

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

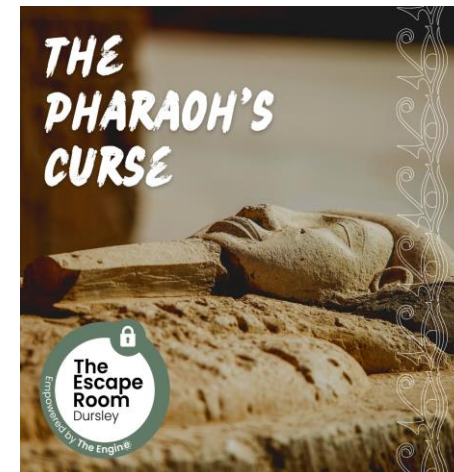


Our [original] vision: *'To inspire local entrepreneurs to develop new social businesses that connect, empower and generate a thriving social enterprise community'*

Show (and Learn) by Example



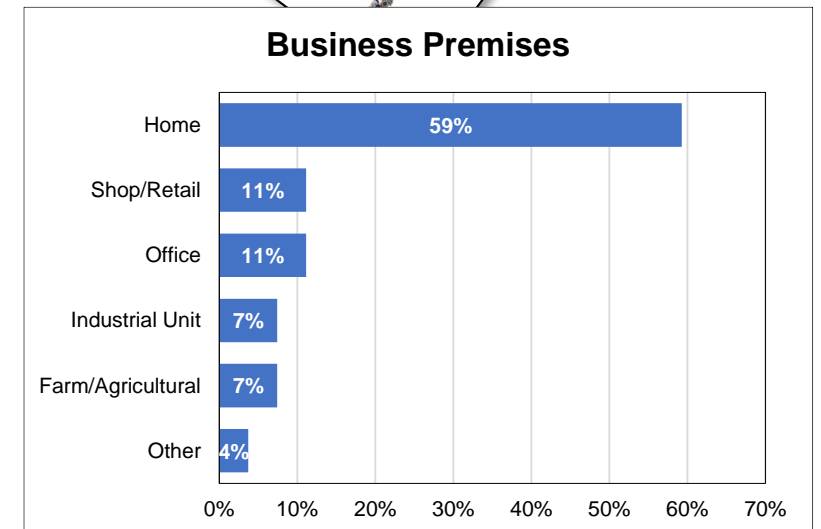
- Limited entertainment/leisure time activities in Cam/Dursley area
- Developed an “affordable” Escape Room – suitable for ages 8 to 80
- 900 games run to date and draws players in from afar
- Demonstrable benefits to local economy



- “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)

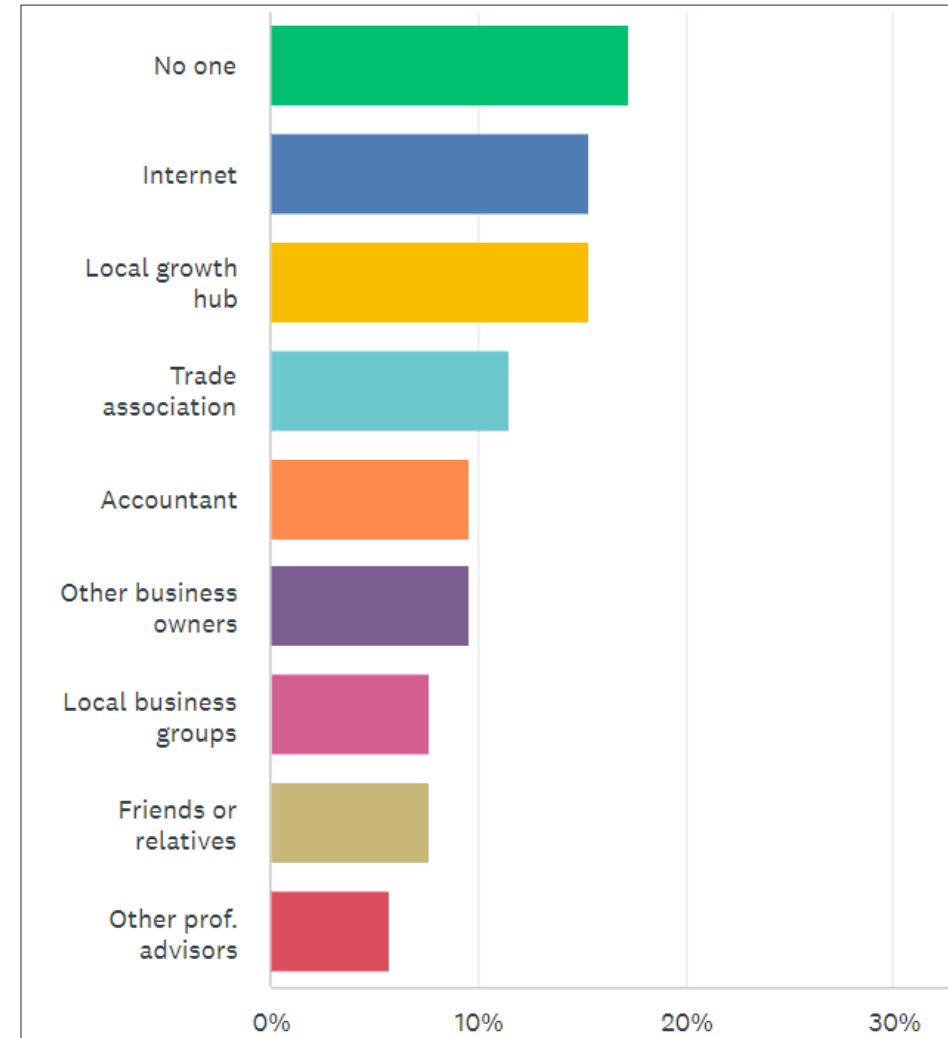


- Suitable Sites
 - Smaller workshops
 - Points of Sale:
 - Silver Street
 - Dursley Market
- But not co-working space



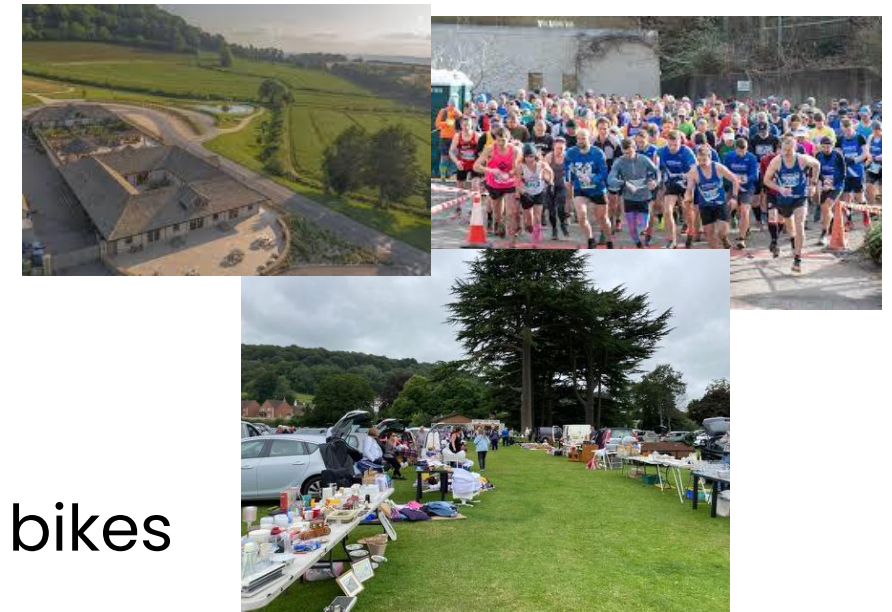
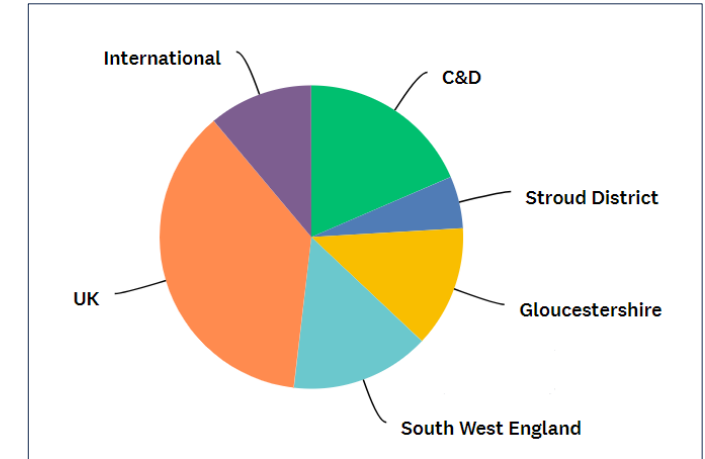
- Training Support ?
- Business Advice ?
- Networking Opportunities ?
- Digital Directory?

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

