board that the Markets Team had extensively researched and learned from other projects and that the market would have a transformative impact on Dewsbury Town Centre.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the report in relation to the proposed reallocation of Town Fund Grant be noted.
- (2) That the reallocation of £1,087,318 of unspent Town Deal Grant to support the Dewsbury Market and Town Park Scheme, as set out in Section 2 of the report, be approved.

45 Town Deal Project Update

Michelle Illingworth, Project Officer, updated the Board on three of the Town Deal Projects, and advised that:

- Previous agenda items had provided updates on The Arcade and Kirklees Build.
- An update on Dewsbury Market would be brought to the next Board Meeting
- Better Spaces Civic Space Project was progressing but had been subject to delays bringing the completion date to the end of March.

A request to expand Appendix C was requested by Iqbal Mohammed to expand on the reallocation of grant funding that has previously been approved by Board.

RESOLVED -

That the report providing an update in respect of the Town Deal Project be noted.

46 Board Member Updates

Christine Fox, Communications Working Group, gave an update in respect of communications and producing pieces of work with Board members. It was also noted that the arrangement with Counter Context would conclude at the end of May 2026 and alternative options were being considered. It was suggested that communications be undertaken to celebrate the college improvements.

RESOLVED -

That the updates from Board Members be noted.

47 Acquisition of Strategic Property

Thomas Fish, Acting Head of Town Centres Regeneration, updated the Board with further information about the principle of the Council pursuing negotiations to acquire a strategic property within Dewsbury town centre. It was proposed that the Council use match funding allocated for the Town Investment Plan Daisy Hill Neighbourhood Project, to deliver part of the wider regeneration aims.

RESOLVED –

That, in recognition of the strategic and wider regeneration benefits for the town, negotiation, acquisition and redevelopment of the key site in the town centre, as set out in the private appendix to the report, be supported.

48 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED –

That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the agenda item 20 relating to the Acquisition of a Strategic Property (Minute 49 refers), on the grounds that it

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involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Paragraph 3 (financial and business affairs) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness and transparency in relation to public expenditure in the Council's decision making.

49 Acquisition of Strategic Property

Exempt appendix in relation to agenda item 16.

RESOLVED –

That the Board noted the exempt information, which was an appendix to agenda item 16.

50 Any Other Business

There were no other items of business.

51 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 18th June 2026 at Dewsbury Town Hall.

Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board – Action Tracker

Action	Info	Who	Deadline	Notes	Completed
Questions from Public for November board to be published on DNB website following Chair response	Chair response required for this	Project Officer / Chair	Nov-25	Questions and responses uploaded on DNB website November 2025	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed
Update requested by Board on Market update	Procurement stages update	Strategic Lead / Head of Service	Dec-25	Currently drafting. Project Officer to email Board members once report signed off	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed
Share list of working group members with Board	Working Group membership	Project Officer (JB)	ASAP		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed
Board members to recommend additional working group members	Working Group membership	All Board Members	ASAP		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed

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Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board

18th June 2026

Title of report: Terms of Reference

Purpose of report:

The purpose of this report is to seek Board members support for the updated Terms of Reference for the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board.

Officer recommendation and reasons:

Recommendation:

The Board is asked to:

1. Approve the updated Terms of Reference which have been updated to reflect the Pride in Place Programme, in line with current MHCLG guidance.

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

2. Background

In September 2023, the UK government launched the *Long-term Plan for Towns*, naming Dewsbury as one of the towns to receive £20 million over ten years. Following the release of initial guidance in December 2023, Dewsbury's Town Deal Board evolved into a new Town Board, which began community engagement to shape investment priorities.

Progress paused during the 2024 general election and spending review, but the Budget confirmed the programme's continuation. In March 2025, the programme was rebranded as the *Plan for Neighbourhoods (PfN)*, with updated guidance issued. Subsequently in September 2025 MHCLG renamed this to Pride in Place, which is now the name for the 10-year programme.

3. Terms of Reference

The updated Terms of Reference set out a clear governance framework for the Board including:

- Strategic leadership and programme oversight responsibilities
- Community engagement and representation role
- Governance, accountability and transparency arrangements
- The relationship with Kirklees Council as Accountable Body
- Decision-making processes and meeting arrangements

The Terms of Reference explicitly position the Board to:

- Support delivery of the Pride in Place Programme
- Provide strategic advice and community insight
- Oversee progress and long-term regeneration outcomes for Dewsbury

4. Implications

4.1 Working with People

[Significant engagement has taken place](#), and further engagement will take place to shape the proposals that will be included in the Regeneration Plan. The projects and interventions that are to be delivered are being designed to reflect local priorities and create positive change for local people, including voices which are known to be harder to reach, such as young people, businesses and South Asian communities.

4.2 Working with Partners

Collaborative working with partners has formed a key element of development work to date to ensure we are achieving the best outcomes possible; and we will continue to engage with partners going forward.

4.3 Place Based Working

The development of the Regeneration Plan for Dewsbury will build on past engagements and be shaped by the community through further engagement to ensure it reflects local priorities and is tailored to the needs of Dewsbury to achieve the best outcomes for residents.

4.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

Interventions brought forward within the Plan will consider how they can help to tackle the climate emergency, reduce emissions and improve air quality.

4.5 Improving outcomes for children

The Plan will be part of helping to realise the ambition to improve our towns for all people, including children – and will help to create a long-lasting legacy that benefits the next and future generations.

4.6 Other (e.g Legal, Finance, Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

The programme, to be identified within the Plan, will have a risk and opportunity register, which will be actively managed to mitigate potential risks. An Integrated Impact Assessment will be undertaken during the development of the projects if required to consider the potential effects of active.

5 Consultation/Engagement

Feedback from the Dewsbury Blueprint consultation, and the engagement undertaken during 2024 as part of the then 'Long-term Plan' has been reviewed, and additional engagement has taken place as part of developing the Regeneration Plan. Engagement is continual through DNB social platforms including its website and direct inbox. Ongoing engagement with communities and members of the public continue with additional lines of communication open through open question time before board meetings.

6) Contact officer

James Blamires, Project Officer, Town Centre Regeneration.

7) Background Papers and History of Decisions

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s63448/Plan%20for%20Neighbourhood%20update%20-%20010525.pdf>

8) Appendix A – Terms of Reference

9) Service Director responsible

Joanne Bartholomew, Service Director for Development

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Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board Terms of Reference – June 2026

1. Background
 2. Roles and Responsibilities
 3. Membership
 4. Board Meetings
 5. Conflicts of Interest
 6. Quorum and Decision Making
 7. Relationship with Kirklees Council
 8. Communications and Reporting Arrangements
 9. Respecting Confidentiality
 10. Reviews
 11. Ancillary Matters
 - Appendix A: Geographical Map
 - Appendix B: Code of Conduct
 - Appendix C: Substitute Member Form
 - Appendix D: Declaration of Interest Form
- Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

1. Background

In September 2023, the Government announced a £1.1bn programme to support towns across the UK, now known as the Pride in Place Programme (formerly the Long-Term Plan for Towns and subsequently the Plan for Neighbourhoods).

Through the programme, Dewsbury will receive up to £20 million of funding over a 10-year period to support long-term regeneration, community empowerment and neighbourhood improvement.

Kirklees Council remains the Accountable Body for the Pride in Place Programme funding and delivery arrangements. In accordance with Government guidance, Kirklees Council has established the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board (“the Board”) to provide strategic leadership, oversight and community-led input into the development and delivery of the Pride in Place Programme.

The Board will continue to provide strategic oversight of relevant Dewsbury Town Deal activity where appropriate, whilst acting as the primary strategic advisory and community leadership body for the Pride in Place Programme.

These Terms of Reference set out:

- the governance arrangements of the Board;
- the roles and responsibilities of Board Members;
- the relationship between the Board and Kirklees Council; and
- the arrangements for decision-making, transparency and accountability.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

2.1 The Chair

The role of the Chair is to provide strategic leadership and direction to the Board, ensuring it operates effectively, transparently and in the best interests of Dewsbury and the Pride in Place Programme.

Key responsibilities include:

- Upholding the Seven Principles of Public Life (the Nolan Principles) as set out in Appendix C.
- Providing leadership and strategic direction to the Board.
- Appointing a Deputy Chair to support effective governance and partnership working.
- Chairing meetings effectively and ensuring decisions are taken in accordance with good governance principles.
- Acting as a champion and ambassador for Dewsbury at local, regional and national levels.
- Supporting a community-led approach to the development and delivery of the Pride in Place Programme.
- Leading Board Effectiveness Reviews in accordance with Section 10.
- Encouraging active participation, attendance and engagement from all Board Members.
- Exercising a casting vote where required.
- Working with Kirklees Council and relevant stakeholders regarding Board membership and succession planning.
- Supporting constructive partnership working between the Board, Kirklees Council, local communities and delivery partners.

2.2 The Deputy Chair

The Deputy Chair will support the Chair in the discharge of their responsibilities and provide leadership in the Chair's absence.

The Deputy Chair should work collaboratively with the Chair and, where possible, provide complementary skills, experience, networks and knowledge to support the development and delivery of the Pride in Place Programme.

2.3 Board Members

Board Members are expected to uphold high standards of integrity, accountability and conduct, and to support the Chair and Deputy Chair in promoting an open, inclusive and collaborative culture.

Decision-making will be led by the Neighbourhood Board, with the Council acting as the accountable body for the funds. The Board will work alongside Kirklees Council to support the development and delivery of the community-informed Pride in Place Programme, and provide strategic oversight of relevant Town Deal activity.

Strategic Leadership and Programme Oversight

The Board will:

- Support the development and ongoing delivery of the Pride in Place Programme.
- Identify strategic priorities and opportunities for investment.
- Provide strategic advice, recommendations and community insight to Kirklees Council.
- Support the coordination of local stakeholders, partners and resources.
- Monitor progress and provide oversight of programme delivery.
- Support opportunities to attract additional public, philanthropic or private investment into Dewsbury.
- Consider programme risks, challenges and opportunities.
- Provide recommendations and strategic direction by consensus or voting where necessary.
- Support the long-term regeneration ambitions for Dewsbury.

Community Leadership and Engagement

The Board will:

- Promote community engagement and participation.
- Ensure the programme reflects local needs and priorities.
- Support inclusive engagement with local residents, businesses and organisations.

- Promote transparency and openness throughout the programme.
- Act as ambassadors for Dewsbury and the Pride in Place Programme.
- Reflect the agreed collective position of the Board when engaging with stakeholders and partners.

Governance and Accountability

The Board and its Members will:

- Uphold the Seven Principles of Public Life (the Nolan Principles).
- Publish governance arrangements, Board membership and meeting information through Kirklees Council's website.
- Attend meetings regularly and participate actively in Board activity.
- Declare and manage conflicts of interest appropriately.
- Support transparent decision-making and accountability.
- Establish sub-groups, advisory groups or working groups where required.
- Ensure diversity and inclusion are considered in the Board's work and engagement activity.
- Comply with these Terms of Reference and the Code of Conduct.

2.4 Kirklees Council

Kirklees Council is the Accountable Body for the Pride in Place Programme & Town Deal projects. Kirklees Council's responsibilities include:

- Upholding the Seven Principles of Public Life.
- Supporting the Board in the development and delivery of the Pride in Place Programme.
- Providing governance, programme management and administrative support.
- Ensuring that decisions are taken in accordance with appropriate governance arrangements.
- Ensuring transparency requirements are met through publication of information.
- Managing the Pride in Place Programme & Town Deal funding.
- Undertaking procurement activity in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.
- Monitoring and evaluating programme delivery.
- Undertaking statutory duties including Equalities and Environmental requirements.
- Entering into contracts and funding agreements where required.
- Supporting engagement with delivery partners and external stakeholders.

3. Membership

3.1 Board Membership

The Board shall be known as the "Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board".

The Chair will lead the recruitment of Board Members, supported by Kirklees Council and the local Member of Parliament, ensuring that membership reflects the local community and aligns with Government guidance for Neighbourhood Boards.

The Board should:

- Consist of at least eight members.
- Have a majority of members who live or work within the Dewsbury boundary area.
- Reflect the priorities and diversity of the local community where possible.

The Board shall include:

- An independent Chair;
- At least one ward Councillor.

- The Member(s) of Parliament representing Dewsbury; and
- Representatives from relevant local organisations and sectors.

The Board may nominate additional members where appropriate. Any nomination shall be considered by the Chair in consultation with Kirklees Council.

Board Members are expected to comply with these Terms of Reference, the Code of Conduct and all relevant governance arrangements.

Where a person believes that the conduct of a Board Member has fallen short of the standards expected, a complaint may be submitted in writing to the Chair or the relevant Strategic Director at Kirklees Council.

Board Members and substitutes shall cease to hold membership of the Board in the following circumstances:

- Resignation submitted in writing to the Chair.
- Removal by the appointing organisation.
- Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct.
- Failure to maintain or declare interests appropriately.
- Persistent non-attendance without reasonable justification.
- Conduct deemed by the Board or Kirklees Council to be incompatible with continued membership.

Where removal from membership is proposed:

- The Board Member shall be given at least 14 clear days' written notice.
- The Board Member shall be provided with an opportunity to make representations.
- The remaining Board Members shall consider any representations before making a decision.

There shall be no formal right of appeal against a decision to terminate membership.

Unless otherwise required through Government guidance, Board Members shall ordinarily serve a three-year term and may seek reappointment following review.

3.2 Substitutes

Board Members may nominate a substitute representative using the Substitute Nomination Form at Appendix A.

Substitutes must complete a Declaration of Interest Form prior to participating in Board activity.

Substitutes may attend and participate in meetings on behalf of the Board Member in their absence.

3.3 Member Conduct

All Board Members and substitutes are expected to:

- Observe the Seven Principles of Public Life;
- Behave respectfully and professionally;
- Support constructive partnership working;
- Act in the best interests of Dewsbury and the Pride in Place Programme;
- Comply with the Board's Code of Conduct.

4. Board Meetings

The Board will ordinarily meet four times per year unless otherwise agreed.

Meetings may be held in person, virtually, or in a hybrid format, as determined by the Chair in consultation with Kirklees Council.

The Council will publish an annual schedule of meetings.

Formal Board meetings will normally be held in public unless confidential or commercially sensitive matters require exclusion of the public.

No formal business shall be conducted unless the meeting is quorate in accordance with Section 6. Kirklees Council will provide at least five clear working days' notice of Board meetings and will publish:

- agendas and reports at least five clear working days before meetings;
- draft minutes within 10 working days of the meeting where practicable;
- final approved minutes following Board approval; and
- relevant governance and membership information.

Each Board Member shall have one vote.

Decisions will normally be reached by consensus. Where a vote is required, decisions shall be determined by a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote.

In the event of an equality of votes, the Chair shall exercise a casting vote.

The Board may establish sub-groups, advisory groups or working groups where necessary to support programme development and delivery.

Sub-groups shall:

- operate in accordance with these Terms of Reference;
- report regularly to the Board; and
- remain advisory in nature unless otherwise agreed;
- Report back progress to Board regularly.

The Council will provide appropriate administrative and governance support to the Board.

5. Conflicts of Interest

Board Members and substitutes must declare any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest.

Declarations of Interest must be completed within 28 days of appointment.

Kirklees Council will maintain and publish a Register of Interests.

Board Members must keep their declarations up to date and notify the Monitoring Officer of any changes.

Where a conflict of interest arises:

- the interest must be declared at the earliest opportunity;
- the Member may be required to withdraw from discussion and voting on the relevant matter; and
- the declaration shall be recorded within the meeting minutes.

A Board Member with a significant conflict of interest shall not participate in decision-making on that matter.

The Chair may permit a Board Member to remain in the meeting solely for the purpose of providing factual clarification where appropriate.

6. Quorum and Decision Making

A quorum for meetings of the Board shall be, the Chair or Deputy, at least one third of the Board or four appointed Board members, whichever is less. Representation from at least two sectors in a quorate meeting is preferred.

Where a meeting is not quorate, no formal decisions shall be taken.

In the absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair shall chair the meeting.

If neither the Chair nor Deputy Chair is present, the Board shall appoint a Chair for that meeting only.

The Board may delegate authority to the Chair to take urgent decisions where:

- a decision is required outside of scheduled meetings; and
- it is not practicable to convene the Board within the required timeframe.

In exercising delegated authority, the Chair will seek to consult Board Members through reasonable and appropriate means wherever possible.

Any urgent decision taken by the Chair shall be published as reasonably practicable and reported back at the next Board meeting.

Informal meetings and engagement activity undertaken on behalf of the Board shall also be reported back to the Board where relevant.

7. Relationship with Kirklees Council

Kirklees Council shall remain the Accountable Body for all Pride in Place Programme funding and associated delivery arrangements.

Nothing within these Terms of Reference shall override or replace the statutory powers, duties or responsibilities of Kirklees Council or any other organisation represented on the Board.

All procurement activity associated with the Pride in Place Programme shall be undertaken in accordance with Kirklees Council's procurement and governance procedures.

Kirklees Council's Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny arrangements may receive reports relating to programme delivery and performance.

Board Members may be requested to attend meetings with Kirklees Council Members or officers where appropriate.

8. Communications and Reporting Arrangements

Meetings of the Board shall be arranged by Kirklees Council in consultation with the Chair.

The Chair and Kirklees Council will jointly agree agendas and meeting papers.

Notice of meetings and associated papers shall normally be circulated no later than five clear working days before the meeting.

The proceedings and decisions of meetings shall be formally recorded in minutes.

Draft minutes shall be approved initially by the Chair and remain in draft form until formally approved by the Board.

The Board will seek to operate transparently and communicate openly with residents, stakeholders and partners.

9. Respecting Confidentiality

Board Members must respect the confidentiality of information shared through Board activity. Where confidential or commercially sensitive information is discussed, Members must not disclose such information outside of Board meetings unless authorised to do so.

The Board may determine that specific discussions, reports or information should remain confidential.

The Board may also utilise confidentiality or non-disclosure arrangements where appropriate.

10. Reviews

These Terms of Reference shall be reviewed periodically to ensure they remain up to date and aligned with Government guidance and local governance arrangements.

Any amendments to the Terms of Reference shall require approval by a majority of the Board. At least 14 clear days' notice shall be provided for any proposed amendments.

10.1 Board Effectiveness Review

The Chair shall periodically undertake Board Effectiveness Reviews to consider:

- the size, structure and diversity of the Board;
- the skills, knowledge and experience of Members;
- governance effectiveness;
- relationships with stakeholders and partners;
- succession planning;
- meeting effectiveness and quality of papers;
- the effectiveness of sub-groups and governance arrangements; and
- opportunities for continuous improvement.

Reviews may be led by the Chair or undertaken by an independent external reviewer.

11. Ancillary Matters

11.1 Freedom of Information

The Board and its activities shall be subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018 and Environmental Information Regulations where applicable.

Kirklees Council will support the management and coordination of relevant requests.

11.2 Public Questions

Members of the public may attend formal Board meetings as observers unless confidential or exempt matters are being discussed.

A public question session of up to 15 minutes may be included within formal Board meetings. Questions must normally be submitted in writing no later than 5pm, two working days before the meeting.

Questions should be submitted to the relevant Governance Officer.

11.3 Sub-Groups

The Board may establish thematic sub-groups or advisory groups to support the development and delivery of the Pride in Place Programme.

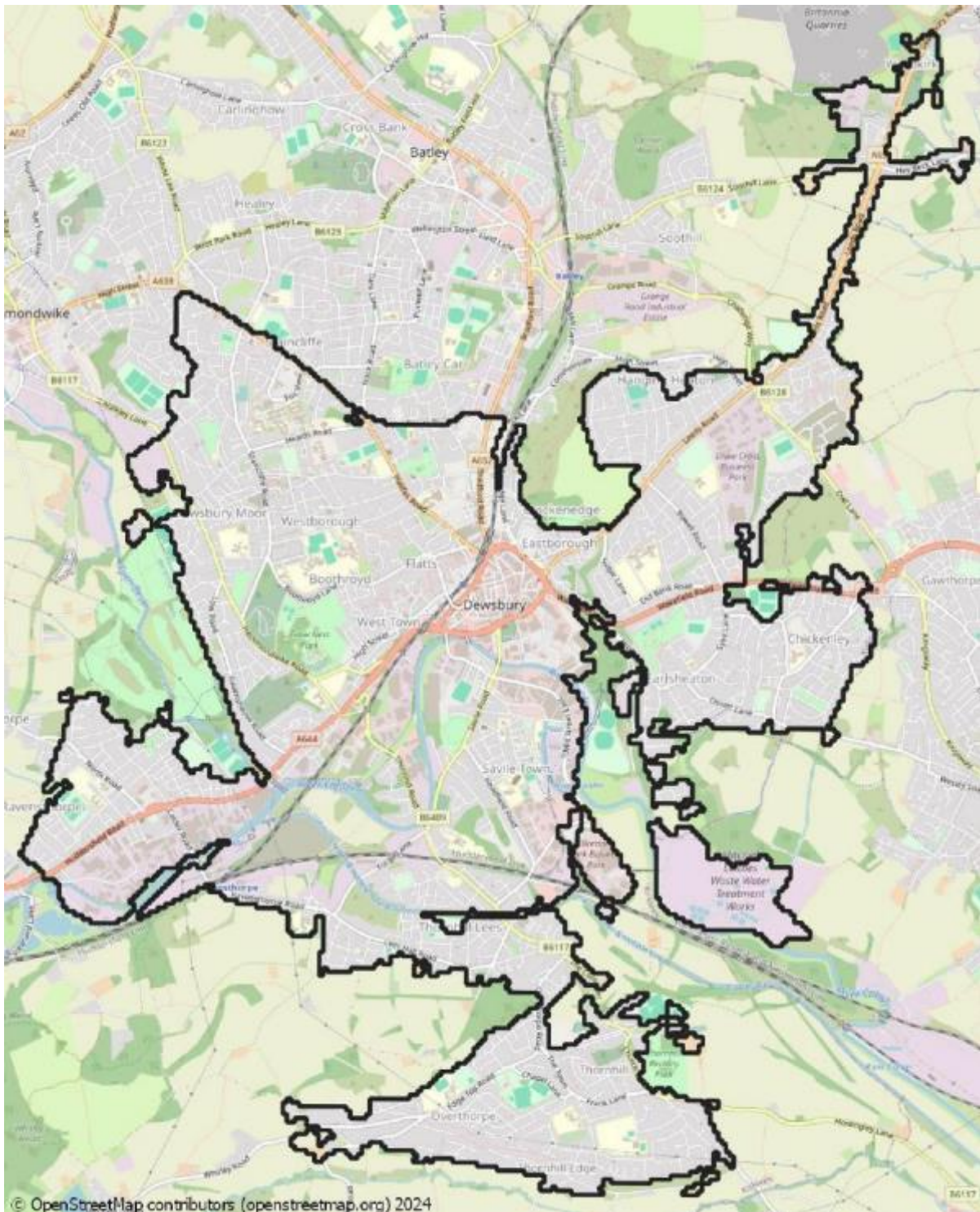
Sub-groups may include representatives from outside the Board where appropriate.

Sub-groups shall:

- operate in accordance with these Terms of Reference;
- remain advisory to the Board; and
- report back regularly to the Board.

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- Appendix A: Map of Geographic Area



Appendix B: Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board Code of Conduct

1. Purpose

The Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board (“the Board”) has adopted this Code of Conduct to set out the standards of behaviour expected of all Board Members.

Board Members acknowledge their responsibility to represent the ambition of the Regeneration Plan for Dewsbury and to work constructively with partner organisations to support the development and delivery of the Regeneration Plan.

In accordance with the Government Guidance, all Board Members are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the Nolan Principles of Public Life.

2. Nolan Principles of Public Life

Selflessness

Board Members must act solely in the public interest.

Integrity

Board Members must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to individuals or organisations that may seek to influence them improperly in their role. Members must not act or take decisions to gain financial or material benefits for themselves, family members, friends, employers, or associated organisations.

Board Members must declare and appropriately manage any interests and relationships.

Objectivity

Board Members must act and take decisions impartially, fairly, and on merit, using the best available evidence and without discrimination or bias.

Accountability

Board Members are accountable for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to appropriate scrutiny.

Openness

Board Members should act and make decisions openly and transparently. Information should only be withheld where there are lawful and justifiable reasons for doing so.

Honesty

Board Members must be truthful.

Leadership

Board Members should demonstrate these principles through their own behaviour, actively promote high standards, and challenge poor conduct where appropriate.

3. Conflicts of Interest

Given the nature of regeneration activity and investment decisions, conflicts of interest may arise from time to time.

A conflict of interest exists where a Board Member, close associate, immediate family member, employer, organisation, or business connection has an interest in a matter that may influence, or be perceived to influence, the Member’s decision-making.

Declaration of Interests

Board Members must declare any relevant interest at the earliest opportunity and, in any event, at the start of the relevant meeting or agenda item.

Where a reasonable member of the public would consider the interest significant enough to prejudice the Member's judgement, the Member:

- must declare the interest;
- must not participate in any vote relating to the matter; and
- may be asked by the Chair to withdraw from part or all of the discussion where appropriate.

Where appropriate, and at the discretion of the Chair, a Member may remain present to provide factual or technical information relevant to the discussion.

A Register of Interests will be maintained by the accountable body.

4. Gifts and Hospitality

Board Members must declare any gift or hospitality with an estimated value of £25 or more received in connection with their role as a Board Member.

Declarations must be submitted in writing to the Council's designated lead officer within 28 days of receipt or offer.

Attendance at events, conferences, or functions in an official Board capacity is permitted where the hospitality is clearly corporate rather than personal in nature.

5. Complaints

Any person who believes that a Board Member has failed to comply with this Code of Conduct may submit a complaint in writing to the relevant Executive Director of Kirklees Council.

The complaint should include:

1. Details of the alleged conduct;
2. Details of how the individual was acting in an official Board capacity;
3. Details of which Nolan Principle is alleged to have been breached; and
4. Where relevant, details of any alleged conflict of interest and its impact.

The Council may undertake an investigation to determine whether a breach of this Code has occurred.

6. Removal from the Board

Where a breach of this Code of Conduct is found to have occurred, Kirklees Council reserves the right to remove the individual from membership of the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board and notify the Chair accordingly.

7. Board Member Declaration

I confirm that I have read, understood, and agree to abide by the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board Code of Conduct.

Name Organisation

Signature Date

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Appendix C: Substitute Member Recommendation Form

Main Board Member Name

Organisation

Signature

Date

Recommended Substitute Member Details

Substitute Member Name

Job Title

Organisation

Email Address

Telephone Number

Substitute Member Declaration

I confirm that I am willing to act as a substitute representative on behalf of the named Board Member and agree to comply with the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct.

Signature Date

Print Name

Approval by Chair of the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board

Signature Date

Print Name

Appendix D: Declaration of Interests Form

Declaration of Interests Form

I, ... being a Member of the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board, hereby declare the interests set out below in accordance with:

- the Localism Act 2011;
- the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012; and
- the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board Code of Conduct.

I understand that:

- this declaration may be held within a public Register of Interests;
- I must notify the Board of any changes to my interests within 28 days; and
- by signing this form I agree to comply with the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board Code of Conduct.

Signature & Date

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Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Please complete all sections for yourself and, where applicable, your spouse, civil partner, or a person with whom you are living as if you were spouses or civil partners.
If there are no relevant interests, please write "None".

Employment, Office, Trade, Profession, or Vocation

Please provide details of any employment, office, trade, profession, or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

Details

Sponsorship

Please provide details of any payment or financial benefit received within the last 12 months in connection with your duties or appointment.

Details

Contracts

Please provide details of any contracts between yourself, or an organisation in which you have a beneficial interest, and Kirklees Council.

Details

Land

Please provide details of any beneficial interests in land within the Kirklees area.

Details

Licences

Please provide details of any licence to occupy land within Kirklees for a period of one month or longer.

Details

Corporate Tenancies

Please provide details of any tenancy where the landlord is Kirklees Council and the tenant is a body in which you have a beneficial interest.

Details

Securities

Please provide details of any securities or shareholdings meeting the relevant statutory thresholds.

Details

Other Personal Interests

Please provide details of any personal interests that are not disclosable pecuniary interests but could reasonably be perceived as influencing your role or decision-making as a Board Member.

Examples may include:

- Membership of trade unions;
- Membership of charities, societies, or community groups;
- Membership of external organisations;
- Unpaid voluntary positions;
- Membership of local organisations or campaign groups; or
- Organisations receiving Council funding or support.

Details

Gifts and Hospitality Reminder

Board Members are reminded that gifts or hospitality with a value exceeding £25 must be declared in writing to the designated lead officer within 28 days of receipt.

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Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board

18th June 2026

Title of report: Pride in Place Update

Purpose of report:

To update the Board on the latest position of the Pride in Place programme, to outline progress with the working groups, interventions and KPI's and recommendations for the Board to support delivery.

Officer recommendation and reasons:

Recommendation:

The Board is asked to:

1. Note the update
2. Endorse the recommendations and KPI's from each of the working groups.

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

2. Background

In September 2023, the UK government launched the *Long-term Plan for Towns*, naming Dewsbury as one of the towns to receive £20 million over ten years. Following the release of initial guidance in December 2023, Dewsbury's Town Deal Board evolved into a new Town Board, which began community engagement to shape investment priorities.

Progress paused during the 2024 general election and spending review, but the Budget confirmed the programme's continuation. In March 2025, the programme was rebranded as the *Plan for Neighbourhoods (PfN)*, with updated guidance issued. Subsequently in September 2025 Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) renamed this to Pride in Place, which is now the name for the 10-year programme.

3. Working Groups

3.1 Update

The working groups have now convened to review the interventions, associated outputs, and key performance indicators (KPIs), and have developed a set of recommendations for the Board’s consideration, as outlined below. The current structure comprises three established groups:

Safety and Security, led by Jim Griffiths; Engagement and Communications, led by Helen Rose; and Place, led by Peter Mason. Each group is progressing its respective priorities and contributing to the overall programme objectives.

All groups have met multiple times in March and April to progress recommendations to Board.

3.2 Safety and Security Working Group

- The pre-approved intervention to fund a Police Sergeant is now underway, which has already unlocked additional dedicated policing capacity for Dewsbury town centre. Budget of £80k will be drawn from the Improving Safety and Security revenue budget.
- Recruitment for a second pre-approved post, a Multi-Disciplinary Enforcement Officer, has been agreed by the working group and will shortly be advertised. Budget of £80k will be drawn from the Improving Safety and Security revenue budget.
- Funding will also support the introduction of a town centre radio system, linking local businesses and organisations to enhance communication and improve safety and security coordination. Funding of £10k will be drawn from the Multi-Enforcement Officer Improving Safety and Security revenue budget.
- Capital investment is to be directed towards improving safety measures, including securing buildings and implementing artwork on parts of these security measures such as hoardings. Community engagement, particularly with young people, will play a key role in shaping these interventions and influencing delivery.
- Further capital project ideas and proposals will continue to be developed and progressed through the Safety and Security Working Group.

Safety & Security Funding (Year 1)

Total Revenue	Total Capital	Total Investment
£160,000	£60,000	£220,000

Safety & Security KPIs (Year 1)

Area	Measure	What it Tracks
On-Street Presence	Footfall time for Police officers	Time Police officers spend actively present in the town centre

Area	Measure	What it Tracks
Public Perception	Town centre Perception Survey (Zencity baseline)	How safe and secure residents and visitors feel
Environmental Crime	Fly-tipping incidents	Number of incidents and response time (in days)
Cleanliness	Street cleansing audit scores (Keep Britain Tidy methodology)	Independent assessment of street cleanliness
Waste Management	Overflowing bins tackled	Number of reported and resolved overflowing bins
Enforcement Activity	CPWs, CPNs, FPNs, prosecutions	Formal enforcement actions taken to address issues

3.3 Recommendation:

To:

- Note the continued delivery of the agreed Police Sergeant and Multi-Disciplinary Enforcement Officer programme roles.
- Approve the implementation of a town centre radio system to support coordination and safety. Budget of £10k will be drawn from the Multi-Disciplinary Enforcement Officer Improving Safety and Security revenue budget.
- Note the Safety and Security working group will progress priority safety and security measures through capital investment and will continue planning for delivery in subsequent years.

3.4 Engagement, Events & Communications Working Group.

The Engagement, Events and Communications Working Group met three times between March and April to work through the proposed interventions, outputs and KPIs. These discussions have directly shaped the recommendations set out in this report. Alongside this, wider engagement has taken place with members of the public, whose input has helped inform and strengthen the development of the work to this point.

To support engagement, creativity, and community connections, three key interventions will be delivered in year one:

1. Creative Programme Manager (Temporary Role £23k)

A temporary Creative Programme Manager has been appointed for an initial period of six months.

- This role will help coordinate engagement activities and support the delivery of creative programmes initially.
- During this period, a sub-group of the working group will develop a detailed job description prior to the role being appointed for the remaining investment period.

2. Funding to Support Larger Grant Applications (£14k)

Funding will be available to help unlock additional investment into Dewsbury.

- This funding will support the development of strong grant applications.

- It will help bring in additional funding and external support from other organisations.
- The aim is to secure larger-scale investment that will deliver long-term benefits for Dewsbury.

3. Community Small Grants Fund (£3k)

A small grant pot of £3k will be available in the first year to support local activities.

- The application process will be simple and accessible.
- Funding will support small, community-led activities that bring people together.
- Projects may focus on issues such as reducing loneliness, improving wellbeing, and strengthening community connections.

These three interventions work together to build capacity, attract further funding, and support grassroots activity across Dewsbury.

Engagement, Events & Communications (Year 1)

Total Revenue	Total Capital	Total Investment
£40,000	£0	£40,000

Engagement, Events & Communications – KPIs (Year 1)

Area	Measure	What it Tracks
Stakeholder Engagement	Number of Creative & Cultural stakeholders engaged	The number of organisations, groups, and individuals involved in creative and cultural activity
Communications	Communication reach and visibility (digital and in-person)	The reach and visibility of communications across online channels and face-to-face engagement
Community Participation	Participation in small/local activities	The number of people taking part in community-led events and activities
Wellbeing	Loneliness-related outcomes	Impact of activities on reducing loneliness and improving social connection
Funding Leverage	Additional grant funding secured	Amount of external funding successfully brought into Dewsbury

3.5 Recommendation:

To:

- Note the Chair has approved the continued delivery of the Creative Programme Manager role to ensure continuity during procurement phase, for 6 months. Budget of £23k will be drawn from the Creative and Cultural Events revenue budget.
- Approve the implementation of the small grants programme to support community-led activities that bring people together and reduce loneliness. Budget of £3k will be drawn from the Creative and Cultural Events revenue budget.

- Approve the use of funding to leverage additional external funding and support further investment into Dewsbury through Programme Manager. Maximum budget of £14k will be drawn from the Creative and Cultural Events revenue budget.
- Note the working group will continue planning for delivery in subsequent years, informed by Year 1 activity and outcomes.

3.6 Place Working Group

The Place Working Group is progressing two priority pieces of work that have already been agreed and approved by the Board. These activities are essential to ensure the programme is underpinned by a strong evidence base and can move forward in a timely and coordinated way.

3.7 Vacant Units and Buildings – Evidence and Options Study

The priority is to develop a clear and robust understanding of vacant shops and buildings across the town centre. This will involve procuring specialist expertise to assess current usage, identify opportunities, and provide practical recommendations for future uses.

Drawing on best practice from other towns and cities, this work will establish a strong evidence base to inform decision-making and enable the programme to take forward the reactivation of vacant units with confidence. Progressing this work at pace is critical to unlocking early opportunities and ensuring delivery can move forward without delay. A procurement exercise will be undertaken, inviting Expressions of Interest from suitably experienced providers. The Estimated cost for this work is £10k for a year of support, to be drawn from the revenue budget.

3.8 Strategic Masterplanning

A critical next step for Dewsbury is the preparation of a new strategic masterplan to provide a clear, evidence-led vision and delivery framework for the town centre. Building on the Blueprint, previous studies, the Regeneration Plan submission and the forthcoming vacant buildings analysis (as per 3.7 above), the masterplan will bring these strands together into a coherent plan that prioritises interventions, aligns investment, and provides confidence to partners and funders. Commissioned specialist expertise will ensure a robust assessment of the town's economic, spatial and market context, a review of existing plans, and the identification of a focused pipeline of projects that maximise impact.

Importantly, this approach reflects recognised best practice in place-based regeneration, moving from a series of individual projects to a coordinated programme with a defined long-term direction, underpinned by a clear narrative for change. The recent success of the Marsden Masterplan, co-developed with the Community Partnership, demonstrates the value of combining professional capacity with strong local insight to shape credible and supported proposals. Applying this model in Dewsbury will help to secure stakeholder buy-in, strengthen the investment case, and ensure that future proposals are grounded in both evidence and community priorities.

Investing in this work now, through the procurement of an experienced masterplanning team with an anticipated £100k revenue allocation, will position Dewsbury to move at pace, respond to future funding opportunities, and make informed decisions about where the PiP funding can have the greatest catalytic effect. Without this strategic framework, there is a

risk of fragmented delivery and missed opportunities; with it, the Board can set a clear course for sustainable regeneration and long-term town centre revitalisation.

3.9 Strategic Property Restoration – 27 Market Place

At the Extraordinary meeting of Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board, 26th March 2025 approval was given to purchase and refurbish 27 Market Place to safeguard both the investment in the Arcade Building and the wider ambitions for the town.

A capital budget of £275k was approved from the Building Revival scheme to purchase and make the building wind and watertight. A revenue budget of £5k per year for a total of 5 years, from the Pride in Place Redevelop Underused Sites revenue budget, was approved to cover holding costs.

The Appendix details the work undertaken so far and the request for additional funds to complete the wind and watertight works. A further £131k is required to complete the work with the source of funds coming from the Redevelop Underused Sites capital budget and take the total investment to £361k.

3.10 Recommendation:

To:

- Approve the procurement of specialist expertise to provide the vacant units and buildings evidence and an options study to develop a robust evidence base to inform the reactivation and future use of vacant shops and buildings. Budget of £10k will be drawn from the Growth Plans revenue budget.
- Approve the procurement of a strategic masterplanning team to establish a clear long-term vision and framework for the town centre. Budget of £100k will be drawn from the Growth Plans revenue budget.
- Note that both pieces of work must be delivered at pace to enable timely progression of the wider programme with input from working group members.
- Approve the use of £131k of additional funds for the refurbishment of 27 Market Place to a wind and watertight condition. Budget of £131k will be drawn from the Redevelop Underused Sites capital budget and take the total investment to £361k.

Growth Plans (Year 1)

Total Revenue	Total Capital	Total Investment
£150,000	£0	£307,000

Redeveloping Underused Sites (Year 1)

Total Revenue	Total Capital	Total Investment
£7,000	£300,000	£307,000

3.11 General Programme KPI's

The follow KPI's have been agreed for the overarching programme to measure success collectively in addition to theme specific measurements.

Area	Measure	What it Tracks
Town Centre Activity	Footfall levels	Number of people visiting the town centre
Visitor Behaviour	Dwell time	Length of time people spend in the town centre
Commercial Occupancy	Vacancy rates	Number and percentage of vacant premises
Community Confidence	Place perception survey	How residents and visitors feel about the town centre
Planning & Development	Planning application activity	Level of development and investment interest
Employment	Jobs created	Number of new jobs created within the programme area
Business Growth	Business occupancy	Number of occupied business premises
Investment	Public and private investment leveraged	Additional investment attracted to the area
Town Centre Usage	Daytime, evening and weekend activity	Changes in town centre activity across different periods
Community Engagement	Resident participation	Resident involvement in engagement and consultation activities

3.12 Business Support Working Group

A working group dedicated to managing the Business Support has not been set up yet as a chair hasn't volunteered for the role. Once this group is established, it will manage the Supporting Businesses intervention and will develop working group specific responsibilities and KPI's.

Supporting Businesses (Year 1)

Total Revenue	Total Capital	Total Investment
£25,000	£0	£25,000

3.13 Business Support – Area Based Account Manager

To ensure continuity and in the absence of a specific working group, a dedicated Business Support manager, specifically for Dewsbury has been recruited in place for an initial 12-month period whilst a Working Group can be established. Officers will continue to explore other funding opportunities and reallocate the funding for this role if possible.

This role will engage with businesses and create a network to allow training, skills development, advice and support for businesses in Dewsbury.

3.14 Recommendation:

To:

- Note that the Business Support Officer role has been recruited on an initial 12-month basis in lieu of the Working Group being set up. Budget of £25k will be drawn from the Supporting Businesses revenue budget.

4. Implications

4.1 Working with People

[Significant engagement has taken place](#), and further engagement will take place to shape the proposals that will be included in the Regeneration Plan. The projects and interventions that are to be delivered are being designed to reflect local priorities and create positive change for local people, including voices which are known to be harder to reach, such as young people, businesses and South Asian communities.

4.2 Working with Partners

Collaborative working with partners has formed a key element of development work to date to ensure we are achieving the best outcomes possible; and we will continue to engage with partners going forward.

4.3 Place Based Working

The development of the Regeneration Plan for Dewsbury will build on past engagements and be shaped by the community through further engagement to ensure it reflects local priorities and is tailored to the needs of Dewsbury to achieve the best outcomes for residents.

4.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

Interventions brought forward within the Plan will consider how they can help to tackle the climate emergency, reduce emissions and improve air quality.

4.5 Improving outcomes for children

The Plan will be part of helping to realise the ambition to improve our towns for all people, including children – and will help to create a long-lasting legacy that benefits the next and future generations.

4.6 Other (e.g Legal, Finance, Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

The programme, to be identified within the Plan, will have a risk and opportunity register, which will be actively managed to mitigate potential risks. An Integrated Impact Assessment will be undertaken during the development of the projects if required to consider the potential effects of active.

5. Consultation/Engagement

Feedback from the Dewsbury Blueprint consultation, and the engagement undertaken during 2024 as part of the then 'Long-term Plan' has been reviewed, and additional engagement has taken place as part of developing the Regeneration Plan. Engagement is continual through DNB social platforms including its website and direct inbox. Ongoing engagement with communities and members of the public continue with additional lines of communication open through open question time before board meetings.

6. Contact officer

Andy Raleigh, Interim Strategic Lead, Town Centre Regeneration Service.

7. Background Papers and History of Decisions

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s63448/Plan%20for%20Neighbourhood%20update%20-%20010525.pdf>

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/g8359/Printed%20minutes%2012th-Feb-2026%2016.00%20Dewsbury%20Neighbourhood%20Board.pdf?T=1>

8. Appendix:

Refurbishment of Strategic Property- 27 Market Place

9. Service Director responsible

David Wildman, Service Director for Skills and Regeneration.

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Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board

Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board Meeting – 18th June 2026

Appendix: Refurbishment of strategic property- 27 Market Place

Background

On 25th March 2026 the Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board took the decision to acquire and repair 27 Market Place using the Town Deal Building Grant Revival Scheme (BGRS) funding to help safeguard investment in the town. The Board also made a commitment to invest in the property when the Pride in Place Programme was approved, this would facilitate the renovation to a standard to allow the sale or lease of the property in the future.

Capital Costs

The property was acquired for £75,000, which was within the surveyor's valuation range of £50,000 to £85,000. An assessment of the costs for refurbishment, fees, insurance, building control and contingency was £200,000. Therefore, the total capital investment through the BGRS Town Deal allocation was expected to be in region of £275,000.

This initial intervention was a basic refurbishment to ensure the building was repaired, made secure and watertight. Proposed works included frontage render repair, shop front repair & repaint, window repair/replacement, ventilation for cellar, roof and gutter repair, and plaster repair.

This scope of work did not include works to make the building useable in the short-term, but it was suggested that the Pride in Place programme capital funding could be used to bring the building back into use.

Revenue Costs

The holding costs for the property were estimated to be £5,000 per annum, this includes rates, utilities and insurance – but would exclude any costs incurred because of vandalism or damage. It was anticipated the building would be held for a maximum of five years with a view to renovating and selling or leasing the space as part of future plans.

Progress

The building was purchased in 2025, and surveys were undertaken on the condition of the roof and timbers, external render and asbestos. Asbestos removal was required before any works work allowed to be undertaken, and a strip out of the building was then completed.

The shop front has been painted in advance of render repair work and structural assessment was completed to recommend a redundant chimney was removed as part of the roofing works. The costs to date are shown below.

Costs to date	
Works - Including Purchase Fee	£ 96,321.79
Surveys/Asbestos Removal	£ 3,191.12
Professional Fees -Project Management / Strcutural Engineer	£ 55,402.15
Total	£ 154,915.06

The timber and structural surveys have identified additional works which are needed to bring the building into repair. An updated estimated cost for the refurbishment works indicates the works will cost an additional £131k and take the total investment to £361k.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Dewsbury Neighbourhood Board:

1. Note the content of this Report
2. Approve the use of £131k of additional funds for the refurbishment of 27 Market Place to a wind and watertight condition. Budget of £131k will be drawn from the Redevelop Underused Sites capital budget.
3. Commit to further investment in the property as part of the Pride in Place programme to facilitate the renovation, sale or lease of the property in the future. Costs for final fitout to be brought back to Board for approval.

**Dewsbury Town Deal Project Update Appendices
18th June 2026**

Appendix A - Recent and Planned Progress

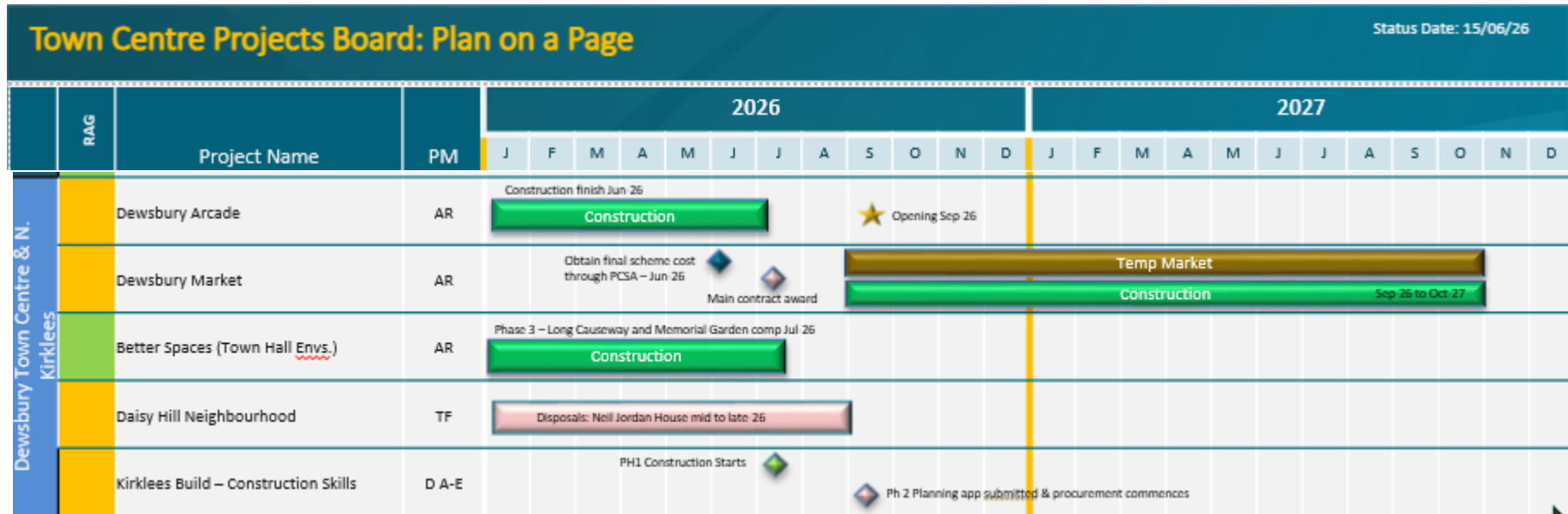
RAG Status Scheme confidence factor, considering funding position, ability to achieve planned/baseline target dates, resource availability, risk and issue severity. June 2026.

Project Name	RAG Status	Reporting period – 12 th February 2026 – 18 th June 2026	Activities planned next reporting period September 2026
The Arcade		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal render complete and scaffolding removed. • Paving to central Arcade commenced. • Yorkshire Water drainage case reopened. • Shop fronts to Corporation St bookends & Money Penny's installed. • Feature stair design approved and in manufacture. • Fanlight artwork construction completed. • Meetings with traders and officers to discuss planning and building control requirements. • Yorkshire Water drainage case reopened and escalated within the council via direct channels to YW. • Received Eastwood proposals for lift shaft remedial work. • Existing shop front repairs and fascias in progress with decorations underway. • Foundry Street roof coverings complete. • Partitions and Gypsum Plastering to Market Place end units complete. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moneypenny's element complete July 2026. • Arcade Group to take on Building lease in August 2026. • Arcade Construction complete June 2026. • Arcade Group Grand Opening and fit out complete September 2026.
Market/Market Public Realm (former Town Park)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pricing and technical review for Cliffe St compound undertaken. • Roof access option meeting undertaken with HBC and BDP. • Temporary Market technical requirement review undertaken with HBC and Kirklees Highways. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Scheme Cost through PCSA Stage expected June 2026 • Main Contract Award Summer 2026 • Temporary market operational by Autumn 2026 • Construction to begin in Autumn 2026 and complete in Autumn 2027.

Project Name	RAG Status	Reporting period – 12 th February 2026 – 18 th June 2026	Activities planned next reporting period September 2026
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market trader lease termination and new lease documents preparation commenced. • Review of TRO requirements undertaken. • See end of report further information on engagement update that has been undertaken on the market 	
Better Spaces (Public Realm) Town Hall		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice Board Installed • New benches installed along with cycle stands • Trees and shrubs planted Town Hall Way • Horticon have commenced landscaping works on Memorial Gardens which includes new trees and planting • Dewsbury Sign has been reinstated • Town Hall Way pavement and resurfacing works have commenced • New seating installed outside the Walsh Building - Dewsbury Hub 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project completion date now set for July 2026.
Construction Skills Village (Kirklees Build)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College progressing phase 1 (refurbishment of existing classroom space) to RIBA Stage 4 • Procurement of phase 1 contractor underway, forecast completion in July • Phase 2 (new build) progressed to RIBA Stage 2 design • Agreed Terms of References for refreshed project board. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed design and scheme delivery underway.
Daisy Hill Neighbourhood/ Field House		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further progress to report. Ongoing acquisitions now on hold/paused. • Neil Jordan House - Continuing to establish preferred path to residential conversion, proposals received are currently on hold while interested party confirms interest. Update to be tabled again at the next DNB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neil Jordan House – View to a disposal mid-late 2026

Project Name	RAG Status	Reporting period – 12 th February 2026 – 18 th June 2026	Activities planned next reporting period September 2026
Sustainable Transport Modes -		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following a test, removing the ETRO and will develop new plans as part of the Dewsbury Movement MAF and Strategic Masterplan. 	None to report

Appendix B – Key Milestones




Appendix C - Finance

The table offers an overview of the Town Fund grant allocation/match funding and spend for each of the TIP Projects – June 2026.

Project	Total TF Grant assigned	Match funding - KC Secured	Match Funding – Other secured	Total Project Budget	Total spend to date	Remaining Budget
The Arcade	£3,856,000	£2,713,000	£5,182,000	£11,750,000	£8,502,000	£3,249,000
Market and Town Park	£12,112,693	£11,484,652	£0	£23,597,345	£5,381,041	£18,216,303
Civic Spaces Project	£1,824,626	£5,047,348	£0	£6,871,974	£3,658,443	£3,213,530
Daisy Hill Neighbourhood	£839,654	£3,785,776	£0	£4,625,430	£740,589	£3,884,841
Field House	£1,380,346	£0	£4,768,314	£6,148,660	£5,119,506	£1,029,154
Construction Skills Village	£1,500,000	£750,000	£1,412,682	£3,662,682	£397,000	£3,264,890

Appendix D – High Severity Risk

Highest Severity Risks 									
Urgency	Impact	Severity	Log Ref	Title	Description	Scheme	Owner	Action Update	
4	4	16	MP-RJ-264	Compensation Event Costs	There is a risk that there will be cost increases that are greater than the contingency/ client project reserve, resulting in the need to find savings or reduce scope.	Dewsbury Arcade	Andy Raleigh	26/05 (AR) Arcade element completion is 26th Jun-26, but the arcade group cannot have full access to the building or operate until after 31st Jul-26 due to construction continuing and delays on <u>moneypennies</u> element (site compound blocks access).	

Appendix E – Dewsbury Market Engagement Overview

Over the period of three years officers have undertaken engagement with traders and have met once a month with the trader rep to discuss and hear the views and queries from the market traders. Here is an overview of the engagement of activity undertaken -

- **2023/2024:**
 - Trader engagement days held at Dewsbury Town Hall on the 29/11/2023 and 10/01/2024 to share the new plans
 - Trader one to one meetings arranged, traders were invited to sign up for an appointment in July, August and October 2024
- **2025:**
 - All traders approached – in person by Market Officers – to make an appointment for a second round of 1 to 1 meeting.
 - 57 meetings with individual traders across 6 days at DTH on 18 & 19 & 24 & 25/06/2025 & 01 & 02/07/2025. We shared:
 - the layout of the decant,
 - the likely timescale for the opening of the temporary market,
 - the number of containers available

- the compensation figure for each lease holder who choose not to transfer to the decant.
- Traders were advised to look at the information hub container that would be in situ in November

- 31/10/2025 – 04/11/2025: 46 letters sent to individual traders – providing detailed information on the temporary market including the offer of space, the rent, notice to surrender leases procedure, and confirmation of the compensation figure where applicable. Letters include a response form to accept or reject the offer
- From w/c 03/11/2025 – 17/01/2026 Individual responses to each trader’s concerns regarding temporary market allocation emailed. Traders were advised that on receipt of all responses the allocations will be reviewed within the scope of the layout.
- 04/11/2025 – container moved to Long Causeway where information on the scheme will be updated.
- 08/12/2025 – traders who have not responded to their allocation offer reminded of the deadline of 17/01/2026 – and that the review of allocations cannot proceed without receipt of every response.
- 20/12/2025 – received - a petition signed by 24 traders regarding reduced (storage) space and rent at the temporary market.

- **In 2026:**
 - 12/01/2026 – Trader rep meeting undertaken
 - 21/01/2026 – individual responses sent to the signatories of the petition.
 - 02/02/2026 – lease holder traders who have requested compensation contacted and their options regarding claiming outlined.
 - 10/02/2026 – scheduled date for the review of all trader allocations at the temporary market.
 - 30/03/2026 – Trader rep meeting undertaken
 - 27/04/2026 – Trader rep meeting undertaken
 - 26/05/2026: all dry goods traders transferring to a container were contacted to enquire if they require slat walls fitting. The container dimensions and images of each type of container allocated to specific traders were included in the email. Deadline to respond is 08/06/2026.
 - Ongoing support and guidance for 6 x F & B traders intending to decant – including those operating out of vans – from JT & Crew - specialist F & B consultants

Next Steps

Once the containers are in position in the town centre, further engagement will take place with traders who will be operating from demountable stalls.

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