Skegness Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board

Friday, 03 July 2026 at 2.00pm

Venue: Online via Microsoft Teams

Please attend the above meeting at the stated time, date, and location to discuss the items listed on the agenda.

AGENDA

1 Welcome and Introductions

2 Apologies for Absence

3 Declarations of Interest

4 Minutes of the Skegness Neighbourhood Board Meeting held on Tuesday, 02 June 2026 ***(Enc)***.

5 Board Membership, verbal update from Chair

6 Call for Projects – Technical Evaluation & Project Selection, presented by JB

7 Community Grant Scheme, presented by BM

8 Any Other Business

(a) Action Tracker

9 Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday, 04 August 2026 at 2.00pm

Minutes of the Skegness Neighbourhood Board Meeting held online via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, 02 June 2026 at 2:30pm.

Present:

Board Members:
Paul McCooey, Chair – Duncan & Toplis
Richard Tice – MP for Boston and Skegness
Cllr Adrian Findley – Town Centre lead - Skegness Town Council
Cllr Danny Brookes – Physical Infrastructure lead - Lincolnshire County Council
Jacqui Bunce – Health & Wellbeing lead - NHS Integrated Care Board
Dr. Batul Dungarwalla – Community (voluntary & charity) lead - Lincolnshire CVS
Chris Baron – Visitor Economy lead - Former Director of Butlins
Tracy Stringfellow – Heritage lead - Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire
Claire Foster – Education & Skills lead - Former Principal Boston College

Advisors & Programme Support:
Maria Cotton – East Lindsey District Council (ELDC)
Bonnie Mitchell – ELDC
Jon Burgess – ELDC
Amber Lawson – ELDC

Observers:
Steve Larner – Skegness Town Council
Brad Johnson – East Coast Pride
Luisa Stanney – ELDC

Summary of Minutes:

The Board noted submission of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), confirmation and receipt of Year One funding. The Board noted the updates to the Call for Projects and agreed that Programme Officers form a packaged submission of appraised applications for Board review. The Board also agreed the proposed approach to future project selection and award. An update on capacity funding and programme management was provided, and the progress of the Street Scene operatives pilot scheme was welcomed. It was agreed that future meetings should be scheduled monthly with the next meeting agreed for Friday, 03 July 2026.

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1 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and introduced the new Pride in Place Programme Manager, Bonnie Mitchell. It was noted that agenda papers, including the Memorandum of Understanding and supporting reports, had been circulated in advance.

2 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Steve Kirk – ELDC, Pranali Parikh – ELDC, Saskia Zablockyj – ELDC, Michelle Gant – The Engaging People Company, James Brindle – Magna Vitae and Emma Tatlow – Active Lincolnshire.

3 Declarations of Interest

Prior to the meeting Brad Johnson declared an interest as a Trustee of East Coast Pride (Registered Charity), an Applicant of the Pride in Place Funding. Steve Larner – Skegness Town Council, and Cllr Adrian Findley – Skegness Town Council declared an interest. Declarations of interest were made in relation to members who were part of organisations which had submitted EOIs for the Call for Projects.

4 Minutes of the Skegness Neighbourhood Board Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2026 were approved as accurate records with the exception of a misspelling of Tracy Stringfellow's name to be corrected within the attendee section. No further matters arising were raised.

5 Pride in Place Programme Update

The Board received an update on the Pride in Place Programme from the new Programme Manager, Bonnie Mitchell. Members noted that the Memorandum of Understanding had been submitted and that payment of the first year's programme grant funding had been received by ELDC.

Members discussed the process for future project selection, including whether proxy votes should be permitted for absent Members. Members discussed quorum arrangements and agreed that for any decision a quorum of five (5) voting Members are required to reach a general consensus. Following discussion, the Board did not support the use of proxy voting and agreed that Members should make every effort to attend meetings to review the submissions in person.

Members also discussed an appeals process for unsuccessful project applications and noted the importance of directing less experienced applicants to appropriate support, including local infrastructure organisations, to help strengthen future bids and make the process more accessible.

Members discussed how conflicts should be managed during future project consideration. It was agreed in principle that Members with a declared interest should not take part in voting on the relevant proposal. Members also agreed that those with a declared interest should withdraw from both discussion and vote to avoid any perception of unfair advantage, noting that this would need to be managed consistently across all applications.

It was requested by the Board that the outcomes from the community engagement were reviewed to ensure that the funding applications delivered against the community needs, and that the packaged submission to the Board includes information about how the interventions will be met.

It was agreed that a separate meeting to review the funding applications should be undertaken within the next four weeks.

Members discussed the visibility of the Pride in Place Programme locally and agreed that smaller grant opportunities could help raise awareness of the programme too. The Board considered whether uncommitted capacity funding might support small-scale grants, promotional activity, or initiatives that demonstrate early delivery against community priorities.

Members asked whether, based on the agreed MoU, could the payments set out in the MoU be requested in advance. It was advised that the grant could not be paid in advance of the agreement set out in the MoU, however, the Board could make a forward funds payment request to the Council via the Accountable Body's Section 151 Officer.

6 Capacity Funding

An update was provided by Jon Burgess on the programme capacity funding. The Board discussed the remaining capacity funding and how it might be used to support additional delivery activity in the early stages of the programme. Members also discussed related community safety matters, including Community Safety Officers and wider safety provision along the coast.

It was noted that further consideration may be required regarding the use of capacity funding to deliver against priorities identified by the local community in the Regeneration Plan should they not be met by the recent call for project submissions.

Members requested a future report detailing the breakdown of the programme's revenue and capital grant funding profile mapped against a breakdown of funding applications and intervention themes.

7 Street Scene Operatives Scheme

The Board welcomed the positive impact of the Street Scene operatives and recorded thanks for their work to date following the update provided by Jon Burgess. Members expressed frustration with the lack of promotion and Pride in Place branded uniforms relating to this initiative. It was requested that the activity be promoted through local media and other channels, including possible interviews and publicity as a priority for the coming month.

Members also asked whether residents could suggest locations for cleansing and improvement works. It was noted that this could raise practical issues where land is privately owned, and that further discussion would take place with the service manager regarding feasible options.

The Board requested clarity on the hours undertaken against workstreams such as horticulture and how this was defined within the report. Clarification was sought as to the limited availability of suitable equipment and its funding. The report detailed that a funding bid was submitted to East Lindsey Investment Fund (ELIF) for dedicated handheld equipment to strengthen independence and enhance service delivery. Members requested advance notice of future challenges which restrict effective planning and limit reactive capability.

8 Any Other Business

Members would like to be notified of minor progress updates prior to Board meetings, noting that some updates could be provided ahead of the next meeting.

It was noted that PCC Sara Munton was no longer able to support the Board with attendance at meetings and had stepped down as a Board member due to capacity constraints. It was welcomed that the Lincolnshire Police had offered to provide future advisory support and guidance in an observer role to the Board as needed by means of still supporting the Pride in Place programme for Skegness.

Discussion took place around the potential use of capacity grant funding to support a visitor marketing campaign for Skegness. The discussion took place alongside consideration of the need for a much greater focus on communications and marketing to promote the Pride in Place Programme for Skegness and raise awareness of ongoing initiatives. Members acknowledged the importance of effective destination marketing; however, it was noted that the purpose of the grant funding was not to provide major tourism campaigns for the area and the funding should be used for the local community needs identified in the Plan. It was noted that the Council would review the existing resources dedicated to tourism promotion in Skegness to determine whether additional support could be provided to strengthen marketing and communications activity.

It was noted that officers would circulate the recent Pride in Place Programme branding update with the Board.

It was confirmed that the EOI for The Town of Culture grant funding bid had been submitted to government for Skegness. The outcome would be shared with Members once communicated by government.

9 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was agreed for Friday, 03 July 2026 in the afternoon. Members agreed that future Board meetings should take place on a monthly basis and be diarised on a 12-month rolling basis.

It was supported that dates should be arranged as soon as possible to allow for quorate attendance and forward planning with no need to circulate a poll to check availability. A preference for an in-person meeting to take place in September was requested by Members.

The meeting concluded at 4.08pm.

ACTIONS TRACKER

BOARD MEETING	ACTION	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE
02.06.2026	Develop and deliver PR activity and communications plan	To do	MG & BM
02.06.2026	Communicate an update to EOI applicants	To do	BM
02.06.2026	Prepare submission pack for Call for Project EOIs technical evaluation for Board review	To do	BM
02.06.2026	Prepare an options paper on a future funding call and/or commissioning process	To do	BM
02.06.2026	Develop clear monthly work plan for Street Scene operatives	Update to be brought to the July meeting	JB / CB
02.062026	Ensure Street Scene operatives have branded uniforms	To do	BM
02.06.2026	Circulate new MHCLG branding guidance to Board members	To do	SZ
02.06.2026	Arrange Board meetings up to May2027	To do	SZ

Agenda Item 6

Skegness Neighbourhood Board Meeting

03 July 2026

Skegness Pride in Place Programme – Technical Evaluation & Project Selection

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide an update to the Skegness Neighbourhood Board on the open Call for Projects via a packaged summary of the independent evaluation undertaken on the business cases received.

2.0 This paper recommends that the Skegness Neighbourhood Board:

1. Note and review the independent technical assessment undertaken on the business cases received to date as at Section 5, in accordance with the agreed assessment methodology.
2. Consider and agree projects from the eligible business cases received to:
   - i. approve the application and award funding, or
   - ii. reject the application and not award funding.
3. Agree any conditions attached to approved project funding awards, including agreement of the associated funding profiles.
4. Note and agree to undertake a second, targeted Call for Projects to encourage applications that address the under-represented Plan priorities set out in 6.2 of this report, and;
   - i. Consider and agree which unsuccessful applicants from the business cases received should be invited to submit a revised application through a future funding call.
5. Note the subsequent award and contracting procedures to be undertaken by the Accountable Body as set out in Section 8 of this report, prior to contracting.

3.0 Background

3.1 At the Skegness Neighbourhood Board meeting on 2 June 2026 it was agreed that programme officers would put together a packaged submission of applications received and appraised via the open call process, within the next four weeks. This would enable the Board to review and consider the initial award of funding to projects under the Pride in Place Programme for Skegness. It was requested by the Board that the outcomes from the community engagement were reviewed to ensure that any approved funding applications delivered against the community needs, and that the submission to the Board should include information about how the interventions of the Regeneration Plan for Skegness will be met.

3.2 At the same meeting it was agreed that that for any decision to award funding for projects a quorum of five (5) voting Members (excluding declarations of interest) would be required to reach a general consensus. Following discussion, the Board did not support the use of proxy voting.

3.3 The community engagement undertaken to date has highlighted the following priorities for local people within the government approved Regeneration Plan submission for Skegness:

1) Safer, cleaner streets,
2) A better town centre experience,
3) More things to do all year round,
4) Better transport links,
5) Better amenities for families and young people,
6) Improvements to roads, and
7) Better job and training opportunities.

3.4 These community priorities informed the intervention themes adopted by the Board as priorities for the Skegness Pride in Place programme:

- **Safe & Well:** Improve safety, health, and wellbeing so residents feel secure, supported, and able to live well at all stages of life.
- **Skilled & Working:** Build a stronger year-round economy by developing skills, creating better jobs, and supporting local businesses and enterprise.
- **Connected:** Enhance transport, digital access, and movement around the town to improve access to opportunities, services, and community life.
- **Leisure & Culture:** Strengthen community pride and vibrancy through cultural activities, events, and improved leisure and town centre experiences.
- **Natural:** Protect and enhance green spaces and the coastal environment to support healthier lifestyles and long-term sustainability

3.5 The available grant funding through the Pride in Place Programme over the first four years is summarised in the table below, excluding the provision of separate capacity funding received to date to support programme development.

Grant Type	**26/27**	**27/28**	**28/29**	**29/30**	**Total**
Capital	£360,000	£1,736,000	£1,605,000	£1,605,000	£5,306,000
Revenue	£232,000	£256,000	£432,000	£432,000	£1,352,000
Total Grant	**£592,000**	**£1,992,000**	**£2,037,000**	**£2,037,000**	**£6,658,000**

3.6 Delivery funding will be released each financial year by Central Government. Funding cannot be brought forward into earlier years of the programme. Borrowing against a guaranteed revenue stream may take place subject to an associated borrowing mechanism being established and approved by the Accountable Body's Section 151 Officer.

3.7 Where the Board forecasts that they will not spend their full allocation of delivery funding in the first four-year investment period (financial year 26/27 to 29/30), that money can be rolled into subsequent investment periods.

4.0 Summary of Project Assessment

4.1 Following the open call for projects, 28 expressions of interest (EoIs) were received. At the Board meeting on 13 February 2026, Members agreed the process for inviting and assessing shortlisted proposals for further consideration. This process subsequently invited 19 of the original EoIs to proceed to the second stage business case submission.

4.2 By the agreed deadline, 15 business case proposals were received as set out at Appendix A, which includes a summary of the intended match funding proposed by each applicant. A summary of the subsequent independent technical assessment undertaken on each project is provided at Appendix B. Board Members have also been provided with a copy of each business case via a separate zip file link. The circulation of the business cases is restricted under confidential cover to Board Members only and not intended for wider distribution or publication.

4.3 From the list of 19 projects invited to the second stage submission, the following applicants did not submit a business case:

- East Lindsey District Council (Growing Together for Green Horizons),
- Gary Starr Creative (Digital Community Theatre) and;
- Skegness Bridge Club (Support, Sustain and Improve Skegness Bridge Club).

4.4 In addition, a proposal from Lincolnshire County Council for a Play Park and Outdoor Gym on the Beacon Park Estate has not been included for consideration by the Board at this stage. The proposal is at a very early development stage and does not yet meet the requirements of a Business Case submission. While Lincolnshire County Council is facilitating early stages, long-term ownership and delivery responsibility are unclear. The objectives presented centre around developing the proposal further with a view to finalising project costs, a funding package, Commercial Case, and Management Case by the end of April 2027.

5.0 Review of Independent Consultant Assessment

5.1 From the technical assessment undertaken on each of the eligible business cases received, it is identified that the following five (5) projects are considered the most closely aligned with the Pride in Place objectives and intervention themes within the Regeneration Plan for Skegness. These projects provide an immediate opportunity for the Neighbourhood Board to consider whether to approve an award of funding and the agreement of any conditions to be attached to a grant agreement:

- Tower Gardens Path Renewal
- Tower Gardens Masterplan Completion
- Beach Ability
- East Coast Pride
- Digital Support for Everyday Living

5.2 The below listed eight (8) projects are considered to provide an alignment with the Pride in Place programme objectives and intervention themes of the Regeneration Plan for Skegness, however, all (to varying degrees) would require further work to provide additional assurance and clarity on the proposed ownership, funding and/or operational model to maximise community benefit, avoid duplication of provision or funding of ineligible activities. A number of these projects are wholly dependent on Pride in Place funding, with no match funding identified or secured. The Board are invited to consider whether they wish to allocate any conditional funding to these projects at this stage or seek to invite a revised submission under a future call for projects, addressing the priorities identified within Appendix B:

- Skegness Mosque and Community Hub
- Skegness Academy Sports Area Redevelopment
- Lincs-Links Skegness
- People Make Skegness (Community Capacity Building)
- YMCA - Traditional Housing for the Homeless
- JBs Training Opportunities
- Skegness Enrichment Programme
- Skegness Swim at School

5.3 The below listed two (2) projects are considered to not align with the funding objectives of the Pride in Place programme or intervention themes of the Regeneration Plan and would not be suitable for funding support. It is therefore proposed that the bids are rejected from any further consideration under the Pride in Place programme:

- Skegness Active Futures
- Skegness Sports Association Facility/3G Area Maintenance

6.0 Regeneration Plan Intervention Themes & Community Priorities

6.1 The strongest bids received in terms of strategic fit and deliverability are most closely aligned to supporting the Natural and Leisure and Wellbeing intervention themes within the Regeneration Plan.

6.2 Based on further analysis, the following intervention themes and community engagement priorities are relatively under-represented in the bids received:

- Safe & Well – projects delivering safer, cleaner streets
- Skilled & Working – projects delivering better job and training opportunities
- Connected – interventions to improve transport links
- Leisure & Culture – projects to improve town centre experience

6.3 It is therefore recommended that the Board agree to run a second, targeted call for projects for Year One and Year Two of the programme. This would enable any unsuccessful bids under the current call to consider a revised submission. It also provides scope for programme officers to work on the design of a more targeted or prioritised call for specific interventions which directly respond to some or all of the under-represented priority themes, as instructed or agreed by the Board. It is proposed that a paper on a future Call for Projects is brought to the August 2026 Board meeting for discussion and agreement on its scope and timing.

6.4. Agenda Item 7 invites Board members to consider using uncommitted capacity funding to establish a new community grant fund. This would support smaller, practical investments in Skegness outside the main Call for Projects process and enable more grassroots community organisations to access funding during Year One and Year Two of the programme, helping to deliver the aims of the Regeneration Plan.

7.0 Funding Profile

7.1 In total, the fifteen (15) business cases assessed equate to a total funding request of c£2.6m capital (against an available allocation of £5.3m) and c£1.9m of revenue asks (against an available allocation of c£1.3m) across the first four-year investment plan period (26/2027 to 29/2030), as set out in Table 1 at 7.6 of this report. The table includes programme management costs previously approved at the February 2026 Board meeting.

7.2 The breakdown of total projects by Regeneration Plan themes shows that Leisure and Culture has attracted the highest number of project proposals to date. The highest value of funding ask relates to the Natural theme, linked to the Tower Gardens Masterplan proposals.

Regeneration Plan Theme	No. of Projects	Capital Grant Ask	Revenue Grant Ask
Natural	2	1,075,000	0
Connected	2	6,000	97,760
Leisure & Culture	7	574,000	616,285
Safe & Well	3	750,000	723,204
Skilled & Working	1	0	417,223
Total	**15**	**£2,405,000**	**£1,854,472**

7.3 Decisions made by the Board on which projects to fund from the 15 project proposals will ultimately help programme officers to evaluate and advise the Board which themes may be under-represented when considering a targeted future Call for Projects and the objectives of the Skegness Regeneration Plan, to help inform.

7.4 Analysis of the fifteen (15) business cases shows that revenue funding requests are oversubscribed across the first four-years (26/2027 to 29/2030) of the programme. To help manage this pressure, it is proposed that the salary element of the approved programme management support provision is capitalised by the local authority, reducing the amount required from the revenue allocation. This reinforces the need for the Board to carefully prioritise and allocate the limited revenue grant funding available to deliver the aims of the Regeneration Plan.

7.5 Although the current call for projects leaves a capital funding balance across the first four years of the programme, approval of the Tower Gardens Path Renewal project would create a cost pressure against the indicative Year One expenditure profile. To manage this risk, the Board may wish to consider reprofiling capital awards in Year One so that expenditure remains aligned with the available grant funding profile.

7.6 Table 1 – Call for Projects Indicative Funding Profile:

Project Title	Main Regeneration Plan Theme	26/27		27/28		28/29		29/30		Total	
		Cap	Rev	Cap	Rev	Cap	Rev	Cap	Rev	Cap	Rev
Available PiP Grant Funding		**360,000**	**232,000**	**1,736,000**	**256,000**	**1,605,000**	**432,000**	**1,605,000**	**432,000**	**5,306,000**	**1,352,000**
Programme Management		47,003	12,701	51,919	7,516	54,643	6,575	57,623	5,432	**211,188**	**32,224**
Tower Gardens - Path Renewal	Natural	[redacted]									
Tower Gardens Masterplan completion	Natural										
Beach Ability	Connected										
Digital Support for Everyday Living	Connected										
East Coast Pride	Leisure & Culture										
Skegness Mosque & Community Hub	Leisure & Culture										
Skegness Academy Sports Area Redevelopment	Leisure & Culture										
Skegness Enrichment Programme	Leisure & Culture										
Skegness Swim at School	Leisure & Culture										
Skegness Active Futures	Leisure & Culture										
Skegness Sports Association - Site Maintenance	Leisure & Culture										
Lincs-Links Skegness	Safe & Well										
People Make Skegness	Safe & Well										
Transitional Housing for the Homeless - YMCA	Safe & Well										
JBs Training Opportunities	Skilled & Working										
Total (incl programme management)		**1,113,003**	**471,075**	**971,919**	**473,960**	**453,643**	**491,613**	**77,623**	**450,048**	**2,616,188**	**1,886,696**
Surplus (deficit)		**-753,003**	**-239,075**	764,081	**-217,960**	1,151,357	**-59,613**	1,527,377	**-18,048**	2,689,812	**-534,696**

8.0 Funding Award & Contracting

8.1 Funding awards made by the Skegness Neighbourhood Board will be supported by a formal written grant offer agreement between the project sponsor and the Accountable Body, acting on behalf of the Board. This agreement will define the respective responsibilities of each party and include safeguards for public money, such as provisions to withhold or recover funding where there is failure to deliver or non-compliance. Project sponsors will be required to provide evidence that subsidy control is adhered to prior to the award of any grant offer agreement.

8.2 The Accountable Body, through the Section 151 Officer, is accountable for the proper use and administration of funding and for ensuring that decisions are made in accordance with the UK government Pride in Place Programme guidance. The Council's Section 151 Officer will apply all the necessary checks to ensure proper administration of its financial affairs regarding the funding programme. Final approval of funding decisions rests with the Section 151 Officer of the Accountable Body.

8.3 The grant offer agreement will be signed by the Section 151 Officer of the Accountable Body on behalf of the Skegness Neighbourhood Board, and by the Section 151 Officer (or equivalent) of the project sponsor organisation. Monitoring and evaluation of projects will be undertaken according to published guidance by Programme officers.

Appendix A – Table of Project Proposals Received (Project Values)

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APPENDIX B: Summary of Technical Project Assessment

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Agenda Item 7

Skegness Neighbourhood Board Meeting

03 July 2026

Community Grant Scheme

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide a recommendation relating to a potential community grant fund scheme to deliver community priorities for the Skegness Pride in Place Programme.

2.0 This paper recommends that the Skegness Neighbourhood Board:

1. Note the updates provided regarding options for a community grant scheme.
2. Agree the Accountable Body undertake a competitive process on behalf of the Skegness Neighbourhood Board to commission delivery of the community grant fund, as detailed at 7.1 of this report.
3. Approve the proposed budget of an initial £100,000 capacity funding to deliver the scheme over two years with individual revenue grants of up to £10,000, as detailed at 7.2 of this report.
4. Approve the community grant application and award process, as detailed at 6.1 of this report, subject to Programme officers developing appropriate grant fund guidelines.

3.0 Background

3.1 The Board will recall at the meeting on 02 June 2026, members discussed additional ways in which the uncommitted balance of capacity funding (currently estimated at c£335,000) could be used to support additional delivery costs and quick wins in year one of the programme.

3.2 This report details delivery options for a community grant scheme to support community-led efforts and create the foundations for growth at a neighbourhood level within the Skegness Pride and Place Programme boundary.

3.3 The proposed community grant scheme aims to help build stronger, more connected communities by supporting local initiatives that encourage social interaction, foster community relationships and improve residents' access to services at a foundational grass roots level.

4.0 Community Grant Scheme

4.1 The scheme would be open to not-for-profit community groups, registered charities, social enterprises and town and parish councils. Applications should align with the aims of the Pride in Place Programme, addressing themes and priorities highlighted in the Skegness Regeneration Plan.

4.2 All applicants will be required to submit a grant application form and if eligible for a grant award, provide further supporting documentation to ensure compliance.

5.0 Community Grant Scheme – Options Appraisal

5.1 Three potential delivery options have been considered for the community grant funding scheme:

i. The first option would be for the Accountable Body to deliver the scheme directly; however, this is not considered feasible due to current resource and capacity constraints.
ii. A second option would be for a partner organisation to deliver the scheme in conjunction with the Accountable Body, but this would still require significant officer input and oversight and is therefore also not considered deliverable within existing resources.
iii. The third option is for the Accountable Body to undertake a competitive process to commission an appropriately experienced independent grant-making organisation to deliver the scheme.

5.2 The third option provided at 5.1 iii, is the most suitable approach as it would provide dedicated capacity, support independent assessment and administration of the grant process, and offer a proportionate mechanism for ensuring the scheme is delivered transparently and effectively.

5.3 Subject to completion of the competitive process, an established grant-making organisation should be able to mobilise the scheme quickly, drawing on existing systems, processes and expertise to support timely launch and delivery.

6.0 Community Grant Scheme – Application & Award Process

6.1 Appropriate grant fund guidelines would be developed by Programme officers for a community grant scheme to be delivered in accordance with the following application and award process to be managed by a grant-making organisation, and overseen by the Accountable Body to ensure compliance:

1) The appointed grant-making organisation would be responsible for producing the grant application materials, assessment criteria and arrangements for the independent appraisal panel.

2) The scheme would be publicised to raise awareness and encourage eligible organisations to apply. Promotional material would include the Skegness Neighbourhood Board and Pride in Place Programme branding, with application

forms made available through the Skegness Neighbourhood Board and appointed grant-making organisation's websites.

3) Applicants would be required to submit a high-level grant application form as part of the application process.

4) Applications would be reviewed by an independent panel with relevant knowledge and experience, using the agreed scoring matrix. The panel would include a minimum of five representatives, with oversight from the grant-making organisation, and representation from the community and voluntary sector, the Accountable Body and relevant Board Member, for example Theme Lead(s), to be confirmed by the Board at a future meeting.

5) The panel would convene as required to assess applications. Following each panel meeting, recommended grant awards would be submitted to the Accountable Body's Section 151 Officer for approval.

6) Subject to satisfactory due diligence, the Accountable Body would issue grant agreements to successful applicants. Details of approved awards would then be shared with the Board for information.

7) Successful applicants would be required to complete monitoring returns as part of the grant agreement, to demonstrate delivery against agreed outputs, outcomes and relevant priorities within the Skegness Regeneration Plan.

7.0 Route to Delivery

7.1 Three potential delivery options have been considered for the community grant funding scheme. The third option is the most suitable approach as detailed at 5.2 and 5.3 of this report. It is therefore proposed that the Accountable Body develop a specification and undertake a competitive procurement process on behalf of the Skegness Neighbourhood Board to appoint a suitably experienced independent grant-making organisation to administer and deliver the community grant fund.

7.2 To enable the community grant scheme to be taken forward, it is proposed that an initial £100,000 of capacity revenue funding is allocated to support delivery across the 2026/27 and 2027/28 financial years with any additional management fees to come out of the remaining capacity fund balance. The scheme would offer revenue grants of up to £10,000 to eligible organisations for applications that meet the agreed criteria.

7.3 Subject to the successful completion of the competitive process and contract award, it is expected that promotion of the community grant scheme and the application process would begin in Summer 2026, with initial grant awards anticipated in late Summer or early Autumn 2026.