



**CHESTERFIELD**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL



HM Government



## **Chesterfield Pride in Place Town Board, Programme update report**

### **16<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

#### **1.0 Purpose of the report**

- 1.1 To update the Board on the approval of the Regeneration and Investment Plans and requirement for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has been received by CBC as the accountable body, from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) that sets out the programme requirements.
- 1.2 To update the Board on the first programme monitoring submission that is required to be submitted to MHCLG on the government portal by the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2026.

#### **2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 To note the requirement for a Memorandum of Understanding between the Local Authority and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for the first investment period of the Programme. (April 2026 - March 2030) including the condition that requires provision of a clear iterative community engagement plan for the lifetime of the programme.
- 2.2 To review and approve the monitoring submission to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government in Appendix 1

### 3.0 **Update on Memorandum of Understanding**

- 3.1 Following submission of our Regeneration and Investment Plans in November 2025, the Government announced they were approved in March 2026. At the same time, MHCLG issued an MOU for the Pride in Place programme that sets out the terms of the agreement between MHCLG and the Local Authority in its role as accountable body for the funding. Given the Board's critical role in the successful and effective delivery of the programme, the Chair is required to sign the MOU alongside the Local Authorities Section 151 Officer. The Chair's signature is required in acknowledgement of the roles and responsibilities of the Board as set out in the Pride in Place prospectus and guidance.
- 3.2 MHCLG require the MOU to be signed by the Local Authority and the Chair of the Town Board and returned to them by the 16 April 2026. The MOU is for Investment period 1 (first four years of the programme). Subsequent MOU's will be issued in the future to cover future investment periods.
- 3.3 The terms of the MoU are non- negotiable. The MOU includes a condition that was placed upon our submission as part of the approval process. The MOU requests that a "clear plan for iterative community engagement is developed and implemented to inform the place's Pride in Place Plan throughout the lifetime of the programme. The plan should include the rationale for the chosen delivery approach, how the proposed plan will reach seldom-heard groups, how engagement will feed into the design of programme delivery, spatial targeting and selection of interventions and how the community will feed into selection of projects. A copy of this plan is required to be sent to MHCLG by 30 October 2026". The need to develop an engagement plan will be picked up by the Communications and Engagement group and brought back to the Board at a future meeting for consideration prior to being submitted to MHCLG.

### 4.0 **Monitoring Submission Information**

- 4.1 MHCLG has now issued all Pride in Place areas with Monitoring Guidance. The guidance requires the submission of the first monitoring information to MHCLG by 30 April 2026. Chesterfield Borough Council, as accountable body for the funding will be asked to submit details of:

- Capacity funding activities
- Projects delivered using programme funding
- Projects planned using programme funding
- Neighbourhood board details
- Forecast capacity funding spend
- Outputs

4.2 CBC as accountable body is required to upload programme monitoring information onto a portal. All information submitted as part of the monitoring return must be signed off by the Town Board and be made publicly available following submission to MHCLG. Appendix 1 is a collation of all the information inputted on to the portal.

4.3 For the purposes of ensuring the monitoring deadline can be achieved, the submission includes the Community Grants project as one of the “projects planned using programme funding”. This reflects that the project is recommended for approval at the Board meeting as an Outline Business Case was requested at the February 2026 Board meeting. If approval is not forthcoming, the monitoring submission will be amended to reflect the Board’s decision.

4.4 MHCLG has indicated that a further monitoring submission will be required in October 2026.

## Appendix 1

Extract of information from Pride in Place Monitoring Return – April 2026

### Section 1

#### Capacity funding activities from April 2024-March2026

##### **Delivered activity details**

- **Staff salary costs/Management costs £97,369 (April 2024-March2026)**

Staff/Salary costs for managing the Pride in Place Programme from April 2024 to March 2026. Including interim consultant & Pride in Place Programme Manager. The costs supported in setting up the systems and processes to ensure effective programme delivery and the establishment of robust governance arrangements from an accountable body perspective - ultimately supporting the Board. A key focus of activity has been supporting the Board to deliver engagement and to develop the Regeneration and Investment plans. The Board had also established a Communications and Engagement group, and this has been facilitated by the Programme Manager. A significant amount of engagement activity was undertaken to inform the Regeneration Plan.

- **Community Outreach and Engagement £47,685 (April 2024-March2026)**

Delivery of the community and stakeholder engagement required to underpin submission of the Regeneration Plan. Thinking Place were appointed to engage with Board members and key stakeholders. 6 focus groups were delivered. Derbyshire Voluntary Action delivered engagement on market stalls to capture views of visitors/residents. They engaged with existing community groups and volunteers. An online questionnaire was launched targeting the whole community this was widely promoted on social media with over 800 responses received. A local arts-based community organisation, Junction Arts, engaged with communities using creative engagement methods they worked with young people, college students and members of their Cosy Craft groups. In total from the activities shown above the number of people engaged was 1700. In 2025, a further round of engagement was delivered by local partners including Chesterfield College, Chesterfield Community Trust, Junction Arts, Destination Chesterfield, Derbyshire Voluntary Action and local business networks in total 3750 people were reached from across our community including harder to reach groups with views captured on a questionnaire and our most vulnerable people supported by volunteers.

**- Feasibility Studies/Consultancy £119,646 (April 2024-March2026)**

Following engagement activity consultancy support was needed to explore the viability of a number of future projects. All services were procured through a fair and open process in line with CBC procurement rules as accountable body.

- Transforming the Shambles area - creating a visitor-friendly and safe environment, enhancing the heritage offer within the town centre, procured Design Yorkshire (based in Sheffield) to produce an Urban Design Plan.
- Transforming the Shambles - Design work on Burlington Street, procured Ove Arup (Engineers based in Nottingham), Rodgers Leask (Engineering consultants in Nottingham), Bentley Project Management (Derby), DJ Goode (Consulting engineers based in Suffolk).
- Spire Experience - Developing a visitor experience to showcase the Crooked Spire and bring back into use the vacant Visitor Information Centre, procured Alma nac (Architects in London), Irving Patrick (Heritage consultants in Lincoln), Turner & Townsend (Cost Consultants in Sheffield)
- Events and Animation - Procured an events specialist to advise on long-term events strategy, appointed V4 Services Ltd (based in Cheshire)
- Creative Maker Space - Procured consultants to produce a report to develop options and an operating model for a purpose operating creative space facility for the creative sector, appointed We made that (based in Manchester)
- Community Hub - Procured consultants to advise on providing town centre space for voluntary and community organisations to deliver footfall-generating and accessible services, appointed Kada Research (based in Sheffield).

**Planned activity details (activities that we will spend capacity funding on between April to Oct 26)**

**- Feasibility studies/Consultancy £22,119 (planned April 2026 – October 2026)**

Conclusion of feasibility studies - final payments due.

- Events and Animation project - V4 Research procured 25/26, final payment due 26/27
- Community Hub - Kada Research procured 25/26, final payment due 26/27
- Pavements centre feasibility Study- Explore the options for diversifying the Pavements Centre away from retail use and re-purposing for other services and spaces, including potential for community, health and/or creative spaces, appointed Whittam Cox (Architects based in Chesterfield)

**- Programme Manager costs / Management costs £36,000 (planned April 2026 – October 2026)**

Salary costs Programme Manager.

Supporting the governance and processes of the Town Board.

- **Community and outreach engagement activities £3,000 (approx) (planned April 2026 – October 2026)**

We will work with the communications and engagement group to deliver an Engagement Plan - to be confirmed. Using our existing networks through the Communications and Engagement group we will be targeting the harder to reach communities and youth sectors. Outreach and engagement activities will be a main focus of the engagement plan.

- **Operational activity costs/Other £120 (planned April 2026 – October 2026)**

Regeneration Plan design & printing amendments.

## **Section 2**

### **Projects planned using Programme Funding**

**Safety and Security of Town Centre** – The Safety and Security project is to fund two Enforcement Officers, that work as part of a larger team. They will be dedicated to providing a supportive presence in Chesterfield Town Centre. The officers will engage with local residents and retailers. They are to provide a visible presence and undertake preventative and problem-solving interventions. The Enforcement Officers will also work closely with the Police and other agencies involved in maintaining a safe town centre. The project directly supports the Government’s Pride in Place building stronger communities theme by improving safety and perceptions of safety, enabling greater use of public spaces, strengthening town centre vitality, and fostering community confidence. By reducing crime and visible disorder, the project helps create a place where residents feel secure, valued, and proud to live, work, and spend time.

Target – Whole community

Physical asset – No

Intervention – Safety and Security

Delivered by – Local Authority CBC

Total project revenue spend £591,856

Total revenue spend paid using Pride in Place funding £295,928

Other types of funding – UK Government funding (CBC)

Start date – 1/4/2026 End date – 31/3/2029

Management costs - £8,007 (year 2 & 3 only)

**Enhanced Events and Welcome to Town Centre** – The Town Board has supported a feasibility study to explore how events could be enhanced to support the vibrancy of the Town Centre. This project is to implement the findings of that report and to build on successful events that have been funded through the UKSPF programme in recent years. The project will deliver a series of events over 2026/27 and 2027/28. The project is to deliver a series of events that will support the theme of creating thriving places. Enhanced events will bring more people into the town centre, creating more footfall and animation to the town

Target – Whole community

Physical asset – No

Intervention – Regeneration, high streets and heritage/Cohesion

Delivered by – Local Authority CBC

Total project revenue spend £436,336

Total revenue spend paid using Pride in Place funding £150,878

Other types of funding – UK Government funding (CBC)

Start date – 1/4/2026 End date – 31/3/2028

Management costs - £3,017 (year 2 only)

**Community Grants Scheme** - *The Pride in Place Community Grants programme is designed to support local voluntary and community (VCSE) organisations to deliver projects that are aligned with the vision and priority themes of the Pride in Place Regeneration plan. It is proposed that the grants programme would predominantly support grassroots community and voluntary sector organisations to engage in the pride in place programme, delivering small to medium scale projects that promote volunteering and foster resilience in the community and voluntary sector.*

*Target – Whole community*

*Physical asset – No*

*Intervention - Cohesion*

*Delivered by – Local Authority CBC*

*Total project capital spend £460,000*

*Total capital spend paid using Pride in Place funding £60,000*

*Total project revenue spend £108,000*

*Total revenue spend paid using Pride in Place funding £40,000*

*Other types of funding – UK Government funding (CBC & CIL)*

*Start date – 1/4/2026 End date – 31/3/2028*

*Management costs - £2,000 (year 2 only)*

- *Will be removed from portal if the project is not approved by the Board at the April 26 Board meeting,*

**Pride in Place Programme Manager-** The Pride in Place Programme manager is to support the management of the Pride in Place programme throughout its lifetime. Supporting the Town Board and projects, collaborating with partners and facilitating subgroups such as the Communication and Engagement group. Liaison with Accountable body and MHCLG teams to ensure effective programme delivery.

- Target – Whole community
- Physical asset – No
- Intervention – Community Power/ Cohesion
- Delivered by – Local Authority CBC
- Total project revenue spend £150,000
- Total revenue spend paid using Pride in Place funding £150,000
- Other types of funding – £0
- Start date – 1/4/2028 End date – 31/3/2030 \* covering first investment period only
- Management costs £0

### **Section 3**

#### **Neighbourhood Board details**

- Joined in the last 6 months – Hannah Leaton, Associate Director of Strategic Planning and Partnerships (replaced Mahmud Nawaz)
- Left in the last 6 months – Mahmud Nawaz, Chair of Royal Hospital Foundation Trust

### **Section 4**

#### **Forecast capacity funding spend (2026/2027)**

Activities we expect to spend Pride in Place capacity funding (revenue) over the next financial year –

- Consultancy - £30,354
- Community related - £15,500
- Management costs - £88,000
- Other costs - £226

## **Section 5**

### **Forecast programme delivery funding spend (over the next financial year)**

Cohesion – Capital £30,000 Revenue £20,000

Health & Wellbeing – Capital £50,000 Revenue £40,000

Regeneration, high streets and heritage – Capital £230,000 Revenue £76,260

Safety and Security – Capital £0 Revenue £95,740

Transport – Capital £50K Revenue £0

## **Section 6**

### **Outputs**

Outputs relevant to what we have done in our neighbourhood –

2 Permanent full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs created or safeguarded

2 Permanent full time equivalent jobs safeguarded