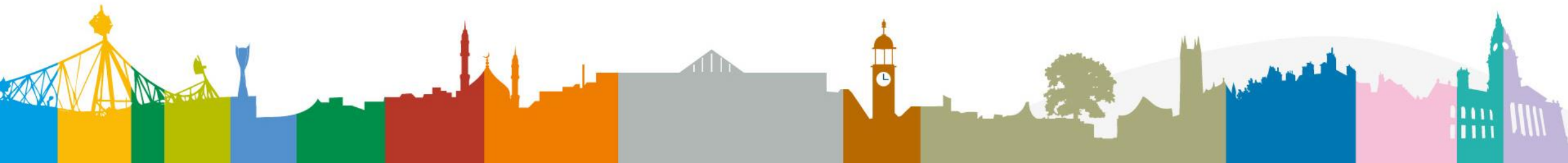


# Towns Board

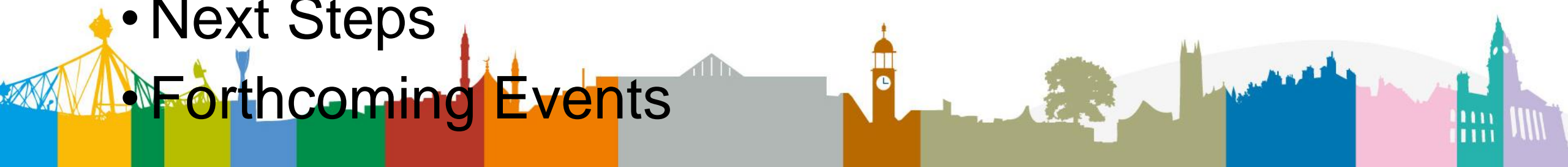
13<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## **Town and District Centre Regeneration**



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- Levelling Up
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- Towns Fund
- Major Projects – Wellsprings, Crompton Place, Church Wharf, Westpoint, Moor Lane
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# Simplification Pathfinder Pilot

- Bolton is 1 of 10 local authorities in the pilot that looks to streamline monitoring of central government funded initiatives
- Operational from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 and 8 projects currently in the portfolio
- Easier reporting requirements
  - Q1 and Q3 RAG only
  - Q2 and Q4 Financials and Outputs
- Ability to flex funding between projects
  - £5m materiality cap
- Ability to spend up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026
- Government confidence in Bolton Council's delivery of projects
- SPP does not include Long Term Plan for Towns programme (limited to Farnworth only)



# Levelling Up R1

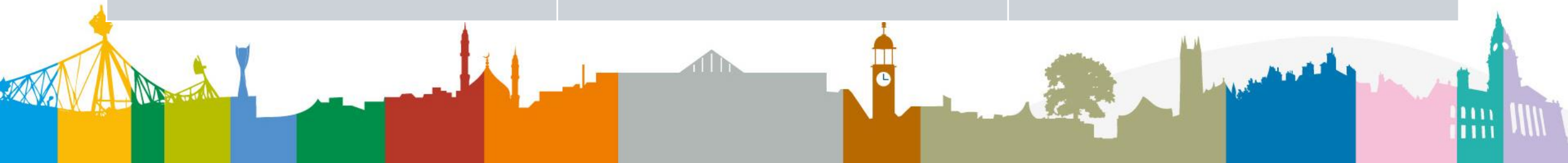
- Levelling Up Round 1 secured £20m towards the delivery a new state-of-the-art medical sciences education facility for University of Bolton, to be constructed on the site of Bolton Royal Hospital.
- Facility was given PC in April 2024.
- First wave of students in Nursing, Midwifery and other allied health professionals to enter the facility in September 2024.
- University of Bolton to seek to use facility as part of Medicine Degree delivery from September 2025.



# Levelling Up R3

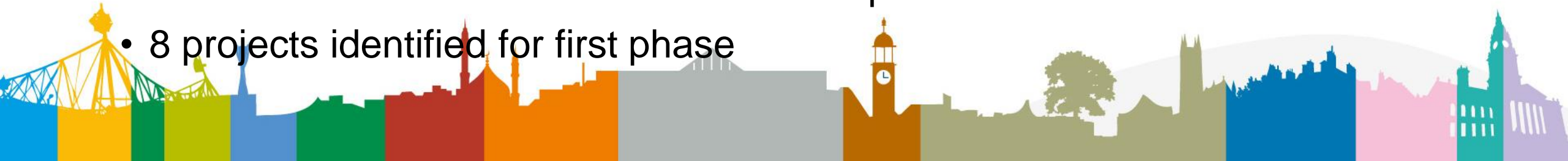
The £20m from Levelling Up R3 is earmarked for three separate Town Centre projects, each is a unique opportunity to propel the Town Centre into more of a visitor destination.

Le Mans Crescent Hotel	Reimagining Market Place	Mawdsley Gate Public Realm
<p>Repurposing the old Bolton Magistrates Court into a boutique 110-bedroom hotel, under IHG's VOCO branding.</p> <p>The hotel would bring a historic building back into use, and maintain many of the existing heritage features.</p> <p><b>Original allocation of £8,152,769.</b></p>	<p>To repurpose the old first floor Debenhams unit, and basement into mixed use leisure facilities.</p> <p>First floor to include leisure and F&amp;B offering with the basement to include a performance space and potential for music studios.</p> <p><b>Original allocation of £9,800,000.</b></p>	<p>Creating new public realm at the edge of Victoria Sq by opening up more space by demolishing a building on the edge of Crompton Place.</p> <p>Works no longer being considered as part of this project which gives us the opportunity to move the <b>£2,047,231</b> allocated into the other two projects.</p>



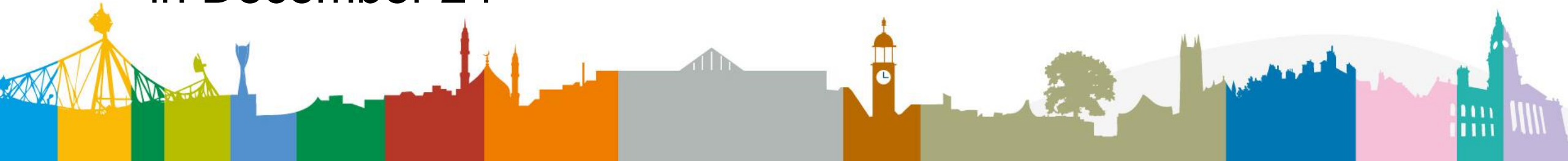
# Long Term Plan for Towns (Farnworth)

- Farnworth has been selected as one of 75 towns to be part of the Long-Term Plan for Towns programme
- £20m to be granted over 10 years - 75% Capital, 25% Revenue
- To be community-led with Council as accountable body
- Governance guidance changed in April 2024 to require a separate Farnworth focused board
- Confirmation subject to Treasury Review, expected October Budget
- November 2024 - Council ECM to sign off plan (subject to Treasury decisions)
- Geographically constrained to a defined boundary of Farnworth
- Two documents to be submitted – 3 Year plan and Ten Year Vision
- 8 projects identified for first phase



# Towns Fund

- Bolton Market, Central Library and Wellsprings all completed with Wellsprings due to open October 24
- Public realm completed on Howell Croft, Ashburner Street, Blackhorse Street and Elizabeth Park
- Elizabeth Park used as an events space for first time during Food & Drink festival
- Public realm continuing within Moor Lane development and at Cheadle Sqaure with Cheadle Square due for completion in December 24





# The Wellsprings

- Practical completion achieved in Aug 24
- Oxford Innovation have been procured as our chosen building operator
- Operator fit out works ongoing to get the building ready for the planned opening in October 24
- Website and marketing underway via Oxford Innovation
- Business support with activities both underway and with a full calendar of events planned into 2025 in line with key outputs and outcomes
- Planned Place North West Event organised for late September 24 to be held in the Wellsprings as part of a range of events as we head towards building opening

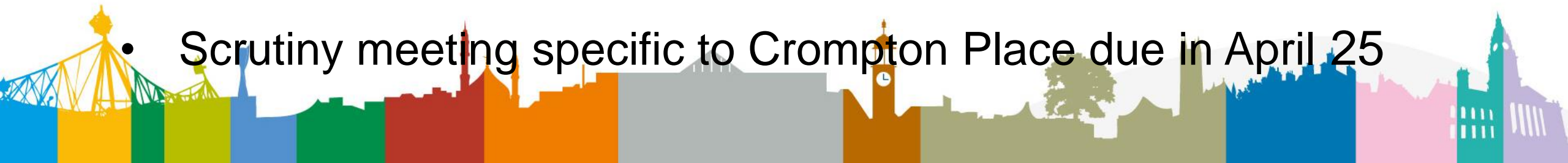
**Bolton**  
**Council**





# Crompton Place

- Multi-disciplinary team established to take the development forward
- Survey work continuing
- Demolition due to commence Q1 2025 and take 12 months
- Placemaking/meanwhile use to be presented for consideration and review
- Competition / Procurement route to secure a developer partner to be determined and agreed.
- Scrutiny meeting specific to Crompton Place due in April 25



# Church Wharf

- Cabinet report approved on 22nd July 2024 to enter into a conditional land sale agreement to Watson Church Wharf Limited for phases 1-4
- Draft programme is
  - Submission of planning application – October / November 2024
  - Secure planning consent – January / February 2025
  - Start on site – April 2025 (with activities including site remediation, drainage, roads and installation of services)
  - Commencement of construction – Q2 2025
  - Completion on site – 2029



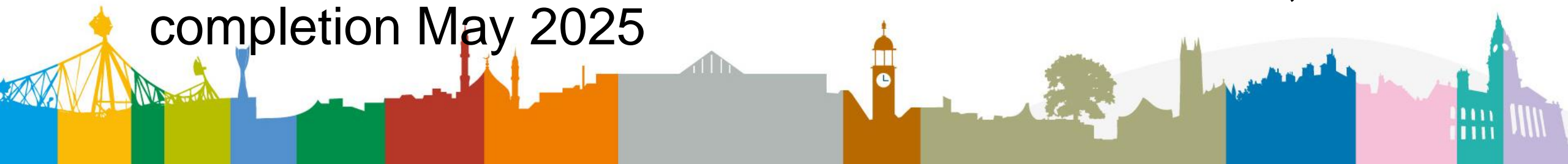
# Westpoint

- Intention remains to bring this site forward for development in the near future.
- Planning permission already in place for up to 250 units and capacity for up to 500 units demonstrated.
- Options being explored in terms of connection to Queens Park and bringing forward an extension to the masterplan area to include Queens Park to allow for biodiversity net gain improvements.
- Financial due diligence being undertaken



# Moor Lane and Croal Valley

- Completion of 44 town houses and 60 apartments at Moor Lane
- Transfers to Bolton at Home and Step Places agreed
- GMPF agreement to invest in Central Street and Moor Lane
- GMIF agreement to complete blocks
- Croal Valley - 58 units nearing completion
- Central Street – first block for handover Jan 2025, completion May 2025



# Next Steps (Wayfinding, Lighting, Cultural Strategy)

- Cabinet report approved on 9th September outlining proposals for wayfinding and lighting schemes using UKSPF funding with all projects to be in situ and spent by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025





# Forthcoming Events

- Bolton Institute of Medical Science – to be confirmed
- Food and Beverage promotion – 9th October
- Wellsprings Opening – 7th October
- Building Conversion stakeholder gathering – November 2024
- Delivery of Mayoral Development Corporation progressing

