

**Summary of recommendations from the Scrutiny Management Board 14 May 2024 to the Executive in relation to the council and delivery plan, and future planning cycles, with executive responses.**

<b>Recommendation 1</b>	If the ambition of the County Plan is to be scaled back to focus on the work only of the Council itself, that a broader and longer term County Strategy/Plan be developed with input from partners and stakeholders to guide action and investment.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Not Accepted - the Herefordshire Council Plan recognises partnership working and it is an underpinning theme in the Council Plan, see page 15.				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	

<b>Recommendation 2</b>	The Council Plan recognises the increasing importance of partners and partnership working to the operation of the council.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted - the Herefordshire Council Plan recognises partnership working and it is an underpinning theme in the Council Plan, see page 15.				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	

<b>Recommendation 3</b>	The Council Plan should be aligned in resource terms with the Medium Term Financial Strategy.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted and actioned, see page 37 and 39 of the Herefordshire Council Plan.				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	

<b>Recommendation 4</b>	The Council and Delivery Plans should be clear in showing how council resources and effort is spread fairly across city, Market Towns and rural communities.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Partially accepted - where it is not specified, delivery is relevant for the whole Herefordshire, which includes Market Towns and rural communities as well as the City.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>

<b>Recommendation 5</b>	Council 'Transformation' is a means to an end, not an end in itself. It should be explained primarily in terms of its beneficial impact on residents and communities.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Partially accepted – all transformation activity will ultimately benefit residents and communities.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>

<b>Recommendation 6</b>	The Delivery Plan should contain real, tangible in-year deliverables which progress and support the stated objectives.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted and actioned			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>

<b>Recommendation 7</b>	Deliverables should be SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely) and should relate to tangible items that are deliverable within that financial year.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Partially accepted - milestones are now included to show more specific activity and the Delivery Plan outlines what will be delivered in 2024 - 25.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>

<b>Recommendation 8</b>	The Delivery Plan should follow the structure and sequencing of the Council Plan to make it straightforward to follow.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted and actioned			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>

<b>Recommendation 9</b>	Plain language should be adopted throughout to ensure the documents are accessible to and understandable by all.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted and actioned			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>

<b>Recommendation 10</b>	The importance of tackling river pollution should be more evident.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted and actioned				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	

<b>Recommendation 11</b>	The importance of improving life for children and families should be more evident.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted and actioned				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE PLANNING CYCLES 12-14**

<b>Recommendation 12</b>	The Council Plan should be aligned in resource terms with the Medium Term Financial Strategy.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	

<b>Recommendation 13</b>	The Delivery Plan for the following year should be drafted alongside the development of the budget for that financial year.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>

<b>Recommendation 14</b>	The importance of improving life for children and families should be more evident.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted and actioned			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>