

Agenda

General scrutiny committee

Date: **Tuesday 22 October 2019**

Time: **2.00 pm**

Place: **Council Chamber, The Shire Hall, St Peter's Square,
Hereford, HR1 2HX**

Notes: Please note the time, date and venue of the meeting.

For any further information please contact:

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If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format, please call Tim Brown, Governance Services on 01432 260239 or e-mail tbrown@herefordshire.gov.uk in advance of the meeting.

Agenda for the meeting of the General scrutiny committee

Membership

Chairperson **Councillor Jonathan Lester**
Vice-Chairperson **Councillor Tracy Bowes**

Councillor Barry Durkin
Councillor Jennie Hewitt
Councillor Bernard Hunt
Councillor Paul Symonds
Councillor William Wilding

Agenda

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence.

2. NAMED SUBSTITUTES

To receive details of members nominated to attend the meeting in place of a member of the committee.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of interests in respect of Schedule 1, Schedule 2 or Other Interests from members of the committee in respect of items on the agenda.

4. MINUTES

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2019.

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5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

To receive any written questions from members of the public.

Details of the scheme and related guidance are available here:

https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/61/get_involved

Please submit questions to councillorservices@herefordshire.gov.uk

The deadline for the receipt of questions is Wednesday 16 October 2019 at 5.00 pm.

Accepted questions will be published as a supplement prior to the meeting.

6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

To receive any written questions from members of the council.

Deadline for receipt of questions is 5:00 pm on Wednesday 16 October 2019.

Accepted questions will be published as a supplement prior to the meeting.

Please submit questions to councillorservices@herefordshire.gov.uk

7. MARCHES LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

This report provides an update on the achievements of the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), its revised governance structure, current board membership and priorities outlined in its Strategic Economic Plan (SEP). It also provides a briefing on the role and purpose of the Annual Delivery Plan and its priority activities in order for the scrutiny committee to fulfil its function of making reports or recommendations to council or the cabinet on matters which affect the council's area or the inhabitants of that area.

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8. WORK PROGRAMME

To review the committee's work programme.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is 29 November 2019.

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The public's rights to information and attendance at meetings

You have a right to: -

- Attend all Council, Cabinet, committee and sub-committee meetings unless the business to be transacted would disclose 'confidential' or 'exempt' information.
- Inspect agenda and public reports at least five clear days before the date of the meeting.
- Inspect minutes of the Council and all committees and sub-committees and written statements of decisions taken by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members for up to six years following a meeting.
- Inspect background papers used in the preparation of public reports for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting. (A list of the background papers to a report is given at the end of each report). A background paper is a document on which the officer has relied in writing the report and which otherwise is not available to the public.
- Access to a public register stating the names, addresses and wards of all Councillors with details of the membership of Cabinet and of all committees and sub-committees.
- Have a reasonable number of copies of agenda and reports (relating to items to be considered in public) made available to the public attending meetings of the Council, Cabinet, committees and sub-committees.
- Have access to a list specifying those powers on which the Council have delegated decision making to their officers identifying the officers concerned by title.
- Copy any of the documents mentioned above to which you have a right of access, subject to a reasonable charge (20p per sheet subject to a maximum of £5.00 per agenda plus a nominal fee of £1.50 for postage).
- Access to this summary of your rights as members of the public to attend meetings of the Council, Cabinet, committees and sub-committees and to inspect and copy documents.

Public transport links

The Shire Hall is a few minutes walking distance from both bus stations located in the town centre of Hereford.

Recording of this meeting

Please note that filming, photography and recording of this meeting is permitted provided that it does not disrupt the business of the meeting.

Members of the public are advised that if you do not wish to be filmed or photographed you should let the governance services team know before the meeting starts so that anyone who intends filming or photographing the meeting can be made aware.

The council makes official audio recordings of meetings. These Recordings are available via the council's website.

The reporting of meetings is subject to the law and it is the responsibility of those doing the reporting to ensure that they comply.

Fire and emergency evacuation procedure

In the event of a fire or emergency the alarm bell will ring continuously.

You should vacate the building in an orderly manner through the nearest available fire exit and make your way to the Fire Assembly Point in the Shire Hall car park.

Please do not allow any items of clothing, etc. to obstruct any of the exits.

Do not delay your vacation of the building by stopping or returning to collect coats or other personal belongings.

The Chairperson or an attendee at the meeting must take the signing in sheet so it can be checked when everyone is at the assembly point.

Guide to General Scrutiny Committee

Scrutiny is a statutory role fulfilled by councillors who are not members of the cabinet.

The role of the scrutiny committees is to help develop policy, to carry out reviews of council and other local services, and to hold decision makers to account for their actions and decisions.

Council has decided that there will be three scrutiny committees. The Committees reflect the balance of political groups on the council.

The General Scrutiny Committee consists of 7 Councillors.

Councillor Tracy Bowes (Vice-Chairperson)	It's Our County
Councillor Barry Durkin	Conservative
Councillor Jennie Hewitt	Herefordshire Independents
Councillor Bernard Hunt	True Independents
Councillor Jonathan Lester (Chairperson)	Conservative
Councillor Paul Symonds	Liberal Democrat
Councillor William Wilding	Herefordshire Independents

The committees have the power:

- (a) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- (b) to make reports or recommendations to the authority or the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- (c) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- (d) to make reports or recommendations to council or the cabinet with respect to the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- (e) to make reports or recommendations to council or the cabinet on matters which affect the authority's area or the inhabitants of that area
- (f) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions and to make reports or recommendations to the council with respect to the discharge of those functions. In this regard crime and disorder functions means:
 - (i) a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
 - (ii) a strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area; and
 - (iii) a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area

- (g) to review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in its area and make reports and recommendations to a responsible person on any matter it has reviewed or scrutinised or to be consulted by a relevant NHS body or health service provider in accordance with the Regulations (2013/218) as amended. In this regard *health service* includes services designed to secure improvement—
- (i) in the physical and mental health of the people of England, and
 - (ii) in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of physical and mental illness
 - (iii) And any services provided in pursuance of arrangements under section 75 in relation to the exercise of health-related functions of a local authority.
- (h) to review and scrutinise the exercise by risk management authorities of flood risk management functions or coastal erosion risk management functions which may affect the local authority's area.

The specific remit of the general scrutiny committee includes:

- Services within the economy and place directorate and corporate centre
- Corporate performance
- Budget and policy framework matters
- Statutory flood risk management scrutiny powers
- Statutory community safety and policing scrutiny powers

Who attends general scrutiny committee meetings?

Coloured nameplates are used which indicate the role of those attending the committee:

Pale pink	Members of the committee, including the chairman and vice chairman.
Pale Blue	Cabinet Members – They are not members of the committee but attend principally to answer any questions the Committee may have and inform the debate.
Orange	Officers of the council – attend to present reports and give technical advice to the committee
Green	People external to the Council invited to provide information to the committee.
White	Other councillors may also attend as observers but are only entitled to speak at the discretion of the chairman.

**Minutes of the meeting of General scrutiny committee held at
The Council Chamber - The Shire Hall, St. Peter's Square,
Hereford, HR1 2HX on Monday 9 September 2019 at 10.15 am**

Present: Councillor Jonathan Lester (chairperson)

Councillors: Barry Durkin, Jennie Hewitt, Bernard Hunt, Jim Kenyon,
Alan Seldon and Paul Symonds

In attendance: Councillors Polly Andrews, Jenny Bartlett, Christy Bolderson,
Sebastian Bowen, Gemma Davies (Cabinet Member), Carole Gandy,
John Hardwick, John Harrington, Liz Harvey (Cabinet Member), Kath Hey,
David Hitchiner (Cabinet Member), Helen I'Anson, Tony Johnson,
Bob Matthews, Mark Millmore, Jeremy Milln, Roger Phillips, Paul Rone,
Nigel Shaw, David Summers, Elissa Swinglehurst and Kevin Tillett

Officers: R Ball, Director Economy and Place (ADEP), M Lane – Head of Infrastructure
Delivery (HID), A Lovegrove – Chief Finance Officer, C Ward – Monitoring
Officer, J Coleman – Democratic Services Manager/Statutory Scrutiny Officer.

**S Burgess – Head of Transport and Access Services, J Callard –
Transportation Strategy Manager, K Morris – Strategic Capital Finance
Manager, A Neill – Chief Executive, N Webster – Economic Development
Manager.**

10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Bowes and Wilding.

Apologies were also received from Councillor Guthrie, one of the signatories to the call-in.

11. NAMED SUBSTITUTES

Councillor Kenyon substituted for Councillor Wilding and Councillor Seldon for Councillor Bowes.

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

13. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 July 2019 be approved as a correct record.

14. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Questions received from members of the public had been published as a supplement. It was noted that the issues raised were included within the grounds for call in as set out in

the report published with the agenda and would be explored by the committee along with any supplementary questions

A copy of the published questions and supplementary questions asked at the meeting is attached at appendix 1 to these minutes.

15. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Questions received from members of the council had been published as a supplement. It was noted that the issues raised were included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and would be explored by the committee along with any supplementary questions.

A copy of the published questions and supplementary questions asked at the meeting is attached at appendix 2 to these minutes.

(Councillor Bolderson had declared a schedule 1 interest in the matter and had been granted a dispensation by the monitoring officer under S33 (2) (c) of the Localism Act 2011 as it was in the best interests of persons living in the council's area.)

16. CALL-IN OF CABINET MEMBER DECISION ON HEREFORD TRANSPORT PACKAGE AND SOUTH WYE TRANSPORT PACKAGE

The Committee considered the call-in of the decision of the cabinet member infrastructure and transport regarding the Hereford Transport Package (HTP) and the South Wye Transport package (SWTP).

The decision had been called in accordance with the Scrutiny Rules at part 4 section 5 of the constitution by the following twelve Councillors: Councillors Shaw, Phillips, Swinglehurst, Johnson, Durkin, Millmore, Guthrie, James, Gandy, Polly Andrews, Symonds and Tillet. The grounds for the call in were: that there has been inadequate consultation with stakeholders prior to the decision being made; that there was inadequate evidence on which to base a decision and that not all relevant matters were fully taken into account; that the decision is disproportionate to the desired outcome; that the decision-maker has failed to consult with and take professional advice from all relevant officers including the monitoring officer and the chief finance officer, as appropriate, or has failed to have sufficient regard to that advice; that the decision exceeds the powers or terms of reference of the decision-maker responsible for the decision; and/or that the access to information rules have not been adhered to.

The Chairman outlined the protocol for the conduct of the meeting a copy of which had been published as a supplement to the agenda papers.

Cabinet Member - summary of his decision.

Councillor Harrington – cabinet member – infrastructure and transport commented that the new administration formed after the election in May 2019 aimed to tackle Hereford's congestion and free land for development using modern sustainable transport measures and an eastern link river crossing at Rotherwas. It was therefore necessary to assess whether the current schemes provided value for money and solved the problems they were intended to solve.

Travel, transport and infrastructure development should reduce congestion, support the economy, improve health and wellbeing and make the county a better place. Account also had to be taken of the council's declaration of a climate emergency in reviewing existing schemes.

The report on which he had based his decision to pause and review the two transport packages had set out all the options and their implications. It was intended that a further decision would be taken shortly on the scope for the review of each package.

Presentation of Reasons for the Call-in

Councillor Phillips as the lead call in member spoke on the call-in followed by Councillors Shaw, Phillips, Swinglehurst, Johnson, Millmore, James, Gandy, Polly Andrews, and Tillet.

The following principal points were made:

- The transport packages were essential for the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of the county.
- A pause in work would potentially have a disproportionate impact and make the packages undeliverable. Highways England currently had the Hereford Transport Package as its second priority scheme for the west midlands. A pause risked losing that status. Work should therefore continue while the proposed reviews were undertaken. This option had not been addressed within the report.
- The southern link road was critical to the development of the Rotherwas Industrial Estate.
- It was questioned whether the active travel measures in the SWTP could continue to be funded from the current source if the southern link road was paused.
- It was also questioned whether the pause was contrary to the local transport plan and core strategy, both of which were part of the council's budget and policy framework, if the pause would result in funding being withdrawn.
- Paragraph 61 of the report to the cabinet member set out the risks associated with a decision to pause and review or stop the projects. Reference was made to the proposed mitigation that "specific communications required with funding bodies to clarify any risks associated with a delay in the council progressing bids, seeking to hold on current bids or the consequences of resubmitting bids in the event that current bids are formally withdrawn". It was suggested that clarification should be sought from funders before considering a pause.
- Appendix 3 of the report discussed option A, the decision that had been taken in relation to the SWTP, to pause all work and undertake a review whilst continuing active travel measures. It stated that if paused it was not known what the position of the Department for Transport (DfT) and the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) would be. In addition a pause may cause the land owners affected by the compulsory purchase orders to take action.
- Account did not appear to have been taken of these points in the decision. Assurance was required from the funding bodies that funding would not be lost as a consequence of pausing works. Otherwise the decision was disproportionate and departed from the budget and policy framework and the risk not mitigated. If that was the case a decision to pause could only be taken by Council.
- Without the western bypass the housing targets in the Core Strategy could not be met and a pause was therefore contrary to this policy.
- Paragraph 51 of the report indicated that a pause did not constitute a trigger for claw back of the grant monies. However, no such assurance could be given if funding was withdrawn by the grant funding body. Confirmation was sought as to whether a claw back might therefore be triggered. The sums involved had been capitalised. It was questioned what revenue funding would have to be found if the projects were paused and lost funding and what mitigation was proposed.
- Appendix 3 concluded by noting that a decision to pause would need to be reviewed on a regular basis. If the outcome of such a review was to cease then all capitalised costs would need to be funded from an appropriate revenue reserve. It was asked how regular that review would need to be.

- There had been a lack of consultation. The residents of the county as a whole should be consulted.
- The decision seemed to be at odds with the decarbonisation of the city centre.
- Sufficient reports had already been produced in support of a bypass. The council risked having to pay back substantial sums from its revenue budget.
- The consultation process had been flawed. It was unclear why some Parish Councils in wards had been consulted and others had not. In addition key stakeholders had not been consulted. There was also evidence that the database used to contact residents had not been up to date. It was also questioned whether what had occurred qualified as a serious consultation exercise.
- The pause would lead to continued uncertainty.
- Two parties of the three forming the coalition had campaigned in the 2019 election to stop the bypass. That was the political reality underlying the decision to pause. The matter should be considered by council.
- Residents along the A49, were adversely affected by pollution and supported a bypass to improve air quality.
- Residents in the Hinton and Hunderton Ward particularly on the Ross Road and Belmont Road were also affected by pollution from traffic but had not been consulted.
- Clarification was requested on the expected future level of HGV movements in the event of a bypass.

Cabinet Member Response

The cabinet member commented that issues of pollution would be discussed and considered and were therefore not relevant to the call-in of his decision.

The review would examine the detailed evidence and would take account of the climate emergency that had not been a factor when the two plans had been drawn up.

He considered the concerns about consultation to have some validity. The points made about the potential implications of a pause could be seen to argue in favour of a greater consultation period and he would consider this point.

He would also consider the suggestion that the schemes should be allowed to progress while the review was being conducted, although regard would need to be had to the additional costs that would be incurred.

(Councillors Durkin and Symonds as signatories to the call-in and members of the committee stated that they would consider the matter with an open mind.)

Questions from the Committee

The following principal matters arose during questioning:

- The Monitoring Officer confirmed that 32 questions had been received from members of the public of which 6 had been accepted. The questions that had been rejected or redirected had been questions that did not relate to the specific decision and were properly for the cabinet member to answer separately or were otherwise outside the scope of the call-in. The redirected questions would be published and answered at the next Cabinet meeting.
- It was asked whether the best course would be for the cabinet member to defer a decision until there had been better engagement, noting also the argument for continuing work in parallel with undertaking the proposed reviews to avoid the risk of jeopardising funding.

The cabinet member indicated that he intended to consider this point.

- It was asked if consideration had been given to using existing infrastructure to post a route round Hereford for HGVs.

The cabinet member commented that this had not formed part of the decision, but would form part of the review. He understood that the evidence set out that HGVs comprised 7% of the total traffic (48,000) vehicles crossing the river.

- Referring to paragraph 67 of the report it was asked if it was considered that there had been adequate communication. Wide consultation was essential on such a major issue.

The cabinet member commented that letters sent to those identified in the paragraph were not part of a consultation process but rather a notification of an impending decision. He reiterated that the consultation might have been carried out better. A full consultation would form part of the proposed reviews. He added that, although not part of the process, he had visited and spoken to many businesses at Rotherwas and Pontrilas.

- The cabinet member confirmed that there had been discussions with the key funding bodies and they had been updated.
- The Director commented that the Marches LEP was the largest funder for the SWTP. There was a confirmed funding agreement in place with them. That funding was expected to be drawn down by March 2021. As the cabinet report appendix 3 – option A stated, a pause that resulted in a significant programme change and completion after March 2021 would affect the ability to use the existing funding agreements. It was understood that the Marches LEP Board was likely to discuss the SWTP in September. They had acknowledged the wish to pause and review.

There was currently no secured funding for the HTP from external funders. The DfT funding process for large local major projects was a potential funder for the HTP. Midlands Connect, the regional transport body had been invited by the DfT to determine regional priorities and had indicated that they wished to see a conclusion to the review to enable them to take that into account in their advice to government. They recognised that the new administration wished to review the evidence base and had allowed the flexibility for that review to take place.

A separate bid had been submitted under the housing infrastructure fund to Homes England.

Highways England were also considering Route Investment Strategy 2 (RIS2) looking at the government's road building programme for 2020-2025.

The Marches LEP, DfT, Highways England and Homes England and other government bodies had been made aware of the council's consideration of a pause and review and the cabinet member report highlighted the risks and mitigations in relation to those funding arrangements and that would continue as part of any review. None of the funders or potential funders had indicated that they would not fund the scheme or indicated any change in their funding arrangements. This would be explored in the proposed reviews.

No particular timeline had been confirmed for a cut-off. The LEP Board had not yet met. There was no timescale for a funding announcement by Government in relation to large local major schemes of Highways England RIS2. They had not given a deadline for conclusion of the review.

The council had promoted the two schemes to government. If the funding request were to change that would have to be considered by government.

- Reflecting on the economic arguments for infrastructure development being advanced, it was remarked that Client Earth had written to a number of councils who were reviewing their local plans to see if their intentions were consistent with legal obligations under the Climate Act 2008. The cabinet member confirmed that the letter

had been received and that would form part of the reviews and of reviews of other relevant policies. The executive was mindful of the need for action as well as words in responding to the climate emergency.

- The question was raised as to whether the proposed bypass provided for within the Core Strategy and the Strategy itself was intended to reduce congestion in the City or to generate housing growth.

The cabinet member commented that he considered that there appeared to be some confusion within the Strategy. His view was that the primary aim was to unlock land in the west. Current figures did not show a reduction in traffic on the A49 as a result of the bypass. Questions included whether land could be unlocked in a different way or if congestion could be relieved in a different way.

- It was asked if anything could be learned from the current bypass works being undertaken by Worcestershire County Council. The cabinet member indicated that he did not expect to follow their approach.
- There was a logic to a pause and review to enable the new administration to satisfy itself as to the way forward. However, a bypass was required. A recent poll in Newton Farm ward had indicated 80% supported a bypass. The review must not be at the cost of unacceptable delay and additional expense and even cancellation of the funding secured.
- A view was expressed that the pause and review should proceed as proposed. Climate change had grown in importance as a factor in recent years and it was important to ensure that the current schemes would address this concern. Congestion in the City was an issue and it was important to ensure that the correct solution was identified.
- It was proposed that the council ensured that databases were kept up to date to ensure consultation conducted appropriately.

The cabinet member commented that only a small number of letters had been sent in error out of the several thousand issued. In three cases people had moved house. In two cases people had been deceased. Apologies had been sent and the databases updated accordingly.

- It was suggested that during the period of review consideration should be given to open days for parish councils, businesses and the public to seek their views.
- The possibility of holding a referendum on a bypass was raised.
- There was further discussion of the merits of pause and review compared with continuing work in parallel with undertaking the proposed reviews to avoid the risk of jeopardising existing funding, including consideration of whether to differentiate between the two projects given their different funding status. One view was that no further harm should be caused pending the outcome of the reviews.
- In terms of the delivering the SWTP by March 2021 the Director commented that the longer the pause and review the more difficult it would be to meet that timetable. The council would need to consider the flexibility of the funders and the profile of spend, noting that part of the funding was from the council. This would need to be discussed with the Marches LEP and the DfT.
- The Director emphasised there was no connection between the Marches LEP and any organisation that may benefit from the southern link road part of the SWTP. The Marches LEP considered priorities for the Marches and oversaw the discharge of government funding allocated to it. Funding had been awarded on the basis of all the objectives set out for the SWTP. The council could consider the profiling of the scheme and ask for flexibility from the Marches LEP. It would, however, be a matter for the Marches LEP.

- It was asked how the Marches LEP would view a request to progress the active travel measures alone. The Director commented that the active travel measures were a relatively small part of the £35 budget for the scheme (some £5m). He did not know what the LEP's view of such a request would be. He noted that planning permission had been granted for the southern link road. This set out the specifications for the proposed road.

(The meeting adjourned between 12.20 and 12.32pm)

- A member commented that the decision was disproportionate. A decision should only be made after consultation with all businesses and completion of the reviews and be determined by council itself.
- A member commented that it was essential that any consultation was conducted with the all the necessary evidence available to enable an informed decision to be reached.

Summing up by Cabinet Member

The Cabinet member – infrastructure and transport thanked all those who had contributed to the debate.

Summing up by Lead call-in member

(Councillor Phillips having had to leave the meeting Councillor Shaw summed up.)

Councillor Shaw thanked contributors and made the following principal points:

- A review was fine but this should not be at the risk of both secured funding and that which had been applied for given the years it had taken to achieve that opportunity.
- Many other authorities would be keen to accept any funding foregone by the council.
- The effect on the Rotherwas Enterprise zone the cyber security development and the new university shell store development and other council and private investments appeared to have been overlooked.
- The LEP met on 27 September. They had to ensure the funding allocated for the SWTP would be spent by 2021. Other authorities would doubtless have alternative schemes they would like the funding to be spent on instead.
- Given the political composition of the council the decision should not be taken by a single cabinet member but by council as a whole, possibly informed by a referendum.
- He welcomed the cabinet member's indication that he would review consultation and consider whether to review the schemes in parallel with continuing them rather than pausing them.
- There should be constant engagement with the funders both of secured and potential funding.
- He requested that written questions that had been accepted received a written response.

The Monitoring Officer clarified that the proposed decision was not contrary to the budget and policy framework and as such was not a decision for council itself.

RESOLVED: That the decision be referred back to the cabinet member to reconsider, and in doing so:

- **The cabinet member seeks clarification from the funders, of both the South Wye Transport Package and the Hereford Transport Package, of the funding implications of a review and ensures that both projects are not interdependent of each other;**

- **Ongoing planned activity, programmed in to take place during the pause, continues while the review is underway;**
- **The cabinet member hosts a time limited series of ‘open days’ with parish councils, businesses and members of the public to ensure their views are taken into account on all of the evidence under consideration as part of the review; and**
- **That all council, and council contractors, contact databases, as far as is practicable, are kept up to date ahead of contacting members of the public.**

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that, subject to confirmation, the next meeting was scheduled for Monday 23 September at 10.15 am.

public questions (Pages 9 - 12)

member questions (Pages 13 - 16)

The meeting ended at 1.13 pm

Chairperson

PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO GENERAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 9 SEPTEMBER 2019

Please note that under the Constitution all questions must be directed to the Chairperson. Where it is not within the Chairperson's remit to answer the question he will ensure that the issue is explored during the committee's deliberations.

Question 1

Ms J Furniss – Belmont

Dept for Transport (DfT) Local Growth Fund Portfolio Schemes and Large Local Majors-Quarterly Monitoring Returns showed that submission of the Full Approval Application to the DfT was due on 4th March 2019 and that completion of works was due 1st May 2019. Both dates are labelled “mandatory” in the form, indicating that after this date funding, retained by the DfT for the South Wye Transport Package, may not be available. As both of these mandatory dates have been missed by Herefordshire Council, what revised timetable has been agreed with the DfT to confirm that funding is still available for the South Wye Transport Package?

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Question 2

Mr G Baker – Clehonger

As a consultant of a major business in Hereford all my working life (62 years) I have followed with interest the everlasting debate on a bypass for the city for over 40 years.

Following the well thought development of the highly successful Livestock Market it was assumed by many that the western bypass would soon be delivered.

A recent poll shows that the majority of Herefordians would like the council to get on with it.

All the evidence and consultations lead to a Government funded bypass.

Will the Committee and cabinet members please explain to the businesses of Herefordshire why anything new will come from reviewing and this holding up the development of the western bypass and southern link road.

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Question 3

Mr E Price –Oakcurch Farm Shop and Country Store – Staunton on Wye

I am the senior partner at Oakchurch on the A438 at Staunton on Wye employing many employees. After many years of talk, I believed that a Hereford Bypass was finally going to happen. A reason given for this pause is to review an Eastern bridge. After all the consultation process to arrive at the western route as the preferred bypass option, does not the Cabinet member realise the level of backlash any review of the eastern bridge will have as it does not constitute a bypass. Getting through traffic out of the city centre must happen

before any of the other reasons given can be delivered. East cannot be a bypass route therefore can the member explain what his pause can achieve in just 4 months.

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Supplementary Question

If a bypass to the east was to be explored would it go from the A49 to the A49 not just to the Ledbury Road?

Response

The Chairman noted that supplementary questions should relate to the grounds for call-in.

Question 4

Mr P Collins – Pontrilas

Is this delay in the progress of the infrastructure road improvements going to cause any funding to be lost or jeopardised?

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Question 5

Mr P Price – Preston-on-Wye

The cabinet members pause is fundamentally flawed and unconstitutional and should be stopped.

The Hereford Bypass is being considered in the prioritisation ranking for RIS 2 and will be decided by October for publishing late autumn. I assume the Cabinet member had the courtesy to speak to Highways England and Dept for Transport about his decision to pause this project when it directly impacts on the strategic road network which the A49 is part.

The Cabinet member for Infrastructures previous statements and that of some of his Cabinet colleagues that they will stop the Bypass contravenes Council policies in the adopted Core Strategy.

As the pause is described as a period of review and not a review of the Core Strategy, would the committee consider if the Cabinet member decision is in effect cancelling the project by default.

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Supplementary Question

It was questioned whether the decision to pause was in fact a decision to stop the bypass and asked whether the funding had been discussed with the expected funders?

Response

The matter would be explored by the Committee.

Question 6

Mr R Markham – Bull Products Ltd Rotherwas

I have a business with 70 staff and T/O of £12m, we are looking to expand to £50m by 2023 and recruit an additional 200 staff over the next 4 years. Over £6m of Investment decisions have made has been based on the core strategy 2011 plan, so my question is why key business stakeholders have not been consulted on any pause and my correspondence not answered?

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Supplementary question

Would there be full consultation with businesses to understand their requirements? What information had emerged following the announcement of the intention to pause work?

Response

The matters would be explored by the Committee.

Question 7

Mr J Johnson

There are currently peak time traffic movement restrictions in the Rotherwas Enterprise Zone (REZ) which the SLR was to alleviate. Can the Committee guarantee that the decision to pause the HTP and SWTP will not have an effect on the REZ expansion announced as recently as 16 August 2019, the new Cyber Centre and Shell Store developments and the Council and LEP investments therein?

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

MEMBER QUESTIONS TO GENERAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 9 SEPTEMBER 2019

Please note that under the Constitution all questions must be directed to the Chairperson. Where it is not within the Chairperson's remit to answer the question he will ensure that the issue is explored during the committee's deliberations.

Question 1

Councillor Nigel Shaw – Bringsty and Bromyard

Can the Chairman advise who discussed with the LEP, and when, prior to the decision to pause being made by cabinet member, to ensure that the proposed pause does not impact the secured funding?

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Supplementary

Who in Highways England had been consulted and when prior to the cabinet member's decision to ensure that the proposed pause did not impact on the secured and earmarked funding?

Response

The matter would be explored by the Committee.

Question 2

Councillor Mark Millmore – Holmer

The proposals for Hereford Bypass have been developed to enable the city centre to be decarbonised and improve air quality. To this end, the traffic that does not need to be in the city centre must be removed so that the city centre space can be enabled for active travel and public transport. This means preventing car use in defined areas. How does pausing or cancelling improve the air quality within the city?

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Supplementary

How does the council reconcile its promotion of healthy activities within an environment in the city that is a hazard to health?

Response

The matter would be explored by the Committee.

Question 3**Councillor Carole Gandy – Mortimer**

In the Cabinet Member's report there are references to no fewer than 17 consultations pertaining to the HTP and the SWTP. Given the new administration's emphasis on openness, transparency and increased community engagement, can you advise me as to over what period of time this consultation was undertaken, with whom and can you explain to me how you ensured it was open and transparent?

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Supplementary

A summary of the decision had been sent to all directly affected ward members but it had been stated that this could not be discussed with anyone else. How could local members effectively engage with residents and represent their views in these circumstances?

Response

The matter would be explored by the Committee.

Question 4**Councillor Elissa Swinglehurst – Llangarron**

Ground (d) of the call in holds that the decision is disproportionate to the desired outcome. What exactly is the 'desired outcome' of the decision?

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Supplementary

Why could the cabinet member not carry out a review while allowing the core strategy to continue be delivered?

Response

The matter would be explored by the Committee.

Question 5**Councillor Paul Rone – Redhill**

The reasons given by Cllr Harrington for pausing include a review of alternatives, one of the alternatives is an Eastern Route.

Does the committee feel that four months is sufficient time for commissioning reports and feasibility studies – all at immense cost – especially when there are multiple reports already available?

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Question 6**Councillor Christy Bolderson – Wormside**

There was considerable public consultation during the development of the HTP and SWTP, however, there has been no formal consultation with the public in relation to pausing the HTP and SWTP. In addition, as Ward Councillor for Wormside I was asked to comment on a summary draft report, however, the report was being provided “in confidence in advance of the publication of the report itself and was not for forwarding to or discussion with anyone else”. This made it impossible to solicit feedback from Parish Councils and Ward Constituents. Would the Committee not agree that holding a referendum on the by-pass, and suspending the decision to pause until the result of that referendum, would be appropriate in light of the Administration’s commitment to increased public participation and decision making?

Response

Thank you for your question. The issue raised is included within the grounds for call in as set out in the report published with the agenda and will be explored by the committee.

Supplementary

Why had there not been formal public consultation on the proposal to pause work? Would the committee recommend a referendum?

Response

The matter would be explored by the Committee.



Meeting:	General scrutiny committee
Meeting date:	Tuesday 22 October 2019
Title of report:	MARCHES LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE
Report by:	Director for Economy and Place

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose and summary

This report provides an update on the achievements of the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), its revised governance structure, current board membership and priorities outlined in its Strategic Economic Plan (SEP). It also provides a briefing on the role and purpose of the Annual Delivery Plan and its priority activities in order for the scrutiny committee to fulfil its function of making reports or recommendations to council or the cabinet on matters which affect the council's area or the inhabitants of that area

Recommendation(s)

That:

- (a) **the committee consider the progress and performance of the Marches LEP and determine any recommendations it wishes to make to the executive; and**
- (b) **the committee determine any future elements for consideration in the future work programme.**
- (c)

Further information on the subject of this report is available from

Richard Ball, Director for Economy and Place 01432 260965 richard.ball@herefordshire .gov.uk

Alternative options

1. There are no alternative options to the recommendations; it is a function of the committee to review and make recommendations on matters affecting the county or its inhabitants and is required as part of the Marches LEP's local Accountability and Assurance Framework (AAF).

Key considerations

2. The Marches LEP, one of 38 LEPs and established in 2011, supports economic growth across Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. Its vision is found at Appendix 1.
3. In April 2019 the Marches LEP joint committee was dissolved and is now operated as a company limited by guarantee (company number 11822614) in response to recommendations laid out in the 2017 national LEP Review.
4. A new chair, Mandy Thorn MBE, has just been appointed to succeed Graham Wynn OBE following an open recruitment exercise. The LEP board includes the Leaders of the three councils of Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin as well as the chairs of Herefordshire Business Board, Shropshire Business Board and Telford Business Board. The chair of the Hereford Enterprise Zone is also a member of the LEP Board. The LEP Board is the LEP's ultimate decision-making authority and it comprises both public and private sector partners - a full breakdown of current LEP Board Members may be found at Appendix 2.
5. The LEP has agreed with each council that it will attend its relevant scrutiny panel twice a year from Autumn 2019 in order to provide an overview of activity undertaken and progress made. This approach is confirmed within the AAF. Mandy Thorn MBE, the Chair of the LEP Board and Gill Hamer, Director of the LEP, will attend the meeting of the committee to present the content of this report and answer questions.
6. In line with government requirements, the Marches LEP has developed an Annual Delivery Plan which sets out its workplan for financial year 2019/2020 and outlines its priority actions. A copy may be found here <https://www.marcheslep.org.uk/download/governance/Delivery-Plan-2019-2020-final.pdf>. Progress against the deliverables is reviewed regularly by the LEP team, Deputy Chair and Chair. Formal mid-year and end of year performance reviews are held with government (Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) to review achievements, to consider examples of good practice and identify areas for improvement. Priorities for 2019/2020 included the recruitment of a new private sector Chair (already achieved), maximising the delivery and impact of Growth Deal funded projects and developing a Local Industrial Strategy (LIS). A mid-year review was held on 18 September 2019 and progress towards achievements will be presented at the Scrutiny meeting.
7. The Marches LEP produced a Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) in 2014 which set out the area's priorities and provided the basis for successfully attracting £104 million in Growth Deal funding to the area. Projects within this funding are currently being delivered by partners and the Marches LEP has, this year, been supporting the development of NI-Park (Newport), the Midlands Centre for Cyber Security (Hereford) and the new engineering Higher Education Institute NMiTE (Hereford). The establishment and continued funding of the Marches Growth Hub to support new and existing businesses is also an important

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Marches LEP initiative. Projects that have directly benefited Herefordshire including support for skills, broadband and infrastructure programmes are laid out in the report at Appendix 3.

8. Following extensive consultation and research throughout 2018, the SEP was updated in 2019. A copy may be found at https://www.marcheslep.org.uk/download/economic_plans/strategic-economic-plan-update-2019/The-Marches-LEP-Strategic-Economic-Plan-2019.pdf. The updated SEP was approved by Herefordshire Council through a key decision in March 2019 (<http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=5829>). Officially launched at a House of Commons reception on 8 May 2019 attended by Herefordshire Council representatives and local MPs, the SEP outlines opportunities agreed across the wider partnership for business growth, housing expansion, innovation and market town support.
9. The SEP includes information on the Marches' key sectors which have been classified as:
 - Core economic sectors:
 - Advanced manufacturing
 - Business and professional services
 - Food and drink
 - Emerging sectors:
 - Environmental technologies
 - Cyber security and resilience
 - Agri-tech
 - Innovative health and social care
 - Enabling sectors:
 - Visitor economy
 - Retail
 - Logistics
 - Construction
 - Health and social care
 - Education
 - Voluntary, community and social enterprise.
10. These sectors underpin the economic performance of the Marches and the core and emerging sectors provide the biggest opportunities for growth and productivity improvements.
11. The SEP is also underpinning work currently being undertaken to develop a Local Industrial Strategy (LIS). Each LEP is required to agree a LIS with government which builds on its local distinctive strengths and highlights how these can be maximised to support the regional, national and global performance of the UK. The Marches LEP is currently drafting its LIS which is based on economic evidence and has been shaped by consultation with businesses in its key sectors. Although not a bidding document, the LIS will help to influence government investment decisions by increasing awareness of our unique strengths in food and drink/agri-tech, component manufacture, environmental technologies/renewable energy production and cyber security. It will set out how we plan to boost productivity, support businesses to create good quality jobs and increase opportunities across the Marches through investment in skills, innovation and infrastructure.
12. Council partners, including the Economic Development team at Herefordshire Council, have contributed to the development of the LIS through business consultation events, leading research activities and formal review of emerging LIS priorities. The LIS process and findings to date were presented at the LEP Board Meeting on 24 September 2019 which the

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Leader of Herefordshire Council attended and with the business community at an event on 17 October 2019 at Hereford Racecourse.

13. The Marches LEP also has, alongside the three councils, involvement in the allocation and prioritisation of the European funding that is allocated to the Marches region. A report detailing the impact of European funding is attached as Appendix 4.

Community impact

14. In accordance with the adopted code of governance, Herefordshire Council achieves its intended outcomes by providing a mixture of legal, regulatory and practical interventions. Determining, the right mix of these is an important strategic choice to make sure outcomes are achieved. The council needs robust decision-making mechanisms to ensure our outcomes can be achieved in a way that provides the best use of resources whilst still enabling efficient and effective operations and recognises that a culture and structure for scrutiny are key elements for accountable decision making, policy development and review.
15. The SEP includes a new vision for the Marches LEP which clearly sets out the aspiration that the Marches is *'an inclusive place that enables residents from all communities to thrive and develop'*.
16. With this aspiration in mind, all proposed interventions within the SEP and actions outlined in the Annual Delivery Plan are focused on housing, connectivity, economic growth, business and job creation and raising skills levels across the Marches LEP area. There is particular emphasis on the urban areas of Hereford, Shrewsbury and Telford but consideration is also given to how market towns can be supported in order to drive economic growth across communities.
17. The SEP and the wider work of the Marches LEP will support the delivery of the Herefordshire Council Corporate Plan through the achievement of the priority to *"Support the growth of our economy"*, specifically by *'supporting economic growth and connectivity (including broadband, local infrastructure, transport and economic development)'*. *The priorities of the Marches SEP and Invest Herefordshire Economic Vision are aligned, supporting the growth of the local economy.*

Equality duty

18. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:
 - A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –
 - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
19. The public-sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations and demonstrate that we are

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paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. The actions and work plan of the LEP considers Equality and is committed to Equality through its schemes and work programme.

Resource implications

20. There are no new financial implications for Herefordshire Council. This work is being undertaken within Marches LEP resources – this includes a cash contribution of £23,163 and an in-kind contribution of £166,978 (the costs of staff employed on the Hereford Enterprise Zone) which enable the drawdown of BEIS/MHCLG funding for the LEP.
21. Having a clearly articulated LIS will allow the Marches LEP to make the case to government for funding to support economic growth and it will be used to prioritise opportunities for funding under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Legal implications

22. The scrutiny committees remit is two fold. Firstly to review the actions taken by the LEP and then as a consequence if there is anything arising which would be the responsibility of this council's executive, to make any recommendations.

Risk management

1. Performance against the Annual Delivery Plan is formally reviewed by government. A performance rating is awarded to each LEP and the process provides an opportunity to highlight examples of good practice to share across the LEP network. The process also enables the identification of areas for improvement.
2. Each LEP has been required to respond to recommendations outlined in the national review of LEPs – failure to do so could result in sanctions, including the restriction of funding, being applied by BEIS and MHCLG. Feedback from BEIS and MHCLG confirms that the Marches LEP is not at risk of this and changes to the Marches LEP governance structure meet the requirements. Attention does, however, still need to be paid to improving the diversity of Board Membership in line with LEP Review recommendations and ensuring that its work is scrutinised by the three Local Authorities in the LEP area.
3. Financial risk to Herefordshire Council and other local authority partners is limited through the use of Shropshire Council as the LEP's accountable body and the LEP maintaining adequate reserves to meet all anticipated financial liabilities. Specialist legal advice has been commissioned to identify any issues arising as the result of the LEP having become a company limited by guarantee.

Consultees

4. The Marches LEP consults regularly with public and private sector partners to inform its work programme. Specific consultation is undertaken as required to support different work streams, e.g. consultation informed the process for the recruitment of the new Chair and there has been significant business consultation to develop the LIS.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Marches LEP Vision

Appendix 2 - LEP Board Membership

Further information on the subject of this report is available from

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Appendix 3 - Marches LEP Investment in Herefordshire Infrastructure, Skills and Innovation

Appendix 4 – Marches European Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020

Appendix 5 – Presentation to Committee– 22 October 2019

Background papers

Marches LEP Strategic Economic Plan 2019

https://www.marcheslep.org.uk/download/economic_plans/strategic-economic-plan-update-2019/The-Marches-LEP-Strategic-Economic-Plan-2019.pdf

Marches LEP Delivery Plan 2019 – 2020

<https://www.marcheslep.org.uk/download/governance/Delivery-Plan-2019-2020-final.pdf>

Glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

AAF	Accountability and Assurance Framework
BEIS	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
DfT	Department for Transport
DWP	Department for Work & Pensions
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ESF	European Social Fund
ESFA	Education and Skills Funding Agency
ESIF	European Structural and Investment Fund
EU	European Union
FEI	Further Education Institution
GVA	Gross value added (productivity measure)
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HGTA	Herefordshire Group Training Association
LAG	Local Action Group
LEP	Local Enterprise Partnership
LGF	Local Growth Fund
LIS	Local Industrial Strategy
MCCS	Midlands Centre for Cyber Security
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
NMiTE	New Model in Technology and Engineering

Further information on the subject of this report is available from

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RDPE	Rural Development Programme England
SEP	Strategic Economic Plan
SLR	Southern Link Road
SME	Small or medium sized enterprise

Marches LEP Vision

- A place which is open for business, up for business and pro-growth.
- At the forefront of changes in how people live and work using new technology and improved physical and digital connectivity to enable businesses and people to develop and succeed.
- A growing place, attracting more people to come, stay and build their careers and businesses.
- A destination not a boundary - gateway to markets in the Midlands, Wales, South West, North and Europe. A visitor destination with significant natural and cultural resources that is well known and attracts people looking for a high-quality experience.
- A pioneer in the provision and testing of digitally driven health and social care for dispersed populations supporting healthy ageing and economic participation in later life.
- A global centre of excellence in advanced manufacturing specifically automotive, cyber security, and the next phase of technology development in agriculture, environment and food production.
- An inclusive place that enables residents from all communities to thrive and develop with quality jobs offering good wages, training and progression.
- A collaborative and proactive place with businesses, further education institutions (FEIs), higher education institutions (HEIs) and public organisations working together to agree what needs to happen and getting things done. Known as a good place to start and grow a business.

Marches LEP Board Membership

Sector	Name	Title and Organisation
Private Sector Chair	Mandy Thorn MBE	Private Business Owner
3 Area Business Board Chairs	Frank Myers MBE	Chair of Herefordshire Business Board
	Paul Bennett	Chair of Shropshire Business Board
	Paul Hinkins	Chair of Telford Business Board and Deputy Chair of the LEP Board
Enterprise Zone	Andrew Manning Cox	Chair of Herefordshire Enterprise Zone
Food and Drink/Agri-Tech	Dr David Llewellyn	Vice-Chancellor, Harper Adams University
Community and Voluntary Sector	Sonia Roberts	Charity Manager, Landau
16-18 Skills and Workforce Development	James Staniforth	Principal and CEO, Shrewsbury Colleges Group & Chair of Skills Board
Financial/Professional Services	Paul Kalinauckas	Chief Executive, BCRS Business Loans Ltd
Construction	Ruth Shepherd	Founding Director, Results Communication
Manufacturing	Sara Williams	Marketing Manager, Protolabs
3 Local Authority Leaders	Cllr Peter Nutting (Alternate - Cllr Steve Charmley)	Leader of Shropshire Council
	Cllr David Hitchiner (Alternate – Cllr Trish Marsh)	Leader of Herefordshire Council
	Cllr Shaun Davies (Alternate - Cllr Lee Carter)	Leader of Telford and Wrekin Council

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
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Marches LEP Investment in Herefordshire Infrastructure, Skills and Innovation

Local Growth Deal Funds 1 & 2

Hereford City Centre Transport Package	£16m
Broadband (Fastershire)	£1.674m
South Wye Transport Package	£27m
Herefordshire Group Training	£81k
Herefordshire and Ludlow College	£194.9k
Herefordshire and Ludlow College and HGTA Joint project	£450k
Total Local Growth Deal Funds 1 & 2	= £45,399,850

Local Growth Deal Fund 3

NMiTE	£8m
Hereford Centre for Cyber Security	£2,820m
Herefordshire and Ludlow College	£1,059m
Total Growth Deal 3	= £11,879,000

Growth Deal 1,2 and 3 – Capital Infrastructure Projects Overview (Including investment made in the Hereford Enterprise Zone)

South Wye (Growth Deal 1)

A new Southern Link Road (SLR) linking the A49(T) with the A465 and B4349 to the south of the city, integrated with a set of measures to improve travel opportunities and conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users in the South Wye area.

The project is currently on pause pending a decision from Herefordshire Council on its major infrastructure projects but if it proceeds it is expected to create 1,000 jobs, deliver 1,000 homes and 3.6km of road.

The South Wye Project sits within the Marches LEP Growth Deal Programme but was approved as a Department for Transport (DfT) retained scheme - the funding coming into the LEP from the Department for Transport (DfT). To date £3.8m of the £27,000,000 budget has been drawn down, with the remaining balance scheduled across 2019/20 and 2020/21. As part of the £3.8m Herefordshire Council received an advance of £1,697,607 of Local Growth Funding (LGF) funds.

Hereford City Centre Transport Package (Growth Deal 1)

Investment through LGF is enabling the development of a new link road between the A465 and A49, an integrated transport hub at Hereford Railway Station, public realm improvements on key routes into the city centre and new and improved cycling infrastructure.

The aim of the project is to improve the provision of housing in the County, providing a more sustainable and pedestrian friendly city centre and supporting the delivery of long-term economic benefits and sustainable growth for Herefordshire. The project is due to complete at the end of this year and will deliver 800 homes, along with other economic outcomes for the city.

Broadband Fastershire (Growth Deal 2)

Further information on the subject of this report is available from

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The Fastershire project has helped 35,000 premises across Herefordshire access superfast broadband.

Hereford Enterprise Zone

The Hereford Enterprise Zone (HEZ) was designated as the Enterprise Zone for the Marches LEP in 2011.

Herefordshire Council is the principal landowner and is investing in the necessary infrastructure to open up the site and make plots ready for sale and development. As at the end of 2018/19 over 44 acres of land had been sold or was committed to development, 46,000 sqm of workspace has been developed or committed, representing £48m of investment value, with 38 businesses moving into the Zone. On occupation these businesses will be employing 744 people, with a further 1,056 in their growth plans. In 2019/20 objectives are to sell or develop a further 14 acres, triggering 13,000 sqm of workspace development, with 15 more businesses moving onto the Zone.

In addition, a top priority in 2019/20 is to ensure the efficient implementation of two keynote projects supported by the Marches LEP, which will be under construction in the year – The Shell Store Incubation Centre and the Centre for Cyber Security

As part of the HEZ Deal Herefordshire Council provides £100,000 from Business rate uplift towards the LEP Team Costs.

Cyber Quarter – Midlands Centre for Cyber Security (Growth Deal 3)

The HEZ is assisting the University of Wolverhampton in the development of a Midlands Centre for Cyber Security (MCCS) on the South Magazine which was awarded £2.82m from the LGF 3.

Work on the MCCS commenced in June 2019 following an agreement to create a joint venture company between the University of Wolverhampton and Herefordshire Council to build and operate it.

The new centre will offer high quality research facilities, as well as providing office space for cyber based businesses and advanced training facilities designed specifically to tackle threats in cyberspace. The University is focused on forming strong, collaborative relationships with key companies to engage with cyber research, training programmes and enterprise development. The strategy is to bring together collective expertise in a centre of excellence with partners both in the UK and internationally. The centre will offer a range of specialist facilities including innovation and workspace for small and start-up businesses, alongside specialist laboratory space, training rooms and consultancy support.

The project is expected to complete in 2025 and, as a result of LGF, the centre is expected to create 185 jobs from the investment, along with a range of other economic and skills-based outcomes.

The Government awarded funding to Worcestershire, the Marches, Gloucestershire and Swindon and Wiltshire LEPs to undertake a Science and Innovation Audit to develop and understand better their asset base to develop and grow this sector. This study is being used to inform cyber related activity within the LIS.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from

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Shell Store

Funding for the refurbishment of the Shell Store on the Zone's North Magazine site has been secured comprising an ERDF grant, a £2.49m interest free loan from the Marches LEP and a contribution from Herefordshire Council. The Centre will provide incubator and grow on space and an area for the new University to provide project space for business/student interaction. The centre is due to be completed in spring 2020.

NMiTE (Growth Deal 3)

The Marches LEP Board has agreed to provide grant funding for the first phase of teaching and administration facilities for the delivery of NMiTE: the new independent, not for profit, world class teaching university which will address the shortage of skilled graduate engineers in the Marches and British businesses in advanced manufacturing, agri-engineering, data, defence, resources security, and sustainable/smart living technology sectors.

Phase 1 (£2.3m) – Following NMiTE securing a 50-year lease from the Department for Education on the former Robert Owen School building on Blackfriars Street in Hereford the LEP have now awarded £2.3m to the project. This will allow the buildings to be improved, adapted and equipped to provide 3205m² of teaching and learning space at the Blackfriars site and will also allow 270 learners to be taught on the site, 37 jobs to be created and 75 companies to be supported by March 2022. The LEP grant is due to lever £3,133,750 of private sector match and generate £6,480,000 of GVA into the local economy.

Phase 2 (£5.7m) – NMiTE Board are currently developing proposals to be presented at the September 2019 LEP Board meeting, outlining how the funding will be spent on achieving the following deliverables:

Private Sector Capital Match	£7,766,250
Jobs Created	195
Area of new/improved training floorspace (m ²)	3,935
New Learners (Student Enrolled)	810
Undergraduates	750
GVA added Annually	£27,520,000
Companies Supported	375

Marches Growth Hub - Business Support

Since April 2015, £1.07 million has been allocated to the set up costs, development and updating of www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk website and as a contribution to the operating costs of the Marches Growth Hub sites in Shrewsbury, Telford and Herefordshire. The Marches Growth Hub provides access to advice and business support for pre-start, start up and growing businesses, including specialist support services funded through EU programmes. The Marches LEP contribution, from BEIS funding, also supports the coordination, promotion and delivery of a programme of events, support clinics and business seminars.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from

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Marches European Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020

1. Background

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) work together to support economic development across all European Union (EU) countries, in line with the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy. The Funds are allocated in tranches and managed through the Member States, which develop Operational Programmes to set out how the funds are to be invested. The funds include:

- **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** – supporting regional competitiveness and employment
- **European Social Fund (ESF)** - improving levels of employment, skills and the inclusiveness of the labour market
- **Rural Development Programme England (RDPE)** - rural development, focusing on revitalising rural areas

In the current tranche, the UK Government developed programmes to fit within the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) geography. This meant that all LEP areas were allocated an indicative amount of investment across the funds.

The funds are managed by Government departments, i.e. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) for ERDF, ESF and RDPE respectively. The departments contract directly with projects that meet the criteria of funds, so therefore there is no delegation of funds to LEP areas. The fund is competitive with open calls and a one or two-stage application process.

There are local ESIF Sub-Committees which assess proposals for local fit, which include representation from LEPs and other stakeholders. The Sub-Committees agreed the details of the local calls with Government but have no decision-making powers in the awarding of funds, so their input is advisory although generally Government follows their advice.

Due to how the EU categorise regions, the Marches has an individual ESIF budget for Herefordshire and a combined one for Shropshire and Telford. This characteristic is shared by a handful of other LEP areas that had Geographies which cut across European sub regions.

Delivery started in early 2016 and activity will continue until June 2023. The UK Government has provided a guaranteed commitment to ESIF for the duration of the programme, irrespective of the country's future arrangement with the EU.

2. ERDF

Current position

The Marches has an indicative allocation of £59.5m (£46m S/T and £13.5m H). This allocation is across five national priority areas, which include Research and Innovation, ICT, Business Competitiveness, Low Carbon and the Environment.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from

Richard Ball, Director for Economy and Place 01432 260965 richard.ball@herefordshire.gov.uk

£45m (£33m S/T and £12m H) or 76% of the allocation has been committed up to July 2019, which includes projects that have ended, are in delivery, or are still in process of being contracted. To date there are nearly 40 projects in the Marches ERDF programme, which cover business support and grant programmes, incubation space, low carbon infrastructure and environmental improvements.

Future Activity

MHCLG agreed with LEP areas to run a 'final' call window for projects which closed on 30 September 2019. This represents the final opportunity for local partners to bring forward projects. Anything that remains uncommitted after this point will be handled through national calls, where MHCLG is likely to want to support pan-LEP area project as a priority.

Officers from the three local authorities have worked with partners to ensure that the Marches area can bring forward projects that utilise the area's remaining indicative allocation. To support the development of high-quality projects within this final call, the Marches LEP made funding available for feasibility studies and pre-project development work. From discussion with partners, it is anticipated that the Marches areas is likely to reach at least 90% commitment through projects that will come forward in the current call window.

3. ESF

Current position

The Marches has an indicative allocation of £42.4m ESF for 2014-2020, £30.1m for Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin and £12.2m for Herefordshire. Funding is allocated over five investment priorities in line with the national programme: skills support for the unemployed; supporting young people aged 15-24 into education, employment or training; active inclusion; skills support for the workforce; improving the relevance of education and training to the labour market.

£38m (£27m in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin, £11.6m for Herefordshire) or 91% of the allocation has been committed up to July 2019, which includes projects that have ended, are in delivery, or are still in process of being contracted.

To date 13 projects have been funded through the Marches ESF programme, which cover support for people with complex or multiple barriers to employment, support for young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) or at risk of becoming NEET, up-skilling and re-skilling employees in micro and SME businesses and support for people affected by redundancy, engaging businesses with education and training systems to make them more responsive to the needs of the local economy. Projects have been either match funded by national Co-finance Organisations (Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), National Lottery Community Fund and DWP) or by project applicants.

Future Activity

An ESF open tender is being launched by the ESFA for a Community Grants Body to run community grant schemes to support community, voluntary and small organisations in Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin. Promotional events were held in each LA area.

Including current and pipeline commitments ESF in the Marches is 91% committed. Work has been done with DWP on options to commit any remaining ESF allocations through open calls in the autumn. DWP will continue to launch open calls until the end of December 2019. Any

Further information on the subject of this report is available from

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unused ESF will be taken back into a national Reserve Fund to distribute back to LEPs. The process for this is being finalised by DWP and any opportunities for Marches projects to benefit from the Reserve Fund will be explored.

4. RDPE

Current Position

The Marches LEP area is receiving RDPE funds from the Growth Programme, LEADER and the Rural Broadband Scheme.

For the **Growth Programme**, the Marches has an indicative allocation of £7.5m. Unlike ERDF and ESF, this is not split between Herefordshire and Shropshire / Telford. The fund is managed through national calls conducted by DEFRA, in which the Marches participated. The calls covered priorities around rural business development, food processing and rural tourism infrastructure, and were open for grant applications directly from businesses and other organisations.

To June 2019, approximately £6m has been awarded to nearly 50 projects and others are awaiting approval, which will take the Marches to at least its indicative target of £7.5m.

Most funding is being awarded to Herefordshire and Shropshire projects, because only the food processing priority covers the urban area of Telford (the same also applies to Hereford and Shrewsbury).

Based on current projections, Herefordshire and Shropshire will stand to each receive over £3.5m each through the grants awarded to their businesses and other organisations. This includes some very large individual grants to primary food processors.

A key criterion of the fund was that it would lead towards job creation. The total investment in the Marches is estimated to help create over 400 hundred jobs.

Grant details cannot be shared, unlike with ERDF and ESF, because with the grants going directly to businesses, the information is commercial in confidence.

LEADER funding is available to local businesses, communities, farmers, foresters and land managers. It is managed on a delegated basis by a Local Action Group (LAG), which comprises of representatives from the local community and the public and private sectors. To date In the Marches, there are two LAGs, Herefordshire and South Shropshire, which have allocations of £1,697,728 and £1,666,240 respectively. All this has now been allocated to specific projects.

Rural Broadband

The Herefordshire and Gloucestershire Broadband Team successfully applied to the fund for £8.9m, which will cover 20 property clusters across the Marches and Gloucestershire which are within the final few areas to be able to access affordable superfast broadband. This includes 5,000 homes and 300 businesses and the funding will enable a wireless solution.

Future Activity

DEFRA plans to open another call through the RDPE Growth Programme to utilise the funds that remain nationally. This means that the Marches LEP area has the opportunity to benefit over and above what it has been indicatively allocated by Government.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from

Richard Ball, Director for Economy and Place 01432 260965 richard.ball@herefordshire .gov.uk

GENERAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

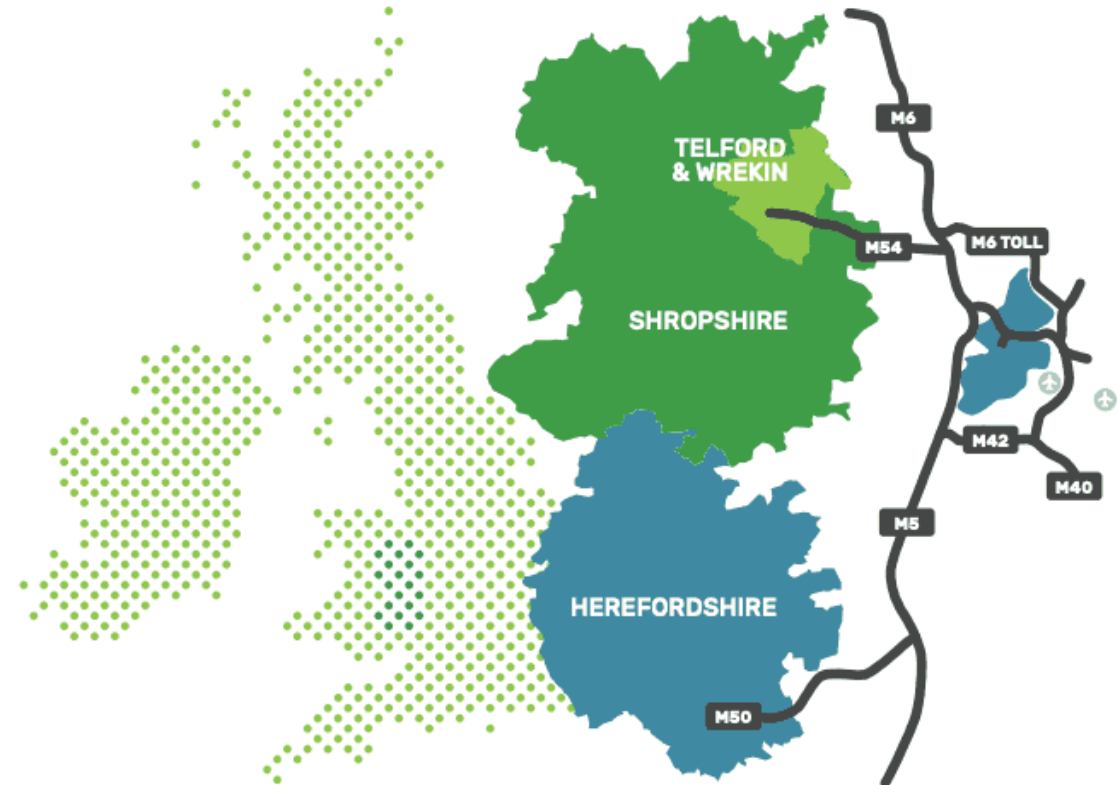
22 OCT 2019

The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)

- Mandy Thorn MBE - **Chair**
- Gill Hamer - **Director**
- Kathryn Jones - **Partnership Manager**

OVERVIEW OF THE MARCHES LEP

- We cover **2,300 sq. miles** and are home to **684,300 people** and **30,775 businesses**
- **89.7% micro businesses** (<10 employees)
- Key growth points of **Shrewsbury, Telford, Hereford**
- Importance of **market towns**



MARCHES LEP GOVERNANCE

- Led by **Chair Mandy Thorn MBE**, the LEP Board includes the **Leaders of the three Local Authorities** of Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin
- Also on the LEP Board are the **chairs of Herefordshire Business Board, Shropshire Business Board and Telford Business Board**
- In April 2019 the Marches LEP became a **company limited by guarantee** in response to recommendations laid out in the national 2017 LEP review
- Detailed work programme laid out in our **Delivery Plan** and formal review by government
- Regular **consultation** with and **scrutiny** by Local Authorities

OVERVIEW OF THE MARCHES LEP

- **2014 Strategic Economic Plan secured £104m Growth Deal funding** (2015 – 2021) for economic growth projects across the Marches
- This year supported the development of **NI-Park (Newport)**, **Midlands Centre for Cyber Security (Hereford)** and the new engineering university **NMiTE (Hereford)**
- **Established the Marches Growth Hub** to support new and existing businesses, including information on business support services, skills, events and face to face support www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk
- **Working with key partners**, e.g. West Midlands Combined Authority, Midlands Engine, Growing Mid Wales Partnership, LEP network **to influence and inform**

LEP FUNDED PROJECTS IN HEREFORDSHIRE

- **Skills Capital Investment:**
 - Herefordshire & Ludlow College
 - Herefordshire Group Training Association
- **South Wye Project**
- **Hereford City Centre Transport Package**
- **Broadband (Fastershire)**
- **Hereford Enterprise Zone**
- **Cyber Quarter – Midlands Centre for Cyber Security**
- **Shell Store**
- **NMiTE**
- **Marches Growth Hub**



NEW STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN

- **Comprehensive consultation** with all stakeholders in 2018
- Took stock of **recent investment and achievements**
- **Recognises our ongoing challenges** such as an ageing population, lower productivity and lower skills levels
- **Builds on our strengths** and considers how these can be used to support economic growth



LOCAL INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

All LEPs are required to develop a Local Industrial Strategy by March 2020 which will:

- **Drive delivery of our new Strategic Economic Plan** and strengthen the case for new public and private investment
- **Win support from central government** departments
- **Build** on our existing evidence base
- Emphasise our **local distinctiveness** and **the Marches' contribution** to the UK and global economy



OUR LOCAL INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

- Cluster/market **opportunity based approach:**
 - **Agritech/food and drink**
 - **Component manufacturing and engineering**
 - **Cyber security and resilience**
 - **Renewable energy/environmental technologies**
- **Gathered information** from our business base to:
 - **Understand productivity challenges**
 - **Identify specific strengths in our sectors/subsectors**
 - **Consider opportunities to drive innovation and growth**
- **Make the case to government on opportunities** to support inclusive growth and improve productivity

ANY QUESTIONS?

Keep in touch with us at:

- www.marcheslep.org.uk
- **Sign up for our newsletter**
- **Follow us on Twitter @marcheslep**



Meeting:	General scrutiny committee
Meeting date:	Tuesday 22 October 2019
Title of report:	Work programme
Report by:	Governance services

Classification

Open

Key decision

This is not an executive decision.

Wards affected

Countywide

Purpose and summary

To review the committee's work programme.

Recommendation(s)

THAT:

- (a) the draft work programme as set out at appendix 1 to the report be approved, subject to any amendments the committee wishes to make;
- (b) the committee determines any other matter in relation to the appointment of task and finish groups their chairmanship and any special responsibility allowance or the undertaking of a spotlight review.

Alternative options

- 1 It is for the committee to determine its work programme to reflect the priorities facing Herefordshire. The committee needs to be selective and ensure that the work programme is focused, realistic and deliverable within existing resources.

Key considerations

Draft work programme

- 2 The work programme needs to focus on the key issues of concern and be manageable. It must also be ready to accommodate urgent items or matters that have been called-in.
- 3 Should committee members become aware of any issue they think should be considered by the Committee they are invited to discuss the matter with the Chairman and the statutory scrutiny officer.
- 4 The draft work programme is attached at appendix 1.
- 5 A number of additions have been suggested for consideration. These are set out in appendix 2.
- 6 The Committee on 23 July authorised the statutory scrutiny officer, following consultation with the chairperson and vice-chairperson, to add items to the work programme where it is necessary to ensure their timely consideration where there is no scheduled meeting to approve their inclusion.

Constitutional Matters

Task and Finish Groups

- 7 A scrutiny committee may appoint a task and finish group for any scrutiny activity within the committee's agreed work programme. A committee may determine to undertake a task and finish activity itself as a spotlight review where such an activity may be undertaken in a single session; the procedure rules relating to task and finish groups will apply in these circumstances.
- 8 The relevant scrutiny committee will approve the scope of the activity to be undertaken, the membership, chairman, timeframe, desired outcomes and what will not be included in the work. A task and finish group will be composed of a least 2 members of the committee, other councillors (nominees to be sought from group leaders with un-affiliated members also invited to express their interest in sitting on the group) and may include, as appropriate, co-opted people with specialist knowledge or expertise to support the task. In appointing a chairman of a task and finish group the committee will also determine, having regard to the advice of the council's monitoring officer and statutory scrutiny officer, whether the scope of the activity is such as to attract a special responsibility allowance.
- 9 The Committee is asked to determine any matters relating to the appointment of a task and finish group and the chairmanship and any special responsibility allowance or undertaking a spotlight review including co-option (see below).

Co-option

- 10 A scrutiny committee may co-opt a maximum of two non-voting people as and when required, for example for a particular meeting or to join a task and finish group. Any such co-optees will be agreed by the committee having reference to the agreed workplan and/or task and finish group membership.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Governance Services on Tel (01432) 260239

- 11 The Committee is asked to consider whether it wishes to exercise this power in respect of any matters in the work programme.

Tracking of recommendations made by the committee

- 12 A schedule of recommendations and action in response is attached at appendix 3.

Forward plan

- 13 The constitution states that scrutiny committees should consider the forward plan as the chief source of information regarding forthcoming key decisions. Forthcoming decisions can be viewed under the forthcoming decisions link on the council's website:

<http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgdelegateddecisions.aspx?XXR=0&DAYS=28&RP=0&K=0&DM=0&HD=0&DS=1&META=mgdelegateddecisions&V=0>

Suggestions for scrutiny from members of the public

- 14 Suggestions for scrutiny are invited from members of the public through the council's website, accessible through the link below. Any suggestions received are referenced in Appendix 2.

https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/61/get_involved/4

Community impact

- 15 The topics selected for scrutiny should have regard to what matters to residents.

Equality duty

- 16 The topics selected need to have regard for equality and human rights issues.

Resource implications

- 17 The costs of the work of the committee will have to be met within existing resources. It should be noted the costs of running scrutiny will be subject to an assessment to support appropriate processes.

Legal implications

- 18 The council is required to deliver an overview and scrutiny function.

Risk management

19

Risk/opportunity	Mitigation
There is a reputational risk to the council if the overview and scrutiny function does not operate effectively.	The arrangements for the development of the work programme should help mitigate this risk.

Consultees

20 The work programme is reviewed at every committee meeting. The Chairman and statutory scrutiny officer also review the work programme.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – draft work programme

Appendix 2 – Suggestions for scrutiny

Appendix 3 – Schedule of recommendations made and response

Background papers

- None identified.

Draft GSC Work programme 2019

Meeting/items	Purpose	Invitees	Type of Scrutiny	Notes
23 September 2019				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marches LEP 	To consider an update on the achievements of the Marches LEP, its revised governance structure, current board membership and priorities outlined in its Strategic Economic Plan (SEP). It also provides a briefing on the role and purpose of the Annual Delivery Plan and its priority activities.	<p>Marches LEP</p> <p>Chair Mandy Thorn Director Gill Hamer Partnership Manager - Kathryn Jones</p> <p>Leader/Cabinet Member – Environment, Economy and Skills</p>	Performance Review	
TBC				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Emergency 	<p>To consider building into the work programme and/or establishing a task and finish group to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> review the draft carbon management plan; review partners' plans and strategies to recommend how best to develop a joint countywide strategy develop and propose a checklist of criteria for 	<p>Cabinet Member – Infrastructure</p> <p>Cabinet member Environment, economy and skills</p> <p>Director Economy and Place</p>	Task and Finish	<p>Executive response (September 19) to Climate Emergency Motion to Council (March 19)</p> <p>The executive will invite general scrutiny committee to consider building into their work programme and/or establishing a task and finish group to:</p>

	the development of new and review of existing council strategies to assess their suitability to deliver on carbon reduction.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review the draft carbon management plan; • review partners' plans and strategies to recommend how best to develop a joint countywide strategy • develop and propose a checklist of criteria for the development of new and review of existing council strategies to assess their suitability to deliver on carbon reduction.
TBC				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Transport 	To explore planned and implemented sustainable transport measures.	<p>Cabinet member Infrastructure</p> <p>Director Economy and Place</p>	Task and Finish	Scoping statement to be prepared
TBC				
Public Realm Service Provision (Council contract arrangements with Balfour Beatty Living Places – and stakeholder communication	To explore how Councils communicate effectively with the public, explaining service levels, costs and delivery that can be expected under the contract, performance measures in place, and	<p>Cabinet Member Infrastructure</p> <p>Cabinet Member – commissioning, procurement and assets</p>	Policy Review and Development	

	evidence that the contract is delivering to the required standard within the agreed framework. Consider results of customer satisfaction performance data Ways of improving feedback to the public – so that they know when they can expect work that has been requested and can track delivery.	Director Economy and Place		
29 November 2019				
• Budget		Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services Cabinet Member Infrastructure Other Cabinet members as appropriate Chief Finance Officer Director Economy and Place	Policy Development and Review	First consideration of draft budget. Second consideration January 2020
27 January 2019				Date to be brought forward TBC
• Budget		Match with 29 Nov		
23 March 2019				
•				
Noted that flexibility needs to be retained within the work programme to consider Pre-Decision Call in items/post Decision call-in.				

Unscheduled				
Police and Crime Commissioner	Crime	Need to specify what is to be considered	Police and Crime Commissioner Cabinet Member – housing regulatory services and community safety Director	Suggested Performance indicator - killed and seriously injured on roads is one possible topic.
• Waste Disposal		To consider review of waste disposal contract	Cabinet member – commissioning, procurement and assets	Policy Development and Review
Budget and Policy Framework items to be scheduled				Policy Development and Review
• Minerals and Waste Plan				
• Hereford Area Plan				
• Rural Areas Development Plan Document				
• Core Strategy				
• Community Safety remit				
• Corporate challenge	peer		Cabinet Member - Finance and Corporate Services - Chief Executive Assistant Director Transformation	Performance Review
				GSC considered on 6 March 2019. Recommended: a review of progress in response to the corporate peer review is

		Performance and Business Improvement		included for consideration in work programming for the Committee in June 2019. The planned return by the LGA team is end of Oct. Consider after that if anything merits consideration.
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Briefing notes	
Executive Response	Executive decision awaited
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task and Finish Group - Highways Maintenance – Pothole Repairs (expected to be circulated as briefing note for information) 	

Suggestions for scrutiny

Subject	Suggested by	Type of Scrutiny	Service comment	Notes
Backlog of planning applications. Some applications exceed their target dates for decision by not weeks or months but years. This must impact on the provision of much needed homes for the County.	Public	Performance Review	The performance in relation to the determination of planning applications is monitored through the corporate performance report. Performance remains consistently in line with targets. However, GSC may wish to review this area and consider any recommendations for improvement,	
NMiTE partnership arrangements	Audit and Governance Committee	Performance Review	To update at meeting.	A&G Cttee 30 July 2019 General scrutiny be requested to considering adding a review of the NMiTE partnership arrangements to their work programme.
Homelessness Prevention Strategy	Cabinet Member – Housing Regulatory services and community safety	Policy Development and Review	It is a new strategy and input from GSC would of course be welcomed.	
Climate Emergency	Cabinet	TBC	See note opposite	Executive response invites scrutiny consideration of this topic. Already identified as topic for Work programme by the Committee. Nature of scrutiny to be determined.

Income and charging	Cabinet Member – Finance and Corporate Services	Policy Development and Review	To update at meeting.	Request: Ahead of the budget consultation engagement with scrutiny committees, I would like to request that scrutiny consider undertaking a review of the council's adopted Income and Charging Guidelines and the specific approaches taken to charging for services and also to the generation of income now and in the future by this council.
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Schedule of General Scrutiny Committee recommendations made and action in response (May 2019 on)

Meeting	item	Recommendations	Action	Status
23 July	Gambling Policy 2019-22 Review	<p>RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE EXECUTIVE THAT:</p> <p>a) Officers review the wording in Para 1.1 of the policy to ensure it places clear emphasis on promoting compliance with the principles set out in the Act, and make clear that it is not about promoting gambling;</p> <p>b) Officers include a glossary of terms to cover all technical and legal terms set out in the report before it goes on to cabinet and full Council;</p> <p>c) a sentence be added to the policy document to highlight where people can be directed to apply for a license;</p> <p>d) a new category (i) be added to the itemised list in para 15.6 to include training in child protection and child safeguarding;</p>	<p>Done</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Done</p> <p>(We don't recommend it's mandatory because it's not proportionate to the evidence locally but we can make licensee's aware of the risks to</p>	Completed

		<p>e) officers look at all of the suggested various changes to wording of the policy suggested in bullet point 7 above and update the policy to ensure there is clarity in the phraseology used.</p> <p>f) the various references to children and young persons should – for consistency – be changed to children and young people throughout the policy document.</p> <p>g) officers revise the wording to highlight that the gambling policy is ‘reviewed’ every three years and to add clarity to the reference of policy review from ‘time to time’ – with the additional context that this will happen when/if there are changes to legislation during the three year period;</p> <p>h) officers remove the reference to ‘the governance team’ in para 4.5 of the policy;</p>	<p>CYP and the training opportunities that are available.)</p> <p>The phraseology used within the Policy reflects the terms used within the Act and the use of different terminology within the policy may cause confusion).</p> <p>(the term children and young persons is the term used within the Act and again may cause confusion if different terms are used within the policy) .</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Done</p>	
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		<p>i) officers state clearly what the deadline timeframes are in para 5.2.</p> <p>j) grounds for a review of a premises license as set out at section 18 of the policy should also include any breaches to the principles that the licensing authority, upholds in overseeing and this policy and any related enforcement action; and</p> <p>k) details on rights of appeal should be included in the policy document.</p>	<p>Done</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Done</p>	
9 September 2019	Call-in of cabinet member decision on hereford transport package and south wye transport package	<p>RESOLVED: That the decision be referred back to the cabinet member to reconsider, and in doing so:</p> <p>The cabinet member seeks clarification from the funders, of both the South Wye Transport Package and the Hereford Transport Package, of the funding implications of a review and ensures that both projects are not interdependent of each other;</p> <p>Ongoing planned activity, programmed in to take place during</p>	Response awaited.	Ongoing

		<p>the pause, continues while the review is underway;</p> <p>The cabinet member hosts a time limited series of ‘open days’ with parish councils, businesses and members of the public to ensure their views are taken into account on all of the evidence under consideration as part of the review; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That all council, and council contractors, contact databases, as far as is practicable, are kept up to date ahead of contacting members of the public 		
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