

North Lanarkshire Council Report

Council

Does this report require to be approved? Yes No

Ref PH/PIP

Date 02/04/26

Process for Selection of Elected Members to the Forgewood, North Motherwell and Motherwell Town Centre Neighbourhood Board

From Pamela Humphries, Chief Officer (Place)

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the allocation of funding to Forgewood, North Motherwell and Motherwell Town Centre through the UK Government's Pride in Place Programme and to seek approval for the process for appointing elected member representation to the Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board.

The report also seeks delegated authority for the Depute Chief Executive and Chief Officer (Place) to appoint two elected members and appropriate substitute members to the Neighbourhood Board in line with programme governance guidance and required timescales.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Council:

- (1) Acknowledge the allocation of up to £19.6 million from the UK Government's Pride in Place Programme for Forgewood, North Motherwell and Motherwell Town Centre over a ten-year period.
- (2) Approve the proposed process for identifying and appointing two elected members and substitute members to the Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board.
- (3) Delegate authority to the Depute Chief Executive and Chief Officer (Place) to implement the selection process and appoint two elected members and substitute members in accordance with the process outlined in section 2 of this report.
- (4) Acknowledge that following the appointment of the elected members, work will commence to appoint non-elected community and stakeholder representatives, ensuring that the Board remains resident-led in line with Pride in Place Programme governance guidance.
- (5) Acknowledge that the Neighbourhood Board membership and boundaries must be confirmed to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government by 17 July 2026.

- (6) To ensure consistency transparency and fairness in governance arrangements, approve that the process for any future appointments of elected and non-elected representatives to the Coatbridge Neighbourhood Board and any other Pride in Place Neighbourhood Boards, follows the standardised approach now prescribed for the Forgewood, North Motherwell and Motherwell Town Centre Neighbourhood Board.
- (7) Acknowledge the requirement to establish the Neighbourhood Board by 17 July 2026 and approve that officers take all necessary preparatory and contingency actions to ensure the Board is fully constituted within required timescales, including expedited appointment processes, proactive stakeholder engagement, and alignment with UK Government governance requirements.

The Plan for North Lanarkshire

Priority	Improve economic opportunities and outcomes
Ambition statement	(2) Refocus our town centres and communities to be multi-functional connected places which maximise social, economic, and environmental opportunities
Programme of Work	Transforming Places

1. Background

- 1.1 The UK Government announced on Friday 12 December 2025 that Forgewood, North Motherwell and Motherwell Town centre had been selected as the 2nd area in North Lanarkshire to receive up to £20m (63% capital/ 37% revenue) Pride in Place Funding over 10 years.
- 1.2 The Pride in Place Programme is a UK Government initiative providing 10 years of funding to “*strengthen local pride, improve community infrastructure, and empower neighbourhoods to shape their future*”.
- 1.3 Phase 1 focused on 75 towns, including Coatbridge. Phase 2 now extends support to 169 smaller neighbourhoods (around 10,000 residents), each receiving £19.6 million over the next decade.
- 1.4 An initial revenue payment of £150,000 has been received , to support the setup of a Neighbourhood Board and to commence community engagement. This funding can be carried forward into 2026/27. The delivery phase will commence from April 2026, with investment period 1 covering 2026/27 – 2029/30.
- 1.5 The Funding profile is as follows:

Grant	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29	29/30	30/31 – 35/36	Total
£m							
Capital		0.12	0.67	1.46	1.46	8.72	12.43
Revenue	0.15	0.27	0.69	0.69	0.77	4.6	7.17
Total	0.15	0.39	1.36	2.15	2.23	13.32	19.6

- 1.6 Further to the report agreed at the Enterprise and Fair Work Committee on 20 February 2026, work is now underway to appoint a chair of the Board.

- 1.7 In line with Pride in Place (PiP) Programme guidance, the local constituency MP, MSP and at least one ward councillor will sit on the Board. Governance arrangements for the programme require the establishment of a Neighbourhood Board chaired by an independent chair, with representation from local residents, businesses, community organisations and local political representatives. The guidance requires that non-elected members must form the majority of the Board to ensure that decision-making is community-led.
 - 1.8 The Chair, Board membership and 'default' boundaries must be confirmed to Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) by 17 July 2026. The Pride in Place Plan and 4 Year Investment Plan should be submitted by November 2026 for approval.
 - 1.9 The purpose of this paper is to outline the proposed process for selection of the elected member representation to sit on the Forgewood, North Motherwell and Town Centre Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board.
 - 1.10 North Lanarkshire Council will act as the accountable body for the Pride in Place Programme funding for the neighbourhood area. In this role the Council will provide financial governance, administrative support and oversight to ensure that programme funding is managed in accordance with UK Government requirements.
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2. Report

- 2.1 A condition of the PiP funding is that a Neighbourhood Board must be established with an independent chair (who cannot be an elected politician). The guidance states that the local constituency MP, MSP and at least one ward councillor will sit on the Board. There must however be more non-elected representatives on the Board than elected members to ensure the Board is 'resident-led'.
- 2.2 At the Enterprise and Fair Work Committee on 20 February, the committee endorsed the proposal for there to be two elected members on the Board (the same number as the Coatbridge Board) drawn from the three wards within the Pride in Place neighbourhood boundary.
- 2.3 The three wards are Motherwell West, Motherwell North, and Motherwell S.E and Ravenscraig, and there are 11 elected members:
 - Labour – four
 - Others – three
 - SNP – two
 - Conservative – two
- 2.4 The intention is now to seek declarations of interest from all 11 elected members for inclusion on the Board.
- 2.5 Prior to putting their names forward for potential selection, the Councillors will be asked to confirm that they are able to commit the time involved in being part of the Board and

are able to attend meetings during the day on a Friday which is the most suitable date for the MP, who must be part of the Board.

- 2.6 It is proposed that delegated authority is provided to the Depute Chief Executive and Chief Officer (Place) to commence the selection process for the two elected members and to then appoint the two elected members (and delegates) to the Board.
- 2.7 To ensure transparency and fairness in the appointment of elected member representatives, the following selection process is proposed should more than two expressions of interest be received:
- Seek expressions of interest from the 11 eligible elected members to be members of the Neighbourhood Board.
 - Assuming more than two members put their names forward it is proposed that the Chief Officer (Audit and Risk) will oversee the selection process to ensure transparency and independence which would result in no more than one member from any ward (unless all those expressing an interest in being part of the Board are from the same ward) and no more than one member from the same political group (with Independent members being counted as a 'group' for this purpose).
 - So, for example, if the first Councillor selected at random was a Labour member from Motherwell West, then no other Labour Councillors or Motherwell West Councillors would be eligible for selection for the 2nd place on the Board.
 - For complete transparency, it would be the intention to invite all elected members who have put their names forward to the selection process.
 - Following this process, the elected members selected would be asked to confirm they still wish to be members of the Board. The selected elected members will also be asked to nominate a substitute elected member from within the same ward to attend meetings where the appointed member is unable to attend.
- 2.8 Following appointment of the elected members and delegates, work will then commence in conjunction with the Chair to select the non-elected representatives to the Board.
- 2.9 Members will also be aware that the Coatbridge Neighbourhood Board is already established. To promote consistency, transparency and good governance across all Pride in Place areas, it is proposed that any future appointments of both Councillors and non-elected representatives to the Coatbridge Board, and to any other Neighbourhood Boards, adopt the standardised selection process set out in this report.

Conclusion

- 2.10 The Neighbourhood Board will operate in accordance with the governance guidance set out by the UK Government's Pride in Place Programme. The Board will be chaired by an independent chair and will include elected representatives, local residents, businesses and community organisations, with non-elected representatives forming the majority of membership. North Lanarkshire Council will act as the accountable body for

programme funding and will provide financial administration, governance oversight and support to the Board.

3. Measures of success

The measures of success will include:

- 3.1 Establishment of the Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board by **17 July 2026** in accordance with programme governance guidance.
- 3.2 Development and submission of the Pride in Place Plan and Four-Year Investment Plan by November 2026.
- 3.3 Delivery of projects and interventions aligned with the priorities of the Pride in Place Plan.
- 3.4 Effective community engagement and participation in shaping neighbourhood investment priorities.
- 3.5 Consistency of approach across all Neighbourhood Boards.

4. Supporting documentation

- 4.1 [Pride in Place Programme prospectus - GOV.UK](#)



Pamela Humphries
Chief Officer (Place)

5. Impacts

<p>5.1 Public Sector Equality Duty and Fairer Scotland Duty Does the report contain information that has an impact as a result of the Public Sector Equality Duty and/or Fairer Scotland Duty? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p> <p>If Yes, has an assessment been carried out and published on the council's website? https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/your-community/equalities/equality-and-fairer-scotland-duty-impact-assessments Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>5.2 Financial impact Does the report contain any financial impacts? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant financial impacts been discussed and agreed with Finance? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p> <p>The report relates to the allocation of up to £19.6 million through the Pride in Place Programme over a ten-year period for Forgewood, North Motherwell and Motherwell Town Centre.</p> <p>An initial £150,000 revenue allocation has been provided to support the establishment of the Neighbourhood Board and early community engagement activity. North Lanarkshire Council will act as the accountable body for the programme funding and will be responsible for financial governance and administration of the funds in accordance with UK Government requirements.</p>
<p>5.3 HR policy impact Does the report contain any HR policy or procedure impacts? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant HR impacts been discussed and agreed with People Resources? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.4 Legal impact Does the report contain any legal impacts (such as general legal matters, statutory considerations (including employment law considerations), or new legislation)? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant legal impacts been discussed and agreed with Legal and Democratic? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p> <p>The report seeks approval for a governance process to appoint elected members to the Neighbourhood Board and to delegate authority to the Depute Chief Executive and Chief Officer (Place) to undertake the appointment process.</p> <p>North Lanarkshire Council will act as the accountable body for the programme funding and will be required to ensure compliance with the governance requirements</p>

set out by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for the Pride in Place Programme.

5.5 Data protection impact

Does the report / project / practice contain or involve the processing of personal data?

Yes No

If Yes, is the processing of this personal data likely to result in a high risk to the data subject?

Yes No

If Yes, has a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) been carried out and e-mailed to dataprotection@northlan.gov.uk

Yes No

5.6 Technology / Digital impact

Does the report contain information that has an impact on either technology, digital transformation, service redesign / business change processes, data management, or connectivity / broadband / Wi-Fi?

Yes No

If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?

Where the impact identifies a requirement for significant technology change, has an assessment been carried out (or is scheduled to be carried out) by the Enterprise Architecture Governance Group (EAGG)?

Yes No

5.7 Environmental / Carbon impact

Does the report / project / practice contain information that has an impact on any environmental or carbon matters?

Yes No

If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?

5.8 Communications impact

Does the report contain any information that has an impact on the council's communications activities?

Yes No

If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?

Corporate Communications will be involved in supporting the promotion and dissemination of information relating to the Pride in Place Programme, including community engagement activity and communication of opportunities for local residents, businesses and stakeholders to participate in the development of the Pride in Place Plan.

5.9 Risk impact

Is there a risk impact?

Yes No

If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the key risks and potential impacts, highlighting where the risk(s) are assessed and recorded (e.g. Corporate or Service or Project Risk Registers), and how they are managed?

There is a programme risk associated with the requirement to establish the Neighbourhood Board and confirm Board membership and boundaries to the UK Government by 17 July 2026.

Failure to establish governance arrangements within the required timescales could impact on the council's ability to progress programme activity and access future funding allocations. These risks will be monitored and managed through the

programme governance arrangements and recorded within the relevant programme and service risk registers.

5.10 Armed Forces Covenant Duty

Does the report require to take due regard of the Armed Forces Covenant Duty (i.e. does it relate to healthcare, housing, or education services for in-Service or ex-Service personnel, or their families, or widow(er)s)?

Yes No

If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the provision which has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the particular needs of the Armed Forces community to make sure that they do not face disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public services.

5.11 Children's rights and wellbeing impact

Does the report contain any information regarding any council activity, service delivery, policy, or plan that has an impact on children and young people up to the age of 18, or on a specific group of these?

Yes No

If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact and the provision that has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the relevant Articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

No direct impacts have been identified arising from this report.

The report relates to the governance arrangements for the establishment of a Neighbourhood Board as part of the Pride in Place Programme and the appointment of elected member representation to that Board.

The development of the Pride in Place Plan and the subsequent delivery of projects over the lifetime of the programme may include initiatives which benefit children and young people within the neighbourhood area. Where this occurs, appropriate consideration will be given to the relevant Articles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and to ensuring that the views and interests of children and young people are considered as part of the community engagement process.

If Yes, has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) been carried out?

Yes No