

# **Local Strategic Partnership *Town Centre Regeneration:***

## ***What are the real needs?***

**28 November 2025**



# Background to the Engine Hub CIC



- Set up in 2021 post COVID-19 pandemic by Grace Network/GL11/Chantry Centre
- Cam/Dursley based
- Initial capital provided by Hotspots + Private Funding
- Recruited Charlie Marwood as Exec Director

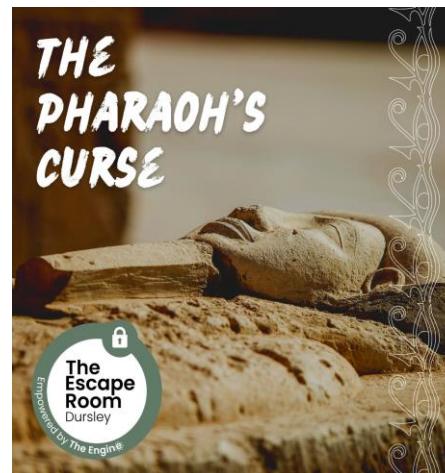


**Our [original] vision:** *'To inspire local entrepreneurs to develop new social businesses that connect, empower and generate a thriving social enterprise community'*

# Show (and Learn) by Example



- Limited entertainment/leisure time activities in Cam/Dursley area
- Developed an “affordable” Escape Room - suitable for ages 8 to 80
- 900 games run to date and draws players in from afar
- Demonstrable benefits to local economy



# Understanding the Local Demography

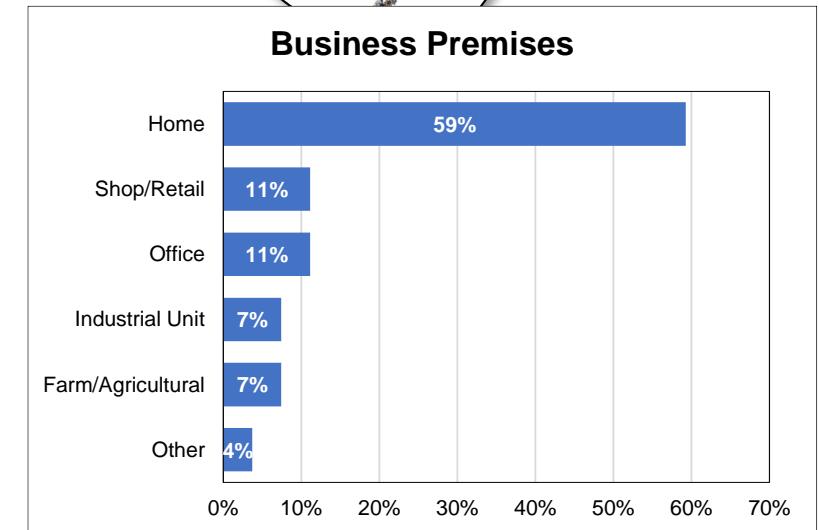
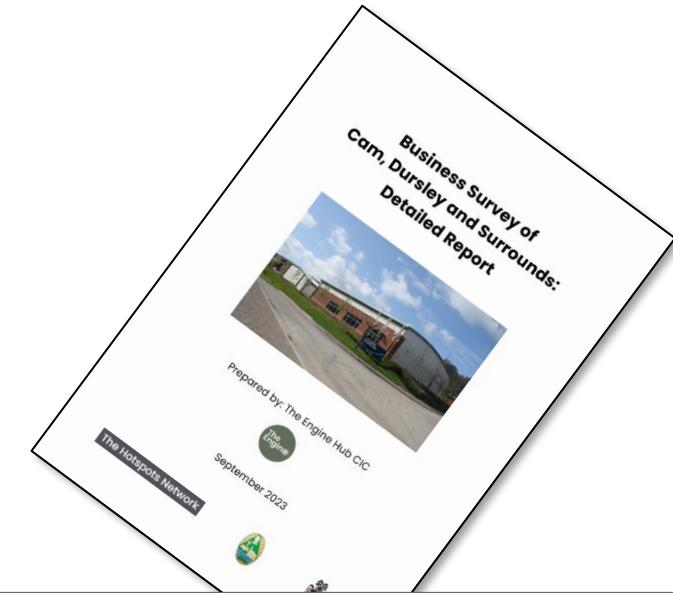


- “Old Cam & Dursley”
  - Listers etc manufacturing & CEGB energy heritage
  - High level of technical skills
  - Relatively strong social networks
- “New Cam & Dursley”
  - New to area – especially new housing
  - Stronger social ties to old home – eg Bristol
  - Limited touch points – supermarkets/school/sports

# Understanding the Local Economy



- Extensive survey of local businesses
- Multiple home-based businesses
- Complex deprivation mix



# Understanding the Assets & Networks



- Multiple Community Assets – No central “hub”

- Chantry Centre
- Kingshill House
- Dursley Community Centre
- Library
- Town Council



- Multiple (historic) Networks

# Needs (1)



- Suitable Sites
  - Smaller workshops
  - Points of Sale:
    - Silver Street
    - Dursley Market
- But not co-working space

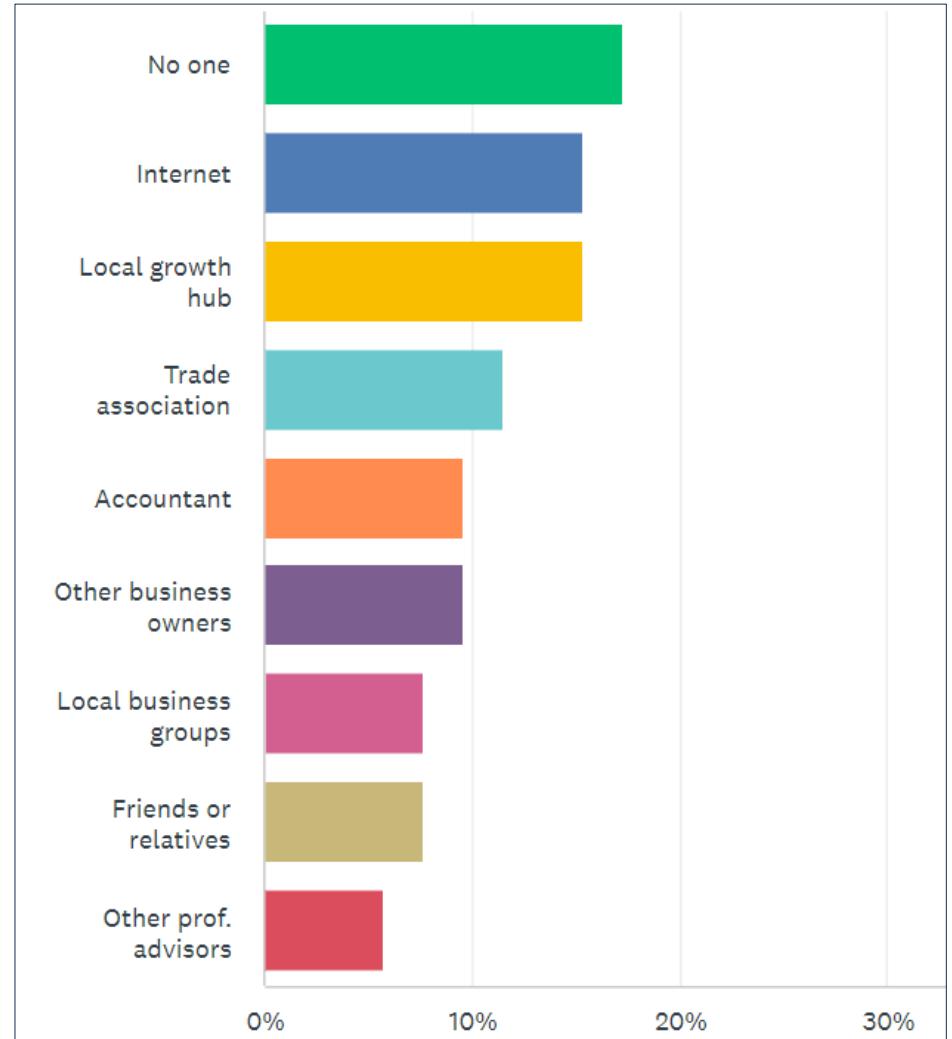


# Needs (2)



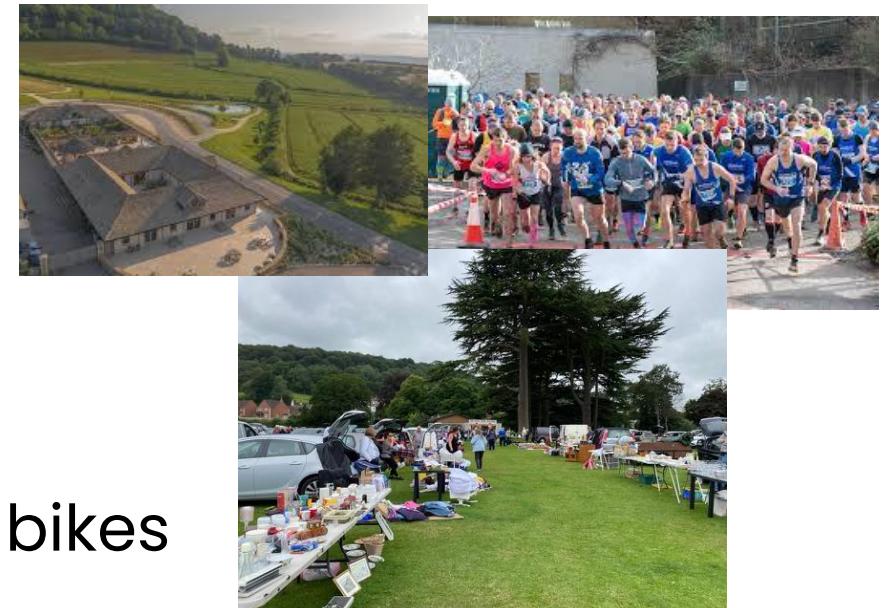
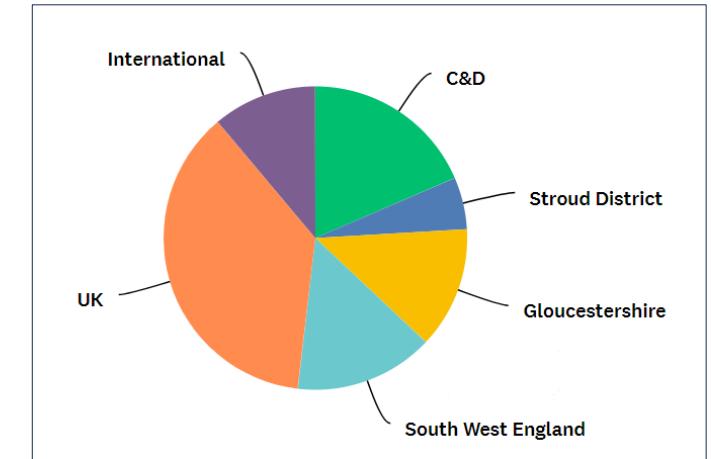
- Training Support ?
- Business Advice ?
- Networking Opportunities ?
- Digital Directory?

**Sources of Information and Advice**



# Needs (3)

- Creating footfall
  - Eg Large local events – celebrating community
    - Christmas Lights Switch On
    - Summer Festival
    - Dursley After Hours
  - Regional demand – a destination
    - Leaf and Ground
    - Car Boot Sale
    - Dursley Dozen
    - Specialist retail – eg Intersound/Delta bikes



# Needs (4)



- Innovative and continual social media
- The best possible customer experience within “natural” constraints
- The right work place for the staff
  - Scale
  - Location
  - Culture
- The right staff for the work place
- Perseverance and resilience

