

Bedworth Plan for Neighbourhoods Regeneration Plan 2025-2035



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Local Context

Located in the heart of the country, Bedworth is a town with a rich heritage and community. Located c. 8 miles north of Coventry and c. 23 miles east of Birmingham, it has strong transport links across the midlands, with Bedworth railway station providing direct links to Birmingham New Street Station in 31 minutes, Coventry in 20 mins and Leicester in c.45 minutes via Nuneaton. The town features iconic locations such as the Almshouses, All Saints Square, the Civic Hall and Water Tower, along with thriving green spaces such as the Miners Welfare Park - which serves as a nod to Bedworth's industrial heritage.

Bedworth was originally developed during the industrial revolution based on traditional industries in ribbon making and coal. Although the last mine closed in 1982, the town retains a strong working-class identity and community spirit, evidenced by several thriving community centres and the presence of both Citizens Advice and MIND in the town centre. There are ongoing ambitious plans to increase sports and leisure facilities within Bedworth aiming to promote good health, including a brand-new state-of-the-art leisure hub opening Spring 2026, and improvement to existing sports facilities such as the Newdigate Cricket Pavillion. Bedworth also boasts a permanent covered market, trading Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays selling clothes, books, antiques and collectables, along with fruit and veg.

The Exhall ward remains an important regional industrial cluster, with Bayton Road Industrial Estate being a concentrated cluster of SME manufacturing. Often confused as being part of the City of Coventry, the Exhall area was for many decades and a centre of excellence for bodywork and panel beating, with the bodywork for the iconic Jaguars and the first Ford GT40 in the 1960s, produced at Abbey Panels on Bayton Road. With Brose, Armstrong Group, Nasmyth, Oleo International and Arrowsmith among others, the area remains an important part of automotive and aerospace supply chains. Exhall is also home to off-highway vehicle maker Mecalac, on the edge of the borough, close to CBS Arena. This is a proud industrial legacy but also remains a powerful present and future that the town can leverage to promote skills and aspiration.

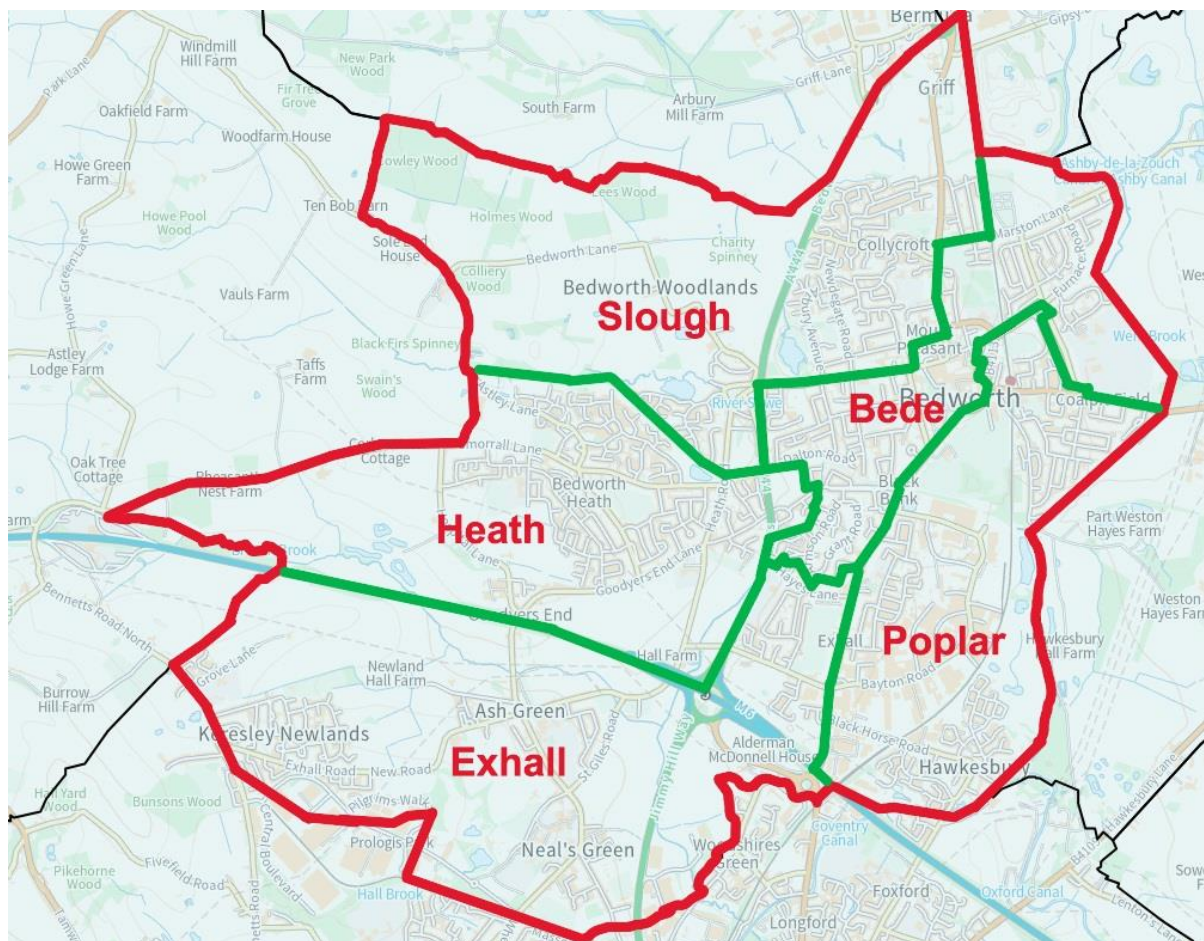
As well as proximity to MIRA Technology Park and Coventry & Warwick Investment Zone, there are new development sites at the 55 acre, 6000,000sqft Panattoni Coventry, to the south of Bedworth town centre and south of the M6, and the site coming forward at Bowling Green Lane, to the West of the town centre, totalling up to 646,000sqft. There is some further expansion of Prologis Coventry (Keresley) on the Bedworth side, totalling 160,000sqft (see Appendix A).

The people of Bedworth are proud of their town and are excited to see how the town will be changing going forward and are confident in expressing their want for change and opinions on previous efforts. The legacy of Nicholas Chamberlaine (1632-1715) can still

be felt directly in the form of Almshouses and the local schools that were established in the area. Community pride is further evidenced by the presence of the spaces including the Harbour Centre and The Mayor's Café, and several charitable outlets and community centres throughout all of Bedworth. The articulation of this spirit is felt most acutely on Armistice Day, when the town comes together to honour and respect those who have served our country. Bedworth also has a diverse and religious landscape. Christianity is the most widely followed faith, with Anglican, Methodist, Baptist, and United Reformed congregations present. Other religions are also present within Bedworth of which the Sikh community is the most significant. The importance of these faith communities is reflected in the significant work that is undertaken within the community.

This vision has been created by the 'Believe in Bedworth' Neighbourhood Board, comprised of residents, businesses, schools, the voluntary and community sector, local MP Rachel Taylor and representatives from both Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council. It is however not a Council led plan, with the Board holding true to the spirit of the programme which aspires to '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.'

Spatial Targeting



During the initial four years of the programme, our primary focus will be on Bedworth Town Centre (refer to Appendix B), including the adjacent Miners Welfare Park. This compact and walkable area features a rich blend of heritage architecture, and assets of community value, e.g. All Saints Church, Bedworth Almshouses, Bedworth Civic Hall, the new Bedworth Physical Activity Hub, Bedworth United Football Club and The Mayors Cafe, all venues that were highlighted as important in our consultation. Equally the Zencity research noted that most residents within Bedworth are ‘fairly dissatisfied’ with the services and amenities meaning significant improvement is required.¹

Bedworth’s town centre suffers from economic underperformance, with a high commercial vacancy rate and limited retail and leisure offerings. The decline in retail and leisure offerings, has left many buildings in the town centre underused or vacant, and there's a lack of variety in shops, cafés, and restaurants. This, along with a lack of engaging activities for young people and families, has contributed to a sense of stagnation and reduced footfall, making the area less attractive to both residents and

¹ Zencity. (July, 2025). *Bedworth - MHCLG Plan for Neighbourhoods Survey Results*.

visitors. The lack of vibrancy and investment in the public realm has contributed to perceptions of neglect and underutilisation.

Social challenges in the town centre are also prominent. Anti-social behaviour rates are above the national average, and there are widespread concerns about safety, particularly related to e-scooters and youth street gatherings. In our recent consultation, anti-social behaviour was one of the main concerns of residents, including reports of fighting, and drug-related activity. Bede, the ward in which the town centre is located, faces moderate levels of deprivation, particularly in employment, education, and health, and according to government indices, it scores low in several domains, with crime and anti-social behaviour being notable concerns. In September 2025, 244 crimes were reported in the area, with the most common being violence, anti-social behaviour, and shoplifting.²

This strategy focuses on creating a safer, more inclusive, and economically resilient town centre that reflects the aspirations of its people. Impacts of interventions will be seen to have impact beyond the town centre with key beneficiaries include residents, businesses, visitors and in-transit travellers.

² UK Crime Statistics, (2025). Bede, Nuneaton and Bedworth, Warwickshire, England. Available at: [Bede, Nuneaton and Bedworth, Warwickshire, England | UK Crime Statistics](#)

Vision and Objectives

Vision Statement

In 2035 Bedworth will be a place where through day and night the town centre is the beating heart of the community, catering for all ages; a place of meeting, socialising, shopping, entertainment, sport, recreation, art, fun, and living life to the fullest. A safe place, where people belong, a Town to be proud of.

Vision for the Future

The objectives of our plan reflect the challenges Bedworth faces, as identified in the strategic case for change and local context.

- We will create and maintain a safe place where individuals feel protected, respected, and supported.
- We will create and promote opportunities that empower young people to develop their skills, pursue education and employment, and actively participate in social and economic development.
- We will create and promote opportunities for social involvement that foster community engagement, collaboration and personal development.
- Public services will be designed, delivered, and maintained in collaborative ways that are equitable, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of the community.
- Local businesses will be supported to develop and grow, and Bedworth will be a place where organisations want to do business.

Objective	Interventions
Safe place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade of Church Way's greenspace – designed to be family-friendly and reduce anti-social behaviour. - Public realm improvements and redesign of town centre streets using CPTED principles – to improve perceptions of safety and reduce incidents involving e-scooters and bikes, including lighting, green spaces, and design to deter crime and improve perceptions of safety. - Feasibility study for a BID – could lead to enhanced safety and security measures. - 'Believe in Bedworth' team – will coordinate efforts to maintain high standards and safety.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Centralised health and wellbeing hub – supports mental health and reduces vulnerability. - Believe in Bedworth Hub – provides diversionary activities, mentoring, and youth support to reduce anti-social behaviour. - Partnership with local police – for crime prevention and community reassurance. - Improved footpaths and cycle routes – safer access to key facilities.
Opportunities for young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further Education provision in the town centre – including spaces for NEETs and vocational training for 16–19 year olds. - Youth entrepreneurship, mentoring and skills development - to foster innovation and career pathways in partnership with police and local organisations. - Volunteering as a pathway to employment – helps young people gain experience. - Physical activity initiatives – including access to sports clubs and the skate park. - Believe in Bedworth Hub – offers youth-focused activities, a safe drop-in space, and access to youth workers. - Support for existing youth groups – including workplace skills and inclusive spaces. - Summer programme – addresses holiday hunger and social isolation, especially for children and teens. - Links with existing and new employers – linking this initiative to the investments being made at Panattoni Coventry, Prologis Kerseley and Exhall Interchange.
Social involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community-led renewal projects – including festivals and events celebrating local culture. - ‘Believe in Bedworth’ team – ensures community voices are central to regeneration. - Co-creation of the plan with local councils and residents – empowering local decision-making. - Health and wellbeing spaces – inclusive and accessible for all community members. - Sports and physical activity partnerships – promote inclusion and community bonding.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Believe in Bedworth Hub – a shared space for all ages, promoting intergenerational engagement. - Community projects for safe meeting areas – to improve social cohesion. - Support for family hubs and groups – strengthens community networks.
Public service provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Centralised health and wellbeing hub – consolidates services for easier access. - Further Education provision – addresses gaps in adult education and skills. - Improved accessibility in public realm – supports mobility and inclusion. - ‘Believe in Bedworth’ team – coordinates service delivery and stakeholder engagement. - Co-location of services (e.g., The Harbour Centre, Citizens Advice) – for holistic support. - Believe in Bedworth Hub – integrates family support, youth services, and community activities. - Family support initiatives – including emotional and financial support.
Business support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ‘Believe in Bedworth’ fund – grants and loans for new and existing businesses. - Feasibility study for a BID – could lead to structured business support and investment. - Public realm improvements – attract footfall and private sector investment. - Transformation of Bedworth Market – creates a vibrant commercial and community hub. - Support for entrepreneurship and innovation – especially among young people. - Believe in Bedworth Hub collaboration with local businesses – to reduce anti-social behaviour near premises. - Youth engagement and skills development – helps build a future workforce and reduces business disruption from anti-social behaviour.

Strategic Case for Change

Thriving Places

High Streets and the Public Realm

The first four years of delivery will prioritise Bedworth Town Centre, as identified in the Spatial Targeting framework. Our ambition is to create a vibrant, inclusive and economically resilient town centre over the next ten years and beyond.

Home to almost 35,000 people³, Bedworth is mainly a commuter town for Nuneaton and Coventry, with around 57% of Nuneaton & Bedworth residents travelling⁴. In part, this plays into the neglect of the town centre, as it struggles to compete with the larger centre of Coventry and Nuneaton within a close proximity, meaning little retail trade and a small office sector. This town centre underdevelopment is clear, with Bedworth's commercial vacancy rate being 13.4% compared to the average across England which lies at 10.4⁵. The town centre also has little residential or leisure provision other than a few pubs and the Civic Hall, and therefore the evening economy is weak.⁶

This perception that Bedworth town centre has little to offer, means residents often travel to neighbouring towns to meet their needs, presenting a missed opportunity. Our community consultation and community engagement event in October asked 'what is pants and tops?' about the town, and the overwhelming response about what was 'pants' is empty shops and the lack of retail choice. We will tackle this by focusing on the town centre and undertaking projects such as transforming Bedworth Market into a multi-functional venue for trade, food, drink, and community events, and physical improvements including the upgrade of Church Way's greenspace to be family-friendly and sensory-inclusive, working toward addressing anti-social behaviour (currently 19.8 incidents per 1,000 population vs. England's 14.8).⁷

32% of local residents surveyed expressed a desire to see greater emphasis placed on enhancing the overall appearance of the town centre. Strategic investment in the public realm - including green spaces such as the Almshouses' gardens and fountain - can contribute to creating a safer, more welcoming environment, support the attraction of private sector investment, and unlock opportunities for:

- Property owners: Increase rents, long term value enhancement

³ ONS. (2022). *Population estimates – small area*. Available at: [Population estimates - small area - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics](#)

⁴ Williams, T. (2025). *Warwickshire Economic Geography*. Available at: [WCCC-808477336-763](#)

⁵ MHCLG. (July, 2025). *Bedworth - local data profile*. Available at: [Bedworth](#)

⁶ NBBC. (2019). *Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council Borough Plan 2021-2031*. Available at: [Adopted Borough Plan \(2011-2031\) | Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council](#)

⁷ MHCLG. (July, 2025). *Bedworth - local data profile*. Available at: [Bedworth](#)

- Property occupiers: increase footfall, dwell time and spend, support the experiential offer
- Residents: Improve the urban realm, improve air quality, noise levels and safety; manage overcrowding and crime
- Visitors: decrease overcrowding and crime; enhance the leisure and nighttime offer, increase dwell time
- Workers/Employers: Improve urban realm, improve air quality, noise levels, accessibility and safety. Support the recruitment and retention of workers.

We will also explore the potential to undertake a feasibility study to assess whether establishing a Business Improvement District (BID) would be viable and beneficial for the community and local businesses. Potential improvements could include enhanced safety and security measures - supporting our broader goal of creating a safer and thriving town centre.

Supporting this potential BID, and a way in which we will maintain high standards across our town centre and allow it to continue to thrive under these changes and regeneration, is the creation of a 'Believe in Bedworth' team. This dedicated team will coordinate delivery, stakeholder engagement, communications, events, and funding bids, in turn ensuring communities are in control of their own future.

Another way we aim to support local businesses is through the potential introduction of a Town Centre Voucher Scheme, which businesses can opt into voluntarily. This initiative would allow vouchers to be distributed as incentives for participating in community consultations, helping to boost engagement. Additionally, the vouchers could be used as prizes in local raffles, events, or campaigns, encouraging footfall and spending within the town centre. By creating a direct link between community involvement and local economic activity, the scheme would not only reward residents but also provide tangible benefits to participating businesses.

Employment, Education and Skills

With the high commercial vacancy rate and a desire to see more businesses emerge within the town centre, to stimulate economic growth and vitality, along with the goal to improve the public realm and therefore footfall, we will allocate a percentage of the overall fund to Business Growth initiatives. One of the key suggestions made in the consultation was to "Investigate opportunities to support with grants and/or loans to support small businesses or rent/rates incentives", so with the goal of increasing job density (currently 0.48, below national average)⁸, delivered in partnership with the

⁸ MHCLG. (July, 2025). *Bedworth - local data profile*. Available at: [Bedworth](#)

Coventry and Warwickshire Reinvestment Trust, will support new and existing businesses through a combination of grants and loans. This scheme will be aimed at:

- Encouraging entrepreneurship and innovation.
- Supporting business expansion and resilience.
- Enhancing the diversity and sustainability of the local retail and service offer.
- Increasing job density by enabling businesses to grow their workforce.

Poor education and skill levels are a threat to business growth and economic productivity, so along with this fund, we will promote volunteering as a pathway to employment, and foster youth entrepreneurship through mentoring, and business support – working alongside local organisations and further education providers.

Whilst across Warwickshire the percentage of pupils achieving a ‘Good Level of Development’ has risen to 69%, Nuneaton and Bedworth continue to have a lower GLD compared to neighbouring boroughs and countrywide.⁹ In the adult population, 16.8% have no qualifications, which is significantly higher than the national level of 12.4%.¹⁰ We intend to tackle this by introducing Further Education provision in the town centre, including developing spaces for NEETs, veterans, disabled individuals and economically inactive adults to gain skills – aiding in addressing both high unemployment rates and the growing skills-shortage.¹¹ The aim to improve the education and skills offerings will be done by:

- Working collaboratively with other partners and within local community to provide inclusivity and ease of access.
- Specialising in teaching technical disciplines relevant to local skills needs, creating a clear technical education pathway for new entrants (school leavers, unemployed, career changers) and existing workers needing to upskill. Supporting recruitment, progression and talent retention and leading to high skilled and high wage employment.
- Working collaboratively to harness the assets, resources and expertise of those already in the town centre alongside further education providers, with strong employer engagement in supporting the design and delivery of potential training offerings.

With 44% of consultation participants highlighting the need for more locally accessible training such as opportunities at local colleges and vocational programmes for all age

⁹ Warwickshire County Council. (2024). *Warwickshire Education Strategy*. Available at: [Warwickshire Education Strategy 2024-29](#)

¹⁰ MHCLG. (July, 2025). *Bedworth - local data profile*. Available at: [Bedworth](#)

¹¹ Warwickshire County Council. (2017). *BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE QUARTERLY ECONOMIC SURVEY*. Available at: [WCCC-688-286](#)

groups and 15% specifically emphasizing vocational training for 16–19 year olds, investing in education and skills development is essential to Bedworth’s future success.

The town and local residents will benefit from the developments at Exhall Interchange (Bowling Green Lane) to the west of the town and Panattoni Coventry and Prologis Coventry, to the south of the town, and developments wider out at locations like MIRA Technology Park and Coventry & Warwick Investment Zone. An opportunity that we will look to explore, is to link these sites to plans in development to uplift local skills and aspiration.

Stronger Communities

Our own community consultation demonstrated residents felt a strong sense of community spirit, with 91% of respondents highlighting one or more things they liked about the town. This is somewhat at odds with the those quoted in MHCLG’s data profile, which states that Bedworth faces challenges in social cohesion, with a social trust score of -9% (vs. England’s -3%).¹² Our approach will attempt to strengthen community bonds and civic pride, which will start with the Board co-creating this plan in cooperation with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council, with the focus on the community to ensure tangible impacts are made for their benefit.

Community Renewal

Insights from our consultation revealed that 21% of respondents would like to see a regular programme of festivals and events. In response, to support our goal of strengthening social cohesion, we will allocate a sum to community-led renewal projects, delivered in partnership with the Heart of England Community Foundation, ensuring the benefits extend beyond the town centre. This fund will help establish a year-round calendar of activities—such as neighbourhood festivals—that bring people together, increase footfall, and stimulate local spending. These events will celebrate the rich diversity of Bedworth, with a particular focus on exploring its various cultures and subcommunities.

Health and Wellbeing

Working alongside health partners, our aim is to create accessible spaces for mental health support, wellbeing activities, and health promotion. We will explore the possibility of incorporating multiple health and wellbeing support services into one central location as to allow easy access for all, ensuring this aligns with our objectives to reduce poverty and poor access to food across Bedworth.

¹² Onward. (2023). *Good Neighbours: How to levels of hyper-local trust vary and why does it matter?* Available at: [Good Neighbours: How do levels of hyper-local trust vary and why does it matter? | Onward](#)

Physical activity will also be prioritised through strategic partnerships with local sports clubs, with potential funding opportunities aimed at fostering visible community renewal within these spaces. This will not only improve the wellbeing of those within Bedworth but allow for stronger community cohesion and inclusion of those often not with access to facilities and sport in this way. The potential to also improve existing footpaths and cycle routes from Miners Welfare Park to the town centre will be explored, with this giving safe and easy access to the new Bedworth Physical Activity Hub, skate park and local sport facilities such as Bedworth Cricket Club, Bedworth Rugby Club and Bedworth United Football Club.

Safety and Security

From our community engagement, we have seen a large concern for community safety in regards for e-scooters and bikes within the town centre with 21% of survey participants mentioning these issues.

From our consultation:

- 10% of respondents highlighted the need for community projects to improve connections and feelings of safety. This included safe meeting areas for young people, more activities for teenagers to reduce street gatherings, and initiatives to promote community pride.
- 49% expressed a desire for low-cost, positive activities for young people that combine recreation, social support, and opportunities to develop life skills.
- 19% specifically called for a dedicated youth hub offering a safe drop-in space with access to professional youth worker support.
- Additional suggestions included support for existing youth groups (9%), workplace skills development (7%), inclusive spaces (3%), and efforts to reduce street presence (8%).

Including the improvements to Church Way greenspaces, we will consider using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles to potentially redesign streets within the town centre to create public areas that feel safer. Our potential for a BID proposal, as mentioned, also supports this model of putting our community's safety first.

We will also explore the potential for developing a central 'Believe in Bedworth Hub' with the aim to foster a stronger, safer community by providing inclusive, diversionary activities—particularly for younger age groups. While anti-social behaviour is not solely

caused by young people, they are often portrayed as the main contributors, which can negatively impact perceptions of community safety.¹³

The 'Believe in Bedworth Hub' will respond to these needs by offering a space for the whole community, with a strong focus on youth engagement. We will work alongside local businesses who regularly report anti-social behaviour in and around their premises and check back on the positive outcomes of offering diversionary activities and safe spaces. We will work in partnership with the local police force to deliver mentoring, crime prevention initiatives, and skills development opportunities.

Taking Back Control

Bedworth faces high levels of poverty, crime, long-term unemployment, and low educational attainment. Our strategy will empower residents and reduce exclusion by engaging them in our efforts, giving them support and opportunity.

Education and Opportunity

In our consultation, 27% expressed a desire for more streamlined access to family support, including emotional support, skills development and support for families on low incomes. Ensuring access to support for families and young children is paramount to guarantee equal opportunities for everyone in Bedworth, and one way we will do this is by incorporating family hubs and support groups into our proposed 'Believe in Bedworth Hub', along with partnerships with existing, commissioned service providers in this field. We will look at the opportunity to co-locate services such as The Harbour Centre and Citizens Advice to provide holistic support, attempting to tackle both causes and consequences of poverty. These are among numerous groups who we will aim to work alongside in addressing the issue of poverty within the town by initiatives including a coordinated summer programme to address holiday hunger and social isolation.

We are also committed to promoting equal opportunity through our support for adult learning - an area highlighted by 14% of consultation participants as important. This includes initiatives focused on building confidence and developing life skills, as previously outlined in the Employment, Education and Skills section.

¹³ Hulley, S. (2014). *Generation blame: how age affects our views of anti-social behaviour*. Available at: [Generation blame: how age affects our views of anti-social behaviour | University of Cambridge](#)

Funding and Investment Strategy

Alignment with Other Programmes and Investments

Strategy	Focus	Bedworth Alignment
The West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy (2019) ¹⁴	Ensuring all communities benefit from economic prosperity, tackling inequalities, and improving quality of life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 'Believe in Bedworth' team and continued engagement: empowering residents to ensure community voices are heard and central to our regeneration efforts. - Family support initiatives and a centralised health hub: reduce vulnerability, improve wellbeing and enhance access to necessary support.
The West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy (2019)	Targeted action on skills, especially for young people and those furthest from the labour market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further education provision for NEETs and adults: reduce skills gap and unemployment rates - Youth entrepreneurship and mentoring: builds future workforce, enhances career pathway access and may help manage levels of anti-social behaviour. - Volunteering as a pathway to employment: supports experience-building. - Support for youth groups: provide access for workplace skills and creation of inclusive spaces.
The West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy (2019)	Improving transport, digital infrastructure, and public realm to support productivity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved footpaths and cycle routes: safer access to key facilities. - Public realm improvements: CPTED principles implemented including improved lighting and accessibility. - Upgrade of Church Way's greenspace: family-friendly design to reduce anti-social behaviour.
The West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy (2019)	Focusing on inclusive wellbeing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Centralised health and wellbeing hub and inclusive health spaces: reduce vulnerability, improve wellbeing and enhance access to necessary support. - Physical activity initiatives and sports partnerships: promote mental and physical health.

¹⁴ WMVA, (2019). *West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy*. Available at: [West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy](#)

The West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy (2019)	Driving business growth, support and innovation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 'Believe in Bedworth' Fund: grants and loans for new and existing businesses. - Support for entrepreneurship and innovation: especially among young people, helping to reduce the skills gap and unemployment levels. - Feasibility study for a BID: potential to provide structured business support and investment. - Transformation of Bedworth Market: vibrant commercial and community hub.
Green Infrastructure Strategy (Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull, 2024) ¹⁵	Create a high-quality, well-connected green infrastructure network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Church Way greenspace improvements: CPTED-based public realm improvements helping to improve safe travel between greenspaces. - Improved cycle routes and footpaths including access to Physical Activity Hub: improved connectivity improving inclusive health and wellbeing spaces, and greenspace access. - Improved accessibility in public realm: improving the natural environment, public spaces, and the access between them.
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council Borough Plan (2011–2031) ¹⁶	Ensure that all new development and investment contribute to a significant improvement in infrastructure and facilities that serve the borough.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved cycle routes and footpaths including access to Physical Activity Hub: improved green infrastructure network of spaces and corridors, and access to both health and wellbeing spaces, and greenspaces. - Centralised health and wellbeing hub and inclusive health spaces: reduce vulnerability, improve wellbeing and enhance access to necessary support.
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council	To create healthy, safe and strong communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Church Way greenspace improvements: CPTED-based public realm improvements helping to

¹⁵ Warwickshire County Council, (2024). *WARWICKSHIRE, COVENTRY & SOLIHULL SUB-REGIONAL GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY*. Available at: <https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-372917633-3038>

¹⁶ Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council, (2019). *Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council Borough Plan 2011-2031*. Available at: [Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council](#)

Borough Plan (2011–2031)		<p>improve safe travel and tackling anti-social behaviour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sports and physical activity partnerships: promote inclusion, community bonding and increases participation in active sport.
Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2021–2026) ¹⁷	Help people improve their mental health and wellbeing, particularly around prevention and early intervention in our communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summer programme: addresses holiday hunger and social isolation, especially for children, teens and low-income families. - Centralised health and wellbeing hub: supports mental health and reduces vulnerability, and reduces inequalities in health outcomes and the wider determinants of health.
Department for Education Strategy – Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential (2017) ¹⁸	Improve access for young people from lower income background to networks of advice, information and experiences of work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further Education provision in the town centre: development of accessible learning spaces focused on vocational training for 16–19 year olds. - Youth entrepreneurship, mentoring and skills development: collaborative initiatives with local organisations and police to promote innovation, mentoring, and career pathways for young people. - Volunteering as a pathway to employment: structured volunteering opportunities to help young people build experience, confidence, and transferable skills for the workplace. - Support for existing youth groups: enhancing current youth provision with inclusive environments and practical workplace skills development.
National Youth Agency - Enabling Great Youth Work to	Expand youth work into schools, healthcare, justice, arts, sports, and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Believe in Bedworth Hub: offers youth-focused activities, a safe drop-in space, and access to youth workers to improve access to necessary youth provisions. - Partnership with local police: supporting crime prevention and community reassurance, along with

¹⁷ Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board, (2021). *Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021–2026*. Available at: https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/bi/health-and-wellbeing-strategy/supporting_documents/Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Strategy%20202126.pdf

¹⁸ Department for Education, (2017). *Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential*. Available at: [Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential](#)

Happen (2024-2029) ¹⁹	community setting.	mentoring and work opportunities for young people.
Warwickshire Education Strategy (2024 – 2029) ²⁰	Through education, improve life opportunities for children, young people and those with special educational needs and disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further education provision: reduce skills gap and unemployment rates, providing education and skills training for NEETs, young people and vulnerable people. - Believe in Bedworth Hub: providing mentoring and a space for adult learning initiatives focused on life skills and confidence building.
Nuneaton and Bedworth Cultural Strategy (2023-2028) ²¹	Inclusive cultural hubs that celebrate diversity and foster community cohesion in growing neighbourhoods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Believe in Bedworth Hub: Family hubs and support groups integrated in this inclusive environment, with a focus on those who may often be excluded from societal groups.

Match Funding and Leveraged Investment

From the outset, the Board has been clear that our ambition should extend beyond simply allocating the £20 million. We have placed equal emphasis on how this funding can be used to attract additional investment and secure match funding.

Our strategy is rooted in an asset-based approach: while we aim to address existing gaps, we also focus on enhancing the strengths of Bedworth - those elements that are already working well and, with further investment, can help achieve the Strategy's objectives. This is especially relevant where capital investment is needed to refurbish buildings, but ongoing revenue is required to sustain service delivery.

To maximise impact and ensure long-term sustainability, we are actively collaborating with local charities and trusts (such as the Nicholas Chamberlaine Trust), faith groups,

¹⁹ National Youth Agency, (2024). *Enabling Great Youth Work to Happen 2024-2029*. Available at: [New-Strategy-November-2024-Web](#)

²⁰ Warwickshire County Council, (2024). *Warwickshire Education Strategy (2024-2029)*. Available at: [Warwickshire Education Strategy 2024-29](#)

²¹ Art Reach, (2023). *Nuneaton & Bedworth Cultural Strategy 2023-2028*. Available at: [nuneaton-bedworth-cultural-strategy-2023-28](#)

and the wider voluntary and community sector. Project prioritisation will encourage match funding and leverage opportunities at both the application and evaluation stages. We are also building relationships with private sector partners (such as Tesco) and will continue to strengthen these ties throughout the Programme's delivery.

Finally, our proposal for a dedicated 'Believe in Bedworth' Co-ordination Team reflects the need to invest in a resource that can attract funding and align national, regional, and local investment streams to support the town's regeneration.

Our partnerships across sectors will be key, and would be mindful of the following routes:

Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board investment strategies, including 'Health on the High Street' and potential future health inequalities funds
Statutory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warwickshire County Council is launching 'Best Start' capital funding that could match our investment into facilities for children and young people Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council is investing £774,000 into the Bedworth Indoor Market redevelopment in 2025/26. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council are receiving £1.5 million from the Pride in Place Impact Fund that has the potential to be utilised to support initiatives. West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) offers strategic funding opportunities aligned with regional regeneration priorities. National Agenda: Investment could be aligned with national priorities such as Levelling Up, Integrated Care Systems, and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.
Commercial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private sector investment is a viable route. The Board will work proactively with developers to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage mixed-use developments Embed health and wellbeing into design Maximise social value and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions Future BID (Business Improvement District) feasibility for Bedworth could unlock sustained commercial investment and business-led regeneration. Social Value & CSR: Opportunities exist to embed community benefit into contracts and partnerships, especially through planning and procurement.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with developers on local development sites at Panattoni Coventry, Exhall Gate, Loades Eco Parc and Prologis Coventry.
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both private and social landlords present opportunities for direct investment into the town, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements to housing stock Community infrastructure Section 106 (S106) levies via the Local Planning Authority could be capitalised on, although many may not be released until post-2035, requiring long-term planning.
Further and Higher Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current investment example: North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College (NWSLC) has invested in a new engineering block and a real-life hospital training environment at its Nuneaton campus, supporting T Levels and health/social care programmes. University interest: Coventry University is actively involved in local partnerships, including the Health Equity Partnership Programme in Nuneaton, supporting healthy lifestyle initiatives in schools.
Charitable trusts and foundations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport England: Potential funding for active spaces and inclusive sport initiatives. Heritage Lottery Fund: Opportunities for heritage-led regeneration and community engagement. Arts Council England (ACE): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Borough is a Priority Place, receiving structural arts and cultural investment in 2024. A Creative People and Places consortium award via CAVA (a Board member organisation) will see £750,000 invested from 2026–2029, with an additional £125,000 match funded by the Borough Council. VCFSSE sector support: The Board will proactively support voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSSE) organisations to attract their own funding, fostering a vibrant, values-aligned sector.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Our initial engagement exercise across September-October 2025 has proved a desire for local residents to engage in active conversations about how to make Bedworth an even better place to live and work. Alongside Zencity's survey results, the Neighbourhood Board has analysed the feedback and used this to shape the priorities and the programme of investment.

We have established sound mechanisms for ongoing communication and engagement, creating a 'Believe in Bedworth' brand. We will create a team who will be dedicated to coordinating delivery, engagement and communications, in turn ensuring communities are in control of their own future. Our Engagement Plan will ensure sustained, meaningful, and transparent involvement of local residents, community groups, and key stakeholders in shaping, delivering, and monitoring the Regeneration Plan, whilst the Board will act as the central coordinating body for engagement throughout the 10-year funding period.

Governance and Representation

We fully comply with the Plan for Neighbourhoods governance and boundary guidance. The Neighbourhood Board is composed of:

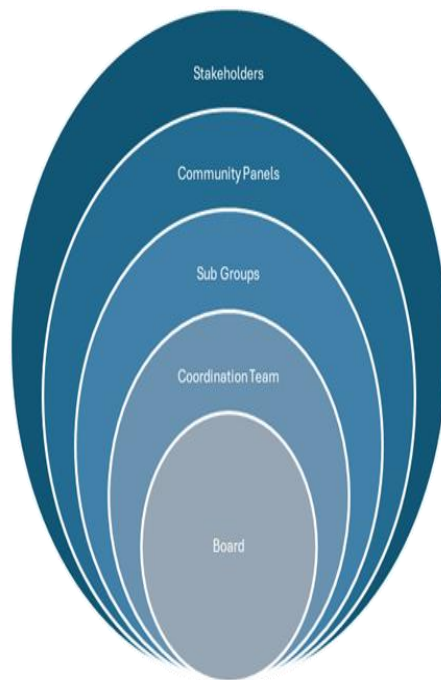
- Representatives from voluntary, community and faith organisations, local businesses, elected members from both County and Borough Councils, the MP for Bedworth, Police and a health representative.
- All Board members will be active personally or organisationally in Bedworth.

We will create themed working/task and finish groups by priority. We already have a business/ market subgroup and a young people and families group.

We have an ambition for a future structure that could act independently, for example the establishment of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) that will embed the principles of collaboration, inclusivity, transparency, and accountability.

We recognise that there are numerous bodies and organisations who may have an interest in having a voice within the Board, and the Board will actively collaborate with these to ensure it integrates into local community infrastructure rather than acting in isolation. We will have regular stakeholder communication channels and encourage these to be advocates and champions for Believe in Bedworth.

We propose the below organigram:



Community Engagement, Capacity Building and Empowerment

Ongoing Communication Channels:

- Regular newsletters (digital and printed) and use of community noticeboards.
- Dedicated online platform with project updates, surveys, and interactive mapping tools – website, social media accounts.
- Drop-in sessions with the Coordination Team.
- Annual structured consultation, with ad hoc/thematic surveys that will be needs-driven.
- Annual public ‘Assembly’ event to review progress and set emerging priorities.
- Annual calendar of events where engagement will form a key part.
- Potential creation of a citizens panel.

Inclusion and Accessibility:

- Targeted outreach to underrepresented groups (e.g. young people, older residents, minoritised communities).
- Engagement materials in accessible formats and community languages
- Potential to trial participatory budgeting for selected projects with an allocated budget via community vote).

- Support and training for residents who would like to become champions for Believe in Bedworth, participate in volunteering activities, undertake community research.
- Support for VCFSE organisations to access grants from community-renewal funds, plus support to lever additional investment into Bedworth.
- Through subgroups, ensure appropriate levels of participation for those communities of interest, e.g. have active youth involvement in decision making, or create the conditions where participation and voice have no barriers.
- Create an Apprentice role with the Coordination team, but also provide volunteering and work experience opportunities, within the team, but also amongst stakeholders and partners.

Stakeholder Partnerships

Strategic Partners:

- Other Local Authority Members and Officers, NHS (primary, acute, estates), Police, housing providers, schools/ further education/ training providers, local businesses and business support providers, commercial landlords.

Engagement Mechanisms:

- Coordination and relationship management through Coordination Team.
- Bi-annual Stakeholder Forum to align regeneration activity and identify shared investment opportunities.
- Potential joint delivery plans and shared performance indicators with statutory partners.
- Promotion of business support, both financial and practical.
- Bi-annual business networking meetings.
- Exploration of social value and corporate social responsibility (CSR) opportunities.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Feedback

Transparent Reporting:

- In partnership with MHCLG and other Plan for Neighbourhood areas, develop models and evidence-based ways of monitoring and reporting change.
- Annual public report on progress, outcomes, and financial accountability.
- Annual Assembly.
- Online project dashboard tracking key performance indicators.

Community-Led Evaluation:

- Community researchers/ project advocates recruited and supported by the Coordination Team, supported to collect local insights and monitor impact.
- Regular feedback surveys to measure satisfaction and perception of change.

Learning and Adaptation:

- Ongoing informal and formal end of phase 1 (2030) review of engagement effectiveness.
- Adjustments to methods and priorities based on evidence and feedback.

Legacy and Long-Term Sustainability

We will embed participation within Believe in Bedworth by showing ambition for the town, and our Board. We will investigate the creation of a permanent legal structure, lasting beyond the 10-year funding period. We will help communities to take back control, to encourage the transfer of community assets and collaborative ways of working within and across sectors. We will be a Board that values its communities, and creates opportunities for volunteering, for investments in the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector, as well as support an entrepreneurial spirit. We will be a learning Board, recording, reporting, analysing our practice, learning from other neighbourhoods and regional regeneration initiatives.

Governance and Assurance

Governance

PARTNERSHIP STRUCTURES

Funding will be managed through a partnership between the:

- Neighbourhood Board, responsible for co-producing the Regeneration Plan for their place, which constitutes a 10-year vision and 4-year investment plan, and delivering in the interests of local people to improve the physical and social infrastructure of their community
- local authority, who will support the Neighbourhood Board to develop and deliver the plan
- the local community, to engage on the place's priorities and hold the Neighbourhood Board and local authority to account

This partnership plays a crucial role in delivering the plan successfully by directing funding to the most relevant local priorities at the right time. Ensuring the community's voice is heard is essential for informed decision-making and for building trust that resources are being used effectively, efficiently, and in full compliance.

THE ROLE OF THE LEAD COUNCIL:

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council are the accountable body for the Bedworth Plan for Neighbourhoods programme. As the lead council, NBBC will be responsible for the funds and ensuring public funds are distributed fairly and effectively in line with the Nolan Principles and Managing Public Money principles.²²

NBBC will also be responsible for compliance with legal responsibilities in relation to subsidy control, state aid and procurement. Any necessary procurement will be completed in accordance with NBBC regulations which act in line with The Procurement Act 2023.²³

As the lead council, NBBC has also been responsible for submitting the area boundary in which the neighbourhood board will represent, including the expansion to include all five wards within Bedworth, and convene said neighbourhood board in line with NBBC's governance standards and policies concerning whistle blowing, conflicts of interest, and complaints.

Along with this, NBBC will also be responsible for publishing the project board's governance structure and minutes of the meetings on the council website to ensure

²² Committee on Standards in Public Life. (1995). *The Seven Principles of Public Life*. Available at: [The Seven Principles of Public Life - GOV.UK](#)

²³ The Procurement Act 2023, c. 54. Available at: [Procurement Act 2023](#)

accountability and clarity in both actions and spending. The spending of capacity funding, and eventual capital expenditure, will be agreed in partnership with the Board, as NBBC assists in executing plans and supports them in their role to drive forward a community led vision for change.

THE ROLE OF THE BOARD:

The Neighbourhood Board (“the Board”) is the vehicle that supports the vision and strategy for revitalising Bedworth. The Board is community led and will identify opportunities to align or rationalise public investment around key local priorities. The Board includes an independent chair, local MPs, councillors, police representatives, community leaders, and local institutions such as schools, housing providers, and the NHS. All members have equal voting rights, and the board is expected to reflect the diversity of the local area while ensuring community priorities are embedded in decision-making. The Board will meet on a monthly basis between July-November 2025, with frequency to be reviewed in January 2026, and no business shall be transacted at any Board meeting unless a quorum (25% of Board Membership) is present.

Working alongside the lead authority, the Board are responsible for assisting in creating this vision for Bedworth, backed with insights from engagement with local people as form of community empowerment. As members of the community, the Board will be responsible for driving the priorities for investment, and it is at board meetings in which these interventions will be decided upon, with the basis of these rooted in community need.

The role of the board also includes identifying additional funding sources and ways to attract funding, reviewing financial, risk and reputational position, and coordinating resources and stakeholders to achieve the desired outcomes. Board members should take into account the views of other stakeholders, because these views may provide different perspectives on the Board and its performance.

Assurance

NBBC have financial controls in place as set out in the Financial Procedure Rules incorporated within its constitution. Key financial controls are in place to ensure procedures are followed, and the funds will be in line with the principles of Managing Public Money. A dedicated S151 Officer will be responsible for ensuring compliance with all financial, statutory and constitutional requirements, and be responsible for submitting an annual Statement of Grant Usage and an Assurance Letter to MHCLG confirming proper governance.

Procurement of contractors is undertaken in line with the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules and is overseen by the Assistant Director – Governance & Democracy. All procurement complies with the Council’s Financial Procedure Rules and General

Scheme of Delegation. The funds are being managed in line with the Grant Offer Letter and Memorandum of Understanding. NBBC also have clear anti-fraud procedures set out in its Anti-Fraud, Corruption and Bribery Strategy which all members and staff are required to follow. The Council has a dedicated Anti-Fraud Officer and is also regularly audited by external auditors.

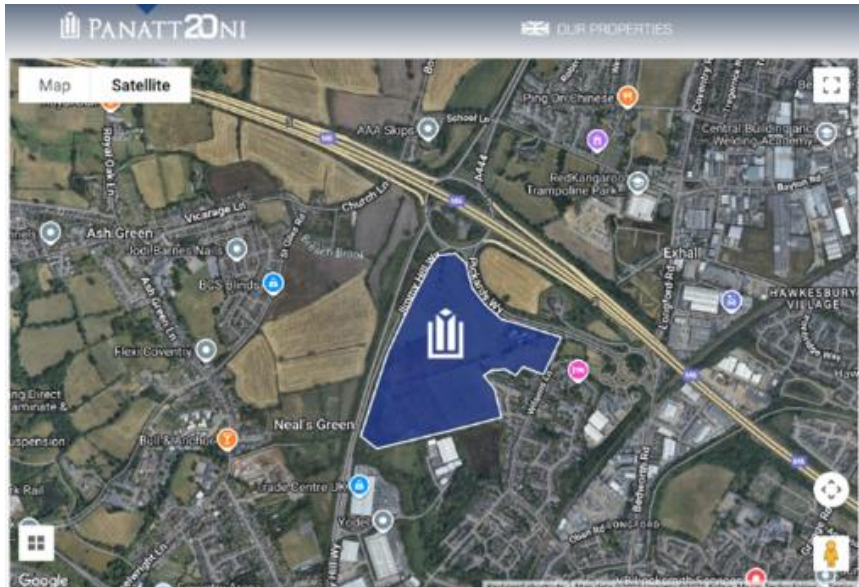
Appendices

Appendix A: Local Development Sites

1. Prologis Park Coventry - <https://www.prologis.co.uk/our-parks/prologis-park-coventry>



2. Panattoni Coventry - <https://panattoni.co.uk/our-properties/coventry/>

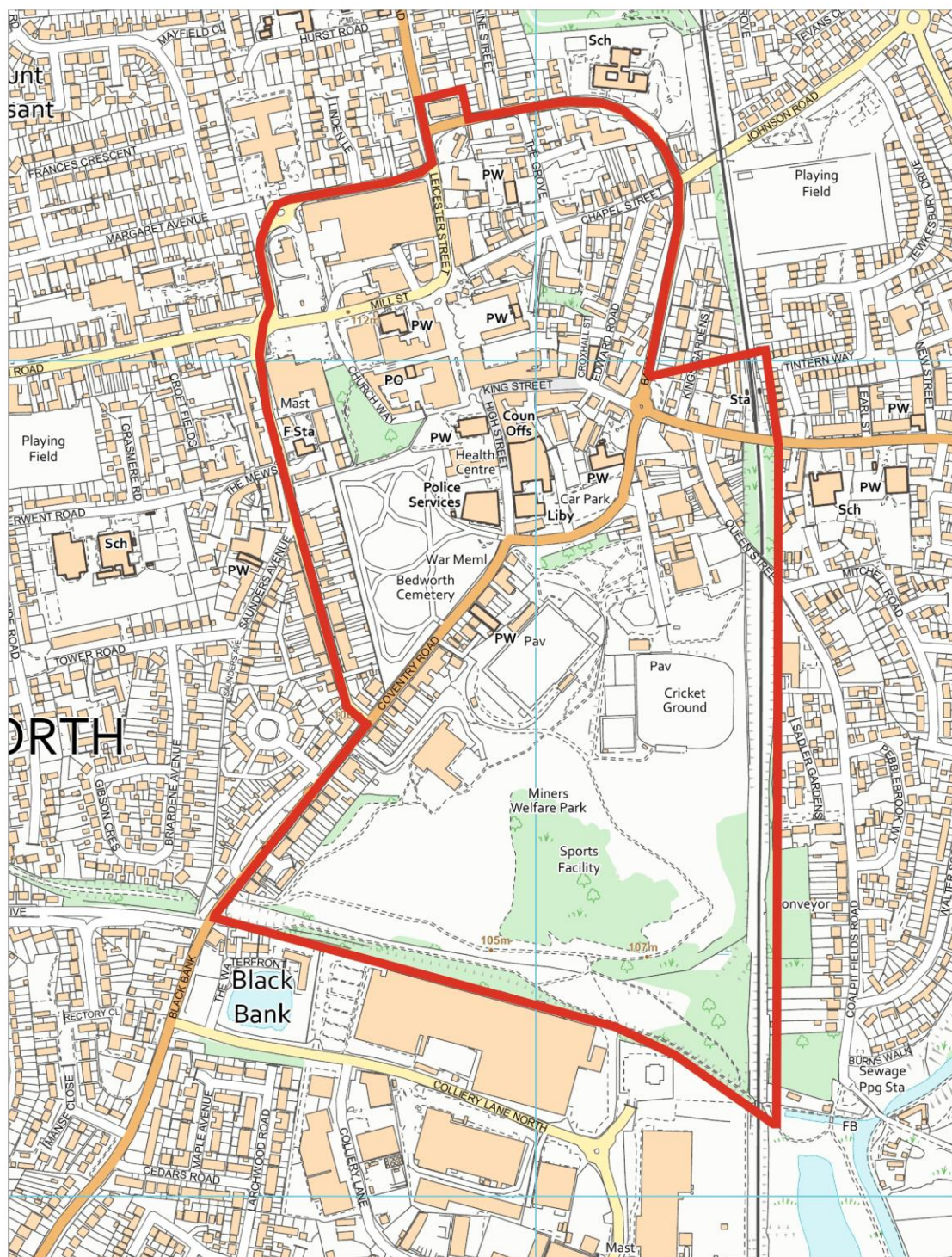


3. Exhall Interchange (Bowling Green Lane) - <https://opusland.co.uk/project/exhall-interchange-coventry/>



Appendix B: A map of Bedworth Town Centre

Bedworth Town Centre



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