

PENDLE COUNCIL

JOBS & GROWTH

STRATEGY

PROGRESS REPORT **OCT 2015**



Our Businesses

Our People

Our Connectivity

Our Place


Enterprising
BRITAIN
AWARDS 2015

PendleVision 

Borough of
Pendle 



We were proud to host the finish of Stage Two of the 2015 Aviva Tour of Britain. It gave us a unique opportunity to raise the profile of Pendle, nationally and internationally, as a fantastic place in which to live, work and play. The race organiser estimates that around 200,000 people flocked to the area, giving a massive boost to our economy.

OUR BUSINESSES WE WANT TO HELP THEM THRIVE

- Together with Pendle Vision Board, we're incredibly proud to receive a Judges Highly Commended Award for promoting entrepreneurial spirit in the **Enterprising Britain Awards 2015**.
- During 2013-15 we invested £488,649 into the **Gearing up for Growth** programme to support and strengthen our local economy. That's almost half a million pounds worth of investment in the borough which will result in around £1.8m of private sector investment.

The programme also:

- supported 66 start-up businesses
- awarded 34 growth grants
- created 298 jobs
- safeguarded 156 jobs
- supported 24 graduate placements.

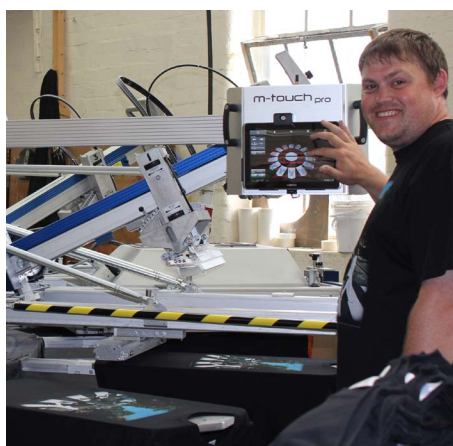
DELIVERING OUR JOBS & GROWTH STRATEGY

It's nearly two years since we adopted our Jobs and Growth Strategy. This update highlights our progress and sets out what we're planning over the next two years.

The former Brierfield Mill now known as Northlight



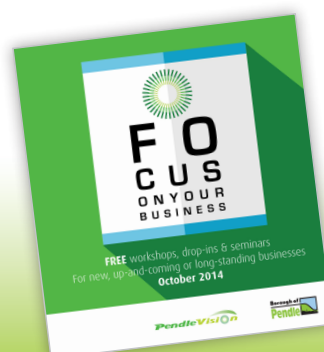
- We helped Loft Leg to launch a new product. Matthew Driver, Director, said: "Our start-up grant gave us a much needed cash injection when we needed it most."



- Razamataz wanted help to invest in the latest technology in printing equipment. Mike Leonard, Director, said: "We've been extremely busy for some time and business was building up so we knew we needed to upgrade our machinery to be able to keep up with demand."

- **Our Business Support Team** encourages Pendle companies to take advantage of support provided by other organisations. We're pleased that 21 local companies have received £1.2m of public investment and invested £5.7m of their own money.
- We need to provide sites to accommodate our growing companies, so we're working towards extending the already successful **Lomeshaye Industrial Estate** by a further 30.59ha which could accommodate more than 1,500 jobs.
- We also need to make use of existing industrial buildings so we're helping to breathe new life into **Northlight, formerly Brierfield Mill**. We've received interest from development partners for office space, housing and hotel and leisure in this prominent, currently vacant, complex of buildings.
- We've held annual and bi annual events supporting, developing and celebrating Pendle businesses including:

Focus on Your Business Month, a programme of free seminars, workshops and drop in sessions. Last year 176 people attended 16 events.



Pendle's Business Awards, a dazzling biennial event bringing the borough's most successful businesses together. We're all very much looking forward to our 2016 Business Awards which will be held in May.

- Pendle Vision Board, a group of local companies that come together to act as ambassadors and lobby for Pendle, have expanded to include more businesses.

OUR PEOPLE

WE WANT TO INCREASE THE EMPLOYABILITY OF OUR WORKFORCE

- Our **Graduate Placement Scheme** has supported 24 placements with local companies, helping graduates who might have otherwise left the area secure placements with local employers. Two Pendle companies, *LBS Worldwide* and *Cloud 1990*, each took on a graduate in 2014. Collette Pirie, Human Resources Manager, said: "Our graduates have proved to be real success stories and both are integral to our future growth."
- Our annual **Pendle Work Inspiration** event, attended by around 900 year nine students, gives young people a better understanding of local businesses and the careers they offer.
- In partnership with Nelson and Colne College we've created a **Youth and Apprenticeship Training Centre** in Nelson. With the support of JobCentre Plus, the Centre has helped 276 young unemployed people to improve their skills and get them work ready.



Russell Bradley, former graduate with Merc Engineering Ltd, has now been taken on full-time by the company



Pendle Business Awards 2014 attracted a fantastic number of entries

OUR CONNECTIVITY

WE WANT TO IMPROVE ROAD, RAIL AND DIGITAL NETWORKS

- As part of the £250m **Growth Deal**, Lancashire County Council has started improvements to junctions 12 and 13 on the M65.
- We continue to lobby for solutions to **ease congestion in Colne**.
- Together with Pendle Vision, we've successfully lobbied for **broadband networks** which were rolled-out in Pendle ahead of the planned schedule.

OUR PLACE

WE WANT PENDLE TO BE A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

- Through our joint venture company called **PEARL** we have carried out a multi-million pound refurbishment programme to bring 80 vacant terraced houses back into use with new public open space. In addition it has developed houses for Together Housing at Bunkers Hill, Colne. Future plans include Clitheroe Road at Brierfield and Further Clough Head at Nelson.

Pearl 

- Our **Empty Homes Programme** continues to bring houses back into use in Brierfield and Bradley.



- We continue to support our **town centres** by improving shop fronts to give residents and visitors a good impression of our borough.



JOBS & GROWTH STRATEGY

ACTION PLAN 2015 - 2017

Activity

Action

Our Businesses – we want to help them thrive

Provide suitable sites to accommodate business growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open a new strategic site on the M65 growth corridor by extending Lomeshaye Industrial Estate Encourage private investment in employment sites in Pendle, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> filling the remaining plots at Barrowford Business Park redeveloping the former Reedyford Mill site, Nelson
Reuse existing industrial buildings	Work with development partners to secure the reuse of Northlight
Strengthen commercial activity in our town centres	Develop a regeneration strategy for Colne, Nelson and Brierfield to ensure future investment is targeted effectively
Encourage diversity and innovation in our existing and new businesses	Continue to support local businesses through our annual targeted support programme - Gearing Up For Growth
Provide effective business support service stimulating innovation and private sector investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to run our popular Focus on Your Business Month Maximise the benefit for local companies seeking to invest

Our People – we want a highly employable workforce

More effective links between education and work – employer engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with partners to help local school leavers become more 'work ready' through schemes like our annual work inspiration event Continue to support an active Vision Board Engage with at least 100 Pendle companies every year to identify and meet their needs
Improve youth employment. Reduce NEETs and increase apprenticeships	Continue to work with Nelson & Colne College and support the Training Centre to help get more young people into work

Our Connectivity – we want to improve road, rail and digital networks.

Lobby for Colne Foulridge Bypass	Continue to lobby and make a strong economic case for funding the Colne Foulridge bypass
Lobby LCC to deliver the Route Management Strategy for North Valley corridor Junction 14 to A56/A6068	Continue to lobby to ensure congestion is eased in Colne
Lobby LCC to deliver signalisation of Junction 11, Junction 12 and Junction 13 on M65	Completion of work is expected before summer in 2016
Lobby for improved rail service to Colne	Ensure Pendle's views are included in a study to make a strong case to improve the rail service into the borough
Work with LCC to maximise the number of businesses linked to superfast broadband	Pendle Vision will continue to lobby Superfast Lancashire for suitable business networks and coverage to meet expectations

Our Place – we want Pendle to be a better place to live

Continue to work towards a balanced housing market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek planning approval for the development of our site at Further Clough Head and determine the best way to take this housing development forward PEARL will continue to progress the development of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 houses on Bunkers Hill Phase 2, Colne, 48 apartments at Northlight, Brierfield, 46 houses off Clitheroe Road, Brierfield, 14 houses on Bright Street, Colne, 32 houses on Carry Lane, Colne
Raise the profile of Pendle as a place to live, work and play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce a Tourism Action Plan for Pendle which aligns to the Regional Visitor Economy Strategy Capitalise on the recent Enterprising Britain Awards Grow Pendle Business Awards' success and host another event in 2016