

Darlington Neighbourhood Board

21st October 2025, 14:30-16:00 p.m.

Present

David Gartland, Martin Short, Yvonne Beattie, Sarah Bentley, Gordon Pybus, Lola McEvoy, Hilary Bevan, Cllr Steve Harker, Cllr Jim Garner, Brett Nielsen, Seth Pearson, Mike Poulter, Trevor Watson, Anthony Hewitt, Naomi Jenkins, Sarah Small, Lynne Davies, Callum Stoker

Apologies

Angela Howey, Janine Brown, Rose Rouse, Stephen Fenwick, Kay Sandham, Hayley Jones, Lucy Simms, Joy Allen, Andy Divers

1. Welcome and apologies
 - David Gartland first meeting as chair
 - Welcomed Sarah Bentley as Vice chair
 - David Gartland thanked Angela Howey for having achieved so much as chair of the board to this point
 - Plan for Neighbourhoods has seen a change of name to Pride in Place. This now includes more town/cities across the country and 'Impact' areas in specific areas.
2. Actions from previous meeting
 - Seth provided comment on small grants proposal, agreed paper to be brought to next meeting
3. Regeneration Plan Introduction (SP)
 - Draft report to be circulated before the next board meeting for comments
4. Spatial Targeting – Underpinning data (LD)
 - Presentation will be shared with board members
5. Community Engagement (SS, AD) Sarah S & Andy Divers
 - Presentation will be shared with board members
6. Projects Updates
 - Appraisal subgroup (SB) update provided on the establishment of the appraisal group, they will meet again before the next board meeting to provide a detailed update on the Skerne Park proposal
 - STEM Centre – for information and comment (SP)
 - Plan for the STEM Centre were shared with colleagues
 - Youth proposal - A proposal is being developed for a programme of neighbourhood-based youth provision, by Darlington Youth Partnership
7. Subgroup updates
 - Report approved