

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

September 2025

**COUNCILLOR LIZ WITHINGTON - CABINET MEMBER FOR
COMMUNITY, LEISURE & OUTREACH**

For the period June to September 2025

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Culture - Funding and Programmes

As detailed in the previous report, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) announced a new [Creative Foundation Fund \(CFF\)](#) to support investment in creative facilities to ensure the continuity of arts and culture around the country. The total pot was relatively small and was hugely oversubscribed. NNDC put in two Expressions of Interest (for adaptations and improvements to Sheringham Little Theatre and Cromer Pavillion Theatre) but it was discouraged from submitting a full application on the basis that other projects around the country more closely matched the Fund's aims.

A successful bid was submitted on behalf of NNDC to Greater Anglia's Customer and Community Improvement Fund (the total pot for the franchise area was £350k, with the maximum bid value of £50k). The project value was £48,788 to provide electronic Tourist Information Points (e-tip) information screens at four GA stations: North Walsham, Hoveton, Cromer and Sheringham. The award was for the full project value (no match required). The project is in development with VNN as the delivery partner.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

The Business Engagement Programme (BEP) supported by funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) will continue for 2025-26, supporting businesses and specific sectors. This will include support for culture and tourism businesses facilitated via:

- Culture Event Workshop (September 17th 2025) hosted by New Stages in North Walsham
- Tourism Conference (November 6th 2025)
- Annual Business Forum (March 2026)

Cultural Partnership

After a successful workshop establishing the partnership, the next meeting will take place in September. This meeting will be looking at how the Partnership

can grow further, reflect the importance of the creative sector in our tourism economy and become self-sustaining. Anyone wishing to attend can contact the economic.development@north-norfolk.gov.uk by email.

3 Meetings attended

UKSPF
Cultural Partnership Steering group x2
Town Ambition Programme Review
Cultural partnership meeting at North Walsham