

PLAN FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS– BEDWORTH GOVERNANCE BOARD

Terms of Reference

1. INTRODUCTION

In March 2025 Government launched MHCLG Plan for Neighbourhoods, as part of its plan to ensure that nowhere is left behind. It will help revitalise local areas and fight deprivation at root cause by zeroing in on 3 goals: thriving places, stronger communities, and taking back control.

This plan will give towns the focus and attention much deserved by government investing £1.5 billion in 75 key areas across the UK and giving the tools needed to help build a better future for local people.

MHCLG will provide funding up to £20 million over a 10 year period. The Plan for Neighborhoods will require a Regeneration Plan for Bedworth, which constitutes a 10 year vision and 4 year investment plan and delivering in the interests of local people, giving communities the opportunity to drive social capital and kickstart growth

MHCLG will devolve decision making and the process requires Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to establish a Town Board. While the Borough Council remains the accountable body for funding and executing plans, Town Boards are responsible for developing the long term regeneration plan, working closely with local people. Maintaining proportionate controls to ensure that funding continues to deliver good value for money.

The Plan for Neighbourhoods is a fundamentally different way of approaching the challenges places face, putting power back into the hands of local people so that they can decide on local priorities and what's best for the long-term future of the places they live.

Aiming to raise living standards, reduce social exclusion, spread opportunities for young people, improve health and wellbeing, build stronger and more cohesive communities and reduce crime and anti-social behavior.

The funding is to be used to regenerate Bedworth over the next decade, covering key three themes:

- **Thriving Places:** Places should be able to design public services that are accessible, responsive, and tailored to local need. Investing in our young people's futures and in preventative measures that will ease pressure on services over the longer-term.
- **Stronger and Communities:** To tackle the root causes, rebuild relationships, and restore a collective sense of belonging in their local community. Bringing people together so they can feel proud of their area and safe in their neighborhood..
- **Taking back Control:** Accessing the skills required for emerging job markets as we transition to net zero or supporting the thousands of would-be entrepreneurs through their first steps into self-employment. To empower people to enter the workplace, workers to progress, and businesses to grow, helping to kickstart local economic growth.

2. THE ROLE OF THE LEAD COUNCIL - (Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council)

The Lead Council will:

- I. Define the area the Project Board will represent on a map. As a default, this should be the boundaries defined by the Office for National Statistics, however variations can be used should this be deemed necessary.
 - II. Convene the Project Board which will align with the governance standards and policies of the Lead Council including around whistle blowing, conflicts of interest, and complaints;
 - III. Publish the Project Board's governance structure and ways of working, such as a statement for how the board will engage with stakeholders and agree decisions over time; and set out how capacity funding will be spent, and how that will support the process of developing an effective Plan for Neighbourhoods with NBBC as the accountable body and will be responsible for;
- Accountable body for the funding and executing plans.
 - Assist with running business and wider community engagement events.
 - Provide advice and support to the Board.
 - Assist/empower the Board to realise their role and drive forward a community led vision for change.

3. THE ROLE OF THE BOARD

The Plan for Neighbourhoods -Towns Board ("the Board") will be the vehicle that supports the vision and strategy for revitalising Bedworth. The area the Board will represent is Bedworth and is shown on the map at Appendix A.

The Board will be community led and will identify opportunities to align or rationalise public investment around key local priorities.

The Board will:

- Develop a long-term plan (10 years) strategic document which will be backed by insights gained from engagement with local people as form of community empowerment..
- Develop an investment plan (4 years) which will detail the interventions and powers to be used for each investment theme, how the interventions will be used locally, the cost and how the interventions will address the outcomes in the long-term plan.
- Be responsible for driving the priorities for investment.
- Identify additional funding sources and ways to attract funding.
- Develop and deliver a plan for community engagement to ensure regeneration is focused on the actual rather than perceived needs of the community.

Monitor the progress of projects related to the above, including:

- Receive updates on projects
- Review financial, risk and reputational position
- Develop a clear programme of interventions
- Coordinate resources and influence stakeholders

The Board is not a legal entity, and its role is advisory, responsible for developing the long term plan. Its purpose is to work with NBBC, to which it is accountable as the Lead Council and accountable body for funding and executing plans

4. BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Membership will be as follows and will be reviewed in January 2026 with a view to revised arrangements being in place during the implementation phase (April 2026)

Independent Chair	Bill Basra-BRANCAB
Deputy/sub-Chair	Julie Bromage
Members	Name
Elected Member- NBBC	Nicky King
Elected Member WCC	Councillor Finch
All Saints C of E	Rev David Poultney
The Bedworth Society	Lynda Greasley
Life Church Bedworth	Pastor Danny Murphy
WCAVA	Alison Thompson
Police	Karl Faulkner
Local Butchers	Simon Aucott
Local Business Owner Dance Academy	Julie Bromage
Local Business Owner- Spencer's	Paul Spencer
Local Business Owner (Bayton Road)	Jason Aldridge
Small Federation of Businesses	Sue Tonks
NHS Rep (both NHS reps will share 1 vote between them).	Richard Nedjati: Clinical Director of Nuneaton and Bedworth Primary Care Network
NHS GEH Rep	Jenni Northcote Chief Strategy, Improvement & Partnerships Officer
MP	TAYLOR, Rachel (MP)
Nicholas Chamberlaine School- youth rep	Contact lead Matthew Smith Students in Year 12 volunteer. Aryan Bruzas Dylan Draper
Armistice Group	Ken Whitehead

Harbour Centre	Gill Hancock
People in Action	Jeff Hunt
Council Officers	
NBBC Officers: Maria Bailey- Strategic Director of Place and Economy Sandy Johal –Service Manager, Regeneration and Economic Development Mark Farmer– Communications Team	WCC Officer: Garry Palmer

5. BOARD MEETINGS

The Board will determine which meetings, if any, will be held in public. Agenda, Reports and Minutes will be deemed as in the public domain unless there are legal reasons to suggest otherwise.

If appropriate, smaller working groups shall be used to facilitate wider engagement in the themes of the PfN-Bedworth.

The Board will meet on a monthly basis between July-November 2025. Thereafter frequency will be reviewed in January 2026.

No business shall be transacted at any Board meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum shall be 25% of Board Membership.

Five clear working days’ notice of all Board meetings will be given by publishing details on NBBC’s website.

NBBC will publish on its website copies of agendas and reports that are open to public inspection at least five clear working days before each board meeting, and copies of draft minutes of board meetings that are open to public inspection within 10 working days of the meeting taking place, final minutes within 10 days of them being approved by the Board.

Each Board member shall have one vote and decisions will be made on a show of hands. In the event of an equality of votes the Chair shall have a casting vote.

6. BOARD MEMBERS’ CONDUCT

Whilst the Programme Board serves as an advisory function to the Lead Council, we expect all members to adhere to the Nolan Principles. (Seven Principles of Public Life) attached as Appendix B.

NBBC will maintain and publish on its website a Register of Board Member interests. The following provisions shall apply to all Board members:

- In the event that there is a conflict of interest the person so conflicted shall immediately declare the nature of the conflict or potential conflict and withdraw from any business where the conflict would be relevant.
- Whenever a person has an interest in a matter to be discussed at a meeting the person concerned will not be:

- entitled to remain present at the meeting during discussion of that matter
- counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting
- entitled to vote on the matter

The Board may, at any time authorise a person to remain in the meeting whilst a matter in which they have or may have a conflict of interest is discussed, provided that the conflict of interest is declared and the person subject to the conflict of interest shall not be entitled to vote on the matter.

Gifts or hospitality received by the Board or individual member must be recorded and published. The Councils Gift and Hospitality Policy should be followed [Gifts and hospitality register | Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council](#).

Board Members will not divulge information discussed at Board meetings outside of the Board Membership until the accountable body NBBC, have published the Board papers.

Removal of a Member from the Board

Participants will be removed from the PfN Board if they do not adhere to the Terms of Reference in agreement with the Lead Authority and the Board in the event that a Board Member's conduct falls short of that expected and a breach of the Code of Conduct has taken place, the Board may agree a resolution to remove that Board Member from the PfN Board only when:-

- i. The Chief Executive of the lead authority has approved the resolution to remove the Board Member: and
- ii. The Board Member has been given at least 14 clear days notice in writing of the meeting of the Board at which the resolution will be proposed and the reasons why it will be proposed; and
- iii. The Board Member has been given a reasonable opportunity to make representations to the meeting in person and/or in writing. The other Board Members must consider any representations made by the Board Member and inform them of their decision following such consideration.

There shall be no right of appeal from a decision of the Board's decision to terminate the membership of a Board Member

A Board Member shall cease to be a member of the PfN Board in the following circumstances :-

- Such Board Member gives written notice to the Chair of their notice of resignation;
- Such Board Member's death;
- Such Board Member's bankruptcy making of any arrangement or composition with their creditors, or liquidation, or in the case of an organisation, winding up, liquidation, dissolution or administration or anything analogous to any of the foregoing occurring in relation to a Member in any jurisdiction;
- Such Board Member is removed from membership by a resolution of the Board that it is in the best interests of the Board that the membership is terminated.

7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chair

Act as a champion for the town and provide leadership for the PfN Board, ensuring it is community led and embedded within the local area.

- The role of the Chair is to lead the Board in defining vision and direction, and in delivering the desired outputs, whilst ensuring that appropriate procedures for governance and management of resources are in place.

The key responsibilities of the role are:

- Provide strategic leadership and direction to ensure that the Board achieves its goals
- Lead the efforts of the Board to deliver a viable Regeneration Plan for Bedworth
- Effectively chair meetings of the Board, leading it towards decisions that ensure the Strategic vision and key objectives of the Board are delivered.
- Be an effective influencer and “ambassador” for Nuneaton and Bedworth at local, regional and national levels working with appropriate partner organisations and individuals
- Be an effective advocate on behalf of the Board, NBBC and the businesses and people of Nuneaton and Bedworth, in particular at conferences and events/meetings with Ministers, MPs and key civil servants
- Reflect the agreed policies of the Board and its members in all discussions with partners, stakeholders, government and its agencies.
- Ensure that the Board adheres at all times to high standards of ethics and governance in public life and is an exemplar to other organisations
- Ensure that all Board members participate actively in the work of the Board, encouraging their attendance and engagement and keeping regular contact with all members
- Exert a casting vote in Board decisions if circumstances so require

Senior Responsible Officer(s) (SRO)

Signing off monitoring and evaluation returns

Submitting change requests

Securing value for money from the agreed aggregate location

S151 Officer

Ensure compliance with all financial, statutory and constitutional requirements Sign off all monitoring and evaluation returns prior to submission.

Board Members

Board members have a responsibility to uphold high standards of integrity and probity. They should support the Chairman in instilling the appropriate culture, values and behaviours in the boardroom and beyond.

Board members should take into account the views of other stakeholders, because these views may provide different perspectives on the Board and its performance.

Board members will have will exercise strategic oversight over the Long Term Plan for Bedworth.

The duties and responsibilities of a Board member are to:

- Attend meetings of the Board and to nominate an appropriate named alternative where attendance is not possible, subject to the prior agreement of the Chair and Lead Council
- Reflect the agreed view of the Board and its members in all discussions with partners, stakeholders, government and its' agencies
- Support the Chair by leading on activities relevant to their knowledge and experience by representing the interests of the Board in meetings with partners, stakeholders, government and its' agencies
- Actively develop an effective partnership
- Contribute knowledge and expertise to the development and delivery of the Long Term Plan and associated business cases for funding
- Formally represent the Board in meetings with other bodies and partner organisations as required

REVIEW

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed in January 2026 with a view to revised arrangements being in place for April 2026.

[illegible]

The Seven Principles of Public Life - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)