



Leicester
City Council

**MEETING OF THE CULTURE AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY
COMMISSION**

DATE: THURSDAY, 18 JUNE 2026

TIME: 5:30 pm

**PLACE: Meeting Room G.01, Ground Floor, City Hall, 115 Charles
Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ**

Members of the Committee

Councillor Zaman (Chair)

Councillor Bajaj (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Dr Barton, Cassidy, Dave, Haq, Joshi and Pickering

Members of the Committee are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed overleaf.

For Monitoring Officer

Officer contacts:

Edmund Brown (Senior Governance Services Officer), Oliver Harrison (Governance Services Officer)

E-mail: governance@leicester.gov.uk

Leicester City Council, City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ

Information for members of the public

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You have the right to attend formal meetings such as full Council, committee meetings, City Mayor & Executive Public Briefing and Scrutiny Commissions and see copies of agendas and minutes. On occasion however, meetings may, for reasons set out in law, need to consider some items in private.

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- ✓ to respect the right of others to view and hear debates without interruption;
- ✓ to ensure that the sound on any device is fully muted and intrusive lighting avoided;
- ✓ where filming, to only focus on those people actively participating in the meeting;
- ✓ where filming, to (via the Chair of the meeting) ensure that those present are aware that they may be filmed and respect any requests to not be filmed.

Further information

If you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact: **Edmund Brown, Edmund.Brown@leicester.gov.uk Oliver Harrison, Oliver.Harrison@leicester.gov.uk**. Alternatively, email governance@leicester.gov.uk, or call in at City Hall.

For Press Enquiries - please phone the **Communications Unit on 0116 454 4151**.

PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

NOTE:

FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION

If the emergency alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building immediately by the nearest available fire exit and proceed to the area outside the Ramada Encore Hotel on Charles Street as directed by Democratic Services staff. Further instructions will then be given.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To issue a welcome to those present, and to confirm if there are any apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members will be asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Appendix A

The minutes of the meeting of the Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission held on 16 April 2026 have been circulated, and Members will be asked to confirm them as a correct record.

4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION 2026-27

The Membership of the Commission will be confirmed and noted.

CHAIR	Councillor Syed Zaman
VICE CHAIR	Councillor Deepak Bajaj
	Councillor Susan Barton
	Councillor Ted Cassidy
	Councillor Karen Pickering
	Councillor Dilip Joshi
	Councillor Bhupen Dave
	Councillor Zuffar Haq

5. DATES OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION 2026-27

Members will be asked to note the meeting dates of the commission for 2026/27-

18 June 2026
3 September 2026
2 November 2026
28 January 2027
4 March 2027

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE **Appendix B**

The Commission will be asked to note the Terms of Reference.

7. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair is invited to make any announcements as they see fit.

8. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CASE

Any questions, representations and statements of case submitted in accordance with the Council's procedures will be reported.

9. PETITIONS

Any petitions received in accordance with Council procedures will be reported.

10. INTRODUCTION TO CULTURE AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY COMMISSION **Appendix C**

The Lead Scrutiny Directors of the Commission to outline the service areas that form part of the commission.

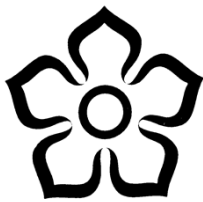
11. PRIDE IN PLACE PROGRAMME UPDATE **Appendix D**

The Director of Corporate Services submits a report providing an outline of the Pride in Place Programme to the Commission, indicating where current action is underway and the expected milestone actions and deadlines for later in the year.

12. WORK PROGRAMME **Appendix E**

Members of the Commission will be asked to consider the work programme and make suggestions for additional items as it considers necessary.

13. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
CULTURE AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Held: THURSDAY, 16 APRIL 2026 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T:

Councillor Zaman – Chair
Councillor Halford – Vice Chair

Councillor Dr Barton
Councillor Haq
Assistant City Mayor – Councillor Dempster
Councillor Chauhan
Councillor Waddington
* * * * *

196. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllr Dave, Cllr Cassidy and Cllr Cutkelvin.

197. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have had in the business to be discussed.

There were no declarations of interest.

198. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

With regard to an action raised at the previous meeting, it was noted that Newarke Houses Museum had not opened over the Easter Holidays. It would be reviewed as to whether they could open for October half-term and the 2027 Easter Holiday.

AGREED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission held on 5 March 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.

199. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair noted that the meeting of the task group on Community Asset Transfer (CAT) scheduled for 14 April had been cancelled due to unforeseen issues with officer availability. Business due to be considered at this meeting would now be considered at the meeting on 7th May, where it was also hoped to meet with groups who had gone through the CAT process. It was requested that it would be useful if questions for these groups could be sent to Governance Services in advance.

200. QUESTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS AND STATEMENTS OF CASE

The Monitoring Officer reported that none had been received.

201. PETITIONS

The Monitoring Officer reported that none had been received.

202. PSPO 2 - VERBAL UPDATE

The Director of Neighbourhood and Environmental Services provided a verbal update on PSPO 2. Slides were presented (attached), and additional key points to note included:

- Draft documentation had received legal sign-off and the scheme was ready to go to consultation.
- The approach protocol illustrated how PSPO2 would be managed and enforced.
- Feedback was welcome to see how the PSPO was perceived by communities.

In response to member discussion and questions, the following was noted:

- One warden would be starting this week, three more on 5th May, and two others would join later in May.
- With regard to a query about money form selective licensing schemes, it was explained that selective licensing teams were being actively worked with on management.
- In response to points made about bikes, e-bikes and e-scooters, it was explained that this was dealt with by the Police, and in terms of funding, it was specifically in relation to the public spaces team.
- The new team consisted of six uniformed officers, four support officers and one apprentice.
- Information on how the team was funded could be shared with the Committee.
- In terms of the difference between the new officers and existing City Wardens, it was explained that the work of the City Wardens was focussed on environmental issues, whereas the new officers looked at Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and crime in terms of prevention, detection

and enforcement.

- In terms of the wider picture on how individuals were managed, officers would be data-led. The more reports received, the better the data would be, so officers could target patrols where they were most needed. Work would take place 7am-7pm Monday-Saturday, but there was flexibility to do targeted work in the evenings.
- The PSPO had police support and there was an agreement for them to support the restrictions within it.
- The powers of the police and of the new officers both came under the Crime and Policing Act.
- In terms of cyclists not adhering to lanes, it was explained that by-laws were managed by different teams.
- Officers worked in pairs for safety, and had safety equipment such as vests, radios and panic alarms. The Police were worked with, so there was a lot of information available for dynamic risk assessments so that operations could be pre-planned and people weren't put into high-risk situations.
- In response to concerns raised that ASB might move into different areas, it was explained that data was constantly being assessed and reviewed, and if ASB appeared to be arising in pockets, another PSPO could potentially be considered.

AGREED:

- 1) That information be provided on funding.
- 2) That information be provided on pavement cycling.
- 3) That the report be noted.
- 4) That comments made by members of this commission to be taken into account by the lead officers.

203. PLACE EXPANSION PROJECT UPDATE

The Director of Neighbourhood and Environmental Services submitted a report providing an update on Leicester's involvement in Sport England's Place Expansion programme and set out details of a Full Award bid that had been submitted to Sport England on 27 March 2026.

The Head of Sport Services introduced the item noting that in 2017 Sport England had selected 10 areas across the country for a pilot scheme, looking at how to address physical inactivity. A second phase was introduced in 80 areas, including Leicester.

The Project Manager for Sports and Leisure provided an overview of the report together with a slide presentation attached to the minutes. Key points to note, not included on the slides, were as follows:

- Adequate physical activity required certain social conditions which were not prevalent in Leicester. Political alignment around decisions was vital.
- There was a focus on connecting systems together.

- Sport England were committed to ending the postcode lottery so that the area a person resided in did not dictate their longevity.
- Work was ongoing to expand the evidence base and turn knowledge into action. Relationships were being built with the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) to find new ways of working.
- The Moving Conversations report had seen responses from over 700 participants highlighting barriers to activity including; people feeling unsafe when exercising in the community, expenses, quality of the urban environment, the need to improve parks, anti-social behaviour and current health conditions impacting activity.
- The Photo Voice project had seen a positive response with an exhibition delivered.
- A bid had been submitted to Sport England for £1.8m. This would be for 18 months work with the VCSE partners to recruit Active Neighbourhood Champions, aligned with social prescribing and Health budgets.
- The key was to create equity of access.
- A peer review was likely around the 30th April.
- This was a long-term strategy with a whole systems approach. Working with senior leaders to help them realise their place in the mission.
- The 2-year plan included the Launch of Community of Change Practitioners which members were welcomed to join. This would launch on the 14th May.

In response to member questions and discussion, the following was noted:

- The outcome of the £1.8m bid should be known in June. The money would be revenue, and a large amount would go towards the VCSE sectors ways of working. There would also be a budget for community activities.
- Areas were selected based on deprivation data from the 2018 Health and Wellbeing Survey. Members queried whether council funding could be directed to areas not selected. It was explained that a focus on leisure centres and initiatives could reach wider parts of the city. Approximately 70% of the Council's budget was allocated to statutory services, limiting flexibility. It was noted that the areas not included would be given consideration within future projects.
- Both mental and physical health were incorporated into the project, with work already being delivered through community initiatives such as Jamila's Legacy.
- Active Together had good links with GPs, there were further opportunities to link in with health partners, a joined-up approach was vital due to the number of initiatives involved.
- Work had been undertaken with community organisations to support outreach.
- The £1.8m would be divided over the 4 quadrants, with 1 Neighbourhood Champion for each of the areas. A range of sports could be incorporated alongside a doorsteps partner for young people.
- Sport England had a separate capital budget connected with the programme, applications had not yet been made as further discussion

regarding the application process is required.

- Members requested mapping information on the disadvantaged areas of the city.
- Members queried decision making for other initiative funding such as Pride in Place. It was suggested that a letter be written to the Secretary of State for understanding of funding allocation and to ensure a fair spread across the MSOAs.

AGREED:

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That comments made by members of this commission to be taken into account by the lead officers.
- 3) For information on disadvantaged neighbourhoods to be circulated with officer guidance.
- 4) For a letter to be sent to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government regarding allocation of MSOA funding.

204. LEICESTER RIVERSIDE FESTIVAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

The Director of Tourism Culture and Economy submitted a report providing Members with an overview of Leicester Riverside Festival, including its history, location, activities, partnerships, and recent development. The report also outlined how the festival has evolved and its current strategic relevance to the city. Key points to note were as follows:

- The festival was a large, free, family-friendly outdoor event around the River Soar.
- It had grown from a small event to an event that now attracted over 60,000 people.
- The economic impact of the festival was estimated at £3.1m.
- The festival had initially taken place across Bede Park, Western Boulevard, Castle Gardens and the River Soar, but had now expanded on to the De Montfort University (DMU) campus.
- The festival had over 80 performers and over 100 traders.
- The live music stage would now be moving on to Bede Park, featuring local artists and providing a platform for a larger audience.
- The festival included free arts and heritage experiences.
- The festival was inclusive and multi-generational, and reflected the city's diverse communities. It was led by the Festivals and Events team and supported by partnerships.
- DMU provided space and venues and an events team. Students were also becoming involved in programmes and using it as a showcase.
- Leicester Music Board was a new partner.
- There was a wellbeing-focussed arts programme called 'Bloom' in collaboration with Bright Spark Arts.
- Heritage Bus tours would be available.

- Outdoor film screenings would take place using DMU screens.
- £30k funding had been received from Arts Council England. Arts Council funding also provided free outreach workshops which included storytelling events that signposted to the festival. There was also Arts Council funding for people who wished to be involved in the festival and work with the Festivals and Events team in production.
- Families with complex needs could use quiet/safe spaces.
- The festival was of strategic importance as it was a platform for community engagement, including the Family Hub.
- The festival was important for economic activity as it was a chance for businesses to make money and a chance to promote tourism. It had enhanced city centre vitality and activity beyond the site, in the city centre could benefit.
- Of the £147k budget, the Council contributed around 24%, the other 76% came from vendors, PRS sponsorship, Arts Council funding and DMU funding.
- The festival brought societal, cultural and economic value to the city, and had the potential to become a significant regional or national festival.

In response to member discussion, the following was noted:

- With regard to issues raised around crowd density, it was noted that there was lots of space on the DMU campus and around the Newarke to expand. Ambition was subject to resource, but it was hoped to move activity to other areas to help the flow of audiences. The peak attendance was around 3-5pm, to people could avoid peak times if they wished to avoid crowds. Hotspots were traditionally where the arts and crafts markets were and around the music stage, the music stage moving to Bede Park would create more audience capacity. Weather had an impact on footfall.
- In response to points made about events helping to Leicester as a destination, it was noted that other events had taken place, such as Light up Leicester, which had helped to increase footfall in the city, and further events would take place, such as the World Cup Fanzone on Jubilee Square, and the Radio 2 Party in the Park festival on Victoria Park.
- It was suggested that Leicester's proximity to London could be a selling-point to make it attractive as a destination.
- Cosmopolitan Arts Festival would be incorporated into the fan zone event plans.
- The Council's contribution to Riverside Festival had remained similar over the last few years. Mors sponsorship was now being brought in. If the festival was to continue at the same level, it may be necessary to consider incremental improvements. It was further noted that increased audience came at an increased security cost and that when money was brought in, it was often spent in areas that could not be seen, such as infrastructure. It was hoped it could be looked into as to how to get money into artists.

- In response to suggestions surrounding purchasing equipment rather than hiring, and potentially using barriers for sponsorship, it was noted that opportunities to attract capital investment were always being sought and that Arts Council Grants were going into creative programmes. It was also noted that it was good to have a certain amount of fixed infrastructure, but this would need storing. In response to a suggestion that Council-owned equipment could be hired out when not being used, it was explained that rules around the use of public funds would mean that it could not be offered at less than the commercial rate.

AGREED:

- 1) That the reports be noted.
- 2) That comments made by members of this commission to be taken into account by the lead officers.

205. WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme was noted.

206. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There being no further items of urgent business, the meeting finished at 18:55

PSPO Zone 2

Charlotte Keedwell
Public Spaces Service Manager
16th April 2026



Leicester
City Council

PSPO Timeline and update

- All Legal documents have been finalised in their draft format for consultation
- 6-week consultation period with the public and key partners
- Final analysis, report writing, and executive sign off
- Go Live September/October 2026

01

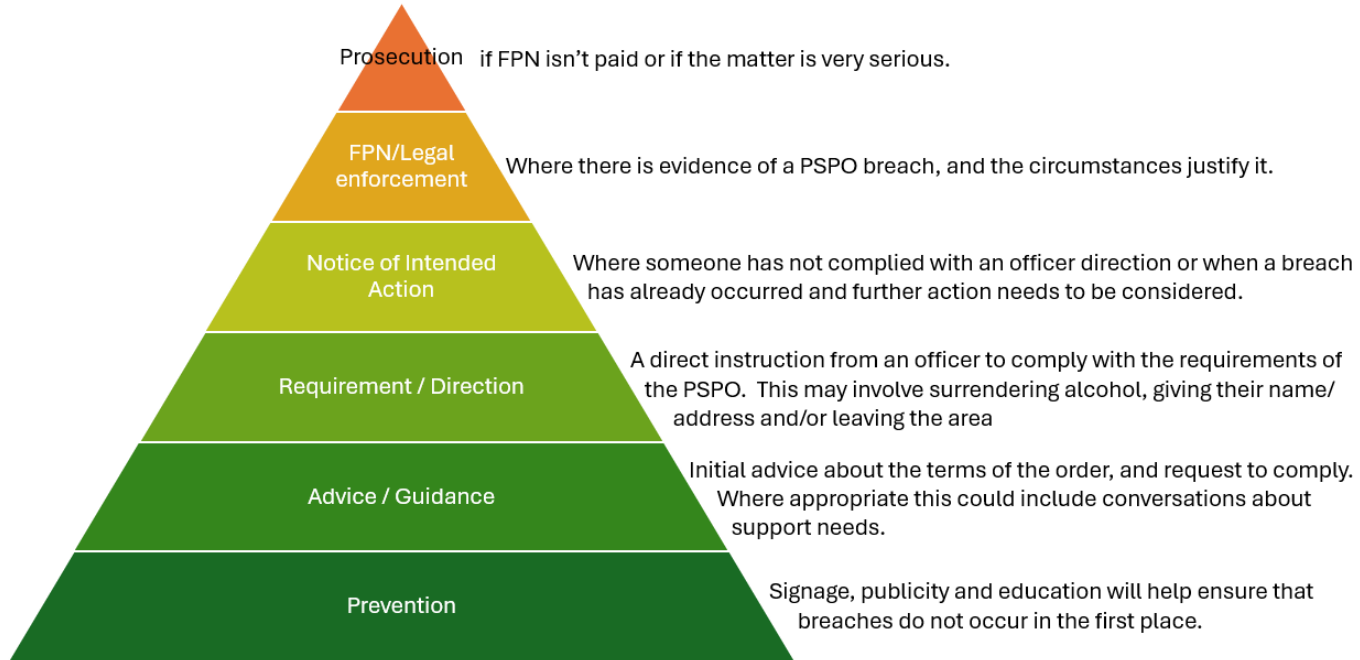


Leicester
City Council

PSPO Zone 2 Implementation Road Map

Task Description	Sept-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sept-26	Oct-26
Evidence Gathering	02/07 -30/11													
Consultation Preparation/ Drafting the Order				01/12-15/04										
Pre-Consultation Political and PCC Approvals					02/02- 15/04									
Consultation Public/Police/ Community								24/04 – 05/06						
Consultation Analysis & Final Legal Documentation										05/06- 19/06				
Political Sign-off										19/06 - 15/08				
City Mayor Decision Notice												15/08 - 01/09		
Signage										15/06 - 15/08				
Staff Preparation												15/08 - 01/09		
Press Release and Public Notification													01/09 - 15/09	
PSPO Zone 2 Launch													01/09 - 15/09	

Approach Protocol



The hierarchy is not a linear process and officers will use professional judgement to ensure that the most appropriate action is taken based on the circumstances of the breach and the person causing the anti-social behaviour.

Leicester Place Expansion

Sophie Noon, Project Manager, Sports & Leisure

16 April 2026



Leicester
City Council



Minute Item 203

Too many people in Leicester suffer because of inactivity

- **All our health:** Physical inactivity is associated with 1 in 6 deaths in the UK and is estimated to cost the UK £7.4 billion annually (including £0.9 billion to the NHS alone). Our population is around 20% less active than in the 1960s. If current trends continue, it will be 35% less active by 2030.
- **Life expectancy gap** has widened post COVID: Leicester males and females in the least deprived areas have an additional 9 years of life expectancy compared to those in the most deprived areas.
- Leicester citizens can also expect **more years 'not in good health'**



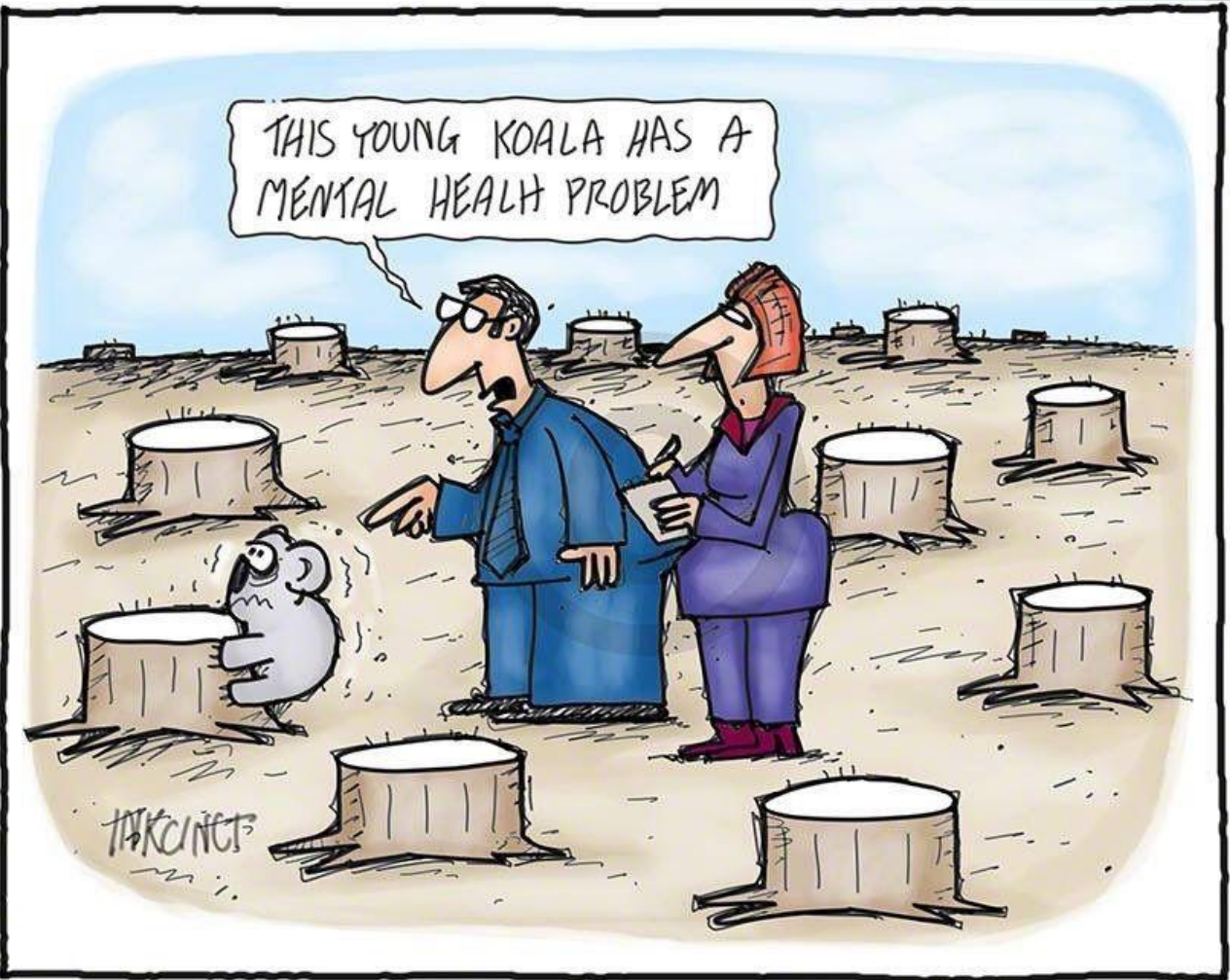




The Change we want: “This is for Us”

We aim to create a Leicester where:

- **The Active Choice is the easy choice:** residents in the most deprived neighbourhoods live actively and enjoy their neighbourhood.
- **Trust and belonging are embedded:** Provide space, community power, and infrastructure.
- **Equity of access:** Everyone can walk, wheel, cycle, and play safely.



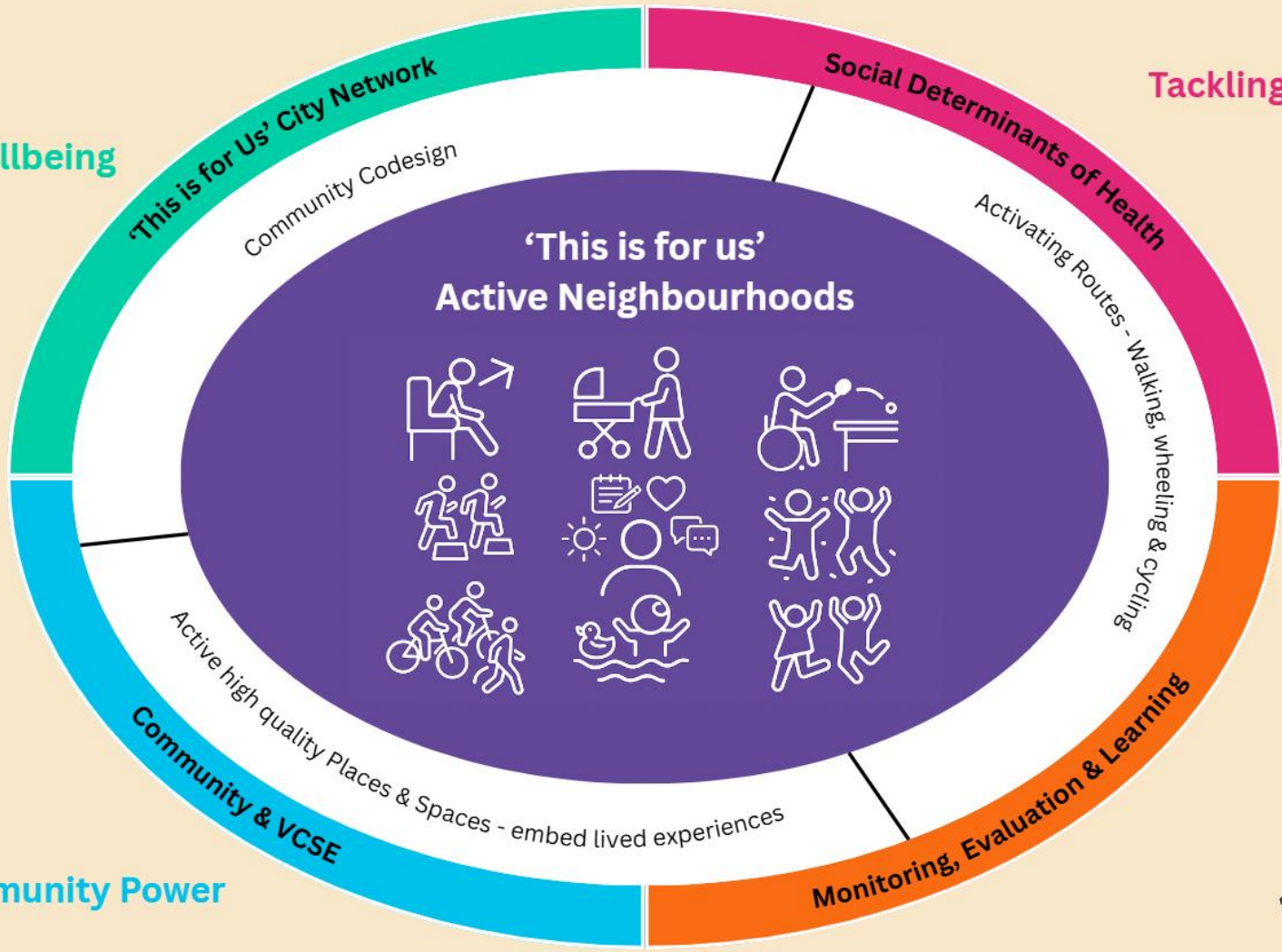
Active Wellbeing

Tackling inequalities

Voices of our least active residents

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Voices of our least active residents



This is for Us' City Network
Community Codesign

Social Determinants of Health
Activating Routes - Walking, wheeling & cycling

Active high quality Places & Spaces - embed lived experiences
Community & VCSE

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

Community Power

Our two-year plan:

- **Create a single vision** for walking, cycling, wheeling & play
- **Amplify voices** of the least active & highlight need for action
- **Power shift to communities**
- **Extend the reach beyond Public Health**
- Create a **Guide to participation**
- **Launch a Community of Change Practitioners** – to explore leading in complex times and how practically we can collaborate to reduce inactivity.

“This is for Us”



SCRUTINY COMMITTEES: TERMS OF REFERENCE

INTRODUCTION

Scrutiny Committees hold the Executive and partners to account by reviewing and scrutinising policy and practices. Scrutiny Committees will have regard to the Political Conventions and the Scrutiny Operating Protocols and Handbook in fulfilling their work.

The Overview Select Committee and each Scrutiny Commission will perform the role as set out in Article 8 of the Constitution in relation to the functions set out in its Terms of Reference.

Scrutiny Committees may:

- i. review and scrutinise the decisions made by and performance of the City Mayor, Executive, Committees and Council officers both in relation to individual decisions and over time.
- ii. develop policy, generate ideas, review and scrutinise the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas.
- iii. question the City Mayor, members of the Executive, committees and Directors about their decisions and performance, whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to their initiatives or projects.
- iv. make recommendations to the City Mayor, Executive, committees and the Council arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process.
- v. review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the Scrutiny Committee and local people about their activities and performance; and
- vi. question and gather evidence from any person (with their consent). •

Annual report: The Overview Select Committee will report annually to Full Council on its work and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate. Scrutiny Commissions / committees will report from time to time as appropriate to Council.

The Scrutiny Committees which have currently been established by the Council in accordance with Article 8 of the Constitution are:

- Overview Select Committee (OSC)
- Adult Social Care Scrutiny Commission
- Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Commission (which also sits as the statutory Education Committee)

- Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission
- Economic Development, Transport and Climate Emergency Scrutiny Commission
- Housing Scrutiny Commission
- Public Health and Health Integration Scrutiny Commission

The key work areas covered by each Scrutiny Commission are to be found here <https://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-council/decisions-meetings-and-minutes/overviewand-scrutiny>

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: OVERVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE

The Overview Select Committee **will**:

- Scrutinise the work of the City Mayor and Deputy City Mayors and areas of the Council's work overseen by them.
- Consider cross cutting issues such as monitoring of petitions
- Consider cross-cutting issues which span across Executive portfolios.
- Manage the work of Scrutiny Commissions where the proposed work is considered to have impact on more than one portfolio.
- Consider work which would normally be considered by a Scrutiny Commission but cannot be considered in time due to scheduling issues.
- Report annually to Council.
- Be responsible for overseeing the work of scrutiny and the commissions and to refer certain matters to particular commissions as appropriate.

SCRUTINY COMMISSIONS

Scrutiny Commissions **will**:

- Normally undertake overview of Executive work, reviewing items for Executive decision where it chooses.
- Engage in policy development within its remit.
- Normally be attended by the relevant Executive Member(s), who will be a standing invitee.
- Have their own work programme and may make recommendations to the Executive on work areas where appropriate.
- Consider requests by the Executive to carry forward items of work and report to the Executive as appropriate.
- Report on their work to Council from time to time as required.
- Be classed as specific Scrutiny Committees in terms of legislation but will refer cross cutting work to the OSC.

Our Role

- To enable accessible, inclusive, and resilient services that residents rely on every day
- To support service delivery through strong people, systems, and engagement activity

Corporate Services Division

Customer Services

- Front door to the Council – handling resident enquiries and access to services
- Driving inclusion through multi-channel access (digital, phone, face-to-face)
- Insight from customer contact helps shape services that people use

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Risk, Emergency Management & Business Continuity

- Preparedness for emergencies impacting communities (e.g. severe weather, incidents)
- Ensuring continuity of critical services in neighbourhoods
- Supporting community resilience and partnership response



Corporate Services Division

People Services

- Recruiting, retaining, and developing staff who deliver local services
- Promoting inclusive workforce culture reflecting our communities
- Supporting wellbeing and organisational capacity

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DDaT, Communications & Engagement (incl. Press & Media)

- DDaT: Improving digital access and enabling digital/technology that underpins service delivery
- Communications & Media: Clear, trusted information to residents
- Engagement: Listening to communities and shaping services with them



Communities & Equalities

- Strengthening community cohesion and local networks
- Tackling inequalities and supporting underrepresented groups
- Partnerships and community engagement activity



Tourism, Culture and Economy

Director, Peter Chandler

Key Service Leads

Arts & Museums : Jo Jones

29 De Montfort Hall & Haymarket Theatre : Tony Flint
Festivals & Events and Cultural Policy: Graham Callister
Place Marketing/ Tourism/ Visit Leicester: Mike Denby

Services relevant to commission

- Museum and visitor attraction services at 6 key sites – Leicester Museum & Art Gallery (LMAG), Jewry Wall, Leicester Guildhall, KRIII Visitor Centre, Abbey Pumping Station and Newarke Houses Museum
- 🎵 Music, comedy, panto and more at De Montfort Hall
- Arts based training at Haymarket Theatre for hundreds of young people
- Promoting Leicester's heritage e.g. via Story of Leicester website, digital content, heritage panels, exhibitions, community outreach
- Delivering a vibrant festivals and events programme, directly through the council and via support for others

Services relevant to commission (cont'd)

- Support for the Record Office (statutory) in partnership with Leicestershire and Rutland County Councils
- Tourism campaigns to drive the visitor economy and to animate the city centre
- Place Marketing initiatives that position Leicester as a great place to live / work / study / visit / invest
- Cultural and Creative Industries Policy Development

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Jewry Wall





33

Festivals and Events



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DE MONTFORT
HALL LEICESTER





36



Place Marketing

HERE FOR A DAY OR MORE?

24 & 48 HOUR MINI-BREAK PLANS

HERE FOR LESS THAN A DAY?

MORNING, AFTERNOON & EVENING IDEAS

CULTURAL QUARTER GUIDE

Leicester
visitleicester.info

The Leicester Heritage Trail

Leicester
Storyofleicester.info

BELGRAVE - CITY CENTRE

LEICESTER'S RIVERSIDE CENTRAL

UNCOVER THE STORY
In partnership with the Canal & River Trust

LEICESTER'S HISTORIC OLD TOWN

Leicester
visitleicester.info

NEW WALK

TAKE A WALK WITH ROMANS, GEORGIANS AND DINOSAURS

UNCOVER THE STORY TRAILS

Leicester
visitleicester.info

LEICESTER TASTE THE PLACE

Vietnamese
Vegetarian
Greek
Thai
Turkish
Vegan
Peruvian
African
Uyghur
Argentinian
Caribbean
Fusion
Asian
Portuguese
Lebanese
Nepalese
British
Japanese
South Indian
French
Mexican

Restaurants

LEICESTER TASTE THE PLACE

Sandwich
Bubble tea
Cupcake
Waffle
Bagels
Cakes
Dhoss
Biscuit
Decaff
Chai tea
Baked potato
Fresh juice
Wrap
Iced coffee
Milkshake
Pani
Croissant
Ice cream
Gelato

Cafés

NOT TO MISS VENUES AND ATTRACTIONS

WHERE EVERY STEP TELLS A STORY

Leicester
visitleicester.info

Neighbourhood and Environmental Services JUNE 2026

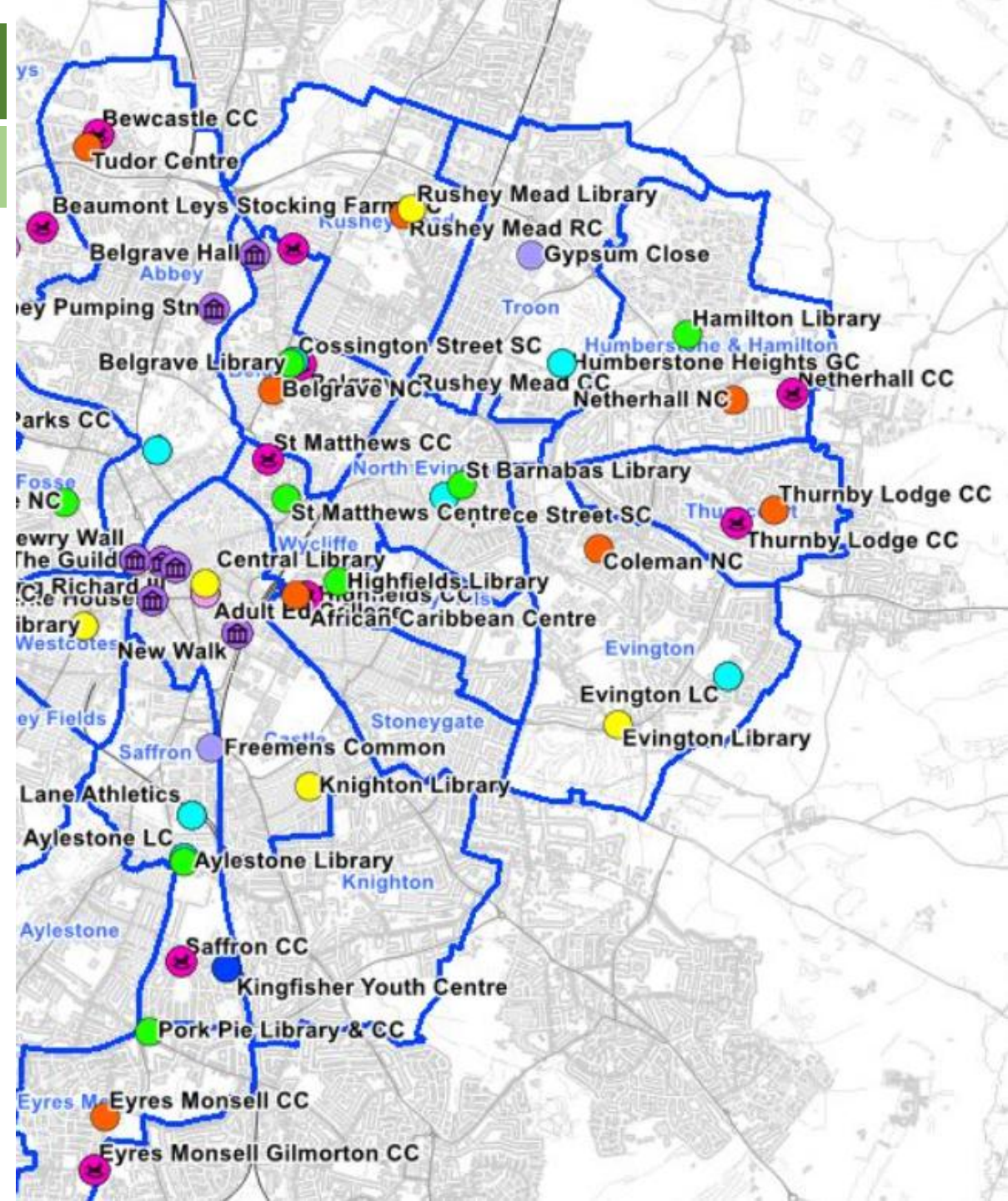
Scrutiny Report

Neighbourhood & Environmental Services

Scrutiny Overview

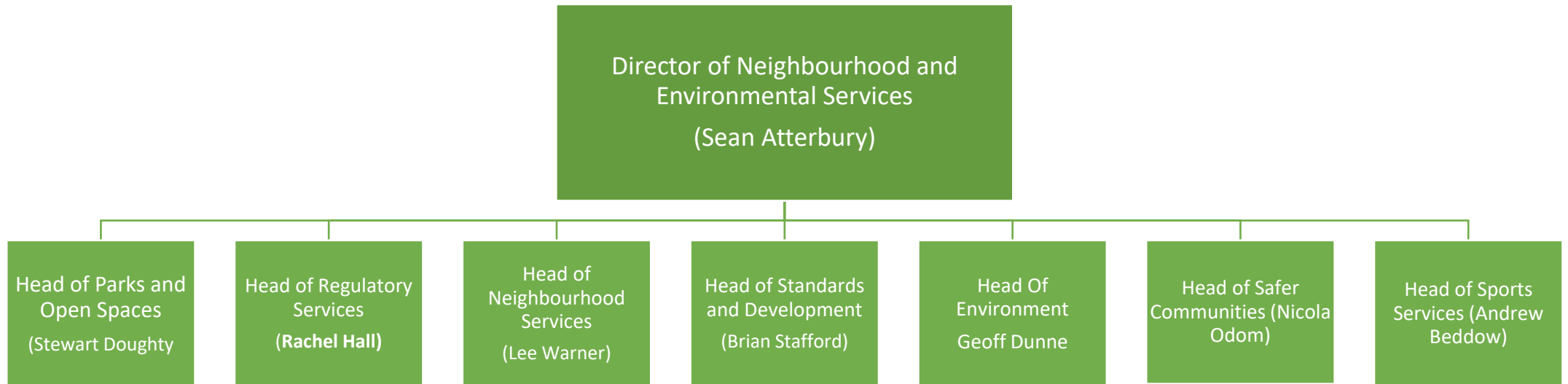
- Is the largest division of City Development and Neighbourhoods
- Provides services that support residents across the city and in our communities
- Is not just about places, but also about people
- Contributes to the health and wellbeing of society through its services and the opportunities it provides

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Divisional Structure

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Headline responsibilities

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Parks and open spaces

- Trees
- Bereavement
- Volunteers
- Grounds maintenance

Regulatory Services

- Trading standards
- Taxi
- Licensing and enforcement
- Private Sector Housing
- Selective Licensing
- Food
- Noise

Standards and Development

- Allotments / community growing spaces
- City Wardens
- Fly tipping
- EnviroCrime
- Landscape development
- Pest and Dogs

Neighbourhood Services

- Library services
- Reader development
- Childrens Book bus
- Neighbourhood Centres
- Ward funding schemes

Environmental Services

- Biffa PFI contract
- Street cleansing
- Household waste site operations
- Bulky waste administration
- Waste Strategy development
- Waste education

Safer Communities

- Community Safety Team
- Public Spaces team
- Prevent
- Changing futures
- Community Safety partnership

Sports Services (Active Leicester)

- Leisure Centre provision
- Athletics
- Outdoor recreation
- City wide strategy development

For this year

Neighbourhood & Environmental Services

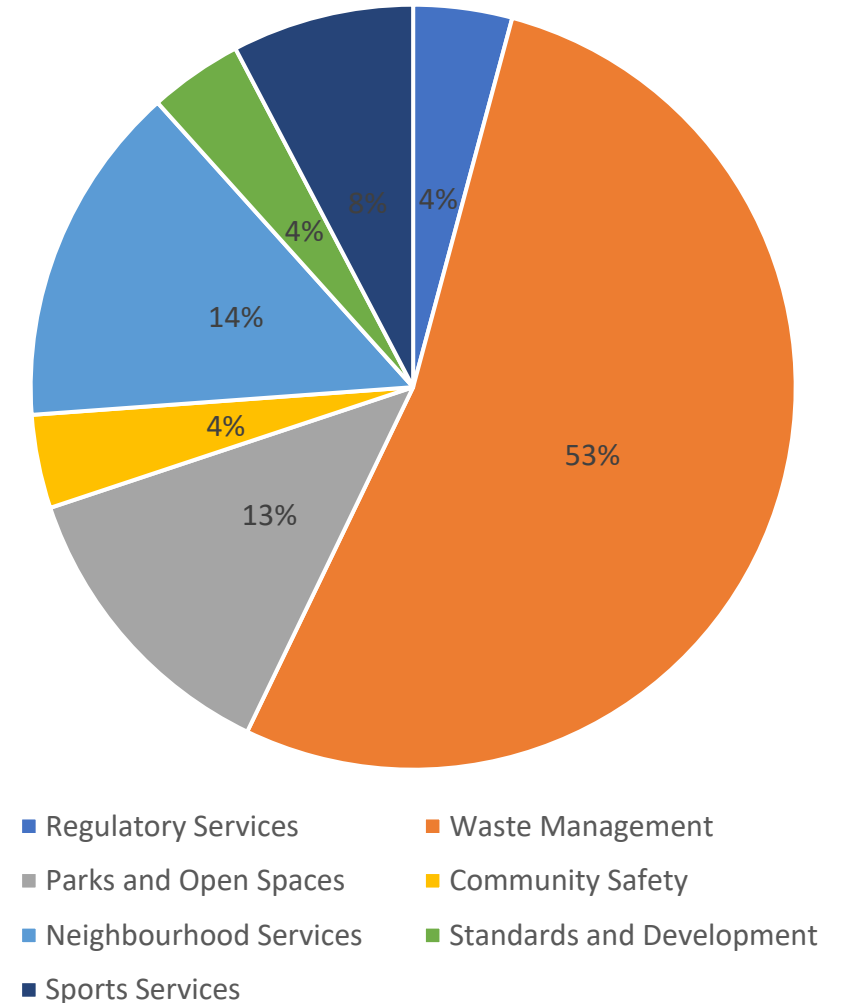
Scrutiny Overview

Net Budget breakdown

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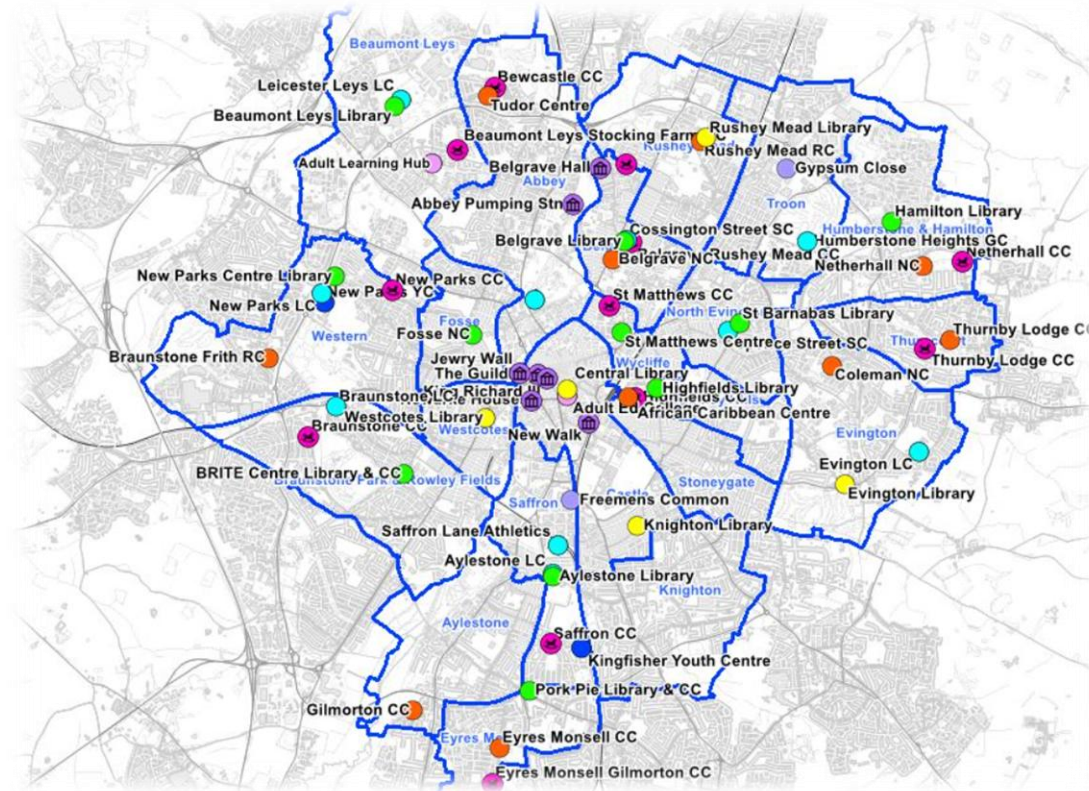
Service	
Regulatory Services	£1.9m
Waste Management	£24.1m
Parks and Open Spaces	£5.8m
Safer Communities	£1.8m
Neighbourhood Services	£6.6m
Standards and Development	£1.8m
Sports Services	£3.5m
Overall	£45.5m

Budget breakdown



Neighbourhood & Environmental Services

Scrutiny Overview



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Questions



Pride in Place Programme Update

Culture & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 18/06/2026

Lead director/officer: Andrew Shilliam, Director of
Corporate Services

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected: Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields, Eyres Monsell, Humberstone & Hamilton, and Thurncourt Wards
- Report author: Andrew Shilliam, Director of Corporate Services
- Author contact details: andrew.shilliam@leicester.gov.uk
- Report version number: 1.0

1. Summary

- 1.1. This report provides an outline of the Pride in Place Programme to the Commission, indicating where current action is underway and the expected milestone actions and deadlines for later in the year.

2. Recommendation(s) to scrutiny:

- 2.1 That the update report be noted.

3. Detailed report

Overview of the Pride in Place Programme (PiPP)

- 3.1. PiPP is a 10-year government programme delivering long-term funding to disadvantaged neighbourhoods. It is explicitly community-led, with local communities empowered to set priorities and shape regeneration. Three Leicester MSOA areas have been selected by Government, being:
 - Eyres Monsell, with the Eyres Monsell Ward
 - Braunstone Park West, within the Braunstone Park & Rowley Fields Ward
 - Thurnby Lodge, with the Humberstone & Hamilton and Thurncourt Wards
- 3.2. Each area will receive up to £20 million over 10 years. The Council is required to act as the Accountable Body for all three areas.

Programme Principles

- 3.3. The programme is built around the four core principles of (1) long term effort, activity and funding, (2) flexibility, (3) community leadership, and (4) support, and has the following overarching aims embedded with it:
 - Stronger Communities
 - Thriving Places
 - Local Empowerment
- 3.4. Decision-making is through a Neighbourhood Board required for each area, with a clear requirement for a majority resident position.

Funding Arrangements

- 3.5. Each Pride in Place area receives £20 million over 10 years, made up of a 63% capital and 37% revenue. Funding is released annually (April) and tied to performance and compliance. For 2026/27 – the first 50% was received in April, with the second 50% paid only when the Pride in Place Plan is approved (late 2026). Capital for 2026/27 is paid in full at the start of the financial year.
- 3.6. Over the ten years, funding will be delivered in three investment cycles, being (1) FY 2026/27–2029/30, (2) FY 2030/31–2032/33, and (3) FY 2033/34–2035/36. Communities are expected to decide on spending priorities and types of projects, but they have to meet the programme objectives.
- 3.7. Boards must also meet minimum spend thresholds, being at least 25% of total allocation forecast for each 3-to-4-year cycle. By Year 7 (2032/33), at least 50% of the total £20m must be spent or contractually committed. Government reserves the right to delay payments, claw back funding, and intervene if governance or spend requirements are not met. As Accountable Body, the Council has a duty to oversee this.
- 3.8. The purpose of the capacity funding is to enable mobilisation before delivery funding begins. It is explicitly intended for the following:
- Establishing governance structures – underway
 - Recruiting and supporting the Independent Chair - underway
 - Convening and administering the Neighbourhood Board – underway
 - Community engagement and consultation, arrangement and action – underway
 - Programme management staffing or coordination – underway
- _____
- Support for residents to participate effectively (training, facilitation, transport, etc.)
 - Baseline analysis, evidence gathering, needs assessment
 - Project scoping, early feasibility and statutory processes
 - Communications and outreach
- 3.9. Capacity funding cannot be used for things like large capital works, purchasing property, high-cost consultancy, and activity outside the geographic boundary.
- 3.10. As Accountable Body, the Council must hold capacity funding in a ring-fenced budget, apply procurement/subsidy rules, maintain full audit trails, and report spending through annual grant returns to Government.

Governance Requirements

- 3.11. As Accountable Body the Council is legally responsible for all funds and for ensuring compliance. Our key responsibilities are to hold, administer and monitor all funding, ensure robust financial controls, support recruitment and operation of Neighbourhood Boards, appoint Independent Chairs (with MPs), and support community engagement at scale.

- 3.12. We're expected to publish the required governance information, including Board membership, minutes, decisions, declarations of interest, expenses, submit Annual Statements of grant usage signed by the S151 Officer, and to ensure lawful and effective delivery.

Neighbourhood Boards – Requirements and Structure

- 3.13. Each Board is mandated to include an Independent Chair (appointed jointly by LA + MP), the local MP (who must also sit on the Board), at least one councillor, other local stakeholders, and it must be made up from a majority of residents from the area.
- 3.14. It is expected that representatives of local businesses, faith and community groups, voluntary sector, youth/community leaders, and anchor organisations are included in the composition of the Board. The minimum recommended total membership of which is expected to be 8–15 members.
- 3.15. Boards must meet at least quarterly, operate transparent decision-making processes, publish a membership list, meeting dates, draft minutes within 10 working days, final minutes shortly thereafter, decisions and any voting outcomes, and hold a published/accessible conflict of interest register. And all Boards must be in place by 17 July 2026.

Boundaries

- 3.16. Default boundaries are determined using Government-defined MSOAs, though it is possible for changes to be proposed. Any changes would require a clear rationale, including evidence of community identity or asset alignment. These boundary requests should be submitted in July 2026 and approved in Autumn 2026.

Appointment of Independent Chairs

- 3.17. The Chairs must be independent, not be an elected representative (MP or Cllr), have standing, credibility or leadership within the local community, be appointed jointly by the Council and the MP, be approved by Government as part of governance assurance, and lead the Board and act as public face of the programme. This process is underway.
- 3.18. We're expected to conduct the necessary due diligence, determine/record any possible conflicts of interest, ensure political impartiality, and ensure community credibility.
- 3.19. The Chair of each area is responsible for proposing the initial Board membership to the Council and MP for approval. Where agreement isn't possible, Government will be expected to intervene.

Required Outputs

- 3.20. Pride in Place Plan (this is mandatory) - the plan must include a 10-year strategic vision, a community engagement evidence base, priority themes and proposed interventions, a 4-year costed Investment Plan, funding and impact forecasts, a delivery plan, a monitoring and evaluation framework, and an equality impact

analysis. The plans must align with Government objectives, including (1) Stronger Communities, (2) Thriving Places, (3) Taking Back Control (local empowerment).

3.21. Key Deadlines:

Mobilisation (Early 2026)

- Capacity funding (£150k) released
- Chairs should be appointed “as soon as practicable”

Delivery Year 1 (2026/27) - April 2026+

- First delivery funding released to the Council
- 50% of revenue released initially
- 50% of revenue released once Plan is approved

17 July 2026

- Board membership submitted
- Boundary change requests submitted

Autumn 2026

- MHCLG confirms membership and boundary decisions

28 November 2026

- Final Pride in Place Plan submitted for approval

Ongoing

- Annual grant usage reports
- Annual forecasts
- Board meetings quarterly
- Mid-cycle refresh at Years 4 and 8

3.22. Groundwork actions required

A. Governance & Mobilisation

- Map and engage local MPs
- Design a recruitment process for Independent Chairs
- Identify potential candidates for Chairs
- Prepare governance templates:
 - Terms of reference
 - Code of conduct
 - Transparency/publication arrangements
 - Conflict of interest processes
- Establish internal programme team
- Allocate internal budget for early preparatory work

B. Community Engagement Preparation

- Identify local assets and anchor organisations
- Develop an engagement strategy covering:
 - Residents
 - Young people
 - Under-represented groups
 - Faith communities
- Begin compiling evidence of need and priorities

C. Boundary & Data Work

- Review MSOA boundaries for practical delivery
- Identify any compelling reasons for boundary adjustments
- Analyse IMD and request CNI data

D. Finances

- Prepare ring-fenced cost codes for each MSOA
- Establish internal financial controls and reporting mechanisms
- Begin drafting early expenditure forecasts

E. Delivery Preparation

- Map existing and planned projects in each area
- Identify early “quick win” opportunities
- Begin assembling a longlist of potential interventions

3.23. Immediate priority areas for action in Jan+ 2026 are:

- Consider appointing a PIP Programme Lead + task group COMPLETE
- Appointment of Independent Chairs UNDERWAY
- Establishment of Neighbourhood Boards UNDERWAY
- Community engagement mobilisation UNDERWAY
- Governance and transparency systems UNDERWAY
- Evidence gathering and boundary review

3.24. In summary, the PiPP represents a major, long-term regeneration opportunity but comes with substantial governance, transparency and compliance requirements. The Council is required to make the above preparations in order to meet the critical July and November 2026 deadlines and to establish strong community-led structures.

4. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

4.1 Financial Implications

The Council will act as the accountable body for the Pride in Place Programme which will enable it to receive the 3 area's grant allocations to manage, including assessing and approving any onward grant disbursement, processing payments, day-to-day monitoring and reporting. Funding will be managed within the existing financial governance framework adopted by LCC and its accountability and assurance regime, under the oversight of its chief financial officer, Section 151.

As Leicester is included in Phase 2 of the programme, the 3 Neighbourhood Boards need to confirm final membership and any proposals to alter the 'default' area boundary by 17 July 2026.

The Neighbourhood Boards will give local people the power to decide how funding is spent, putting communities in charge of the future of their neighbourhoods. Each Board must work with the wider community to develop a Pride in Place Plan, setting out a vision for their area and the projects that they would like to prioritise, and which meet the programme objectives. These plans will set out a pathway for delivery of these projects over the course of the 10-year programme and will need to be implemented within the LCC financial governance arrangements, described above.

Signed: Joel Martin, Principal Accountant (on behalf of Stuart McAvoy, Head of Finance)

Dated: 08th June 2026

4.2 Legal Implications

Aligned to its duties as Accountable Body, the Council must ensure lawful governance of the Boards and formally approve decisions to the extent necessary to discharge relevant statutory duties. The Council must also ensure that governance structures including Board membership, transparency arrangements, conflict of interest registers and publication requirements meet statutory and constitutional standards.

Full Council delegated to the Section 151 Officer, Monitoring Officer and Director of Corporate Services authority to administer the Programme, allocate funding, and manage delivery and compliance in accordance with MHCLG requirements and the Council's approved budget framework.

All decisions taken under delegated arrangements must be demonstrably reasonable, evidence based and aligned with Government programme conditions.

Signed: Kevin Carter

Dated: 10th June 2026

4.3 Equalities Implications

The Pride in Place Programme (PiPP) aims to improve the lived experience of underserved communities who experience high levels of social and economic deprivation in the City of Leicester. The programme has a positive intent and focuses on addressing socio-economic inequality of outcome at an MSOA level.

PiPP is targeted at a hyper-local level with respect to tackling disadvantage, but equally due to the demographic make-up of the three priority areas, there will be intersections with the experiences and outcomes of people who share one of the protected characteristics. This is significant when taking into consideration how adverse outcomes can be compounded through a combination of different elements of identity.

It is important to have regard to balancing the rights of different groups and individuals when allocating resources of this scale. It is therefore necessary to note that when socio-economic disadvantage is combined with one or more of the protected characteristics a person's life chances can be altered to an extent which differentiates from people who are from more affluent backgrounds. This is not to say that people who share a protected characteristic from more affluent backgrounds do not experience differential experiences or outcomes, but it does recognise that socio-economic disadvantage is an additional barrier which must be addressed to create an environment where each resident of Leicester has an equal opportunity to succeed and thrive.

The PiPP due to the targeted and focused it takes will inevitably mean that there will be a difference in the level of investment made in specific neighbourhoods, but it is suggested that there is legal justification under the Equality Act 2010 that this approach is justifiable in law i.e. it is proportionate in meeting the needs of people in neighbourhoods with high levels of socio-economic deprivation (based on IMD data in England) and is meeting the 'legitimate aim' of targeting funding in areas of need to build strong, resilient and prosperous communities and tackle long-term decline and enhance community wellbeing. The Programme is not discriminatory in and of itself and positive action is permitted within the scope of the Programme.

PiPP also provides an opportunity to eliminate discrimination for those not only share a protected characteristic but also those who experience socio-economic disadvantage and therefore dual discrimination. There is equally an opportunity to advance equity of opportunity at an intersectional level.

In implementing the programme fostering good relations between different community and protected characteristic groups, thorough, transparent and evidenced-based communications will be vital to avoid creating or compounding perceptions of differential funding allocation at the neighbourhood level.

Conducting an Equality Impact Assessment is a key component of the governance arrangements for PiPP and will facilitate thorough consideration of the Public Sector Equality Duty as it relates to the programme.

Signed: Aloma Onyemah

Dated: 8th June 2026

4.4 Climate Emergency Implications

There are no significant climate emergency implications arising from this report. Implications arising from specific initiatives should be given consideration as and when the relevant reports are submitted for decision.

Signed: Phil Ball, Sustainability Officer

Dated: 8th June 2026

5. Background information and other papers:

[Pride in Place Programme prospectus - GOV.UK](#)

[Pride in Place Programme: Phase 2 place selection methodology note - GOV.UK](#)

[Pride in Place Programme: funding profiles and timelines - GOV.UK](#)

[Pride in Place Programme: list of indicative interventions - GOV.UK](#)

6. Summary of appendices: N/A

**Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission
Work Programme 2026 – 2027**

Meeting Date	Item	Recommendations / Actions	Progress
18 June 2025	<p>Introduction to Culture and Neighbourhoods</p> <p>Pride in Place Programme Update</p>		
3 September 2025	<p>Community Safety and PSPO Update</p> <p>Festivals and Events – including BUSK Leicester pilot – Report and F&E Grants Programme – Awards</p> <p>Sports Remodelling and Needs Assessment</p> <p>LMAG Capital Project</p>	To include CCTV overview.	

Meeting Date	Item	Recommendations / Actions	Progress
2 November 2025	<p>Pride in Place Programme and Pride in Place Impact Fund</p> <p>Community and Libraries Needs Assessment Implementation</p> <p>Waste Services Update</p>		
28 January 2026	<p>Heritage Places Funding - National Lottery Heritage Fund – Update on next stage.</p> <p>Growing spaces strategy</p>	To include findings of Audience Agency. If Stage 1 is successful.	

Meeting Date	Item	Recommendations / Actions	Progress
4 March 2026	Regulatory Services Update		

Forward Plan Items (suggested)

Topic	Detail	Proposed Date
YPC Survey Findings		
Engagement of Community Organisations	Report on how community organisations could be engaged to help the Council run services as requested at the meeting of 29 January. – To go to first meeting of new municipal year.	
Trees and Woodlands – Involvement with Schools and Education and Grassland Strategy	To include seed and produce exchange and to include areas for recreation and sports.	
KRIII Café/Visitor Centre	Updating on Capital Project	
Heritage panels, inviting members suggestions for new panels		

