



Blackpool Business Leadership Group

Business Partnerships Report – 6 February 2026

Top News

BLACKPOOL STAKES IT CLAIM ON THE NATIONAL STAGE WITH CULTURE BIDS



Blackpool is exploring the possibility of bidding for the UK City of Culture 2029 and UK Town of Culture 2028.

The council, working with the Arts Council England place partnership funded Creative Blackpool development group, is reviewing both bids with a view to submitting an Expression of Interest.

If successful in its bid, Blackpool would receive £10m for City status or £3m for Town status from the government towards a yearlong celebration of arts and culture, for local people to enjoy, as well as increasing the tourism economy and creating new jobs.

Blackpool's relationship with culture is full of variety. From Showtown Museum, which celebrates the town's iconic history, to the Grundy Art Gallery a National Portfolio Organisation presenting contemporary work from national partners alongside talent rooted in Blackpool itself.

In entertainment, Blackpool's Winter Gardens has hosted the Royal Variety Performance three times in its history (1955, 2009 and 2020) and continues to host events ranging from West End musicals to the World Dance Festival. The town itself has welcomed legendary performers including The Beatles and Frank Sinatra, while also being the home of Sooty.

In addition to the 150th anniversary of the Blackpool Illuminations, 2029 marks 135 years since the opening of The Blackpool Tower and the Blackpool Grand Theatre, while Blackpool Winter Gardens will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2028.

The two prestigious national competitions are led by the Government's Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Whilst UK Town of Culture is a new competition, the City of Culture runs every four years and was previously held in Bradford in 2025. During that year, they hosted over 1,000 events for local people and visitors to enjoy. The year was expected to create 6,500 new jobs, resulted 3m additional visitors and add £140m to the local economy.

While not technically a city, Blackpool is the 45th largest place in the UK, with a population of 141,500 and a visitor economy valued at £2bn, which meets the bidding criteria for both competitions.

If the Expression of Interest is accepted, places will receive £60,000 to support the development of their bids. The competition has a strong track record of unlocking long-term cultural, social and economic benefits for places, helping to drive regeneration, civic pride and inclusive growth.

Regeneration News

DEMOLITION OF BLACKPOOL STREETS CONTINUES IN READINESS FOR NEW MULTIVERSITY CONSTRUCTION



Further demolition work has taken place as streets are being flattened for the landmark £65 million Multiversity campus.

Contractors have now cleared Charles Street, George Street and Cookson Street, with properties being bulldozed as part of the next major phase of the Talbot Gateway regeneration scheme.

The Multiversity project, led by Blackpool and The Fylde College in partnership with Blackpool Council, is backed by government funding and is designed to transform a large section of the town centre into a modern, high-tech learning hub.

This new facility will offer more than 70 courses across further education, higher education and adult learning and is expected to bring up to 3,000 students and staff into the heart of Blackpool each day.

The Multiversity will be built on land around Cookson Street and forms a central part of the wider Talbot Gateway - a £350 million scheme centred around Blackpool North station that aims to bring more jobs, footfall and investment into the town centre.

NEW MINISTRY OF DEFENCE BUILDING TAKING SHAPE



The true scale of the forthcoming new multi-million pound Ministry of Defence (MOD) office building in Blackpool can now be seen as the hulking building takes shape.

Construction got under way in May last year but in recent weeks the building, located on the site of the former Apollo store on Talbot Road, has rapidly developed and can be seen looming over the Blackpool North Train Station car park.

Once complete, the six-storey building will play host to 1,100 civil servants who work for Defence Business Services (BDS), the MOD's shared services organisation.

£350M BLACKPOOL TALBOT GATEWAY NEARS FULL OCCUPANCY WITH NHS MOVE



Another 300 workers are relocating into Blackpool town centre.

The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has moved into the Talbot Gateway around Blackpool North train station. As an Arm's Length Body of the Department of Health and Social Care, the NHSBSA delivers a range of national services to support the priorities of the NHS, Government and local health economies - including prescription processing, NHS Pensions and Student Services.

This week, staff moved into the first floor of Number One, Bickerstaffe Square, taking up a 22,000sqft office on a ten-year lease.

The deal also moves Blackpool's Talbot Gateway towards full occupancy, with 99% of the 500,000sqft developed space around Blackpool North train station now occupied, leased or under offer. Only one retail unit around Blackpool North tram stop remains available to rent.

The relocation of 300 NHSBSA staff is in addition to the 8,000 workers and students moving to the area from other organisations, as part of an expected boost to the town centre economy and creation of more jobs.

COMMON EDGE ROAD JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS NEARING COMPLETION



Works to remodel the junction of School Road and Common Edge Road are nearing completion.

After resurfacing works last week, installation of the new traffic signals is under way. The planned completion of the junction works is expected for the end of February 2026.

The improved junction will reduce congestion for local road users by reducing it from four-way to three-way signals, as well as creating a filter lane from School Road onto Common Edge Road. The upgrades will help speed up the signal cycles and maintain the flow of traffic in the area as well as enabling access to the Enterprise Zone using the new through road, Vickers Way, to Amy Johnson Way.

The junction works form part of the ongoing wider plans to create a new access road from Common Edge Road to Blackpool Enterprise Zone on Amy Johnson Way. Once fully open this spring the new road will unlock prime development land, allowing for businesses to grow and creating valuable job opportunities for local residents.

George Cox and Sons is carrying out the works as part of Blackpool Council's £18.5m expansion to the Enterprise Zone designed to create more jobs in the area.

Funding for the new access road has been supported by a £7.5m grant from the UK Government, as part of the Blackpool Town Deal awarded in 2022.

Blackpool Council is also marketing commercial land either side of Vickers Way for businesses to grow. Interested businesses can visit www.blackpoolez.com to enquire.

FYLDE COAST BUSINESS LODGES PLANS FOR 'STRATEGIC' NEW FACILITIES AT BLACKPOOL AIRPORT ENTERPRISE ZONE



Plans have been lodged for a roofing firm to develop a new storage and distribution facility within the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone, enabling it to improve the efficiency of its operations.

Cassidy + Ashton has been instructed by Kirkham-based Roofing Supplies Group Ltd. to prepare and submit a reserved matters application for a unit at plot 7A at Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone, on land bounded by Amy Johnson Way and Common Edge Road.

NW Roofing Supplies is now looking to bring forward the first employment plot associated with the outline consent.

It has two existing depots close to the application site and it is intended to amalgamate the operations of both onto the new development with a modern, fit for purpose facility. The aim is to improve the efficiency of its operations.

REGEN PROJECTS WIN BIG AT CIVIC TRUST AWARDS

Blackpool's pride and community spirit were in the spotlight at the annual Blackpool Civic Trust Awards, honouring outstanding contributions to the resort's environment, heritage, and civic life.

The ceremony highlighted achievements that reflect the Trust's ongoing commitment to promoting high standards in architecture, urban design, environmental quality, and community involvement throughout the resort.

The DWP building, which has changed the landscape in the town centre, won the Best New Build award for Blackpool Council, Muse Developments and Vinci Contractors and was described as "a landmark example of civic architecture". The building's surrounding green space also won best open space.

By contrast, the iconic Stanley Buildings, constructed in 1935 and designed by then borough architect J.C. Robinson, won the award for Best Refurbishment for Blackpool Council, main contractor F Parkinson and architect Cassidy & Ashton. Now named, The Robinson, it has been sympathetically restored to provide a vibrant support centre for business and enterprise.



BLACKPOOL MAKES ITS MARK WITH BE YOU INITIATIVE



Blackpool's growing LGBTQ+ initiative, now known as 'Be You' continues to go from strength to strength with the creation of 52 jobs across 15 new LGBTQ+ venues.

With 29 LGBTQ+ venues, creating safer, more welcoming spaces across the town for all LGBTQ+ community members is a key part of the ambitious action plan, which launched in January 2024.

Organisations include a variety of LGBTQ+-friendly bars, cafés, and accommodation providers – growth driven by confidence in the town’s inclusive vision and proactive community support.

Other recent developments include the creation of two new Quality Marks alongside the progression of the ‘Be You’ branding.

Spearheaded by the council in partnership with local community organisations, this marks another step forward in establishing a vibrant, safe, and inspiring Rainbow Quarter.

BUSINESS EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

Blackpool Unlimited is hosting a series of business events in the next few months, listed below. More information on these events can be found at www.blackpoolunlimited.com

February
10 th – Introduction to Basic Accountancy and Cashflow
10 th – Meta (Facebook) Ads Masterclass
17 th – How To Sell
19 th – Creating presentations with AI

Visitor Economy Updates

GET READY FOR A MAGICAL HALF-TERM IN BLACKPOOL



Blackpool is preparing for a spellbinding half term as the resort bursts into life for the February Festival of Circus and Magic.

Across four fun filled days, from Thursday 19 February to Sunday 22 February, residents and visitors can enjoy an exciting programme of live performances, spectacular shows and hands on workshops.

The town centre will be transformed with roaming street entertainers, from hilarious pedalo swans to astonishing magic acts. Free workshops and performances will also take place at key venues including The Blackpool Tower, Arc Cinema, Houndshell Shopping Centre, Abingdon Street Market and Arc Cinema.

The excitement continues Friday 20 February, when Britain's Got Talent winner and local star Harry Moulding takes to the stage for a special headline magic show at Pleasure Beach Resort.

BLACKPOOL RESTAURANT WEEK SET TO RETURN IN MARCH



Blackpool Restaurant Week returns from Thursday, 12th to Thursday, 19th March, with restaurants across the town offering special menus and deals to encourage people to eat out, try new places and support local businesses.

The week brings together a wide range of venues, from long-standing family-run favourites to independents and well-known names, with more businesses already signed up to take part than last year.

Activity takes place across different parts of Blackpool, including the town centre, Red Bank Road and Highfield Road, giving people the chance to explore different areas and discover somewhere they've never been before to eat.

Many participating venues will offer family-friendly options alongside their Restaurant Week menus, including child-friendly dishes, sharing plates and offers designed for groups and families eating out

together. A programme of events and activities will also run during the week, giving people more reasons to visit venues across the town.

Blackpool Restaurant Week is delivered by Blackpool BIDs, bringing together Blackpool Town Centre BID and Blackpool Tourism BID.

GRUNDY ART GALLERY LAUNCHES NEW WINTER EXHIBITIONS



Grundy Art Gallery is 115 years old and to celebrate this milestone moment, visitors are invited to get involved creatively by writing or drawing birthday wishes to the Grundy on candle-shaped paper.

The birthday wishes will be placed on a giant birthday cake drawing, which is currently being installed in the foyer ready for the gallery opening its winter exhibitions.

This activity is the first of many that Grundy Art Gallery will be delivering throughout 2026 as it celebrates its anniversary year.

2026 is also important year for lots of other reasons. It is 150 years since Blackpool was incorporated as an independent borough, and 100 years since The Blackpool Jubilee, which celebrated Blackpool's incorporation with a civic parade and the opening of Stanley Park.

PLEASURE BEACH RESORT EXTENDS ITS SEASON FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW



Blackpool's Pleasure Beach Resort has announced it will begin its season early for the second year in a row – as part of a resort-wide commitment to extending the Blackpool season.

The theme park will open Nickelodeon Land throughout February half term (Saturday February 14 until Sunday February 22) and at £25, tickets cost much less than a standard eTicket.

But it's the return of the 'Adventure Package' that is expected to be the biggest hit with families: For £40 per person, it includes a Nickelodeon Land eTicket, entry to Ripley's Believe It or Not!, a round of Adventure Golf and a skating session at Pleasure Beach Resort Arena with free skate hire.

Pleasure Beach Resort's extended season was trialed in 2025 as part of a wider bid to attract visitors to Blackpool all year round, and was considered a success.

BLACKPOOL TOWER DUNGEON LAUNCHES "TERRIBLE TENNER" TICKETS

The Blackpool Tower Dungeon is kicking off its brand-new season with a spine-tingling offer guaranteed to terrify and delight visitors.

Throughout the entire month of February, guests can experience the Dungeon's infamous comedy, live shows, and immersive storytelling for the frightfully low price of just £10 with the launch of its Terrible Tenner tickets.

The limited-time promotion invites guests to journey through Lancashire's murky past, meet its most notorious characters, and enjoy the Dungeon's signature blend of humour and horror - all at a special price.



Terrible Tenner tickets are available now and valid for visits throughout February, including half-term.

The Blackpool Tower Dungeon re-opens on Saturday 7 February.

NOTARIANNI ICES CONFIRMS REOPENING DATE FOR 2026



One of Blackpool's most iconic ice cream parlours has confirmed when it will reopen for the 2026 season - and it will also be celebrating an impressive 98 years in business.

Notarianni Ices will reopen on Saturday, March 7, the family-run business has confirmed on social media.

Luigi Notarianni, whose homemade ice cream quickly proved popular with

holidaymakers, founded the business in 1928.

Nearly a century later, the shop still uses the same closely guarded recipe, passed down through four generations of the family and made using fresh, locally sourced dairy ingredients.

A FRESH NEW LOOK FOR BEACH HOUSE BLACKPOOL IN 2026

Beach House Bar and Restaurant is spreading its wings and taking a short seasonal pause this month before returning just in time for Valentine's Day with a beautifully refreshed look.

The beachfront restaurant and bar will reopen on Thursday 12 February to allow time for a month-long refurbishment that will include a complete reimagining of the much-loved 'Starling' area, alongside an exciting New Year refresh across the entire vibrant venue.



The Starling area is a standout feature of Beach House's stunning restaurant seascape, offering uninterrupted views of the Irish Sea and a front-row seat to one of nature's most magical performances. As the sun sets, thousands of roosting Starlings swoop, dive and dance across the sky in breath-taking formations known as a murmuration, named after the soft, murmuring sound of their wings in flight.

Inspired by this natural spectacle, owners Hagop and Cheryl Tchobanian previously commissioned local artists at South Shore Metal Blackpool, to create a striking sculptural installation that captures each bird mid-flight as they twist and turn like a living cloud. The upcoming transformation will elevate this space even further, ensuring the Starling area continues to feel immersive, atmospheric and unique.

STAY BLACKPOOL TRADE SHOW

StayBlackpool Trade Show returns on Tuesday 24th March 2026. The event, the 3rd at Norbreck Castle sees a LWC as a drinks partner and Trevor's delivering a food wholesale partnership with tastings and other delights

As Government launches a "Short Stay Accommodation License Scheme" there are more reasons than ever to get involved. [StayBlackpool Trade Show & Open Day tradeshow@stayblackpool.com](mailto:tradeshows@stayblackpool.com)

Business News

GORGEOUS CHEESECAKES REFINE STRATEGY WITH BLACKPOOL GROWTH BUSINESS ACADEMY'S SUPPORT



With the Blackpool Growth Business Academy's support, Blackpool-based cheesecake company, Gorgeous Cheesecakes, are working with Academy specialists to strengthen existing customer relationships, build awareness, and expand their product offerings.

Founded in 2010 by Matthew Watts and his wife Sharon, Gorgeous Cheesecakes began as a passion project at home.

After securing two major retailers in 2014, Selfridges and Barton Grange Garden Centre, the business was required to scale quickly, leading to the acquisition of their first dedicated production facility.

Since then, the family-run business has grown, as daughters Matilda and Yasmin joined the team alongside long-serving production staff.

BLACKPOOL FEATURE IN NW BUSINESS INSIDER



The January issue of North West Business Insider is now live, including a large feature on Blackpool, featuring business and council leaders talking about the challenges and opportunities shaping the town.

Blackpool has often been underestimated, with lingering perceptions of it being a challenging place to live or build a career. However, the town is undergoing one of its most ambitious periods of investment.

The magazine spoke to local experts to explore these developments, challenge outdated assumptions and consider whether Blackpool could be on the verge of a transformation similar to Manchester's.

Click here to read the full issue <https://www.insidermedia.com/publications/north-west-business-insider/north-west-business-insider-january-2026/rewriting-blackpools-story>

TANDEM BANK NAMED AS TOP 100 TECH FIRM



A Blackpool firm has been named as the North West's second fastest-growing technology company according to a new list - and among the top 100 in the UK.

Tandem Bank Limited, described as operating in the 'banking fintech' field, was shown in a league table to be experiencing annual growth sales of 84.70 percent over the past three years.

The table, included as part of the prestigious Sunday Times 100 Tech list,

also showed that latest sales figures were put at £87.5m.

Founded in 2014, Tandem grew significantly by acquiring Harrods Bank in 2018 and merging with another lender Oplo in 2022.

It currently employs more than 500 people across the UK, with over 250 staff based at its Blackpool headquarters.

BLACKPOOL'S BIGGEST EVER JOBS FAIR IS SET TO RETURN



Blackpool's largest jobs fair will return to the Winter Gardens next year, with organisers promising an even stronger focus on long-term careers, apprenticeships and well-paid work for local people.

The Blackpool Jobs Fair will take place on Thursday 26 February 2026 at the Winter Gardens Conference Centre and is being hosted by Chris Webb MP in partnership with Jobcentre Plus and supported by Blackpool Tourism Ltd.

The event follows the success of the 2025 fair, which attracted more than 4,000 jobseekers, featured over 100 employers and led to around 1,000 people securing jobs with many hired on the day.

Organisers say the 2026 event will again bring together major employers, training providers and community organisations, offering everything from entry-level roles to skilled careers and retraining opportunities.

HOLIDAY INN BLACKPOOL NAMED NUMBER ONE IN THE UK AND IRELAND



Holiday Inn Blackpool has once again been recognised as the number one Holiday Inn in the UK and Ireland, retaining its top position for the second year running.

Located on Talbot Road, adjacent to Blackpool's new tram interchange, the 144-bedroom hotel opened its doors in 2023 and has quickly established itself as a standout destination for both leisure and business travellers.

Competing against more than 120 Holiday Inn hotels across the UK and Ireland, the Blackpool site's success highlights the consistently high standards delivered by the entire team.

It comes as Platform 9 restaurant at the hotel has expanded to take over Marco's.

The move allows the locally trained chefs to create a new menu and promises generous portions, bold flavours and excellent value for professional lunches, as well as catering for the growing student numbers from the forthcoming Multiversity.

Since opening in May 2024, the hotel has welcomed over 110,000 guests.

ARMED FORCES COVENANT

Businesses are being encourage to consider signing the Armed Forces Covenant, a voluntary pledge that demonstrates your support for those who serve, or have served, in the armed forces, and their families.

By signing the Covenant, you are making a clear statement that your business values the contributions made by our service personnel and recognises the unique sacrifices they and their families make.

There are many simple but impactful ways you can get involved. You don't need to make big or costly commitments—just actions that are realistic and meaningful to your business. That could include:

- Offering flexible interview times for reservists or veterans
- Promoting your openness to employing members of the Armed Forces community
- Supporting Armed Forces Day or other events in your community

Many find that signing the Covenant:

- Strengthens their reputation as a responsible and inclusive employer
- Builds employee pride and customer loyalty
- Connects them to a talented and disciplined workforce, including veterans and service leavers
- Opens the door to recognition through the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award)

Signing the Covenant is free, and you can choose commitments that suit your size and capacity. You can learn more and sign the Covenant here: www.armedforcescovenant.gov.uk

THE BIBAS ARE BACK FOR 2026

The Be Inspired Business Awards (BIBAs) are back for 2026.

It doesn't feel long ago that the class of 2025 were collecting their iconic trophies and now applications for this year's competition are open.

Organisers, the North & Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce are thrilled to announce the launch of the 2026 BIBAs, the county's premier business awards program, set to honour the achievements, resilience, and innovation of Lancashire's business community.



In just a few months' time, it could be your business on the stage at Blackpool Tower Ballroom, but first you need to get your applications by the deadline, which this year falls on 27th March.

BLACKPOOL BUSINESSES SHORTLISTED FOR RED ROSE AWARDS

Plenty of Blackpool businesses have been shortlisted for the Lancashire Business View Red Rose Awards.

The awards celebrate businesses of all sizes, sectors and stages of growth from across Lancashire, with more than 20 trophies recognising excellence across a wide range of industries and achievements. Categories span areas including environmental commitment, community involvement and customer service.

Shortlisted Blackpool businesses for the coveted awards include:

- Complete.Online
- VARS Technology
- Lancashire Women
- Fox Brothers
- Dennis Eagle
- Blackpool and Fylde College
- North West Air Ambulance
- Winter Gardens Blackpool

The awards ceremony will take place on Thursday 12 March 2026 at Winter Gardens Blackpool.

COASTAL RADIO LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS OPEN

Coastal Radio brings you the return of the Local Business Awards 2026, proudly supported by Blackpool & The Fylde College.

Now is the time to nominate a person or business that you believe merits recognition in one of the 25 amazing categories.

With a Black-Tie Gala Dinner and amazing entertainment on the evening of Friday June 5th at the glamorous Blackpool Tower Ballroom, this will be a night to remember.

Nominations close on Sunday the 15th of March at midnight!

[Enter here](#)

£5,000 GRANT FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR BLACKPOOL BASED BUSINESSES

The Blackpool Net Zero Business Academy is offering eligible Blackpool based businesses up to £5,000 in fully funded grant support* to help deliver real, measurable sustainability improvements in 2026.

As sustainability becomes an increasingly important consideration for businesses, many are seeking practical ways to better understand energy use and reduce costs. With funding due to end soon, Blackpool businesses are being encouraged to enquire now to secure fully funded support.

Businesses across Blackpool are already taking advantage of the grant funding to invest in practical improvements that reduce both carbon emissions and operating costs. Funded projects include solar panel installation, boiler upgrades and more efficient heating systems, as well as the transition to electric fleet vehicles.

GLASDON SIGNS UP TO FAIR EMPLOYMENT CHARTER



Glasdon UK Limited recently completed all levels of Blackpool's Fair Employment Charter!

This initiative aims to make Blackpool a top place to work and do business. Developed with input from residents, employers and trade unions, the charter aims to improve job quality, create a happier, more skilled and productive community.

Employers can join for free and are recognised for their commitment to better jobs and a stronger local economy.

Glasdon recently achieved Level 3 - the highest accreditation available.

Managing Director at Glasdon, Adrian Steen, said:

"The Blackpool Fair Employment Charter is a fantastic initiative that helps ensure Blackpool continues to thrive as a great place to live and work. At Glasdon, we take pride in the opportunities and support we offer our employees, and we are delighted to have achieved Advanced Level accreditation as a testament to this commitment."

To learn more about the Fair Employment Charter, or for businesses who would like to register their interest, visit: www.blackpool.gov.uk/EmploymentCharter

JOLLYES TO OPEN NEW PET SHOP IN BLACKPOOL

A national pet retailer is preparing to open its latest store in Lancashire.

Jollyes will launch its newest location in Blackpool on January 24 at Unit 1, Cherry Tree Retail Park.

This is one of four new stores announced for early 2026 as part of the company's UK expansion.

General News

BANK OF ENGLAND DEPUTY DISCUSSES BLACKPOOL'S OPPORTUNITIES



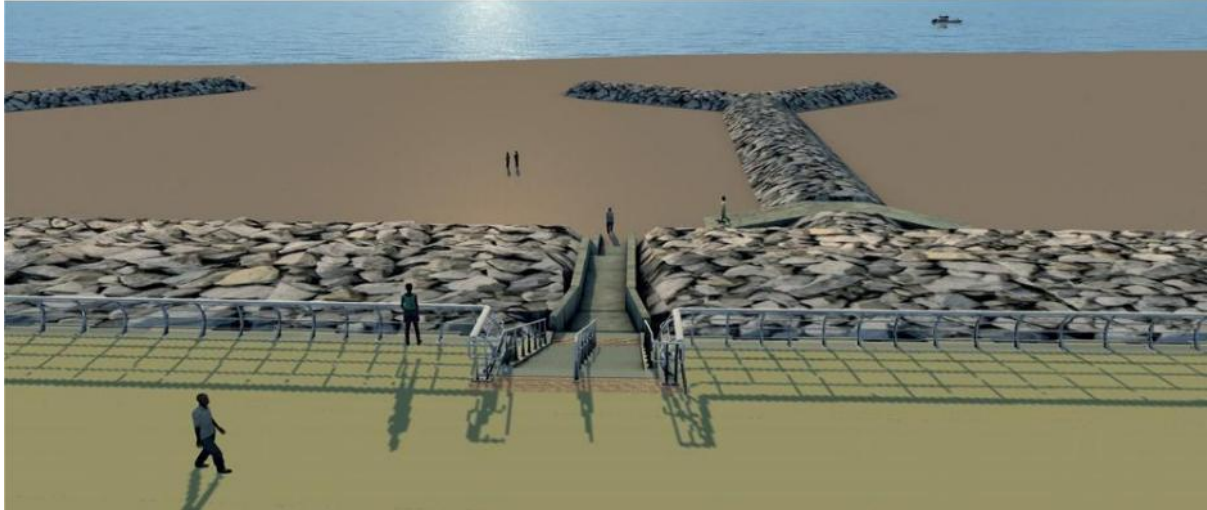
Bank of England deputy governor Clare Lombardelli heard about the opportunities and challenges in Blackpool when she met a top delegation in the town.

The community forum discussion was arranged in partnership with Blackpool-based Social Enterprise Solutions CIC.

It was attended by more than 20 delegates from private sector organisations like accountancy firm Danbro and Coastal Radio DAB, alongside Business In The Community, a top team from Blackpool

Council, Public Health, the Bank of England's North West agent Ken Clark and staff from the Office for National Statistics.

ANCHORSHOLME COAST PROTECTION SCHEME BEGINS EARLY STAGES



Site works for a vital sea defence project in Blackpool are set to begin.

The Anchorsholme Coast Protection Scheme will begin its early stages on 26 January 2026, starting with the establishment of construction compounds.

Work on the beach and the revetment is scheduled to begin May 2026.

The scheme will protect over 5,000 properties from coastal erosion and flooding, ensuring that homes and businesses remain safeguarded for years to come.

Five rock groynes will be constructed on the beach at Anchorsholme, and a rock revetment will be installed on top of the existing sloped seawall.

The headlands will trap sand and raise beach levels, absorbing wave energy and reducing the risk of flooding.

The rock revetment will strengthen and stabilise the seawall, with the rocks helping to reduce wave force during storms.

NEW PET CREMATORIUM APPROVED FOR CARLETON CEMETERY

Blackpool is set to get its first pet crematorium under new plans for Carleton Cemetery.

Blackpool Council's executive committee has approved the construction of a small pet crematorium facility at Carleton, giving animal owners the opportunity to give their beloved pets a dignified send-off in a supportive setting.

The pet funeral industry is now worth over £100 million a year and continues to grow rapidly. A recent poll revealed that half of all pet owners have held a funeral for a deceased animal.

This would be the only pet crematorium on the Fylde Coast. There are currently five in Lancashire, with the nearest to Blackpool located more than 30 minutes away, meaning the facility would offer a service for the entire Fylde coast.

The new facility would accommodate pets weighing up to 50kg. Alongside the pet crematorium, there will be an upgrade to the yard maintenance facilities at Carleton cemetery.

And finally

As always, I would like to know your thoughts on the membership and events.

Please do contact me on my email address with any comments, or please complete the post-event feedback form: <https://forms.office.com/e/GPQxAQ0grK>

Adam Ogden
Head of Communications
Blackpool Council
adam.ogden@blackpool.gov.uk