

The Arc
High Street
Clowne
S43 4JY

To: Chair & Members of the Local
Growth Scrutiny Committee

Contact: Coby Bunyan
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Tuesday, 14th April 2026,

Dear Councillor,

LOCAL GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Local Growth Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council to be held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Tuesday, 28th April, 2026 at 10:00 hours.

Register of Members' Interests - Members are reminded that a Member must within 28 days of becoming aware of any changes to their Disclosable Pecuniary Interests provide written notification to the Authority's Monitoring Officer.

You will find the contents of the agenda itemised on page 3 onwards.

Yours faithfully



Solicitor to the Council & Monitoring Officer

Equalities Statement

Bolsover District Council is committed to equalities as an employer and when delivering the services it provides to all sections of the community.

The Council believes that no person should be treated unfairly and is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations between all groups in society.

Access for All statement

You can request this document or information in another format such as large print or **language** or contact us by:

- **Phone:** [01246 242424](tel:01246242424)
- **Email:** enquiries@bolsover.gov.uk
- **BSL Video Call:** A three-way video call with us and a BSL interpreter. It is free to call Bolsover District Council with Sign Solutions, you just need WiFi or mobile data to make the video call, or call into one of our Contact Centres.
- Call with [Relay UK](#) - a free phone service provided by BT for anyone who has difficulty hearing or speaking. It's a way to have a real-time conversation with us by text.
- **Visiting** one of our [offices](#) at Clowne, Bolsover, Shirebrook and South Normanton

LOCAL GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

*Tuesday, 28 April 2026 at 10:00 hours taking place in the Council Chamber, The Arc,
Clowne*

Item No.		Page No.(s)
	<u>PART A: FORMAL</u>	
1.	Apologies For Absence To receive apologies.	
2.	Urgent Items of Business To note any urgent items of business which the Chair has consented to being considered under the provisions of Section 100 (B) 4(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.	
3.	Declarations of Interest Members should declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and Non Statutory Interest as defined by the Members' Code of Conduct in respect of: a) any business on the agenda b) any urgent additional items to be considered c) any matters arising out of those items and if appropriate, withdraw from the meeting at the relevant time.	
4.	Minutes To consider the minutes of the previous Local Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting held on the 24 th of February `2026 as a true record.	4 - 8
5.	List of Key Decisions and Items to be Considered in Private	9 - 14
6.	UKSPF Update	15 - 25
7.	Update on the bid for Town of Culture and Cultural Strategy	Verbal Update
8.	Dragonfly Shareholder Board Update	Verbal Update
9.	Agreement of Work Programme for 2025/26	26 - 31
	<u>PART B: INFORMAL</u>	
10.	Review Work	

Agenda Item 4

LOCAL GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Local Growth Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Tuesday, 24th February 2026 at 10:00 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor Sally Renshaw in the Chair

Councillors Tom Kirkham (Vice-Chair), Justin Gilbody, Duncan Haywood, Jeanne Raspin and Jen Wilson.

Officers:- Jim Fieldsend (Director of Governance and Legal Services & Monitoring Officer), Sarah Kay (Interim Director of Planning, Devolution and Corporate Policy), Ian Barber (Strategic Director of Property, Construction and Assets), Natalie Etches (Head of Business Growth, Dragonfly Management (Bolsover) Limited), Angelika Kaufhold (Governance and Civic Manager) and Coby Bunyan (Scrutiny Officer).

Also in attendance at the meeting, observing, were Councillors David Bennett and Phil Smith (Portfolio Holder for Housing).

LOC19-25/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Will Fletcher and Tom Munro (Portfolio Holder for Growth).

LOC20-25/26 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

LOC21-25/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made at the meeting.

LOC22-25/26 MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Jeanne Raspin and seconded by Councillor Jen Wilson
RESOLVED that the Minutes of a Local Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 28th October 2025 be approved as a true and correct record.

LOC23-25/26 LIST OF KEY DECISIONS AND ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

Members considered the List of Key Decisions and Items to be considered in the private document.

RESOLVED that the List of Key Decisions and Items to be considered in the private

LOCAL GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

document be noted.

LOC24-25/26 PLEASLEY VALE REGENERATION PROGRAMME - MONITORING UPDATE

The Head of Business Growth presented the report to the Committee.

Since the Committee's July 2025 meeting, a number of actions agreed and works undertaken at Pleasley Vale Business Park (the 'Business Park') totalled to date £1,675,469 – the report detailed the works taken / taking place.

Members were informed the significant expenditure in the above total was for Phase 2 of the works to the water courses, the desilting of Mill Ponds 1 and 2 and the de-vegetation of the ponds' banks, and the associated environmental compliance of these works.

Structural surveys had taken place with works / recommendations to be defined in the near future.

As a result of the Council's wholly owned Dragonfly Development Ltd. and Dragonfly Management (Bolsover) Ltd. companies being brought into the Council, work had taken place alongside the Strategic Director of Property, Construction and Assets who had been tasked with establishing an asset management strategy to provide a framework to maximise value, performance, and life cycle of the Council's physical assets (incl. the Business Park and its surrounding environment).

A clarification on the report was noted: mandated quarterly fire door checks in common areas of buildings over 11 metres in height would not apply for commercial properties, therefore fire door checks at the Business Park would take place every 6 months as advised by the regulations.

The Committee was informed and the report detailed the scheduled works, delayed until recently, to repair the damage following Storm Babet 2023 (including work to reinstate culvert lids).

Where efficiencies could be found, to deliver value for money, these were delivered.

Day-to-day repairs and maintenance continued across the Business Park. The Facilities Team continued to work alongside contractors to undertake regular inspections, compliances, and investment where necessary (e.g. replacement of the intercom in Mill 3).

Phase 1 for the flood remediation works, which included a full repair and piling along Mill 1's dam wall, de-vegetating of trees and growth along the dam wall and in front of Mill 1, and the reinstating of the top of the wall (to be seeded when all works were completed).

Ecological surveys to protect wildlife during the works had taken place.

A scope of works, which included the aforementioned Phase 2 works (de-vegetation, de-silting (and de-watering) of Mill Ponds 1 and 2 (including mechanical dredging and removal of trees undermining structural stability of dam walls and culverts), etc.) would commence February 2026.

LOCAL GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

This scope of works for desilting Mill Ponds 1 and 2 would, for efficiency and capital savings, be handled as one contract (though the methodology of each pond would be handled differently).

A Member was surprised by the presence of a former bomb shelter on site – the Committee was informed the Business Park had a few. The Member noted the Business Park had great sentimental value to the area – any chance to detail unique, historical aspects of the site should be promoted.

The Head of Business Growth was thanked for the report.

A Member informed the Committee of a recent visit to the Business Park and noted the extensive progress being made was visible – great work was taking place.

To a question on if any other work/s required to address further identified risks were known of, the Strategic Director of Property, Construction and Assets informed any additional risks identified had plans to address. Due to the size and variation of conditions of the Business Park, it was entirely possible currently unknown risks existed, but the Council had an established team on site who were working through identified problems (e.g. following structural engineering inspections) to ensure the safety of all users of the Business Park.

As stated, considerable work had taken / was taking place and any future work/s identified would be additionally and promptly addressed.

The Chair thanked the officers for the report and update.

RESOLVED that Members note the contents of the report.

LOC25-25/26 DRAGONFLY SHAREHOLDER BOARD UPDATE

The Portfolio Holder for Housing provided a verbal update on the Shareholder Board (the 'Board') to the Committee.

The Council's wholly owned Dragonfly Development Ltd. and Dragonfly Management (Bolsover) Ltd. companies had, as of the start of the month, been brought into the Council.

The Board had met a few days before – it was expected this would be the final official meeting before responsibilities were appropriately passed to the Council.

The Committee was informed Project Eiffel Tower had proceeded very well with a final debrief to be held March 2026. Consultations with the unions had taken place.

Employees appointed by the Dragonfly Companies had been invited to a Council induction session with the Leader and Chief Executive the week prior – positive comments had been received. Additional roadshows for all staff would be provided across spring 2026.

Delivery of vehicles with updated branding and new staff badges had been completed to

LOCAL GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

reassure social tenants all officers were from the Council.

The previous Dragonfly Companies' risk registers had been incorporated into the Council's.

Dragonfly Development Ltd. had become the Council's Property, Construction and Assets Team – it was noted construction projects had continued without interruption and these were listed to the Committee with the following updates noted:

- Alder Close, Shirebrook:
 - Site on budget other than gas connection;
 - Currently on budget;
 - Forecast completion was May 2026 (subject to gas connection).
- North Border Hill School, Bassetlaw District Council:
 - Demolition costs submitted Quarter 2 2025/26
 - Estimated Schedule of Service estimated Quarter 1 2026/27.
- Shirebrook Market Place:
 - Site was showing 6-weeks behind programme due to cladding install delay;
 - Currently on budget;
 - Handover to Council scheduled 6th April 2026 with Shirebrook Town Council handover subject to development agreement.

Performance monitoring had successfully aligned with the Council's.

The Finance Team was still reviewing the Dragonfly Companies' final accounts to ensure final payments to contractors were completed.

A meeting to produce a final report (for items such as lessons learned) was planned for March 17th 2026 – the report would then be submitted to Council.

The Committee was informed the Portfolio Holder for Devolution would have provided the verbal update but was unavailable.

The Chair thanked the Portfolio Holder for Housing for the verbal update.

LOC26-25/26 JOINT REVIEW OF SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS AT THE ARC: POLICIES, PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES (FIRST INTERIM REPORT)

The Scrutiny Officer presented the report to the Committee.

The Committee had, with the Customer Services Scrutiny Committee, agreed to undertake a joint review of security arrangements at The Arc, Clowne focussing on the policies, protocols and procedures in place and examine how security for staff, public and Members could be improved as part of the 2024/25 Work Programme.

The Joint Committee had put together 11 recommendations to assist the Council in improving security and safety arrangements at The Arc, Clowne – to date 5 out of 11 recommendations had been achieved, with the remaining 6 on track and to likely be completed within the original target date.

LOCAL GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee was informed Conflict Management training was taking place the same day as the meeting.

Moved by Councillor Justin Gilbody and seconded by Councillor Duncan Haywood

RESOLVED that: 1) Scrutiny Members note the progress against the review recommendations;

- 2) Scrutiny Members acknowledge any exceptions to delivery and clarify the additional action required by the service;
- 3) Scrutiny Members make its report and findings public, in accordance with Part 4.5.17(4) of the Council's Constitution; and,
- 4) Officers continue to implement the recommendations and submit a further report in six months' time highlighting progress and any exceptions to delivery.

LOC27-25/26 AGREEMENT OF WORK PROGRAMME 2025/26

The Scrutiny Officer presented the Work Programme 2025/26 to the Committee, attached at Appendix 1.

A Business Growth Strategy Monitoring Update would have been presented to the Committee, but was still in development – once completed it would be presented at a future meeting.

RESOLVED that Members review this report and the Programme attached at Appendix 1 for approval and amendment as required. All Members are advised to contact the Scrutiny Officer should they have any queries regarding future meetings.

The formal part of the meeting concluded at 10:21 hours and Members then met as a working party to continue their review work.



The Arc
High Street
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Key Decisions & Items to be Considered in Private

To be made under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Published on: 30th March 2026

INTRODUCTION

The list attached sets out decisions that are termed as “Key Decisions” at least 28 calendar days before they are due to be taken by the Executive or an officer under delegated powers.

Preparation of the list helps Executive to programme its work. The purpose of the list is to give notice and provide an opportunity for consultation on the issues to be discussed. The list is updated each month with the period of the list being rolled forward by one month and republished. The list is available for public inspection at the Arc, High Street, Clowne, S43 4JY. Copies of the list can be obtained from Jim Fieldsend, Monitoring Officer, at this address or by email to jim.fieldsend@bolsover.gov.uk. The list can also be accessed from the Council’s website at www.bolsover.gov.uk.

The Executive is allowed to make urgent decisions which do not appear in the list; however, a notice will be published at The Arc and on the Council’s website explaining the reasons for the urgent decisions. Please note that the decision dates are indicative and are subject to change.

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Members of Executive are as follows:

Councillor Jane Yates - Leader and Portfolio Holder - Policy, Strategy and Communications
Councillor Donna Hales - Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder - Corporate Governance and Performance
Councillor Mary Dooley - Portfolio Holder - Partnerships and Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Clive Moesby - Portfolio Holder - Resources
Councillor Phil Smith - Portfolio Holder - Housing
Councillor Tom Munro - Portfolio Holder - Growth
Councillor Rob Hiney-Saunders - Portfolio Holder - Environmental
Councillor John Ritchie - Portfolio Holder – Devolution

The Executive agenda and reports are available for inspection by the public five clear days prior to the meeting of the Executive. The papers can be seen at The Arc at the above address. The papers are also available on the Council’s website referred to above. Background papers are listed on each report submitted to the Executive and members of the public are entitled to see these documents unless they contain exempt or confidential information. The report also contains the name and telephone number of a contact officer.

Meetings of the Executive are open to the public and usually take place in the Council Chamber at The Arc. Occasionally there are items included on the agenda which are exempt and for those items the public will be asked to leave the meeting. This list also shows the reports intended to be dealt with in private and the reason why the reports are exempt or confidential. Members of the public may make representations to the Monitoring Officer about any particular item being considered in exempt and why they think it should be dealt with in public.

The list does not detail *all* decisions which have to be taken by the Executive, only “Key Decisions” and “Exempt Reports”. In these Rules, a “Key Decision” means an Executive decision, which is likely:

(1) **REVENUE**

- (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more; or
- (b) Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more

(2) **CAPITAL**

- (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more; or
- (b) Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more

- ↳ (3) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District.

In determining the meaning of “significant” the Council must have regard to any guidance for the time being issued by the Secretary of State. The Council has decided that revenue income or expenditure of £75,000 or more and capital income or expenditure of £150,000 or more is significant.

The dates for meetings of Executive can be found here:

<https://committees.bolsover.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=1147>

The Council hereby gives notice of its intention to make the following Key Decisions and/or decisions to be considered in private:

Matter in respect of which a decision will be taken	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Is this decision a Key Decision?	Is this key decision to be heard in public or private session
Approval of appointment for works at Pleasley Vale	Executive	13 th April 2026	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Growth	Natalie Etches, Head of Business Growth	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making revenue savings or incurring Revenue expenditure of £75,000 or more.	Public
Continuation of Business Support Programme 2026/27 12	Executive	13th April 2026	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Growth	Sarah Kay, Interim Strategic Director, Economic Growth	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making revenue savings or incurring Revenue expenditure of £75,000 or more.	Public
Pleasley Vale Business Park	Executive	Between 1st Nov 2025 and 1st Nov 2026	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Growth	Natalie Etches, Head of Business Growth	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making capital savings or incurring capital expenditure of £150,000 or more.	Public
Options appraisal on the future delivery of HRA Stock Condition Surveys	Executive	Between 2 nd March 2026 and 13 th April 2026	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing	Victoria Dawson, Assistant Director of Housing Management	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making revenue savings or incurring Revenue expenditure of £75,000 or more.	Public
Capital Works to incorporate Stock Condition Survey Results	Executive	Between 2 nd March and 13 th April 2026	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing	Catherine Platts, Managing Surveyor, Property Services	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making capital savings or incurring capital expenditure of £150,000 or more.	Public

Matter in respect of which a decision will be taken	Decision Maker	Date of Decision	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Is this decision a Key Decision?	Is this key decision to be heard in public or private session
Analytical Rent Arrears Software	Executive	13 th April 2026	Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing	Victoria Dawson, Assistant Director of Housing Management	Key - It is likely to result in the Council making revenue savings or incurring Revenue expenditure of £75,000 or more.	Public

**SCHEDULE 12A
ACCESS TO INFORMATION: EXEMPT INFORMATION**

**PART 1
DESCRIPTIONS OF EXEMPT INFORMATION: ENGLAND**

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes –
 - (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) To make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

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BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE LOCAL GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 28 APRIL 2026

PROGRESS REPORT ON BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR GROWTH

Classification	This report is Public
Contact Officer	Natalie Etches – Head of Business Growth

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

To update the Local Growth Scrutiny Committee on the business support programmes delivered through UKSPF funding for the period April 2025 – March 2026.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

- 1.1 In April 2022 the UK Government launched the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) which provided £2.6 billion of new funding for local investment through to March 2025. Through the UKSPF allocation 2022 – 2025 Bolsover District Council received **£1,963,993**.
- 1.2 In April 2025 it was announced that UKSPF funding would be extended, and an additional allocation of **£803,023** for the 12-month period April 2025 – March 2026 was received by Bolsover District Council.
- 1.3 There were three investment priorities that the UKSPF funding aimed to address:

Investment Priority	Summary of objectives
Community and Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening our social fabric and fostering a sense of local pride and belonging. • To build resilient and safe neighbourhoods.
Supporting Local Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion by supporting local businesses. • Promoting networking and collaboration and stimulating innovation and growth. • Targeted support to help businesses grow - e.g. innovation, productivity, energy efficiency, low carbon and exporting.
People and Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boosting core skills and support adults to progress in work. • Supporting disadvantaged people to access the skills they need. • Funding local skills needs and supplementing local adult skills provision. • Reducing levels of economic inactivity and supporting those furthest from the labour market.

- 1.4 Over the past three years (March 2023 - March 2026) the Business Growth Team have been delivering successful grant schemes through UKSPF funding and have also commissioned projects to meet the objectives of the above priorities, including three business support programmes:
- Hyper Local Business Support – delivered by Clowne Enterprise
 - Business Detox and Female Business Owners Monthly Training and Networking Events - delivered by Filter Free Business
 - Creative Women’s Network - delivered by PlatformThirty1
 - And the Net-Zero Innovation programme
- 1.5 All four of these programmes have been extremely successful and have met or exceeded the majority of their outputs and outcomes. However, despite the announcement that UKSPF allocation expenditure could be extended until the end of September 2026, no further grant funding has been allocated and therefore the business support programmes in place are all set to end on the 31st March 2026. The NZIP programme (due to a delay in project commencement) does have some underspend, which has allowed delivery to extend through to September 2026, along with its capital grant fund, ensuring grants can be devolved to businesses with more time to deliver interventions.

2. Progress report

- 2.1 All four of these programmes have been extremely successful, and have met or exceeded the majority of their outputs and outcomes:

Hyper Local Business Support

- 2.5 Over the past three years this programme has delivered free bespoke 1-2-1 business support and mentoring to pre-start, start-up and existing Bolsover businesses enabling them to undertake a wide variety of exercises including:
- Creating business plans
 - Producing profit & loss and cash flow forecasts
 - Creating an income and expenditure spreadsheet
 - Putting together an appropriate and realistic pricing policy
 - Applying for the appropriate insurances and required certifications
 - Successfully accessing UKSPF funded grants
 - Successfully accessing other grant programmes
 - Attendance at free workshops including:
 - Building a Brand
 - Cyber Security
 - Email marketing
 - Digital Foundations for Growth
 - Automation Made Simple
 - Growing your Business through Recruitment
 - The use of Artificial Intelligence in growing a business
 - SEO and getting a business found online
 - Dealing with tax returns
 - A full day workshop covering different dimensions of growing a business successfully

2.6 Feedback from businesses on this programme include:

“There is still a long way to go in developing and growing all of my different services. The help that I get, especially through the one-to-one coaching sessions, is invaluable in keeping me on track. Paul helps me to put my thoughts and ideas into order, and translate them into plans that will work. In particular he is able to help me write promotional materials that convey my ideas to potential customers in a clear and inviting way – focusing on the benefits to them. By working together with him I am able to organise and prioritise the actions that I need to keep moving forwards”.

“I’ve worked in this industry for many years so I know what needs to be done, but taking on the responsibility for growing and developing my own business like this has been a new challenge. Working with Clowne Enterprise and the Business in Bolsover programme has provided me with additional knowledge, with confidence and with the reassurance that I have needed to stay on top of that challenge”.

“Great support, in person, online, emails. Always been able to accommodate me. A fountain of knowledge and people to network for me. Not just about business advice but self-belief, confidence. Jo pushed me, when I needed to be pushed. Very approachable, confidential”.

Website for reference: www.clowne-enterprise.org.uk

2.7 Outputs and Outcomes from April 2023 - March 2025:

Hyper Local Business Support							
OUTPUTS	Target	Actual				Total to date	% Delivered
		Apr 23- Sep 23	Oct 23 -Mar 24	Apr 24 - Sep 24	Oct 24 - Mar 25		
		Number of businesses receiving non-financial support (numerical value)	96	42	44		
Number of potential entrepreneurs provided assistance to be business ready (numerical value)	48	21	29	27	24	101	210%

Hyper Local Business Support							
OUTCOMES	Target	Actual				Total to date	% Delivered
		Apr 23- Sep 23	Oct 23 -Mar 24	Apr 24 - Sep 24	Oct 24 - Mar 25		
		Jobs created (numerical value)	12	8	12		

Jobs safeguarded (numerical value)	48	1	3	2	2	8	17%
Number of new businesses created (numerical value)	12	7	10	9	14	40	333%
Number of businesses introducing new products to the firm (numerical value)	6	6	6	8	12	32	533%
Number of businesses adopting new to the firm technologies or processes (numerical value)	15	0	0	3	3	6	40%
Number of businesses with improved productivity (numerical value)	48	1	3	5	3	12	25%
Number of businesses engaged in new markets (numerical value)	17	3	5	8	7	23	135%

2.8 Outputs and Outcomes from April 2025 – March 2026

Hyper Local Business Support	Main UKSPF Subtheme – Enterprise culture and start up support Secondary UKSPF Subtheme – Advice & Support to Business							
Outputs	Target	Actual				Total to date	% Delivered	Forecast 1/1/26 - 31/3/26
		Apr 25 - Jun 25	Jul 25 - Sep 25	Oct 25 - Dec 25	Jan 26 - Mar 26			
No. of enterprises receiving non-financial support	24	31	10	2	4	47	196%	4
No. of potential entrepreneurs assisted to be enterprise ready	12	18	6	1	5	30	250%	2

Hyper Local Business Support	Main UKSPF Subtheme – Enterprise culture and start up support Secondary UKSPF Subtheme – Advice & Support to Business							
Outcomes	Target	Actual				Total to date	% Delivered	Forecast 1/1/26 - 31/3/26
		Apr 25 - Jun 25	Jul 25 - Sep 25	Oct 25 - Dec 25	Jan 25 - Mar 25			
Jobs created as a result of support	12	4	5	3	2	14	117%	2
Jobs safeguarded as a result of support	2	0	1	0	1	2	100%	0
No. of new enterprises created as a result of support	6	3	6	2	4	15	250%	1
No. of enterprises adopting new or improved products or services	3	1	3	1	1	6	200%	1

No. of enterprises adopting new to the firm technologies or processes	2	0	1	1	1	3	150%	0
No. of enterprises engaged in new markets	8	0	4	0	6	10	125%	2
No. of enterprises with improved productivity	4	2	1	0	2	5	125%	1

Business Detox and Female Business Owners Monthly Training and Networking Events

- 2.9 These two events offer free support to businesses across the Bolsover district. Filter Free Business Ltd administer the scheduling and management of the events, together with on-line and social media promotional support. They have created and continue to update content on the Business in Bolsover website: www.businessinbolsover.com
- 2.10 Both events held on a monthly basis are constantly oversubscribed and in the past three years have contributed to the founding, success and growth of many small businesses based in the Bolsover District.
- 2.11 Members of the Business Growth Team attend the monthly events and have witnessed business owners becoming more confident and comfortable following their continued attendance due to the informal friendly and supportive atmosphere.
- 2.12 The businesses are able to take advantage of support **that is unique to Bolsover District**. Numerous attendees have been successful in accessing UKSPF funded grants delivered by the Business Growth Team in years 1 & 2 of the UKSPF funding, with others accessing energy audits and Net Zero Growth Grants funded by UKSPF which the Business Growth Team continue to deliver. A presentation by Derbyshire County Council on apprenticeships resulted in one business recruiting five apprentices for their business.
- 2.13 Businesses are encouraged to inter-trade, which has proved popular and successful. The organiser has however prevented attendees from accessing this element of the provision; to prevent the meetings becoming a marketplace only. Attendees are also encouraged, but not pressured, into presenting at an event. It gives them the opportunity to explain about their business and the services and/or products on offer. This has seen business owners gaining confidence, delivering a presentation which they never thought they would be able to do and also securing orders/work from other attendees.
- 2.14 The meetings have also provided an opportunity for other business support providers and grant programme managers (such as the Vision Derbyshire start up business grants) to access a ready audience, which they struggle to find in other local authority areas.
- 2.15 Comments from businesses include:
“The event host had a wealth of knowledge and I left the event feeling very clear about the subject”.

“I never really knew what social media algorithms were, or how they worked but I came away with a better understanding of them”.

“The networking events opened doors I didn’t even know existed - I’ve secured clients directly because of contacts I made here”.

“It’s not just been about business growth; it’s also about my personal confidence as a teacher and business owner”.

2.16 Below is an insight of how popular the two events have been - outputs from April 2025 – March 2026

Business in Bolsover	Main UKSPF Subtheme – Advice & Support to Business Secondary UKSPF Subtheme – Enterprise culture and start up support							
	Target	Actual				Total to date	% Delivered	Forecast
Outputs		Apr 25 - Jun 25	Jul 25 - Sep 25	Oct 25 - Dec 25	Jan 25 – Mar 26			1/1/26 - 31/3/26
No. of enterprises receiving non-financial support	40	132	101	104	104	441	1103%	100
Number of local events or activities supported	10	6	4	5	6	21	210%	6

Creative Women’s Network

2.17 Platform Thirty1 were commissioned to deliver support to creative businesses from the arts, culture and visitor economy sectors. The monthly network meets the first Wednesday of every month at Pleasley Vale Mills. Events are extremely popular and oversubscribed. Presentations have included:

- Social media presence
- Utilising local assets with creativity
- Forming connections
- Techniques to visually enhance your business

2.18 As with the Business Detox and Female Owners Networking and Training Events, attendees are able to inter-trade and offer support and advice to each other. Comments from attendees include:

“The network has helped me gain confidence in my abilities. It has taught me practical lessons in photography, writing and relaxation in regard to work. It has provided me with business opportunities through networking and events. I love being around women who are also creative”.

“I originally attended the event with a view to making connections with other local creatives. Originally this was in order to find freelance and collaboration

opportunities, as well as ways to sell my art. Now it is more for the support from the group. It can be very lonely as an artist and finding freelance work is very difficult and selling art even harder, so this network group is vital for maintaining momentum”.

“This is a great group of people with a variety of skillsets in the creative industries. It’s been enjoyable to feel part of something rather than a lone artist. The other women have been very supportive on a personal level. I have also made contacts that will lead to future work”.

2.19 Below is an insight of how popular the event has been - outputs from April 2025 – March 2026

Creative Women's Network	Main UKSPF Subtheme – Advice & Support to Business Secondary UKSPF Subtheme – Enterprise culture and start up support							
Outputs	Target	Actual				Total to date	% Delivered	Forecast 1/1/26 - 31/3/26
		Apr 25 - Jun 25	Jul 25 - Sep 25	Oct 25 - Dec 25	Jan 26 - Mar 26			
No. of enterprises receiving non-financial support	40	35	34	43	37	149	373%	30
No. of local events or activities supported	10	3	3	3	3	12	120%	3

Bolsover Net Zero Innovation Programme (NZIP)

2.20 The NZIP programme supports small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in the Bolsover district to reduce their carbon emissions, adopt green technologies, and progress towards Net Zero targets.

2.21 Over the two-years delivery to date, the programme has achieved exceptional results in a district historically characterised by very low engagement in carbon-reduction initiatives. Prior to the NZIP, Bolsover businesses faced significant Net Zero barriers: limited awareness of carbon risks, minimal data collection, and little to no experience of carbon-foot printing or target-setting.

2.22 Only 16% of businesses had procedures for calculating their carbon footprint and just 2% had set carbon-reduction targets before the programme. Against this backdrop the programme’s achievements are remarkable and provide a compelling case for investment to scale this proven model across the region, which is being discussed with EMCCA’s Director for Economic Development.

2.23 The programme has delivered a level of engagement that is unprecedented in the Bolsover district. To date

- 153 businesses have received direct support from the programme, with 32 businesses returning for upskilling in year two.
- More than 120 businesses have completed carbon management training.

- Over 50 energy site audits have been carried out.
- 2.24 This level of activity shows strong demand among SMEs for practical guidance on sustainability and climate action. Crucially, the NZIP has reached businesses that have never previously engaged with universities or sustainability programmes. The year-one evaluation shows that 83% of participating businesses had “never worked with the university before”. This demonstrates that the programme has successfully overcome long-standing barriers to engagement and built trust with a diverse SME base. So much so, that 32 of these businesses wanted to re-engage in year two.
- 2.25 The diverse range of sectors participating in the NZIP – manufacturing, engineering, retail, IT, hospitality, and creative industries – shows that the model is both inclusive and adaptable.
- 2.26 The NZIP’s three-strand delivery model has proven to be highly effective:

Carbon Management Workshops and 121 Support

- 2.27 Businesses gained practical tools to measure emissions, understand Net Zero terminology, and develop Decarbonisation Plans. Post-support evaluation shows dramatic improvement. Businesses measuring carbon emissions increased from 18% to 78%; businesses with carbon-reduction targets increased from 2% to 40%.
- 2.28 Participants consistently reported that the training demystified carbon management. Importantly, 71% of participating businesses have either implemented or committed to implementing carbon reduction measures following their engagement in the programme. As one business put it, “This training has given me the tools and knowledge I needed to finally get going.”

Premises Retrofit Audits

- 2.29 More than 50 businesses have received detailed retrofit site assessments, identifying nearly 400 tCO₂e of potential annual savings. Additionally, many businesses are expected to reduce emissions by 20-30% per site once recommended improvements are implemented. 57% of businesses said they would not have undertaken this work without the NZIP. As a result of the support and audits:
- 46% of businesses introduced new low-carbon technologies or practices.
 - 33% reported financial savings, often through reduced energy consumption or improved efficiency.

Networking and Knowledge Exchange

- 2.30 More than 500 businesses attended networking events to learn about the support available. From this, a series of Net Zero events were delivered connecting SMEs with industry leaders and peers, facilitating collaboration and shared learning within the businesses. In the evaluation, businesses said they valued the open, practical discussions with one noting that the programme “fostered meaningful learning and collaboration.”

National Award Recognition

- 2.31 The Bolsover Net Zero Innovation programme was also recognised nationally by the EDIE Awards, the UK's largest sustainability awards scheme. The NZIP won Training Initiative of the Year 2025.

Net Zero Growth Grants

- 2.32 In year-two, the NZIP was complimented by the Net Zero Growth Grant (NZGG) scheme, delivered by Bolsover District Council and funded by the East Midlands Combined County Authority through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.
- 2.33 The NZGG scheme provides grant funding for businesses to support decarbonisation projects leading to job creation and retention. The total funding available through the scheme is £301,824 and is due to end in September 2026.
- 2.34 Grants of between £1,000 and £25,000 can be applied for to purchase equipment and technology that will help businesses to become more energy efficient and save costs, and fund projects that lead to the development of new net zero products and services.
- 2.35 To date, 10 businesses have been awarded grants totalling £180,053.49 with the businesses contributing £151,167.22 in match funding. There are a further 5 applications in the pipeline which will take the total grants allocated to £302,877.41, with match funding of £195,633.45 from the businesses if all the applications progress and are approved.
- 2.36 The outcomes that will be delivered by the projects funded through the NZGG scheme to date include: job creation, jobs safeguarded, new products and services introduced to market, new technologies or processes adopted, and improved productivity.
- 2.37 70% of the successful applicants would not have applied for the NZGG scheme without the support of the NZIP.
- 2.38 The retrofitting audits were a crucial component, helping businesses to establish the need and understand the benefit of carbon reduction projects.
- 2.39 Due to the pipeline potentially committing the funding, the NZGG scheme is now operating a waitlist of businesses who have completed an Expression of Interest and wish to apply if additional funding becomes available in the future.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The report is an update for members of the scrutiny committee

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 None

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. To note the progress report

Approved by Councillor Tom Munro, Portfolio Holder for Growth

IMPLICATIONS:

<u>Finance and Risk</u> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Details: On behalf of the Section 151 Officer	
<u>Legal (including Data Protection)</u> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Details: In carrying out scrutiny reviews the Council is exercising its scrutiny powers as laid out in Part 1A, s9F(2) of the Local Government Act 2000. On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council	
<u>Staffing</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details: None from this report. On behalf of the Head of Paid Service	
<u>Equality and Diversity, and Consultation</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details: None from this report.	
<u>Environment</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment. Details: None from this report.	

DECISION INFORMATION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies:	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an Executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more wards in the District or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Revenue (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more.	(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input type="checkbox"/>

<p>Capital (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more.</p> <p>District Wards Significantly Affected: <i>(to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District)</i> Please state below which wards are affected or tick All if all wards are affected:</p>	<p>(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>All <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i></p> <p>If No, is the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decision(s) proposed within this report? <i>(decisions may only be classified as exempt from call-in with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer)</i></p> <p>Consultation carried out: <i>(this is any consultation carried out prior to the report being presented for approval)</i></p> <p> Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SLT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> </p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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<p>Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, Environment, Housing</p>
<p>All</p>

DOCUMENT INFORMATION:

Appendix No	Title

<p>Background Papers <i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive, you must provide copies of the background papers).</i></p>
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BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Meeting of Local Growth Scrutiny Committee on 28th April 2026

Local Growth Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2025/26

Report of the Scrutiny Officer

Classification	This report is Public
Contact Officer	Coby Bunyan, Scrutiny Officer

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

- To provide members of the Scrutiny Committee with an overview of the meeting programme of the Committee for 2025/26.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

- 1.1 The main purpose of the report is to inform members of the meeting programme for the year 2025/26 and planned agenda items (Appendix 1).
- 1.2 This programme may be subject to change should additional reports/presentations be required, or if items need to be re-arranged for alternative dates.
- 1.3 Review Scopes submitted will be agreed within Informal Session in advance of the designated meeting for Member approval to ensure that there is sufficient time to gather the information required by Members and to enable forward planning of questions.
- 1.4 Members may raise queries about the programme at the meeting or at any time with the Scrutiny Officer should they have any queries regarding future meetings.
- 1.5 All Scrutiny Committees are committed to equality and diversity in undertaking their statutory responsibilities and ensure equalities are considered as part of all Reviews. The selection criteria when submitting a topic, specifically asks members to identify where the topic suggested affects particular population groups or geographies.
- 1.6 The Council has a statutory duty under s.149 Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity and to eliminate discrimination.
- 1.7 As part of the scoping of Reviews, consideration is given to any consultation that could support the evidence gathering process.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 Attached at Appendix 1 is the meeting schedule for 2025/26 and the proposed agenda items for approval/amendment.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 This report sets the formal Committee Work Programme for 2025/26 and the issues identified for review.
- 3.2 The Scrutiny Programme enables challenge to service delivery both internally and externally across all the Council Ambitions.
- 3.3 The Scrutiny functions outlined in Part 3.6(1) of the Council's Constitution requires each Scrutiny Committee to set an annual work plan.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 There is no option to reject the report as the Scrutiny functions outlined in Part 3.6(1) of the Council's Constitution requires each Scrutiny Committee to set an annual work plan.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That Members review this report and the Programme attached at Appendix 1 for approval and amendment as required. All Members are advised to contact the Scrutiny Officer should they have any queries regarding future meetings.

IMPLICATIONS:

Finance and Risk Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Details: None from this report.		
On behalf of the Section 151 Officer		
Legal (including Data Protection) Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Details: In carrying out scrutiny reviews the Council is exercising its scrutiny powers as laid out in Part 1A, s9F(2) of the Local Government Act 2000.		
On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council		
Staffing Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Details: None from this report.		

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

Equality and Diversity, and Consultation

Yes

No

Details:

None from this report.

Environment

Yes

No

Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment.

Details:

None from this report.

DECISION INFORMATION:

Please indicate which threshold applies:

Is the decision a Key Decision?

A Key Decision is an Executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more wards in the District or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:

Yes

No

Revenue (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more or **(b)** Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more.

(a)

(b)

Capital (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more or **(b)** Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more.

(a)

(b)

District Wards Significantly Affected:

(to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District)

Please state below which wards are affected or tick **All** if all wards are affected:

All

<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i></p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>If No, is the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decision(s) proposed within this report? <i>(decisions may only be classified as exempt from call-in with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer)</i></p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Consultation carried out: <i>(this is any consultation carried out prior to the report being presented for approval)</i></p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input type="checkbox"/> SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>	

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, Environment, Housing
All

DOCUMENT INFORMATION:

Appendix No	Title
1.	Local Growth Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2025/26

Background Papers
<i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive, you must provide copies of the background papers).</i>

Local Growth Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme 2025/26

Formal Items – Report Key

Performance Review	Policy Development	Policy/Strategy/ Programme Monitoring	Review Work	Call-In/Review of Executive Decisions	Petition

Date of Meeting	Items for Agenda		Lead Officer
8 July 2025 30	Part A – Formal	• Business Growth Strategy (Draft)	Head of Business Growth, DDL
		• Pleasley Vale Regeneration Programme – Monitoring Update	Director of Property & Construction DDL; Head of Business Growth, DDL
		• Dragonfly Shareholder Board Update (Verbal)	Chief Executive
		• Agreement of Work Programme 2025/26	Scrutiny Officer
	Part B – Informal	• Review work	Scrutiny Officer
28 October 2025	Part A – Formal	• UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Economic Development Projects (Monitoring Update)	Head of Business Growth, DDL
		• East Midlands Investment Zone - Monitoring Update	Assistant Director - Development and Planning
		• Dragonfly Shareholder Board Update	Chief Executive
		• Agreement of Work Programme 2025/26	Scrutiny Officer
	Part B – Informal	• Review work	Scrutiny Officer
24 February 2026	Part A – Formal	• Pleasley Vale Regeneration Programme – Monitoring Update	Head of Business Growth, DDL
		• Dragonfly Shareholder Board Update	Chief Executive
		• Business Growth Strategy (Monitoring Update)	Head of Business Growth, DDL

Date of Meeting	Items for Agenda		Lead Officer
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Review of Security Arrangements at The Arc: Policies, Protocols and Procedures (First Interim Report) 	Scrutiny Officer
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreement of Work Programme 2025/26 	Scrutiny Officer
	Part B – Informal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review work 	Scrutiny Officer
28 April 2026	Part A – Formal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Economic Development Projects (Monitoring Update) 	Head of Business Growth
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on bid for Town of Culture and Cultural Strategy (Verba Update) 	Tourism and Place Manager
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dragonfly Shareholder Board Update 	Chief Executive
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work Programme 2025/26 	Scrutiny Officer
	Part B – Informal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review work 	Scrutiny Officer