

Agenda

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board

Thursday, 30 September 2021, 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 Scrutiny on telephone number 01905 844963 or by emailing scrutiny@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 3rd 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.

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board
Thursday, 30 September 2021, 10.00 am, County Hall,
Worcester

Membership

Councillors:

Cllr Tom Wells (Chairman), Cllr Richard Morris (Vice Chairman), Cllr Alastair Adams, Cllr Brandon Clayton, Cllr Kyle Daisley, Cllr Mike Rouse, Cllr Shirley Webb and Cllr Richard Udall

Co-opted Church Representatives (for education matters)

Mr T Reid (Church of England)

Parent Governor Representatives (for education matters)

Mr M Hughes

Agenda

Item No	Subject	Page No
1	Apologies and Welcome	
2	Declaration of Interest and of any Party Whip	
3	Public Participation Members of the public wishing to take part should notify the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance in writing or by e-mail indicating the nature and content of their proposed participation no later than 9.00am on the working day before the meeting (in this case 29 September 2021). Enquiries can be made through the telephone number/e-mail address below.	
4	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting (previously circulated)	
5	Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (WLEP) Annual Report (2021/22)	1 - 36
6	Update on the Progress made again the Recommendations from the Council's Energy Purchasing Arrangements Scrutiny Report	37 - 40

Agenda produced and published by the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP. To obtain further information or hard copies of this agenda, please contact Alyson Grice (01905 844962)/Samantha Morris 01905 844963 email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website [here](#)

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7	Scrutiny Proposal: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)	41 - 46
8	Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring	47 - 48
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**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD
30 SEPTEMBER 2021****WORCESTERSHIRE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP
(WLEP) ANNUAL REPORT (2021/22)**

Summary

1. This report has been written to provide Worcestershire County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) with an annual update on the achievements of the Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (WLEP) over the last 12 months and to outline strategic objectives for 2021/22. A presentation to support this report is attached at Appendix 1.
2. The Chairman and Chief Executive of the WLEP and the Section 151 Officer have been invited to the Meeting.
3. In addition, District Councils have been invited to nominate a Councillor representative to attend the Meeting.

Background – What are Local Enterprise Partnerships?

4. Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) are partnerships between local authorities, further and higher education and local businesses. They were set up in 2011 by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and are recognised by central government as the primary vehicle to help determine local economic priorities and lead economic growth and job creation within the local area.
5. There are 38 LEPs nationally and their role has developed considerably since inception. In March 2014, WLEP produced their Strategic Economic Plan (SEP), a national requirement of all LEPs. This plan sets out the strategic approach for achieving sustained economic growth across Worcestershire and is a key component in securing future government funding for infrastructure and development projects essential for economic success across the county.
6. The Worcestershire SEP was agreed by all partner organisations in March 2014. WLEP is, therefore, working to achieve several ambitious objectives by 2025. These are to:
 - Create 25,000 jobs
 - Increase Gross Value Added (GVA)¹ by £2.9billion
 - Contribute towards the delivery of 21,500 new homes.

¹ Gross value added (GVA) is the measure of the value of goods and services produced in an area, industry or sector of an economy.

7. WLEP will shortly be publishing a refreshed economic strategy, the Worcestershire: Plan for Growth (2020-2040), with further details provided within this report.

8. In October 2020, OSPB received a report from WLEP via electronic distribution to outline the scrutiny, audit, and governance arrangements in place for WLEP. A physical meeting was not possible in 2020/21 due to the impact of COVID-19 and lockdown restrictions imposed nationally. As part of the LEP's Local Assurance Framework and continued commitment to robust governance, it is agreed that WLEP will submit a report to OSPB on an annual basis to outline achievements and a forward look for the next 12 months.

Looking Back – key achievements since last report

9. WLEP plays a critical role in coordinating local and regional stakeholders at a strategic level to inform future local and regional economic priorities. This influencing and convening role has proved critical in brokering local consensus and buy-in on key investment priorities which has enabled the delivery of an impressive range of economic development schemes across the county over the last 10 years.

10. The last 18 months have been incredibly challenging for everyone due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the LEP have worked closely with partners during this time to provide a coordinated economic response across Worcestershire and will continue this collaboration as we progress the economic recovery.

11. WLEP remain a key partner in the Worcestershire Economic Recovery Group, marshalling progress against the seven-point Economic Recovery Plan developed in partnership with Local Authorities, Business Representative Organisations (e.g. Chamber of Commerce, NFU) and the Worcestershire Growth Hub.

12. This collaborative approach to responding to the pandemic has ensured consistency of message to the Worcestershire business community and timely sharing of local intelligence to inform local interventions. During the last 18 months:

- Over £219m of Business Support Grants have been issued via District Councils to support Worcestershire businesses
- WLEP and partners have mobilised a £12m capital investment programme utilising Getting Building Fund monies from central government
- Successfully implemented the recommendations of the Growth Hub review and transitioned the Worcestershire Growth Hub to become more closely aligned with WLEP operations
- 80+ businesses have completed the Peer Network programme via the Worcestershire Growth Hub gaining advice and support on common business issues
- 160+ businesses have accessed Worcestershire Growth Hub's Specialist Advisor Support Programme in response to Brexit and COVID-19 issues
- The County Council have allocated over £3.5m business support grants via the Here2Help programme, supporting 284 businesses to date
- A dedicated Worcestershire Jobs website and a Careers helpline were launched to provide a matching service for residents and employers seeking employment and to provide advice guidance and support to

young people about their future education/careers pathways as a result of national decision to cancel examinations in 2020, respectively.

13. WLEP has always prided itself on its successful delivery track record and will continue to provide a proactive, strategic, and facilitating role in working with partners on the economic recovery. In addition to the work undertaken on the economic recovery, there are a significant number of additional achievements, across the partnership, from the last 12 months to celebrate too:

- Worcestershire 5G Testbed project successfully completed with key findings report published and acknowledged by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)
- Funding commitment secured from Malvern Hills Science Park (MHSP) and WLEP (via Growing Places Fund) to invest in a new commercial entity, nexGworx, launched in June 2021, following 5G testbed programme
- Worcestershire have continued to lead the West Mercia 5G project looking at health and social care opportunities around 5G uses and applications
- BetaDen successfully completed delivery of its third cohort, supporting 23 Worcestershire-based technology businesses/entrepreneurs to date and in the process creating 20 new jobs and leveraging over £240k in third party investment, whilst 10 new to market products created
- WLEP and partners engaged over 500 placements with local employers for young people on the national Kickstart initiative
- WLEP gained funding to support the implementation of a new Midlife MOT programme for over 50-year olds in Worcestershire to focus on career, health, and wealth
- WLEP is ranked No. 2 in the country for performance on our Careers Hub and No 1 for SEND schools performance
- WLEP delivered innovative and engaging content through a virtual conference event working with partners in October 2020, as well as bite-size podcasts released in 2020/21 with the latest information on Worcestershire economic issues
- Churchfields highways improvements scheme was completed in Kidderminster to enable access to new housing development land
- A38 highways improvements in Bromsgrove were completed with works on M42 J1 and M5 J4
- Phase 2 of the Duckworth Centre of Engineering was successfully completed and opened by Heart of Worcestershire College in Worcester
- Kidderminster Rail Station refurbishments were completed
- The Pinvin element of the Pershore Northern Link Improvements was completed
- The GBF project at Vale Business Park in Evesham completed in May 2021 with the delivery of 10 industrial units totalling 2,295 sq. m of new commercial floor space
- Funding leveraged from Department for Investment and Trade (DIT) to deliver Midland Cyber initiative on behalf of Midlands Engine, with continuation of DCMS funding in 2021/22

- Successful Future High Streets Funding announcements for Kidderminster (Wyre Forest) and Worcester to enable diversification of high street offers through targeted investment
- Towns Deal funding announcements from central government for Redditch town centre and Worcester city centre following successful applications.

14. This is by no means an exhaustive list but provides a flavour of the range and scale of the initiatives that WLEP have identified as part of a wider partnership for the future economic prosperity of Worcestershire.

15. Further examples of successes and achievements will be published in WLEP's 2020/21 Annual Report during Q3 2021/22.

16. Finally, it is worth noting the focus and time spent by the WLEP Board, Executive Team and partners during 2020/21 in finalising the refresh of Worcestershire's local economic strategy, the local Plan for Growth (2020-2040) which will be launched in Autumn 2021 and will ultimately supersede the Strategic Economic Plan (2015-2025).

Worcestershire Plan for Growth (2020-2040)

17. Prior to the COVID pandemic, WLEP were working on a Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) and were due to engage with BEIS in April 2020 on a proposed final draft before the impact of COVID-19 and lock-down restrictions shifted national and local priorities.

18. Following the initial economic response and restart phases, the WLEP Board agreed at their meeting in September 2020, to commission a refresh of the local economic strategy for the county, recognising our Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) is now dated, having been originally published in 2014.

19. The refreshed economic strategy, the *Worcestershire Plan for Growth (2020-2040)* utilises the robust evidence base work undertaken pre-COVID on our LIS and has been updated to reflect, as best as possible, the impact of COVID.

20. The Plan for Growth (2020-2040) will serve as a long-term economic strategy for the county and outlines four key strategic objectives for Worcestershire's economy along with a number of key aims across the five foundations of productivity:

- Ideas (R&D / Innovation)
- People (Skills)
- Infrastructure
- Business Environment
- Place.

21. The four strategic objectives of the Plan for Growth (2020-2040), as informed by an extensive stakeholder engagement programme, and scrutinised by an independent expert economic panel, are:

- Improving Worcestershire's strategic connectivity and infrastructure (physical, digital and energy)
- Stimulating investment in research & development and innovation to create a dynamic Worcestershire business environment
- Supporting a creative future-fit Worcestershire workforce
- Revitalising our city and town centres.

22. We will be launching this plan from a position of strength. Whilst COVID has undoubtedly impacted on our economy, it has also accelerated some of the trends we were already working to address under the previous economic strategy i.e. improving digital capability of our businesses and workforce to pivot and trade online and improving digital infrastructure county-wide.

23. Worcestershire is an attractive place to live and with our significant investments in digital connectivity and continued commitment to invest in robust gigabit-capable infrastructure across rural/urban areas, it will place the county in a strong position to attract inward investment, support start-ups and improve productivity as remote working behaviours become more commonplace.

24. We have also invested heavily in improving physical connectivity and will continue to champion rail as a sustainable method of travel with ambitions to further improve access to the National Rail network across the county and lobbying for enhanced rail services.

25. Our business base is demonstrating a commitment to sustainability and net-zero and we have pockets of specialism in low-carbon energy technologies which can support a green recovery and clean economic growth across the county.

26. We also have excellent engagement levels with schools and colleges across the county providing a strong platform to showcase careers opportunities and encourage positive learning / career pathway choices. Our focus on older demographics within the workforce will also support upskilling / reskilling opportunities across sectors.

27. Through the work of WLEP and partner organisations, we have a clear vision and strategy and are in a strong position to deliver on this for Worcestershire; to *create a connected, creative and dynamic economy for all*.

28. The Worcestershire Plan for Growth (2020-2040) has been endorsed by Worcestershire MPs and Local Leaders and will be published in Autumn 2021.

Looking Forward – key priorities for 2021/22 and beyond

29. The activity of WLEP is guided by the overarching economic strategy in place. As a result of a refreshed economic strategy being developed, WLEP's key priorities will now be informed by the Worcestershire Plan for Growth: 2020-2040.

30. The focus for the next 12 months is outlined below, in line with the three areas of focus set out for LEPs by Government.

Strategy

31. WLEP will launch the Worcestershire Plan for Growth: 2020-2040 – a refreshed economic strategy and project pipeline for the county, setting the vision for Worcestershire up to 2040.
32. WLEP will continue to coordinate and collaborate with key partners and stakeholder organisations on the Economic Recovery Plan for Worcestershire.
33. WLEP will engage and contribute to the National LEP Review, working with central government, the LEP Network and local stakeholders on the evolving LEP role.
34. WLEP will develop and implement the Business Engagement strategy (2021/22) for the Worcestershire Growth Hub (WGH) shifting from a volumes / targets-led approach to an account management relationship with Worcestershire businesses.
35. WLEP will support execution of the BetaDen Business Plan as it continues the transition from wholly public-funded to a self-sustaining operating model.
36. WLEP will also develop and launch the Local Skills Report 2021 for Worcestershire.
37. WLEP will support implementation of a county-wide Digital Connectivity Board in Autumn 2021 to ensure Worcestershire realises its digital potential and gigabit-capable ambitions

Delivery

38. In line with the five foundations of productivity framework established in the Plan for Growth (2020-2040), WLEP's delivery priorities for the next 12 months are as follows:

Ideas

- Launch a new commercial entity resulting from our Worcestershire 5G testbed programme – nexGworx – to provide local, regional and national SMEs with opportunity to test, trial and deploy this technology
- Establishment of an Innovation Board for Worcestershire to manage and steer a new action plan.

People

- Develop and implement a digital skills strategy for the county for 2021-26
- Continue to work with education establishments in Worcestershire to reach the eight Gatsby Benchmarks and support young people to understand the careers of the county's employers.

Infrastructure

- Complete delivery of the LGF-funded A38 Bromsgrove Route Enhancement Programme (active travel improvements)
- Continue delivery of the LGF-funded Pershore Northern Link Road scheme – final completion scheduled for Summer 2022
- Continue to ensure delivery of our Getting Building Fund programme – 12 capital projects across the county.

Business Environment

- Deliver new cohorts of the National Peer Networks programme

- Enhance the local business support offer with introduction of Specialist Business Advisor support via the Worcestershire Growth Hub.

Place

- Support the Green Recovery and Decarbonisation agenda across the county through support of key projects and initiatives including local COP26 events
- Support Redditch Borough Council with their Towns Deal investment programme for Redditch town centre
- Support Worcester City Council with their Future High Street and Towns Deal investments for Worcester city
- Support Wyre Forest District Council with their Future High Streets Funding programme in Kidderminster.

Governance

39. WLEP's governance objectives for 2021/22 will in part be guided by the outcome of the National LEP Review, linked to the Levelling Up White Paper, which is due for publication by Government in Autumn/Winter 2021.

40. Prior to that, WLEP will establish a WLEP Board sub-group, the Worcestershire Innovation Board, to lead on development of an Innovation Action Plan to address one of the key objectives of our Worcestershire Plan for Growth: 2020-2040 to stimulate investment in R&D and grow the innovation ecosystem across the county.

41. Finally, WLEP will continue to review and enhance private sector representation across WLEP Board and all sub-boards in 2021/22.

42. A review of WLEP's Local Assurance Framework will be subject to the outcome of the National LEP Review.

WLEP Financial Summary

43. Worcestershire County Council acts as the Accountable Body for WLEP and they support the budget monitoring, forecasting and control working with the WLEP Executive, providing financial challenge to the Board. The Head of Finance and S151 Designated Officer attends the WLEP Board, as an observer, on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer and has a valued input into all board reports prior to despatch and holds the Board to account on financial issues.

44. 2020/21 saw the successful maximum utilisation of WLEP's entire Local Growth Fund (LGF) allocation of £71.725m from Government. The final year's allocation in 2020/21 for £10.369m was fully defrayed in line with Government guidance.

45. A review of the expenditure profile for the GBF programme is underway and will be reported to WLEP Board following the Q2 fiscal period to understand progress and escalate any areas of concern re: potential under/overspend within the programme. Year 1 of the programme successfully spent to profile utilising agreed financial freedoms and flexibilities.

46. The operational budget for LEPs nationally, is determined by central government on an annual basis. The LEP's Core revenue budget for 2020/21 was **£652k**, comprising:

- i) DCLG income of £500k,
- ii) Local authority income of £140k
- iii) Other income of £12k.

47. Due to the National LEP Review currently underway, the Government has decided to provide LEPs with an initial six months of core funding in 2021/22 to the value of £250k per LEP.

48. The correspondence from Government advised that LEPS will be contacted in the summer with further detail on the financial data they expect LEPs to provide. This information will then support Government's understanding of LEP finances as part of the review and will help inform their decision on whether the allocation of the remaining 6 months of funding (£250k) will be released to LEPs later this year.

49. Current expenditure levels indicate that the WLEP budget is currently forecasting a break-even position. This assumes that all relevant Local Authorities pay their WLEP contribution for 2021/22 and the £500k core funding is received in full from Government for 2021/22.

50. A full overview of WLEP's end year financial accounts for 2020/21 will be published in our Annual Report 2020/21. Our final position in 2020/21 was £128k (rounded up) excess of income over expenditure budget, primarily because of reduced spending activity linked to the impact of COVID-19 e.g. no physical annual conference event.

51. Quarterly financial monitoring reports are available as part of WLEP Board papers, which can be found on our website.

National LEP Review

52. In the Chancellor's Budget Statement in March 2021, central government set out a commitment to work with local businesses and Local Enterprise Partnerships on the evolution of LEPs; which coincided with a shift in Government policy to route major capital funding for local economic development schemes via Local Authorities.

53. The Government-led National LEP Review was established in the following days with Terms of Reference discussed and agreed between Government officials and the LEP Network.

54. Originally intended to present recommendations to Ministers prior to Summer recess, the Review has over-run as it has become increasingly difficult to disentangle questions that the National LEP Review wanted to look at from questions on future funding and Government's wider approach to Levelling-Up, and institutional structures of devolution etc.

55. Whilst it has yet to be confirmed when the Spending Review 2021 will take place and when the Levelling Up White Paper will be published, Government officials have assured the LEP Network that the work undertaken on the Review to date has been the right approach to ensure the best quality information is available to inform Ministers on the best course of action with regards to:

- Accountability
- Funding and implementation
- Geography
- Local Government engagement.

56. Despite the lack of clarity at a national level, the Worcestershire LEP Board have consistently provided a steer to ensure continued focus on local and regional delivery, recognising the importance of meeting existing commitments, whilst simultaneously engaging with the National LEP Review through attendance on work-stream groups facilitated by the LEP Network.

57. This continued focus on delivery has resulted in positive outcomes as evidenced in May 2021 when Becky Miles, Area Director for Cities and Local Growth Unit wrote to WLEP to record the outcome of our Annual Performance Review meeting for 2020/21. Worcestershire successfully met the standards required across the three themes of Strategy, Delivery and Governance.

58. Despite this positive outcome, WLEP remains committed to continuous improvement and will review and refine our Local Assurance Framework following the National LEP Review to learn from best practice across the LEP Network and reflect the evolved LEP role and responsibilities.

59. In August 2021, the WLEP Board approved a revised Diversity and Equality Statement outlining the organisation's continued commitment and dedication to supporting a fully inclusive culture.

60. WLEP recognises that we have an important role in promoting diversity and eliminating discrimination and seek to do this in the way we conduct ourselves and our business. We will also provide training and opportunities for community members to be represented and perform the role of a Non-Executive Director.

61. BEIS remain assured by WLEP's performance, as evidenced by their feedback at regular touch-point meetings and attendance at our Programme Delivery Group meeting which oversees delivery progress of all LEP-funded activity. A mid-year review meeting between WLEP and BEIS will also take place in Autumn 2021.

62. WLEP will continue to work with partners and stakeholders in 2021/22 and beyond to deliver on our vision of 'building a connected, creative and dynamic economy for all'.

Purpose of the Report

63. WLEP welcomes the opportunity to report progress to the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board of the Accountable Body and is proud to outline the positive impact that WLEP and the wider partnership is having on the county's economy, despite the obvious challenges currently presented.

64. WLEP trusts that the OSPB members will recognise the progress made to date be assured about WLEP's ambitious plans to further enhance the future economic prosperity of Worcestershire as we embark on delivering a refreshed economic strategy for the county, working with partners, local stakeholders and central government.

65. The Board is asked to:

- (a) Review and note the progress made by WLEP, working with partners to support development of a county-wide economic recovery plan in response to COVID-19;
- (b) Note the completion of a refreshed economic strategy for the county and WLEP's plan to launch in Autumn 2021;
- (c) Review and note the positive progress made by WLEP and partners on the delivery of significant programmes and project interventions, contributing towards the objectives of the economic strategy;
- (d) Review and note the successful financial performance of WLEP and the ability to operate within its financial envelope despite the two-stage application process for core revenue funding from central government in 2021/22;
- (e) Note the National LEP Review activity currently underway and its links to the proposed Levelling Up White Paper due for publication by central government in Autumn 2021;
- (f) Note the positive performance of WLEP as assessed by MHCLG via the Annual Performance Review process in 2020/21;
- (g) Note the planned programme of activity for 2021/22; and
- (h) Invite WLEP to provide a further Annual Report to OSPB in 2022/23.

Supporting information

Appendix 1 – Presentation Slides – WLEP Annual Report 2021/22

Contact Points

Samantha Morris, Scrutiny Co-ordinator Tel: 01905 844963
Email: 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:

- WLEP Annual Delivery Plan 2020/21: <http://www.wlep.co.uk/resources/document-library/>
- WLEP Plan for Growth (2020-2040): <https://www.wlep.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/WLEP-Plan-for-Growth-2020-2040-FULL-VERSION.pdf>
- WLEP Plan for Growth (2020-2040) – exec summary: <https://www.wlep.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/WLEP-Plan-for-Growth-2020-2040-EXEC-SUMMARY.pdf>
- Worcestershire Economic Recovery Plan: <https://www.wlep.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/64733-Economic-Recovery-Plan-Summary-V02-Landscape-V05.pdf>

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website.](#)



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

WLEP Annual Report (2021/22)

Overview, Scrutiny and Performance Board
(OSPB)

30 September 2021

WLEP Key Achievements 2020/21

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Successes and Achievements...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

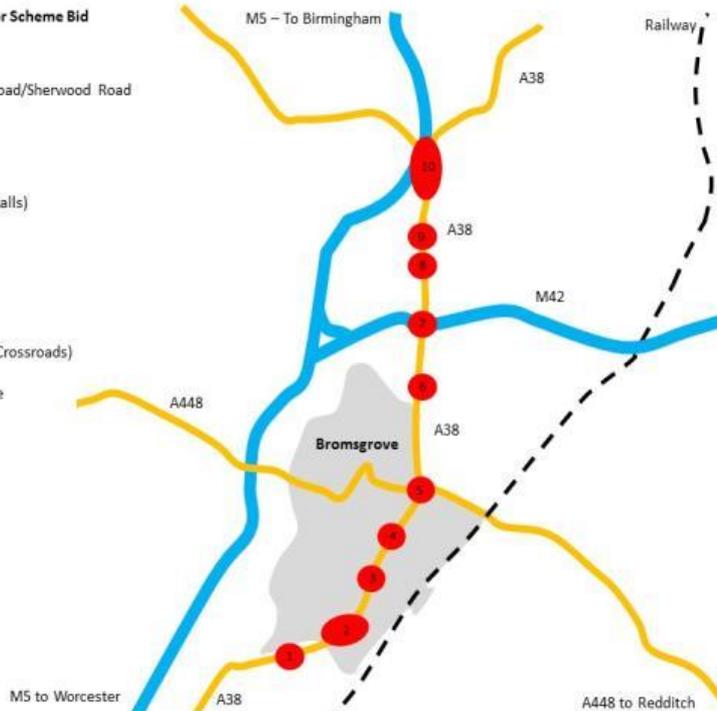
- Economic Recovery Plan established to co-ordinate economic response across Worcestershire partners – ensuring business support grant awards, dedicated advice and tailored online portals established
- Worcestershire 5G testbed programme successfully completed
- BetaDen completed Cohort 3.0 with Worcestershire tech entrepreneurs supported
- WLEP ranked No.1 in country for SEND schools performance and ranked No. 2 in country for Careers Hub performance

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A38 BREP (Phase 1)

Junctions and locations targeted by this Major Scheme Bid

- 1 A38/B4091 Hanbury Turn
- 2 A38/Buntsford Drive to A38/Austin Road/Sherwood Road
- 3 A38/Stoke Road/Charford Road
- 4 A38/B4184 New Road
- 5 A38/A448 Bromsgrove Highway (Oakalls)
- 6 A38/Birmingham Road
- 7 A38/M42 Junction 1
- 8 A38/Barley Mow Lane
- 9 A38/B4185 Braces Lane (Marlbrook Crossroads)
- 10 A38/M5 Junction 4 to Woodrow Lane



- Improvements to M42 J1 and M5 J4 completed
- WLEP investment to support active travel improvements on A38 corridor in 2021/22

Churchfields (Kidderminster)

- Highways improvements scheme completed

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Investment has enabled development of residential land



Duckworth Centre of Engineering



HEART OF
**WORCESTERSHIRE
COLLEGE**

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- Phase 2 of project completed and operational from Sept 2020
- Construction (plumbing and heating) and automotive skills offer

Kidderminster Rail Station

- Investment to refurbish one of the county's busiest rail stations completed
- Improved customer facilities and access to rail services



Redditch Gateway



- Local highways infrastructure work completed at Redditch Gateway
- Investment unlocks access to circa 78 acres strategic employment site

Worcestershire Parkway Rail Station



- First new rail station delivered in the county for over a century
- Completed and operational from February 2020

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Worcestershire: Plan for Growth (2020-2040)

Our Key Strategic Objectives...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

- ❑ Improving Worcestershire's strategic **Connectivity** and our infrastructure – physical, digital and energy
- ❑ Supporting a **Creative** future-fit Worcestershire workforce
- ❑ Stimulating investment in R&D and innovation to create a **Dynamic** Worcestershire business environment
- ❑ Revitalising our Town and City Centres

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We start from a position of strength...



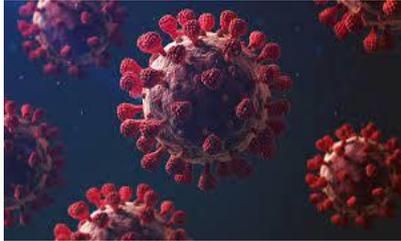
Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

- ❑ COVID has **accelerated some of the trends we are already working** to address under the existing economic strategy
- ❑ Worcestershire is an attractive place to live and with our **significant investments in digital connectivity** and continued commitment to invest in robust **gigabit-capable infrastructure across rural/urban areas** will place the county in a strong position to attract inward investment, support start-ups and improve productivity
- ❑ We have **invested heavily in physical connectivity** and continue to champion rail as a sustainable method of travel by improving access to the National Rail network across the county and lobbying for improved rail services
- ❑ Our business base are demonstrating a **commitment to sustainability and net-zero** and we have pockets of specialism in low-carbon energy technologies which can support clean economic growth of the county
- ❑ We have excellent engagement with schools and colleges across the county providing a strong platform to showcase careers opportunities and encourage positive learning / career pathway choices – **supporting upskilling / reskilling**

We have a clear vision and strategy and are in a strong position to deliver on this for Worcestershire

What are our key challenges...

COVID Recovery



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- Huge economic impact globally
- Has accelerated a number of trends – online retail and demand for digital
- Changing where and how we work
- Need to revitalise city and town centres

Levelling Up



- Support our businesses to improve productivity
- Need to tackle health inequalities and social mobility challenges across the county
- Champion inclusion and diversity across our work

Climate Change



- Need to decarbonise our energy and transport systems
- Tackling the challenges we face around flooding and water availability
- Champion a green recovery and environmental sustainability in our county

The Foundations of Productivity...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership



Places:
ensuring
prosperous
communities
across the county



Ideas:
developing a
dynamic and
innovative economy



People:
good jobs and
greater earning
power for all



Infrastructure:
investment in
upgrading the
county's physical,
digital and energy
infrastructure



**Business
Environment:**
creating the
conditions that make
Worcestershire the
best place to start
and grow a business

Our Plan for Growth has been developed with a focus on five foundations of productivity. Together, they support the vision for a connected, creative, dynamic economy for all.

Our Key Sectors and Industries...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership



Advanced manufacturing

Scale

- 7% of all businesses are advanced manufacturing-related
- 2,285 businesses
- 30,790 jobs, with concentrations in Redditch and Wychavon



Cyber security, IT and defence

Scale

- 13% of all businesses are cyber security, IT and defence-related
- 4,115 businesses
- 14,750 jobs



Horti/agricultural technology

Scale

- 7% of all businesses are horti/agricultural technology-related
- 2,210 businesses
- 14,000 jobs

Our Key Sectors and Industries...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership



Business administration & professional services

This includes legal services, audit, accountancy, insurance, management consultancy, employment activities, and business admin and support services.

Scale

- 30% of all businesses are business administration and professional services-related
- 9,350 businesses
- 36,000 jobs

Key employers

- AFH Financial Group
- Bishop Fleming
- Fresh Insurance Services Group
- Harrison Clark Rickerbys
- Liaison Financial Services

Growth opportunities

- Transformational business model changes as a result of digitalisation
- The growth of Artificial intelligence (AI)
- The potential to drive growth in both urban and rural areas

Challenges

- A skills gap and increasing digitalisation
- Digital disruption, which is contributing to a fundamental shift in the supply/demand dynamics of the sector



Construction

This includes construction of buildings, civil engineering, specialised construction activities, and architectural and engineering activities.

Scale

- 14% of all businesses are construction-related
- 4,520 businesses
- 17,000 jobs

Key employers

- Benniman
- One Environmental
- RM Contractors
- Speller Metcalfe
- Westpoint Construction

Growth opportunities

- Projected growth for both employment numbers and GVA
- Construction sector deal funding
- New construction techniques that drive clean growth
- The journey to smart homes
- The growth in digital technologies such as Building Information Modelling (BIM) that is driving high value added jobs

Challenges

- A skills shortage
- A difficulty in accessing and sourcing materials
- The currently limited application of innovative technology



Health and care

This includes social care, plus niche sectors including instrument devices and equipment manufacture; research and development; healthcare services; and assistive technology and diagnostics.

Scale

- 3% of all businesses are health and care-related
- 1,000 businesses
- 38,000 jobs

Key employers

- Kimal
- Lexon UK
- Malvern Analytical

Growth opportunities

- Increasing demand from an ageing population
- Technology changing the way healthcare is delivered

Challenges

- Recruitment
- Social care funding



Priority Projects in the Pipeline...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

 Malvern Science and Technology Park	 BetaDen expansion
 University of Worcester Health and Care Innovation Centre	 Digital Manufacturing and Innovation Centre

IDEAS

 Dedicated business support programme – start up, scale-up, exporting	 Inward investment programme and soft-landing package development
 Development of regional office / collaboration space hubs	 Investment into sustainable employment land/premises across the county

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

 North Cotswold rail line transformation	 A46 Evesham bypass junction improvement
 A38 Bromsgrove Route Enhancement Programme	 Gigabit-capable infrastructure roll out

INFRASTRUCTURE



Priority Projects in the Pipeline...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

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 <p>Employer Skills Hub</p>	 <p>National Telecomms and Digital Skills Centre</p>
 <p>Midlife MOT Programme (Review / Reskill)</p>	 <p>Public Sector Skills Centre of Excellence</p>

PEOPLE

 <p>Shrub Hill Quarter and Rail Station Regeneration</p>	 <p>Redditch Transport Interchange and Rail Quarter</p>	 <p>Redevelopment of former Crown House site in Kidderminster</p>
 <p>Malvern Theatres extension</p>	 <p>Development of former Market Hall site in Bromsgrove</p>	 <p>Flood resilience programme including Tenbury Wells, Bewdley and Powick</p>

PLACE

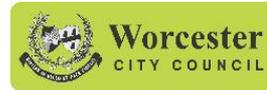
The strength of partnership...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership



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WLEP Priorities 2021/22

WLEP Key Priorities in 2021/22...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

Strategy

- Launch and publication of new strategy *Plan for Growth (2020-2040)*
- Business engagement strategy to be implemented by Worcestershire Growth Hub
- Launch Local Skills Report 2021
- Inform and contribute to National LEP Review underway

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Governance

- Establish WLEP sub-board focused on enhancing R&D and innovation ecosystem across the county
- Review / enhance private sector representation across LEP structure

WLEP Key Priorities in 2021/22...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

Delivery

- Support launch of new commercial entity nexGworx (post 5G test-bed)
- National Peer Network and Specialist Business Advisor programmes delivery via Worcestershire Growth Hub
- Support local partners with Towns Fund / FHSF programmes
- Support local COP26 events and decarbonisation agenda – commitment to net-zero objectives
- Development and implementation of a county-wide Digital skills strategy
- Delivery of LGF and GBF-funded capital programmes including...

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GBF investment programme...



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership



Health, Wellbeing & Inclusive Sport Centre



Keepax Bridge



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Worcester Shrub Hill Quarter & Station Masterplan



Tenbury Wells Flood Alleviation Scheme



Redditch Interchange



Vale Business Park Development



Low Carbon Housing Bromsgrove

Summary and OSPB recommendations

OSPB Recommendations...



OSPB are asked to:

- a) Review and note the progress made by WLEP, working with partners to support development of a county-wide economic recovery plan in response to COVID-19;
- b) Note the completion of a refreshed economic strategy for the county and WLEP's plan to launch in Autumn 2021;
- c) Review and note the positive progress made by WLEP and partners on the delivery of significant programmes and project interventions, contributing towards the objectives of the economic strategy;
- d) Review and note the successful financial performance of WLEP and the ability to operate within its financial envelope despite the two-stage application process for core revenue funding from central government in 2021/22;
- e) Note the National LEP Review activity currently underway and its links to the proposed Levelling Up White Paper due for publication by central government in Autumn 2021;
- f) Note the positive performance of WLEP as assessed by MHCLG via the Annual Performance Review process in 2020/21;
- g) Note the planned programme of activity for 2021/22; and
- h) Invite WLEP to provide a further Annual Report to OSPB in 2022/23.



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

Worcestershire 2040 Vision:

“A connected, creative, dynamic economy for all.”

Contact:

luke.willetts@wlep.co.uk

Director of Operations

Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS MADE AGAINST THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL'S ENERGY PURCHASING ARRANGEMENTS SCRUTINY REPORT

Summary

1. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Corporate Services and Communication and the Strategic Director for Commercial and Change have been invited to update the Board on the progress made against the recommendations from the Council's Energy Purchasing Scrutiny Report (Scrutiny Report).

Background

2. At its meeting on 4 February 2021, the Cabinet considered the Scrutiny Report (attached at Appendix A) and resolved that the response of the Cabinet Member with Responsibility (attached at Appendix B) be adopted as the way forward.
3. Detailed below is a summary of the actions agreed and current status of each.

Recommendation 1: *The Cabinet Member with Responsibility, the Strategic Director of Commercial and Change, the representatives on the WME Joint Committee and the S151 Officer should be invited to Scrutiny on an annual basis to provide an update on WME including the Business Plan and the activities relating to the Council. The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board should determine the most appropriate body to carry this Scrutiny out and accordingly, should be added to the appropriate Scrutiny work programme.*

Update

An invitation has been extended for the CMR, Director of Commercial and Change, and the Section 151 Officer to attend to provide an update and a date is to be agreed. The CMR has changed since the original report (now Councillor Adam Kent) and has been appointed to the WME Joint Committee.

Recommendation 2: *The Joint Committee Agreement stipulates that decisions of the Joint Committee will be subject to Scrutiny by the constituent authorities and its decisions can also be called-in within each constituent authority, using their own respective mechanism. In practical terms, for this to happen within the timescale set i.e. any call-in must be exercised by 5pm on the 5th working day **after the decision is published**, it is recommended that the Members of OSPB are sent the agendas and minutes of all WME Joint Committee meetings.*

Update

Councillor Adam Kent has recently been appointed to the WME Joint Committee and will circulate agenda and minutes to OSPB members going forward.

Recommendation 3: *Acknowledging that WME is subject to the auditing arrangements in place by the host authority (Shropshire Council), the Task Group nevertheless recommends that, due to the potential financial risks involved, the Council's Internal Audit Department should ensure that it has oversight of WME Joint Committee and Business Plan.*

Update

Worcestershire County Council is now in receipt of all Committee papers and continue to review these. Any issues are referred to the Council's representative. There is also regular contact with the Chief Internal Auditor from Shropshire Council, who has confirmed that WME Internal Audit (Shropshire Council) will attend the Full Joint Committee meetings where Business Plans are shared and discussed. Worcestershire County Council's Internal Audit Service has full access to the Joint Committee and WME Business Plans.

Recommendation 4: *It is recommended that in line with two of the other Member Authorities, a County Council Contracting (Procurement) Officer should act as the Council's Representative on the WME Flexible Energy Advisory Panel. This would ensure that the Procurement function has oversight, understanding and influence of the Council's energy purchasing arrangements. It would also give improved networking opportunities for the Procurement Officer with the representatives of WME and the other Member Authorities.*

Update

As advised, it is not possible to have an additional representative on the WME Flexible Energy Advisory Panel, however the Councils Energy and Utilities Purchasing Lead has provided a number of briefings to the CMR (at the time) since the task group submitted its recommendations for review. The new CMR may wish to solicit support for the appointment of a Council Purchasing Representative at their upcoming (and first meeting) later this year.

Recommendation 5: *It is recommended that, as part of the new Councillor Induction Programme, a session is included to explain the Council's Energy Purchasing arrangements via the WME Joint Committee Agreement.*

Update

Following discussions with Democratic Services, it was agreed that this was not a priority for the initial Induction Programme at that time. However, as an alternative, the Procurement Team has prepared a short briefing paper for Members which will be circulated shortly, along with an invite for the end of October for Members to join an online briefing where further detail can be provided.

Recommendation 6: *The Task Group recommends that the relevant Cabinet Member with Responsibility should be one of the Council's two Representatives on the WME Joint Committee.*

Update

The CMR has changed since the recommendation was made. The new CMR (Councillor Adam Kent) has now joined the WME Joint Committee.

Recommendation 7: *The Task Group recommends that the Council gains a better awareness and understanding of the risks and liabilities associated with being a Member authority in a Joint Committee and that, to this end, Internal Audit be asked to review the WME Risk Register on an annual basis.*

Update

The Council's Risk and Assurance Manager is now reviewing the Risk Register on an annual basis to ensure that any Council risks are considered and reflected in the Council's register.

Assurance has also been sought from the Shropshire Council's Chief Internal Auditor who has confirmed the risk management processes are looked at. The latest was November 2019 which reported that there were appropriate processes in place to ensure that Strategic and Operational Risks are recorded in a suitable format in the Risk Register and regularly reported to the Joint Committee. WME Internal Audit (Shropshire Council) attends the Joint Committee (JC) and receives full copies of all documentation that informs its planning and review.

Recommendation 8: *The Task Group recommends that it is imperative that succession planning should be given a very high priority to reduce the potential risk resulting from a reliance on a limited number of key personnel and should be included as part of the Annual Business Plan.*

Update

The Commercial Team has undergone a restructure, with a multiple officers now having direct or indirect responsibility for utilities within their portfolio, reducing single points of failure. In addition, Category Intelligence Reports are being created for each of our key categories capturing a running history of contract management issues and events, along with any supporting relevant documentation.

Recommendation 9: *The Task Group recommends that the Council should seek to encourage the West Mercia Energy Joint Committee to develop a long-term strategic plan for WME, to provide a more stable future and one where it is able to flourish to its full potential.*

Update

With the appointment of the CMR to the Joint Committee, they will take an active role in encouraging the development and management of a long term strategic plan.

Purpose of the meeting

4. Members are invited to consider and comment on updates provided and
 - Provide any further direction to the CMR or Strategic Director of Commercial and Change

- Request any further information pertaining to the energy purchasing and management from the CMR or Strategic Director of Commercial and Change.

Supporting Information

- Appendix A – [Scrutiny Report: The County Council's Energy Purchasing Arrangements](#)
- Appendix B – [Response of the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning](#)

Specific Contact Points for this report

Adam Kent – CMR for Corporate Services and Communication

Tel: 01905 846671 Email: akent@worcestershire.gov.uk

Andrew Spice, Strategic Director for Commercial and Change

Tel: 01905 844354 Email: ASpice@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and minutes of the Cabinet on [4 February 2021](#)

Agenda and minutes of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel on [21 November 2019](#)

Agenda and minutes of the Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel on [10 December 2019](#)

Agenda and minutes of the OSPB meetings on [22 July 2020](#) and 6 January 2021

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD
30 SEPTEMBER 2021****SCRUTINY PROPOSAL: CHILD AND ADOLESCENT
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (CAMHS)**

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (the Board) is asked to re-consider the Scrutiny Proposal for 'Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)' to ensure its current relevance, prior to the Task Group being re-commenced in the Autumn.

Background

2. At its meeting on 10 December 2019, the Board approved the setting up of a Task Group with terms of reference '*to investigate the availability of and access to mental health services for children and adolescents*'. It was also agreed that the Task Group should be led by the then Chairman of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel and that the membership should include a member(s) from HOSC.
3. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this work was paused before the first meeting of the Task Group.
4. Accordingly, in July 2021, the Board agreed that the Scrutiny Task Group should be re-started in the Autumn 2021. As a first step, it was agreed that the scope would be reviewed to ensure it was still relevant.
5. The updated Scrutiny Proposal is attached at Appendix 1.

Next Steps

6. Members are asked to consider, comment on, and agree the revised Scrutiny proposal and confirm that the current Chairman of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel, Cllr Kyle Daisley will be the Lead Member for the Task Group.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Revised Scrutiny Proposal: Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services .

Specific Contact Points for this Report

Samantha Morris, Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator, 01905 844963,
sjmorris@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting on [28 November 2019, 10 December 2019, 21 July 2021](#)
- Agenda and minutes of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 25 and 11 September 2019
[Children and Families O&S Panels September 2019](#)
- Agenda for the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee [21 September 2021](#)

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)

Scrutiny Proposal

Topic: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services			
Background to the issue (what is it and why is it being considered for scrutiny)	<p>The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) provides support to children and families where a young person is experiencing significant mental health difficulties.</p> <p>Commissioning and planning of most health services for children and adolescents are NHS funded. CAMHS report through the children's health commissioning team which is jointly funded by NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group and Worcestershire County Council. Services are provided by Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust.</p> <p>Mental health for children and adolescents has been identified as a priority on the work programme of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel. The nature of services means scrutiny work is also relevant to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which last reviewed the service in September 2018 and asked to revisit the topic after 12 months.</p>		
Terms of reference	To investigate the availability of and access to mental health services for children and adolescents.		
Suitability for scrutiny. Which of the following criteria does it meet?			
<i>Is the issue a priority area for the Council?</i>	Yes	<i>Does it examine a poorly performing service?</i>	Unsure
<i>Is it a key issue for local people?</i>	Yes	<i>Has it been prompted by new Government guidance or legislation?</i>	National issue
<i>Will the scrutiny have a clear impact on services?</i>	Possibly	<i>Will it result in improvements to the way the Council operates?</i>	Possibly
<i>Are improvements for local people likely as a result?</i>	Possibly		
Scope of scrutiny (what issues will it cover and what won't it cover)	<p>To investigate what mental health services are available to children and adolescents and how they are accessed, including out of hours, provision during times of crisis and wider issues such as autism and behaviour.</p> <p>We will also review whether our most vulnerable children, i.e those in care, subject to child protection and child in needs plans and their parents, where MH needs and risk exist, are able to access appropriate services and in a timely way</p> <p>To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> current performance (e.g. waiting times) access to services and 		

	<p>outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • population needs for provision incl. impact of COVID • feedback from service users • feedback from service providers • how the situation in Worcestershire compares with statistical neighbour authorities and the national picture. • Access to services and outcomes for Children in Need, Children Looked After and those with a Child Protection Plan • Access to and outcomes from emotional wellbeing services <p>It has been suggested that the Task Group may wish to take into account the following recommendation from the House of Commons Education Committee report into Mental Health and Well-being of Looked After Children:</p> <p><i>It is important that all children who need access to CAMHS get it in a timely manner. In recognition of the distinct challenges which looked-after children and young people face, we recommend that they should have priority access to mental health assessments by specialist practitioners but that subsequent treatment should be based on clinical need.</i></p> <p><i>N.B. O&S has committed to ensure that the following are considered in all scrutiny reviews as appropriate</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • equality and diversity issues • commissioning • localism
<p>Advantages to conducting scrutiny & Indicators of success (ie how will you know a good scrutiny has been done?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reassurance about capacity, performance and availability of CAMHS • Increased councillor knowledge about how CAMHS works and the issues involved
<p>Has anyone else examined the issue?</p>	<p>An overview was provided to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 19 September 2018</p>
<p>Any disadvantages or pitfalls to conducting this scrutiny?</p>	<p>CAMHS is a wide service and as the scrutiny progresses, care may be needed to determine the main focus of the scrutiny work</p> <p>Care will be needed with potentially sensitive information about individuals</p>
<p>INFORMATION NEEDS</p>	
<p>Key Documents, Reports & Data required</p>	<p>Initial overview of services and issues Data on numbers and performance National research Evidence from service users, service providers and schools about mental health support Worcester Youth Cabinet's recent mental health campaign Evidence from other support groups Report of the House of Commons Education Committee Mental Health and Well-being of Looked After Children 2016</p>
<p>Is an expert adviser</p>	

needed?	
Possible interviewees	<p><u>Council Cabinet Members and Directors</u> Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Wellbeing</p> <p><u>Worcestershire Children First</u> Director of Education and Early Help, Worcestershire Children First Assistant Director for SEND and Vulnerable Learners</p> <p>Corporate parenting Board?</p> <p><u>Health Provider (Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust)</u> Director of Strategy and Partnerships Service Delivery Unit Lead Clinical Service Manager CAMHS</p> <p><u>Service commissioner (NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group)</u> Transformation and Delivery Lead for Mental Health</p> <p><u>Public Health (WCC)</u> Healthwatch Worcestershire Representatives of schools and colleges Worcestershire Youth Cabinet <i>Who cares, we care (for looked after young people in Worcestershire 12-18 years old)</i> Care Leavers Council</p>
Is this an issue that young people would be interested in? If so, ask Youth Cabinet for evidence.	Yes – they are the ones using the services
Site Visits	As appropriate
Types of meeting/ consultation needed? (eg workshops/ focus groups/ public meetings/ questionnaires etc)	Task group meetings and visits as appropriate
Any meetings to be held outside of County Hall?	Possibly
Media & publicity needs?	Yes
OUTLINE TIMETABLE	
Proposal to OSPB	10 December 2019 (Start delayed due to Covid-19) Proposal to be reviewed by OSPB on 30 September 2021
Evidence Gathering	Autumn 2021 – OSPB to determine
Scrutiny Report to	

OSP	
Scrutiny Report to Cabinet	

DRAFT

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

PERFORMANCE AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MONITORING

Summary

1. The Board is asked to consider the feedback provided by Scrutiny Chairmen following the discussion of performance information for Quarter 1 (April to June 2021) and in-year budget monitoring information relating to Quarter 1 for 2021/22.

Background

2. Performance and financial monitoring are part of the Scrutiny Panels' role in maintaining oversight of service provision and a key role for Scrutiny.
3. As previously agreed by the Board, Scrutiny Panels will carry out quarterly performance and financial monitoring, and then report to the Board by exception any areas of concern or suggestions for further scrutiny.
4. At the September Scrutiny Panel meetings, Members were provided with performance information and in-year budget monitoring reports. The Panels welcomed the information and gave feedback, which is being considered (and incorporated where possible) for future reports.

Purpose of the Meeting

5. The Board is asked to:
 - consider and comment on the feedback from Scrutiny Chairmen following the discussion of Quarter 1 performance (April to June 2021) and in-year budget monitoring information relating to Quarter 1 for 2021/22; and
 - determine whether any further information or scrutiny on a particular topic is required.

Contact Point for this Report

Samantha Morris, Scrutiny Co-ordinator Tel: 01905 844963
Email: sjmorris@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director of Legal and Governance) the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and minutes of:

- [Adult Care and Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel - 29 September 2021](#)
- [Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel - 22 September 2021](#)
- [Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel - 20 September 2021](#)
- [Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel - 24 September 2021](#)

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website.](#)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

MEMBER UPDATE, WORK PROGRAMME AND CABINET FORWARD PLAN

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to:
 - (a) Receive an update on emerging issues and developments within the remit of each Member of the OSPB, including an update on each Overview and Scrutiny Panel and Task Group;
 - (b) Consider the 2021/22 Work Programme and consider whether it would wish to make amendments;
 - (c) Consider the Council's latest Forward Plan to identify:
 - any items it would wish to consider further at a future meeting; and
 - any items it would wish to refer to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel for further consideration.

Member Updates

2. In order to ensure that Members of the OSPB are fully informed about issues relating to scrutiny in Worcestershire, communication between Members is essential. To assist in this, it has been agreed that an item will be placed periodically on the OSPB agenda to enable each member to feedback on emerging issues and developments within their remit. This will also provide an opportunity to highlight possible future agenda items. Regard for the Council's statutory requirements in relation to access to information will be critical.

3. Board Members' areas of responsibility are as follows:

- Adult Care and Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Shirley Webb
- Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Kyle Daisley
- Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Alastair Adams
- Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Mike Rouse
- Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) – Brandon Clayton
- Crime and Disorder – Richard Udall

4. As part of their role, it was agreed by the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) that scrutiny lead members should receive regular briefings from the Directorates they are shadowing. These briefings, alongside the Forward Plan (see below), can be used to help identify any emerging issues that may be appropriate for future scrutiny. Recognising that work across the County Council is of interest and value to all OSPB members, the notes from these briefings (where produced) are available to all members electronically.

5. Members may also be leading scrutiny task groups. It will be important for Members of OSPB to be aware of how each scrutiny is developing so that they can fully consider the final report.

6. **Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairmen are asked to feedback on:**

- **progress on the work of their Panels and any scrutiny task groups they are leading;**
- **key issues from the Directorate that may be appropriate for future scrutiny;**
- **performance information they have queries or concerns about;**
- **items in the Forward Plan which they consider may be possible issues to scrutinise; and**
- **any other issue which they feel is relevant/of interest to the OSPB.**

Work Programme

7. From time to time the Board will review its work programme and consider which issues should be investigated as a priority.

8. Worcestershire County Council has a rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny, which is agreed by Council on an annual basis. The last programme was agreed on 9 September 2021

9. The main responsibilities of the OSPB are:

- Commissioning work for Scrutiny Panels
- Establishing Scrutiny Task Groups (agreeing Terms of reference and Reports)
- Advising on Council's Policy Framework ie Sustainable Community Strategy (if any), Corporate Plan, Children and Young People's Plan, Local Transport Plan, Youth Justice Plan, 'Act Local in Worcestershire' framework, such other plans and strategies as required by law to form part of the Policy Framework or which may be and have been adopted to be part of that Framework eg Corporate Plan, Budget
- Call-ins
- Designated by the Council as its statutory Crime and Disorder Committee and must meet at least annually.

10. The OSPB agreed to use a set of criteria (listed below) to help determine its scrutiny programme. A topic does not need to meet all of these criteria to be scrutinised, but they are intended as a guide for prioritisation.

- Is the issue a priority area for the Council?
- Is it a key issue for local people?
- Will it be practicable to implement the outcomes of the scrutiny?
- Are improvements for local people likely?
- Does it examine a poor performing service?
- Will it result in improvements to the way the Council operates?
- Is it related to new Government guidance or legislation?

- 11. The Board is asked to consider its 2021/22 Work Programme (attached at Appendix 1) and agree whether it would wish to make any amendments**

Cabinet Forward Plan

12. The Board will wish to consider any issues arising from the Council's Forward Plan. The latest version of the Plan available at the time of Agenda despatch is routinely considered at each meeting of OSPB (attached at Appendix 2).

13. The Board is asked to consider the Council's latest Forward Plan in order to identify:

- **Any items that it would wish to consider further at a future meeting;**
- **Any items that it would wish to refer to the relevant overview and scrutiny panel for further consideration.**

Supporting Information

- Appendix 1: OSPB 2021-22 Work Programme
- Appendix 2: Forward Plan (available at 22 September 2021) [Forward Plan 2021](#)

Contact Point for the Report

Samantha Morris, Scrutiny Co-ordinator/Tel: 01905 844963

Email: sjmorris@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director of Legal and Governance) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website.](#)

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OSPB DRAFT 2021/212 WORK PROGRAMME

Date of Meeting	Issue for Scrutiny	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
30 September 2021	Annual Update from Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)		
	Update on the Scrutiny Recommendations from The Council's Energy Purchasing Arrangements Scrutiny Report		
	Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring (Q1/period 3) - feedback from Scrutiny Panels		
	Member Update, Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan		
21 October 2021	Worcestershire County Council Community Safety Update (including an update on the Domestic Abuse Bill)		Due to COVID-19 An interim update was received in July 2020)
	Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring (Q2/period 6)		
	Member Update, Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan		
17 November 2021	Member Update, Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan		
15 December 2021	Budget Scrutiny		
	Member Update, Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan		
Items to be Scheduled			

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item(s)	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
TBC	Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Report		Policy Framework Report
Possible Future Items			
TBC	Draft Scrutiny Report: Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)		Scrutiny Task Group paused due to COVID-19
TBC	Draft Scrutiny Report: Elective Home Education	10 December 2019	Scrutiny Task Group paused due to COVID-19
TBC	Draft Scrutiny Report: Developer-Funded Highways Infrastructure and Section 278 Technical Approval	28 November 2018	Scrutiny Task Group agreed but not started due to other priorities
TBC	Update on Trading Standards (including reporting mechanisms)		Suggested at 22 July 2020 meeting
TBC	Income Generation		Suggested at 17 March 2020 meeting
Standing Items			
November/January	Budget Scrutiny		
February, April, July and October	Quarterly Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring - Feedback from Scrutiny Panels		
February	Annual update on the Council's energy purchasing arrangement via the West Mercia Energy Joint Committee including the Business Plan	Agreed by 4 February 2021 Cabinet	The Cabinet Member with Responsibility and S151 Officer to be invited
July	Annual Crime and Disorder Meeting		

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item(s)	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
April	Annual Update from Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)		
July	Review of Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme		Endorsed by Council in September
As necessary	Call-ins		
As necessary	Commissioning work for Scrutiny Panels		
As necessary	Establishing Scrutiny Task Groups (agreeing Terms of reference and Reports)		
As necessary	Advising on Council's Policy Framework ie Sustainable Community Strategy (if any), Corporate Plan, Children and Young People's Plan, Local Transport Plan, Youth Justice Plan, 'Act Local in Worcestershire' framework, such other plans and strategies as required by law to form part of the Policy Framework		

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FORWARD PLAN

FORMAL NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN BY, AND PRIVATE MEETINGS OF, CABINET (OR OTHER EXECUTIVE DECISION-MAKING BODY OR PERSON)

Forward Plan	Expected Date of Decision	Page No.
West Midlands Rail Limited; adoption of new collaboration agreement with the Department for Transport New Entry CMR Decision	6 September 2021	4
Adult Social Care – Local Account New Entry	23 September 2021	5
Consultation and Adoption of Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans New Entry Key Decision	23 September 2021	6
Establishment of a Charitable Body To Support Museum Fundraising New Entry	23 September 2021	7
National Bus Strategy – Agreement of WCC Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) New Entry Key Decision	23 September 2021	8
Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring New Entry	23 September 2021	9
Review of Youth Provision in Worcestershire New Entry Key Decision	23 September 2021	10
School Sufficiency and Organisation for the Pershore Education Planning Area Key Decision	23 September 2021	11
Approval of Plans for New Secondary School for Worcester New Entry Key Decision	28 October 2021	12
Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Potentially Key Decision	At every Cabinet Meeting	13
'Called In' Decisions or Scrutiny Reports Potentially Key Decision	Within the plan period	14
Notices of Motion Potentially Key Decision	Within the plan period	15

All entries will be for decision by Cabinet unless otherwise indicated.

APPENDIX 2