



Executive Board Meeting Update - August 2026

The Pride in Place Executive Board met recently to review programme progress and agree the next steps as we move towards development of the 4-Year Investment Plan.

Programme Manager Recruitment

Recruitment for the new Programme Manager is underway. A structured shortlisting and interview process has been agreed, including a practical exercise focused on how candidates would approach their first 90 days in the role.

Website and Communications

The Executive Board agreed in principle to explore ongoing support for the Pride in Place website and branding, helping ensure information can be kept up to date and new programme content added as delivery progresses. Work will also continue on social media, Board introductions and creating more opportunities for residents to get involved in conversations online.

Accountable Body Arrangements

The Board discussed how Pride in Place and Blackpool Council, as Accountable Body, can work together as efficiently as possible as the programme moves further into delivery. A clearer working protocol will now be developed, alongside an action tracker to help monitor requests, responsibilities and progress. The Board will also explore appointing a Treasurer to provide additional financial expertise.

Community Voices

Community Voices projects are continuing to progress, with agreements and hosting arrangements being finalised. A key priority will be ensuring the learning, feedback and community insight generated through these projects is captured and fed directly into the Pride in Place evidence base.

Youth Provision in Layton

The Executive Board received an update following recent discussions with Layton Methodist Church and Forward Project about youth provision in Layton. Historic surveys, engagement and feedback already exist locally and Pride in Place will work with partners to bring this evidence together. No funding decisions have been made regarding the proposed Youth, Skills and Wellbeing Hub. The wider focus will be on understanding what young people need, what provision already exists and where the gaps are.

Community Engagement

More visible community engagement will take place across Layton and Grange Park over the coming weeks. This will include pop-up activity, community conversations, surveys, maps and engagement through existing local events and organisations. Board members will also be encouraged to undertake and support engagement within their own networks and communities.

4-Year Investment Plan



The next full Pride in Place Board meeting will focus heavily on beginning development of the 4-Year Investment Plan. The Board will bring together:

- resident feedback;
- young people's voices;
- Community Voices findings;
- partner evidence;
- survey and mapping information;
- local data;
- existing provision;
- emerging gaps and opportunities.

Vice Chairs Mike and Luke will also take active roles in the meeting, leading discussions around community voice and young people's voice.

The programme will continue gathering evidence and engagement over the coming months to ensure future investment decisions are based on what local people are telling us and where the strongest evidence of need exists.

Next Steps

Over the coming weeks, the focus will be on:

- progressing Programme Manager recruitment;
- increasing engagement across both communities;
- bringing together existing local evidence;
- continuing Community Voices delivery;
- strengthening Accountable Body arrangements;
- preparing for the September Board meeting;
- and developing the timetable for the 4-Year Investment Plan.

Further updates will continue to be published as the programme develops.