



NELSON NEIGHBOURHOODS BOARD

Nelson Town Hall, Wilson Room

Friday 24th October 2025 at 9:15am

PRESENT

MEMBERS

Claire Bennett (CB), In the Chair
Dean Langton (DL)
Azhar Ali (AA)
Tracey Noon (TN)
Inspector Rob Grey (RG)
Jonathon Hinder (JH)
Faraz Ahmed (FA)

Pendle Action in the Community (PAC)
Pendle Borough Council
Lancashire County Council (LCC) Councillor
Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS
Lancashire Constabulary
Member of Parliament
Nelson Town Council Councillor

OFFICERS

Phillip Spurr (PS)
Sue Rae (SR)
Mevish Mahmood (MM)
Iftikhar Bokhari (IB)

Pendle Borough Council
Pendle Borough Council
Pendle Borough Council
Pendle Borough Council

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Lisa O'Loughlin, Dr Irfan Chaudhary, Shahid Shabbir, Sajad Butt, Rauf Bashir, Joel Feingold, Asjad Mahmood and Karen Arciniega.

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (23rd September 2025)

It was noted that the spelling of Iftikhar Bokhari was incorrect, this will be amended.

4. Board Update

A polite reminder for all board member who have not yet done so to provide M.M. with Bios.

5. Programme Change of Name

The board was informed that the Plan for Neighbourhoods programme would be incorporated into the Pride in Place initiative. A discussion followed regarding whether to retain the name Nelson Plan for Neighbourhoods—given the existing merchandise and previous engagement under that branding—or to adopt a new name in line with government rebranding.

After consideration, it was agreed that the programme would move forward under the name **Nelson Pride in Place**.

6. Sub-group update

C.B. explained that the sub-group had met to consider issuing a call for expressions of interest. After in-depth discussion, the group concluded that there was insufficient time to do this in a fair and transparent way. It was therefore agreed that future calls from the board would invite project applications directly, rather than expressions of interest, as the latter was seen to add an unnecessary layer at this stage.

It was highlighted that some projects under the Town Deal may be at risk of coming to an end. In particular, the Yes Hub and This is Nelson were noted as having made significant contributions to Nelson's development and would represent a considerable loss if discontinued. The board discussed the possibility of supporting these projects in the first year of the Pride in Place Programme, with the understanding that they would need to apply for future funding through the standard process alongside other organisations.

P.S. noted that the Town Deal may have an underspend and had compiled an indicative list of projects that could potentially benefit from it. He agreed to share this list with S.R.

Given the time sensitivity, the board instructed S.R. to meet with Richard Savoury to discuss the Town Deal's plans for continuing projects, explore how these might align with the Pride in Place Programme, and identify any opportunities to coordinate funding.

S.R. will report back at the next board meeting.

7. Provisional consultation feedback

M.M. provided a brief draft summary of the outcomes from the engagement activity. It was clarified to the board that the consultation had not been limited to a digital platform; M.M. had also actively engaged with the community, meeting with hard-to-reach organisations, businesses, and individuals in person.

The board spent time discussing the findings in detail.

8. Agreement of Preapproved interventions

Through the conversation above the board agreed that the following preapproved interventions would be selected as priority for the first Investment Plan.

- Regeneration, high streets and heritage
- Safety and security
- Work productivity and skills
- Cohesion

9. Visit to Dumfries House - 29th October Claire and Sue

C.B. explained that herself and S.R would be visiting The King's Foundation to attend a workshop around Regeneration, covering topics such as Match Funding, Community Engagement and Building Trusts

10. AOB

None

11. Action points

12. Date of next meeting

9.15am Wednesday 12th November – Nelson Town Hall