

# Agenda

## Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Wednesday, 29 November 2017, 10.00 am**  
**County Hall, Worcester**

All County Councillors are invited to attend and participate

This document can be provided in alternative formats such as Large Print, an audio recording or Braille; it can also be emailed as a Microsoft Word attachment. Please contact Democratic Services on telephone number 01905 844965 or by emailing [democraticservices@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## DISCLOSING INTERESTS

There are now 2 types of interests:  
**'Disclosable pecuniary interests'** and **'other disclosable interests'**

### WHAT IS A 'DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST' (DPI)?

- Any **employment**, office, trade or vocation carried on for profit or gain
- **Sponsorship** by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party of your member or election expenses
- Any **contract** for goods, services or works between the Council and you, a firm where you are a partner/director, or company in which you hold shares
- Interests in **land** in Worcestershire (including licence to occupy for a month or longer)
- **Shares** etc (with either a total nominal value above £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital) in companies with a place of business or land in Worcestershire.

**NB Your DPIs include the interests of your spouse/partner as well as you**

### WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days and
- **Declare** it where you have a DPI in a matter at a particular meeting
  - you must **not participate** and you **must withdraw**.

**NB It is a criminal offence to participate in matters in which you have a DPI**

### WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

- No need to register them but
- You must **declare** them at a particular meeting where:  
You/your family/person or body with whom you are associated have a **pecuniary interest** in or **close connection** with the matter under discussion.

### WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

You will not normally even need to declare this as an interest. The only exception is where the conflict of interest is so significant it is seen as likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

### DO I HAVE TO WITHDRAW IF I HAVE A DISCLOSABLE INTEREST WHICH ISN'T A DPI?

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

- affects your **pecuniary interests OR** relates to a **planning or regulatory** matter
- **AND** it is seen as likely to **prejudice your judgement** of the public interest.

### DON'T FORGET

- If you have a disclosable interest at a meeting you must **disclose both its existence and nature** – 'as noted/recorded' is insufficient
- **Declarations must relate to specific business** on the agenda
  - General scattergun declarations are not needed and achieve little
- Breaches of most of the **DPI provisions** are now **criminal offences** which may be referred to the police which can on conviction by a court lead to fines up to £5,000 and disqualification up to 5 years
- Formal **dispensation** in respect of interests can be sought in appropriate cases.

## **Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel Wednesday, 29 November 2017, 10.00 am, County Hall**

### **Membership**

#### **Councillors:**

Mr A A J Adams (Chairman), Mr P Denham (Vice Chairman), Mr G R Brookes, Mr B Clayton, Mr M E Jenkins, Mr A D Kent, Mr J A D O'Donnell, Ms C M Stalker and Ms R Vale

### **Agenda**

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Page No</b>
1	<b>Apologies and Welcome</b>	
2	<b>Declarations of Interest and of any Party Whip</b>	
3	<b>Public Participation</b> Members of the public wishing to take part should notify the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in writing or by email indicating the nature and content of their proposed participation no later than 9.00am on the working day before the meeting (in this case 28 November 2017). Enquiries can be made through the telephone number/email address below.	
4	<b>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b> Previously circulated	
5	<b>Superfast Broadband - Update</b>	1 - 2
6	<b>Budget Scrutiny: Reviewing the 2017/18 Budget Position for Economy and Environmental Services</b>	3 - 4
7	<b>Work Plan</b> Current version enclosed for consideration	5 - 8

Agenda produced and published by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP. To obtain further information or hard copies of this agenda, please contact Emma James or Jo Weston 01905 844965, email: [scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk)

All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website [websitehttp://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20013/councillors\\_and\\_committees](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20013/councillors_and_committees)

Date of Issue: Tuesday, 21 November 2017

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## **ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 29 NOVEMBER 2017**

### **SUPERFAST BROADBAND - UPDATE**

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#### **Summary**

1. The Panel is to be updated on progress of the roll-out of superfast broadband to Worcestershire residents and businesses.
2. Representatives from the Council's Superfast Worcestershire Programme and from BT have been invited to the meeting.

#### **Background**

3. The County Council and BT formed a partnership known as Superfast Worcestershire, which aimed to deliver high speed broadband to 90% of Worcestershire homes and businesses (including 55,000 in rural locations) by June 2016.
4. The Council's contract with BT as broadband infrastructure supplier (set up in August 2013), asks for an annual report to be submitted to scrutiny, to provide a summary of programme activity, achievements against targets for connecting residents and businesses, and how public concerns and demand have been managed. An update is attached at Appendix 1 (to follow).

#### **Scrutiny to Date**

5. Prior to the County Council elections in May 2017, the Overview and Scrutiny Panel's main discussion points focused on the very positive levels of Worcestershire's broadband coverage and uptake. Areas highlighted for improvement included the need to recognise the plight of problem areas when publicising successes, the need for improved communication with councillors, and greater use of local councillor knowledge. Assurance around value for money from the contract was also sought. In response to this request a value for money briefing was delivered to Scrutiny Panel Members in March 2017.
6. Therefore, some areas for the Overview and Scrutiny Panel to explore could include:
  - Communications, including those to inform residents and businesses who do not currently have Superfast Broadband or Fibre to the Premises (FTTP)
  - Whether Councillors are being kept proactively informed on progress and any issues or delays with the roll-out of Superfast Broadband in their Division
  - Whether deadlines and targets are being met
  - Public satisfaction with information on the Superfast Broadband programme on the Council's website
  - How customers are being engaged.

7. The plan for delivery and progress with roll out has been regularly discussed with the Scrutiny Panel and the background papers section of this report provides links to these discussions.

### **Purpose of the Meeting**

8. The Panel is asked to consider the latest information provided on superfast broadband in Worcestershire, and:

- consider whether any further information or scrutiny is required at this time
- determine any comments or recommendations to the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy and Infrastructure

### **Supporting Information**

Appendix 1 – Update on Superfast Broadband (to follow).

### **Contact Points**

#### County Council Contact Points

County Council: 01905 763763

Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765

#### Specific Contact Points for this report

Emma James / Jo Weston, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, Tel: 01905 844964 / 844965

Email: [scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk)

### **Background Papers**

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and Minutes of:

- Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 10 October 2016 and 30 September 2015
- Economy, Environment and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 17 September 2014 and 20 May 2015
- Cabinet on 5 February 2015, 15 October 2015 and 29 June 2017

Minutes and Agendas are available on the Council's website at

<http://worcestershire.moderngov.co.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?bcr=1>

## **ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 29 NOVEMBER 2017**

### **BUDGET SCRUTINY: REVIEWING THE 2017/18 BUDGET POSITION FOR ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

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#### **Summary**

1. As part of the Council's development of the 2018/19 budget, the Overview and Scrutiny Panels and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) will be reviewing the 2017/18 budget position at their November meetings, prior to consideration of the 2018/19 draft budget at their meetings in January 2018.
2. The Cabinet Members with Responsibility for these services (Economy and Infrastructure, Highways, Environment and also Communities) and the Director of Economy and Infrastructure have been invited to this meeting, to present the 2017/18 budget position and how any challenges are being addressed.

#### **Background**

3. The Council's draft budget for 2018/19 will be presented to Cabinet on 14 December 2017. In advance of this meeting, it was agreed at the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on 4 October 2017 that in November the Overview and Scrutiny Panels and HOSC would review the 2017/18 budget position in advance of the December Cabinet.
4. All Overview and Scrutiny Panels and HOSC have had a development session with Finance Managers to interpret the financial information for their particular area. These sessions have taken place in advance of this meeting. Additional information on benchmarking has also been provided.

#### **Purpose of the Meeting**

5. Panel Members are asked to:
  - review the current position and offer comments to the appropriate Cabinet Member
  - consider whether any further information is required ahead of the January discussion of the draft 2018/19 budget.

#### **Contact Points**

##### County Council Contact Points

Worcestershire County Council; 01905 763763

Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765

Specific Contact Points for this report

Emma James / Jo Weston, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, Tel: 01905 844964 / 844965  
Email: [scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk)

**Background Papers**

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and Minutes of Cabinet on 28 September and 2 November 2017 – available on the Council website [here](#)
- Agenda and Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on 4 October 2017 – available on the Council website [here](#)



**Worcestershire County Council  
Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel: Work Plan 2017 – 2018**

*Topics in italics require further discussion and scoping*

Meeting date	Topic and Objective	Date added	Approach	Who
15 September 2017	<p>Highways Development Control Department (Section 278s/106s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An update is to be given on the 10 point improvement plan of the Highways Development Control Processes on speeding up the technical approval of developer-funded Highways infrastructure. (Section 278s/106s)</li> </ul> <p>The key points the committee is looking to understand are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to get developer-funded Highways Infrastructure built quicker for the benefit of residents and road users?</li> <li>• How can Network Control help ensure the planning conditions imposed on developers to build certain Highways infrastructure by certain key times (ie before the houses are occupied) are met?.</li> <li>• How will Highway Liaison Engineers help members be informed and involved with major developer-funded Highways infrastructure in their division at planning stage, and once planning has been approved?</li> </ul>	29/6/17	Public meeting Further work possible	Nigel Hudson, Head of Strategy and Infrastructure  Cllr Alan Amos, Cabinet Member for Highways
3 October 2017 – (Extra meeting added in additional to existing programme)	<p>Footways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• update on implementation of recommendations agreed from the interim scrutiny report</li> <li>• £6million additional funding – allocation and councillor involvement</li> </ul>	29/6/17	Public meeting Further work possible	Ian Bamforth, Highways Operations Manager Cllr Alan Amos, Cabinet Member for Highways
	<p>Cycle paths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how to improve getting around the county, especially to work and school</li> <li>• how Local Transport Plan 4 will help</li> </ul>	29/6/17	Public meeting	Martin Rowe, Transport Policy and Development Officer Cycle group representatives – Honeybourne and Evesham Vale Cabinet Member/s

21 November 2017	Envirecover Waste Site – panel members are requested to attend the councillor induction visit	29/6/17	Visit	Richard Woodward, Waste Services Manager
29 November 2017	Broadband Update	Annual update	Public meeting	Rachel Hill, Strategic Commissioner of Major Projects Ste Ashton, Senior Project Manager BT Cllr Ken Pollock, Cabinet Member for Economy and Infrastructure
	Budget Scrutiny: reviewing the 2017/18 budget position for the Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure			Public meeting
8 January 2018	Cleaning programme and repair processes for gulleys and drains To see the operation and equipment used in keeping our roads clear of water at one of the Highway depots  The key points the committee is looking to understand are:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why do many drains seem to get blocked so regularly leading to water on the road and causing unsafe conditions?</li> <li>• How can the public help in identifying blocked drains?</li> <li>• How can the systems be improved to reduce the number of blocked drains?</li> </ul>	29/6/17 Panel meeting	Visit Newlands Lydiate Ash  Further work possible	Ian Bamforth, Highways Operations Manager Nick Twaite, Infrastructure Asset Manager  Ringway
12 January 2018	Flooding Update including Annual Report	Annual Update and		Matt Maginnis, Floor Risk Manager Severn Trent, Environment Agency

		discussion with partners		Cllr Tony Miller, Cabinet Member for Environment
	Budget Scrutiny: proposed 2018/19 budget for the Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure			John Hobbs, Director of Economy and Infrastructure Finance Managers Wendy Pickering/Alison Rainey & Nick Alderman  Cabinet Members for Economy and Infrastructure, Highways and Environment
7 March 2018	Highways England – its role and how it works with the Council on existing and future schemes	OSPB 7/11/17	Public meeting	Highways England WCC officers
Page 7  To be scheduled in 2018	Annual review of the Worcestershire Local Economic Partnership (LEP) contribution to all sectors of Worcestershire's economy – what is working and what more is needed.	Carried forward from 2016/17	Public meeting	Nigel Hudson, Head of Strategy and Infrastructure Worcs LEP Chamber of Commerce Federation of Small Businesses Cllr Ken Pollock, Cabinet Member for Economy and Infrastructure
	<i>How to improve getting around the County – in particular to work and school</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congestion</li> <li>• Cycling, footways, footpaths and bridle paths</li> <li>• Public transport</li> <li>• Working better together during highways works</li> <li>• Potential of speed camera technology</li> </ul> Use of 20mph speed limits	Carried forward from 2016/17	<i>More scoping required</i>	Nigel Hudson, Head of Strategy and Infrastructure Cllr Ken Pollock, Cabinet Member for Economy and Infrastructure Cllr Alan Amos, Cabinet Member for Highways Cllr Tony Miller, Cabinet Member for Environment
	Local Transport Plan 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how plan proposals are implemented</li> <li>• aim to gain a better understanding of plans for short/medium/long-term</li> </ul>	29/6/17 panel meeting	Public meeting	Nigel Hudson, Head of Strategy and Infrastructure Cllr Ken Pollock, Cabinet Member for Economy and Infrastructure

				Cllr Alan Amos, Cabinet Member for Highways Cllr Tony Miller, Cabinet Member for Environment
To be scheduled in 2018	Asset Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(Including lessons learned from Evesham Abbey Bridge project delays)</li> </ul>	29/6/17 panel meeting	Public meeting	Rachel Hill, Strategic Commissioner of Major Projects Nick Twaite, Infrastructure Asset Manager
	Transport and access to hospital – routes to rural hospitals and central hospitals	Continued from 2016/17	Public meeting	Paul Smith, Transport Commissioning Manager NHS

**To be programmed:**

<b>Topic and objective</b>	<b>Date added</b>
Residents zonal parking schemes and additional car parks	OSPB (18/7/17) – issue identified by previous year's budget scrutiny, which had generated income in other areas
Buses	Carried forward from 2016/17 and raised at Panel (15/9/17)
Works on Highways - Improving joined-up working between the various Utilities' and WCC Highways' works; so newly laid tarmac is not dug up within weeks of being laid!	
Capacity of Highways Engineers	(added by OSPB 18/7/17)