

REPORT FROM: DIRECTOR OF PLACE

TO: TOWN DEAL BOARD

DATE: 7th August 2026

Nelson Pride in Place - Update

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update the Town Deal Board on the Nelson Pride in Place programme.

RECOMMENDATION

1. To note the report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. For information.

Update

1. The Board has agreed to run an open and transparent recruitment process to fill board member vacancies, with opportunities to be widely promoted to encourage community involvement.
2. A Communications and Engagement Strategy has been developed to support ongoing community engagement throughout the programme. The Board also discussed increasing programme awareness through varied formats of communications and social media.

3. Work is underway to map local community groups and forums to strengthen engagement and increase opportunities for residents to influence the programme.
4. Feedback from the national Pride in Place Chairs' meeting reinforced the importance of maintaining a community-led approach, and its intention to be independent of the council.
5. The Board agreed another launch of the approved investment plan is not appropriate due to risk of mixed communications as delivery is already underway. Instead, an annual celebration event will be developed. Future Board meetings will also be open to the public to improve transparency.
6. The Board reviewed positive feedback from the Place Standard Tool event, with key themes including accessibility, town centre cleanliness, parking, and public spaces. Members supported repeating the exercise, including sessions for young people and wider community participation. The full report from Lancashire County Council is awaited.
7. The Task and Finish Group received 14 applications through Round 2 of the project funding programme. Following appraisal and recommendations by the Group, the Board approved seven projects for funding. Service Level Agreements are currently being finalised with successful applicants, and project delivery will commence once these agreements have been signed by all parties.