
Pride in Place Programme Update

Culture & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 02/11/2026

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, including setting out the role of the Council and updating on programme progress.

2. Recommended actions/decision

- 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.

Accountable Body

- 3.8. Although Neighbourhood Boards determine local priorities, the Council is the accountable body. It must therefore ensure:
- Proper governance and transparent decision-making;
 - Lawful and appropriate use of public money;
 - Effective financial controls and audit trails;
 - Procurement and subsidy-control compliance;
 - Equality Act (2010) compliance and Public Sector Equality Duty due regard;
 - Monitoring and reporting to Government; and
 - Appropriate action where proposals are not deliverable or compliant.

Governance Requirements

- 3.9. 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.
- 3.10. 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

- 3.11. 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.
- 3.12. 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.
- 3.13. 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.

Boundaries

- 3.14. 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. Currently, boundary submissions have been made in line with the default boundaries.

Appointment of Independent Chairs

- 3.15. 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.
- 3.16. We also required to to conduct the necessary due diligence, determine/record any possible conflicts of interest, ensure political impartiality, and ensure community credibility.
- 3.17. 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.

Overall Programme Position

- 3.18. The Leicester Pride in Place Programme remains broadly on track across all three neighbourhood areas:
- Chair and Vice-Chair due diligence processes are nearing completion.
 - Community member recruitment has generated significant interest, with over 100 Expressions of Interest received.
 - First Neighbourhood Board meetings are provisionally scheduled for October and November for Braunstone Park West and Eyres Monsell.
 - Initial community engagement activity has been completed in two of the three areas.
 - Work on the required 10-Year Plans and 4-Year Investment Plans is underway.

Thurnby Lodge & Netherhall

Governance

- 3.19. Due diligence requirements for one Co-Chair appointment is substantially complete.
- 3.20. A separate process is underway to agree a replacement Co-Chair appointment following the resignation of one of the Co-Chairs.

Board Recruitment

- 3.21. The area generated the strongest level of public interest, receiving 62 Expressions of Interest for Neighbourhood Board membership. Recruitment will commence when the second Co-Chair is appointed.
- 3.22. The main issue requiring resolution is the future Co-Chair arrangement following the departure of one Co-Chair.

- 3.23. Recruitment levels provide a strong foundation for establishing an effective Neighbourhood Board.

Eyres Monsell

Governance

- 3.24. Due diligence requirements for Chair and Vice-Chair appointments are being finalised.

Board Recruitment

- 3.25. 30 Expressions of Interest were received
- 3.26. Shortlisting has been completed and is progressing through the Chair-led engagement and then the due diligence process.

Community Engagement

- 3.27. Initial engagement and consultation activity has been completed.
- 3.28. Work is progressing towards drafting the community engagement report and undertaking prioritisation discussions.

Braunstone Park West

Governance

- 3.29. Due diligence requirements for Chair and Vice-Chair appointments are being finalised.

Board Recruitment

- 3.30. 25 Expressions of Interest were received.
- 3.31. Candidate shortlisting has been completed and progressing through the Chair-led engagement and then the due diligence process.

Community Engagement

- 3.32. Initial community engagement and consultation activity has been completed.
- 3.33. Work is moving towards preparation of the engagement report and prioritisation activity.

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

5.1 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.

Signed: Joel Martin, Principal Accountant

Dated: 21st October 2026

5.2 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: 21st October 2026

5.3 Equalities implications

The report provides an update on programme progress. The Pride in Place Programme (PiPP) is expected to have a positive impact on equality by directing long-term investment towards three Leicester neighbourhoods experiencing significant socio-economic deprivation. This is likely to benefit residents who experience compounded disadvantage, including disabled people, children and young people, older people, women, carers, people from minority ethnic and faith communities, LGBTQ+ residents and people whose first language is not English.

The programme's community-led approach provides an opportunity to advance equality of opportunity by enabling residents to shape local priorities and investment decisions. The strong response to Neighbourhood Board recruitment provides a good foundation for inclusive and representative governance. The Council will continue to seek to ensure that Board recruitment, engagement, communications and decision-making are accessible and enable effective participation by people who share protected characteristics, including through accessible venues, formats and, where required, interpretation and translation.

The targeted nature of the programme means that funding is concentrated in three areas rather than being distributed city-wide. This is intended to address longstanding socio-economic inequality and is considered a proportionate means of meeting the needs of communities experiencing high levels of deprivation. Clear and transparent communication will remain important to foster good relations and avoid perceptions of unfair treatment between neighbourhoods.

Initial community engagement has been completed in Eyres Monsell and Braunstone Park West, this engagement should continue to seek the views of under-represented residents and groups. In Thurnby Lodge and Netherhall, the replacement Co-Chair process and subsequent Board recruitment will provide a further opportunity to ensure inclusive and representative governance. It is important to ensure that Board recruitment, meetings, engagement, communications and decision-making arrangements are accessible and enable effective participation by people who share protected characteristics, including through accessible venues, formats and, where required, interpretation and translation.

Each Pride in Place Plan must include an equality impact analysis, supporting the Council in having due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty. Individual projects, procurement decisions and delivery arrangements will be subject to further equality consideration and, where appropriate, project-specific Equality Impact Assessments. Equality impacts will be monitored as the programme develops.

Signed: Equalities Officer, Surinder Singh, Ext 37 4148
Dated: 21st October 2026

5.4 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: June 2026

5.5 Other implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)

6. 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](#)

7. Summary of appendices:

8. Is this a private report (If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)?

9. Is this a “key decision”? If so, why?