

## NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

### SIMPLIFICATION PATHFINDER BOARD

19 December 2025

A meeting of the Simplification Pathfinder Board was held on Friday 19 December 2025. The meeting was held at Bedworth Leisure Centre, Coventry Road Bedworth, CV12 8NN.

**Present:** Sean Farnell (CWLEP) - Chair, Alison Thompson (WCAVA), Steve Hey (Councillor), Garry Palmer (WCC), Keith Kondakor

**Officers in attendance:** Jonathan White (NBBC), Salewa A-Ogunleye (NBBC) - Mins

**Apologies:** Marion Plant (NWSLC), Jet Jones (Together for Change), Les Ratcliffe (CWC), Lindsey Randle – Horiba Mira

SPB21 Site visit and tour of the new Bedworth Physical Activity Hub took place.

SPB22 Chair's welcome and announcements

The Chair welcomed Board members to the meeting and introductions took place.

SPB23 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2025, were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

SPB24 Declarations of Interests

Board members' interests for the meeting were as set out in the Schedule of Declarations of Interests, attached to the agenda.

SPB25 Highlight Report

NBBC submitted a Highlight Report (which had been circulated prior to the meeting) to update Board members on the status of the Simplification Pathfinder programme and individual projects. The report detailed the overall Simplification Pathfinder programme financial status, the key risks and upcoming activities.

- Grayson Place – Phase 1 – hotel is operational, asset management company contract has been extended. Phase 2 grand opening tentatively planned for March. Leisure box (formerly cinema box) is completed and operator agreed, the focus is now securing occupiers into the units.
- Digital skill & Innovation Centre – Completion of lease with NW&SLC by January, completion and handover by spring 2026.
- George Eliot Visitors Centre - Project will be overseen by Griff Preservation Trust, with NBBC making a financial contribution from

received funding to the project. Returned tenders are currently being reviewed

- Saints – Building purchase and ground floor has been completed. The next step is completion of the lease.
- Parks Revival – Consultant appointed and the project is now progressing to the design development stage and stakeholder engagement.
- E-mobility – Provision of EV charging points, to be included within the Grayson Place development. A few suppliers have been identified, and operating models along with cost implications - currently under review
- Bedworth Physical Activity Hub – The Board Members visited the site and saw that the swimming pools are internally tiled. The sports hall is taking shape, with final soundproofing and flooring yet to be installed. Externally, some pedestrian pathways have been constructed, and landscaping works have commenced with ground levels formed.
- Bridge to Living – All units have been purchased by NBBC and have been fully vacated. Enabling works have commenced including opening-up works. Hoarding has been installed and party wall matters are ongoing.

SPB26

### **Communication Updates**

- a) Grayson place – JW informed the board that internal discussion ongoing about promoting Grayson place, plan to invite local reporters for a site walkthrough soon, hoping to make announcement in January. Considering staged announcement to maintain public interest, aiming to keep awareness going by promoting development in stages. Intend to release more videos and pictures of the development. Grand opening tentatively planned for March.
- b) DS&IC – JW informed that the communication team is hoping to announce college details in January, planning to communicate college take-over in March, students expected on site by September academic year.
- c) E-mobility – JW plan to notify details about successful e- mobility tender applicant, will share spec of the machines, allocation of charging points, location of devices
- d) Bridge to living – JW mentioned communication team, in January, will provide schedule of works, information about potential road closures, details about major plant movements and site disruption.

SPB26

### **Any Other Business**

The board received an update on the Believe In Bedworth programme, which was highlighted as a key regeneration initiative. Funding allocation is £20 million over 10 years, Regeneration plan submitted at the end of November, principle funding allocation expected from 1 April, the funding structure is 75% capital funding and 25% revenue funding.

The potential project areas include support from local businesses, Business funding agents, public realm improvements, community programmes,

activities for young people. The board noted the community – led approach for positive local impact.

SPB27      Exclusion of the Public and Press

Under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 9172, the public and press were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, it being likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information on the description specified in paragraph (iii) of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

**CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

SPB28      Risk register

NBBC submitted an updated Programme Risk Register. The Board considered the specific risks raised by the updated register.

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Chair of the Board