Worcestershire County Council

Agenda

Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Wednesday, 30 November 2022, 10.00 am
Malvern Hills District Council,
Council Chamber, Avenue Road, Malvern,
WR14 3AF

All County Councillors are invited to attend and participate

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DISCLOSING INTERESTS

There are now 2 types of interests:
<u>'Disclosable pecuniary interests'</u> and <u>'other disclosable interests'</u>

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 <u>spouse/partner</u> as well as you

WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days <u>and</u>
- **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.

Head of Legal and Democratic Services July 2012 WCC/SPM summary/f worcestershire countycouncil

Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Wednesday, 30 November 2022, 10.00 am, Malvern Hills District Council, Council Chamber, Avenue Road, Malvern, WR14 3AF

Membership: Cllr Matt Dormer (Chairman), Cllr Karen Hanks (Vice Chairman), Cllr Mel Allcott, Cllr Martin Allen, Cllr Bob Brookes, Cllr Allah Ditta, Cllr Ian Hardiman, Cllr Tony Muir and Cllr Craig Warhurst

Agenda

Item No	Subject	Page No
1	**Apologies and Welcome**	
2	**Declarations of Interest and of any Party Whip**	
3	**Public Participation** Members of the public wishing to take part should notify the Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager in writing or by e-mail indicating both the nature and content of their proposed participation no later than 9.00am on the working day before the meeting (in this case Tuesday 29 November 2022). Further details are available on the Council's website. Enquiries can also be made through the telephone number/e-mail address listed in this agenda and on the website.	
4	**Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting** Previously circulated	
5	**Malvern Hills District Council Economic Challenges and how the County Council Could Help** (Indicative timing 10.00 – 10.30am)	1 - 2
6	**Tourism** (Indicative timing 10.30 – 11.00am)	3 - 8
7	**Superfast Broadband Annual Update** (Indicative timing 11.00 – 11.30am)	9 - 30
8	**Performance Monitoring** (Indicative timing 11.30 – 12.00pm)	31 - 56
9	**Work Programme** (Indicative timing 12.00 – 12.10pm)	57 - 62

Agenda produced and published by the Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager (Interim Monitoring Officer) Legal and Governance, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP. To obtain further information or hard copies of this agenda please contact Emma James/Jo Weston 01905 844965, email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's Website

Date of Issue: Tuesday, 22 November 2022

ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
30 NOVEMBER 2022

MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL ECONOMIC CHALLENGES AND HOW THE COUNTY COUNCIL COULD HELP

Summary

1. The Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel has set a theme of holding a meeting at each of the six district council offices in Worcestershire, in order to discuss with the district council leaders the economic challenges faced in their area and how the County Council could help.

2. The Leader of Malvern Hills District Council, Cllr Tom Wells has been invited to this meeting, which is taking place at Malvern Hills District Council offices.

3. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills and the Assistant Director for Economy have been invited to the meeting to respond to any queries the Panel may have.

Purpose of the Meeting

4. The Panel is asked to:
    - consider and comment on the information provided about economic challenges and opportunities for Malvern Hills District;
    - agree any comments or feedback to the Cabinet Member; and
    - determine whether any further information or scrutiny on a particular topic is required.

Contact Points

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

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report.

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ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 30 NOVEMBER 2022

TOURISM

Summary

1. The Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel has requested an overview of how the Council supports and promotes tourism in Worcestershire.

2. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills and the Assistant Director for Economy have been invited to the meeting to respond to any queries the Panel may have.

Background

3. Worcestershire County Council (the Council) took over the running of Visit Worcestershire (the County's Destination Marketing Organisation (DMO)) from Herefordshire and Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce in April 2020 at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. Due to the impact of the pandemic on the sector and the ambition to move to a more strategic destination marketing organisation, as part of the transfer the membership model was removed.

4. This paper will set out the importance of the sector to the County, the extensive work programme already delivered and the future plans for the service. Since taking on the service, a number of immediate actions have been taken:

   a. Rebrand of the service in-line with One Worcestershire
   b. Establishment of a partnership working group with Worcestershire local authorities
   c. A focus on social media including the creation of an active Instagram account which now has over 5,500 followers
   d. Support for local tourism businesses; through the Here2Help Business programme and wider economic business support programmes the Council was able to focus support on the sector supporting over 120 businesses of which over 60 businesses received grant support totalling over £230,000.

The Visitor Economy

5. Visit Worcestershire (VW) is the County's DMO and plays an important role supporting the County's £990m tourism economy (pre-pandemic figure). In addition to visitors, it also provides an information service for residents. Visitors are looking for a diverse comprehensive wide-reaching variety of activities and attractions that only the whole County can provide.

6. The tourism and hospitality industry were heavily impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and whilst now returning to a new 'norm', the landscape still looks very different, in particular with staff shortages causing a common problem throughout and concerns over raised energy costs. Office for National Statistics (ONS) Data

from April 2021 illustrated the impact by the fact that 35% of tourism businesses had seen their turnover fall by 50% or more, the highest of any economic sector (an average of 9% have experienced this across other sectors).

7. According to the latest Economic Impact of Tourism study (November 2022 – which reports on data from 2021), the total tourism value in Worcestershire in 2021 was £747m, which is 25% down on 2019 figures. Worcestershire has fared better than some areas, but this is still a significant reduction. 14 million trips were taken across Worcestershire in 2021, which is considerable given the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic but still 24% lower than in 2019. This breaks down to 13.2 million day-trips and 0.9 million overnight visits. This equates to 2.6 million nights in the area as a result of overnight trips, these visitors generated around £42 million a month for the local economy.

8. The tourism sector employs 16,630 people which is around 12,190 direct jobs and 4,440 non-tourism related. The sector continues to play an important role in the Worcestershire economy.

9. Since taking on responsibility for VW, the work programme has focussed on developing the three core areas set out below:

Strategy & Strategic Relationships

10. After securing £14,000 from the Local Government Association, VW was able to develop a short-term strategy with input from partners and key tourism businesses.

11. A programme of business engagement has taken place to enable the team to build solid relationships with key tourism assets, local producers, accommodation providers and attractions.

12. VW has now established regular meetings with key partners which includes meeting the 6 district councils monthly to support the co-ordination of activity and to support the promotion of local events and attractions elevating the campaigns and messages for a County audience. Links with Visit England have also been established to ensure Worcestershire is well positioned.

13. VW has entered into an agreement with Great Western Railway to promote the rail service as the sustainable travel partner to and from Worcestershire and to work on joint campaigns promoting the County. A similar arrangement with Cross Country trains is currently being negotiated.

Visitor Engagement

14. Developing the Worcestershire brand has been key to decision making in relation to new campaigns and the VW website. In summer 2022 the new look brand and marketing launched, which saw a step back from trying to define Worcestershire with a slogan or tag line and a move to embracing the most recognised and attractive assets that are associated with Worcestershire.

15. Campaigns have been the backbone of the new approach to VW messaging. In summer 2021 the ‘Discover More’ campaign celebrated the breadth of activities and attractions in the County from culture, history and enjoying the outdoors.

16. For 2022 the focus is on the key tourism assets that the Council wants Worcestershire to be ‘known for’ – with the tag line ‘Make Worcestershire part of your story’. Over 7 million people saw the campaign across social media channels, out of home and other associated advertising.

17. The 2022 summer campaign saw a positive impact over 2 months with over a 25% increase in web traffic for this period compared to the previous year.

18. VW supported the coordination of the Queen’s Baton Relay in the County ahead of the Commonwealth Games. This drew large social media interest ahead of the games and helped put Worcestershire on the map as a location for those visiting the Games.

19. With ambitions to put Worcestershire in front of a larger audience in 2023, three TV adverts have been filmed, focusing on families and couples which will be on Sky Adsmart in Spring and Summer 2023 targeting key areas of Bristol, London and the West Midlands conurbation.

20. The new website launched in October 2022, the website is the window to the County, and has much improved useability and accessibility as well as new fresh and relevant content. The second stage of development will be to have a booking functionality, bespoke itineraries and a trade section that offers group travel options; a first for the County.

21. Website traffic is up 300% on April 2020 and there are approximately 40,000 unique visitors each month. Current web visitor numbers for the year from January 2022 stand at 260,000.

22. Year on Year data illustrates a positive impact in web visitors comparing 2020-21 to 2020-21 to 2021-22 there has been:
    - 50% increase in Google searches
    - 30% increase in direct clicks to the website
    - 131% increase in web visitors from London
    - 34% increase in web visitors from Birmingham

23. The social media following has grown to over 34,000 across all platforms with Facebook being the primary core marketing tool. The VW Tik Tok channel was introduced in March 2022, launching with our ‘How to Pronounce Worcestershire’ video which was a big hit in English Tourism Week.

24. VW have been trialling new methods of social media activity this year using the growing trend of ‘Influencers’. Two influencer campaigns generated 202k views from individuals who ordinarily may not have seen or heard of Visit Worcestershire.

25. To date, 2,000,000 people have seen the VW activity across all social media platforms since January 2022.

26. A bi-monthly newsletter showcasing the best of Worcestershire places to stay and things to do is issued to over 4,000 registered subscribers.

27. VW have also just published a Visitor Guide, with 50,000 copies being distributed around the region in Tourist Information Centres, service stations and accommodation packs. They have been very well received and the sale of advertising for 2023 has already began.

<u>Sector Development</u>

28. The Tourism Awards have been a huge success for the County. The first competition had just over 100 applications, with 13 winners being crowned on the night. Most recently, three local winners progressed forward to the national Visit England awards in June 2022 picking up two bronze and the highly acclaimed gold award for the self-catering category – which is a huge accolade for the businesses but also puts Worcestershire on the map nationally.

29. Following previous success, the Tourism Awards re-opened for 2022/23 with the addition of a new category 'Business Events Venue of the Year'. A thorough two round judging process has taken place with the experience of 22 judges providing tailored constructive feedback. Winners will be announced on 24 March 2023 at the Awards event held at the West Midland Safari Park. The backing of 15 sponsors reinforces the desire to support the sector and competition itself.

30. Tourism Network – the bi-monthly meeting of the visitor economy has grown from around 20 businesses to over 50 attending the last event. Moving around the County and being hosted by local businesses, the topics vary from sustainability to marketing and diversification.

31. Regular communication via a dedicated LinkedIn page, tourism Facebook private group and a bi-monthly business newsletter allows for valuable engagement to currently just over 2,500 businesses.

32. The Here2Help business consultancy support scheme has also underpinned the programme, with the sector benefitting from bespoke one to one consultancy and grants helping them to strengthen and grow.

33. Account managing Worcestershire's key assets has also helped the Council develop a deeper relationship and understanding of the sector and it is now often the first port of call for good news or requests for support.

The Forward Plan

34. The Open for Businesses Board, with sign off from Cabinet have approved an investment of £1.4m for Visit Worcestershire until March 2026. This illustrates the Council's commitment to tourism and the wider ambition to put Worcestershire on the map as a tourism destination.

35. Tourism is also a key part of the Government's Covid response with funding being made available via UK Shared Prosperity Fund as well as large programmes of investment with Visit England/Visit Britain promoting the UK to international visitors.

36. The Government has recently responded to the independent De Bois Review of Destination Management Partnerships announcing a new accreditation system via Visit Britain for Local Visitor Economy Partnerships (formally Destination Management Organisations DMOs) and the full criteria is expected to be launched very soon.

37. It is anticipated that the accreditation will provide access to future funding, business support delivery and a greater voice at a national level. This is a significant opportunity for Worcestershire to position the County for the new accreditation system.

38. Visit Worcestershire is developing a Worcestershire Tourism Growth Strategy and is currently undertaking consultation with stakeholders, businesses and partners to understand their priorities for the sector, opportunities and barriers that exist and issues related to technology, sustainability and accessibility.

Purpose of the Meeting

39. The Panel is asked to consider the latest information provided on tourism 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, Infrastructure and Skills

Contact Points

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and Minutes of:

- Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 29 July 2022

All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.

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ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 30 NOVEMBER 2022

SUPERFAST BROADBAND ANNUAL UPDATE

Summary

1. The Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel is to be updated on progress of the roll-out of superfast broadband to Worcestershire residents and businesses, including mobile and 5G coverage.

2. Representatives from Worcestershire County Council's (the Council) Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity Team (previously Superfast Worcestershire Programme Team), BT/Openreach and the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills have been invited to the meeting to respond to any queries the Panel may have.

3. A presentation provided by Openreach is attached at Appendix 3.

Background

4. Members of the previous Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel last discussed Superfast Broadband on 20 September 2021 and the Agenda and Minutes can be found on the Council's website: [Web Link to Agenda and Minutes.]

5. The Superfast Worcestershire programme, was part of a wider Department for Digital Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) initiative under the banner of Building Digital UK (BDUK), consisting of three main contracts with supplier BT/Openreach.

6. The initial objective of Contract 1 was to make superfast broadband (24 Megabits per second - Mbps+) available to 90% of Worcestershire's premises and uniquely for Worcestershire, 90% of business premises. In Contract 1 this was largely achieved through Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) infrastructure, with some Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) where necessary. Subsequently, as additional funding and reinvestment opportunities became available and ambitions increased to extend better broadband to more and more premises, two further contracts were agreed; through Contracts 2 and 3 FTTP infrastructure increasingly became the preferred method of deployment.

7. The deployment phase of the final Superfast Worcestershire contract with BT/ Openreach, 'Contract 3' completed in March 2020; since then, work has continued on the financial completion of Contract 3, which remains ongoing. Contract 2 is now fully closed. Financial monitoring of 'Gainshare'[1] continues and will carry on for the duration of the 3 Contracts (up to 7 years after deployment is complete).

[1] Gainshare is a mechanism within the contracts that means if the 'take-up' of services from the new infrastructure exceeds the projection within the projects financial model, any excess profits will be returned to the public sector funding partners in proportion to their financial contribution. An element of Gainshare is also referred to as 'take-up clawback'.

8. The Council inserted a clause into the contract that the supplier would report to Overview and Scrutiny on request, up to once every year during the deployment phase, alongside Council Officers. This has taken place since the commencement of the programme; however, this requirement has now ended and this is the last time the supplier representative is contractually required to attend.

9. In addition to managing the Superfast Worcestershire programme, the Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity Team deliver other projects to improve connectivity in the County, including the switch in focus to Gigabit Capable broadband (1Gbps = 1000Mbps); through both commercial and gap-funded means, understanding and leveraging plans to improve mobile coverage and exploring other opportunities through which Worcestershire residents and businesses can realise the benefits of improved connectivity and emerging digital technologies.

Superfast Worcestershire Funding

10. The table below shows the sources of capital funding directly associated with the infrastructure build; committed into Contracts 1, 2 and 3.

Source of Funding	Contract 1 (final financial position)	Contract 2 inc. gainshare (final financial position)	Contract 3 (pre-closure position)
BT	£4.4m	£11.2m	£4.6m***
Worcestershire C C	£8m	£2.3m**	£0.6**
BDUK	£4.5m	£2.4m	£1.5m
Local Growth Fund	-	£2.4m	-
ERDF	-	-	£1m
Total	**£16.9m***	**£18.3m**	**£7.7m*****

* Of the original £16.9m allocation, £13.3m was spent on Contract 1. The remaining funding was placed in the reinvestment account. Including £1.8m of supplier's contribution and £3.8m of public underspend.
** Consists of elements of Contract 1 underspend and/or gainshare. Previously shared £0.44m has been updated with the latest figure of £0.6
*** Final amount to be confirmed post Phase 3 contract close down (Contract 3 close down is taking longer than expected as BDUK and Openreach deal with the final elements of the financial close down). Previously reported £6.6m for BT is updated with a more recent figure of £4.6m.

Closure of Superfast Broadband Contracts

11. Contract 1 officially completed in July 2016 with £4m of underspend and take-up clawback reinvested into further infrastructure deployment. All targets were achieved, to avoid delays in closing the contract, 29 structures moved to Contract 2, 28 of which were subsequently delivered.

12. Contract 2 is now fully closed. 13,537 superfast intervention area premises have been delivered against the total contractual target of 13,356 (+181).

13. Despite the delay in completing the programme, Contract 3 deployment concluded successfully. 3,465 eligible premises have been delivered against the target of 3,311, exceeding the target by 154 premises. Please note this is a slight increase on the figures reported in September 2021, as additional premises were

recognised as part of an end of project review. Several reasons contributed to the delivery overrunning, including Change requests (extending the contract to include Local Body Partnership schemes (community schemes), ensuring former Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) targets were achieved and the Covid-19 pandemic). Despite these challenges, Openreach introduced a recovery plan and delivered against it.

Take-up monitoring

14. In recent months, Contract 1 take-up has seen a very slight decrease in take-up (see below) and is now at 83.95% (end of October 2022), which is still a significant rise of c. 5% compared to Sept 2021 figure. The decline was to be expected as FTTP becomes available in more communities and because several suppliers are now investing in FTTP infrastructure in Worcestershire, meaning that some customers opt for an FTTP service, rather than Openreach's FTTC service.

15. Take-up remains above the originally modelled 20% and has provided gainshare payments from BT back to funders, which has been reinvested or is available for reinvestment. The final Take-Up review point for Contract 1 is Summer 2023.

16. Contract 2 addressed the more rural locations within Worcestershire and had a quicker initial take-up, again exceeding 20%. Contract 2 take-up, has seen a minimal reduction over the last five months, however, it remains very high at 78% and 4% higher than at the start of the calendar year.

17. During Contract 3, the Council has seen the take-up of broadband increase to over 65.4% (combined figure due to very small FTTC delivery) (Oct 2022) – another significant increase of c. 17% since Sept 2021.

18. An additional type of Clawback, 'Additional Services', which provides a return to investors if any of the project funded infrastructure generates a profit for the supplier, also exists. The calculation for this 'Additional Services' clawback is currently being discussed between BDUK and the Supplier, following regulatory changes in the market since contracts were signed. The Council's Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity Team are monitoring the situation.

Contracts 1,2 and 3 take-up breakdown

	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22
C1 FTTC	83.82%	84.38%	84.57%	84.58%	84.51%	84.42%	84.39%	84.26%	84.12%	83.95%
C1 FTTP	30.53%	30.53%	30.97%	31.42%	31.42%	31.86%	31.86%	31.86%	32.74%	32.74%
COMBINED	83.70%	84.26%	84.45%	84.46%	84.39%	84.30%	84.27%	84.14%	84.00%	83.83%
C2 FTTC	78.06%	78.36%	78.54%	78.47%	78.47%	78.36%	78.18%	78.02%	77.98%	77.91%
C2 FTTP	60.44%	61.39%	62.49%	63.35%	64.07%	64.55%	65.20%	65.78%	66.03%	66.87%
COMBINED	73.97%	74.42%	74.81%	74.96%	75.12%	75.15%	75.16%	75.18%	75.20%	75.34%
C3 FTTC	66.73%	66.73%	67.32%	68.31%	69.09%	69.09%	69.09%	68.90%	69.03%	69.09%
C3 FTTP	53.48%	54.80%	56.17%	57.68%	59.36%	60.72%	62.07%	63.30%	64.35%	65.17%
COMBINED	54.29%	55.53%	56.86%	58.33%	59.96%	61.23%	62.50%	63.64%	64.64%	65.41%
All FTTC	82.63%	83.14%	83.33%	83.33%	83.27%	83.18%	83.12%	82.98%	82.86%	82.71%
All FTTP	56.98%	58.07%	59.27%	60.40%	61.51%	62.37%	63.30%	64.15%	64.75%	65.56%
ALL	80.16%	80.72%	81.01%	81.12%	81.17%	81.17%	81.21%	81.17%	81.12%	81.06%

National Picture and Current Local Position

19. Whilst the initial projects aimed to extend superfast broadband service, focus has shifted to increasingly deploying fibre to the premises and gigabit capable infrastructure networks. This is in line with the UK Government's ambition to achieve at least 85% Gigabit capable coverage target by end of 2025 and 99% soon after. Gigabit coverage in Worcestershire has already increased from 3.8% in December 2019 to 53.3% in November 2022 as a result of our projects and external commercial deployments. The Council's ambition, as outlined in the Corporate Plan, is to ensure Worcestershire increases the coverage to above the ever-increasing national average and reaches 95% by 2027.

20. A summary of broadband infrastructure availability taken from www.thinkbroadband.com (November 2022) data is provided at 'Appendix 1' with a breakdown and comparison by the areas - UK, Worcestershire and the six districts.

21. Appendix 2 contains two maps of Worcestershire that help identify FTTP and Gigabit capable coverage in the County as a result of contracts 2 and 3 and the voucher schemes. For clarity, FTTP broadband is encompassed within the term 'Gigabit Capable', however gigabit speeds can also be achieved through other technologies:

- Map A - Contract 2 and Contract 3 FTTP (taken from project reports – the number of premises is included on the maps)
- Map B - Voucher funded/Community Fibre Partnership premises (please note this includes estimated premises built, approved, or submitted for approval by DCMS, some of these may not be built)

BDUK Project Gigabit

22. A Strategy for £5bn UK Gigabit Broadband Rollout was outlined by DCMS in December 2020 and published in August 2021. In summary, it includes the following points:
    - Project Gigabit, which aims to extend 1Gbps(1000Mbps) capable networks to at least 85% of UK premises by the end of 2025 and then universal coverage by around 2030
    - Centrally ran procurement – with Local Bodies expected to support.
    - Majority of Worcestershire is placed in Lot 24, which is included in Phase 1b (one of the first ten areas announced)
    - Focussed on gigabit capable infrastructure
    - Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme to be extended to complement commercial delivery and Project Gigabit deployments.

BDUK Project Gigabit in Worcestershire

23. As part of Project Gigabit, DCMS are undertaking national, rolling Open Market Reviews (OMR) ahead of national procurements. This process was initiated in 2021 and continues on a quarterly basis to inform the intervention areas and commercial deployments. This is a centrally funded and managed process through DCMS.

24. Worcestershire's pre-procurement activities commenced in May 2022, and Worcestershire procurement launched in October 2022. The contract award is currently planned for Summer 2023.

25. Alongside the deployments of the commercial operators, Project Gigabit will be the main mechanism by which we will be able to reach the Gigabit coverage target. However, we still expect that further work and investment will be needed if we are to achieve and exceed the national and local targets.

Community Voucher Schemes

26. As part of the Project Gigabit programme, the Government started a new rural focused £210m Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme (GBVS), with revisions expected in the New Year. Although currently on hold in Worcestershire, due to the 'Project Gigabit' procurement process, this additional investment continues supporting the cost of installing faster and more reliable full fibre broadband connections for small to medium sized businesses and surrounding premises.

27. In September 2020, the Council reinvested £1m, which was further supplemented by £0.5m from Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (WLEP) (Getting Building Funding), to up Worcestershire's drive to get high-speed broadband out to the most rural parts of the County. This additional funding has been used to 'top-up' the Government's existing GBVS, to help people in hard-to-reach locations get improved connectivity. The funding is being used to match the level of funding available under the GBVS, so that eligible businesses can apply for up to a maximum of £7,000 and eligible residential properties up to £3,000.

28. To date, Worcestershire has secured over £7m worth of vouchers from the original Voucher schemes to support Worcestershire communities. At least 64 schemes (c. 4,000 premises) have already been successfully delivered. A further 32 are currently in build (in excess of 5,000 premises) are currently in build and are expected to complete either in late 2022 or early to mid-2023. These figures do not include schemes that have progressed independently of the Council.

29. This has meant that with the help of the Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity Team within the Council, Worcestershire is within the top 10 counties in the UK to receive this inward investment. Only a small number of these have required the support of the 'top up' fund to make them viable.

30. The current GBVS is currently on hold in Worcestershire, whilst DCMS progresses Lot 24 procurement. Whilst it is disappointing not to be able to progress community schemes at present, the Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity team at the Council is already planning its approach for when the outcome of Lot 24 procurement is known, to be able to progress more community schemes for communities not included Lot 24 solution or any of the commercial deployment plans.

31. Subject to HM Treasury approval, the GBVS will re-launch on 5th December 2022 (likely to be later in Worcestershire, due to the ongoing procurement). A significant increase in the GBVS funding is expected (to date, eligible businesses could claim up to £3,500 and residential properties up to £1,500 as part of a group project); the new platform should make managing community schemes a lot easier and changes will apply to new projects only. Eligibility will be aligned to procurements and gaps in market delivery plans in rural areas.

GigaHubs Fund

32. The GigaHubs project is part of DCMS' £5 Billion Project Gigabit. GigaHubs is one of a growing number of initiatives BDUK is using to deliver the ambition of

achieving gigabit capabilities across the UK by 2030 (with 85% by 2025). GigaHubs has an allocated budget of £110 million to connect circa 7000 of the 'hardest to reach' rural public sector buildings nationwide.

33. Initially led by Midlands Engine, which secured £8 million from BDUK to connect 316 sites across the region. Nottinghamshire County Council has agreed to take over the Regional Lead role from Midlands Engine to convene and lead a collaboration group, including Worcestershire. Currently, there are 58 sites in scope for Worcestershire as the project approaches the procurement stage (Dec 2022).

Commercial operators across Worcestershire

34. The Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity Team continues to liaise with commercial broadband operators to understand and assist with their commercial deployment and making Worcestershire an easier place to invest.

35. Several operators have announced their investments for Worcestershire, these are listed below, a number of other operators also have network build underway or planned, however these are either smaller in scale or lack clarity to be listed here:

- **Openreach** – (*Badsey, Belbroughton, Bewdley, Blakedown, Bredon, Broadway, Cropthorne, Droitwich, Hanley Swan, Harvington, Leigh Sinton, Pershore, Powick, Romsley, Stourport, Tenbury Wells, Upton Upon Severn, Wolverley, Wychbold*) included in Openreach's £15bn project to cover 25 million premises by December 2026, the following exchange areas have also been added to their build plan: *Kidderminster, Headless Cross, Evesham, Malvern, Tewkesbury* (cross border). Additionally, build is underway in areas served by *Peopleton, Worcester City, Worcester St Peters, Worcester St Johns* exchanges and largely complete in *Bromsgrove and Hillside* exchange areas.
- **Airband** – previously publicised (June 2021) deployment includes: *Cropthorne, Dormston, Earls Croome, Eckington, Elmley Castle, Bricklehampton, Fladbury, Inkberrow, Little Comberton and Great Comberton, Pershore, Ryall & The Grove, Upton Link/Tunnel Hill, Upton upon Severn, Welland and Wick.* Additionally, Airband have progressed their plans to upgrade the following locations: *Lower and Upper Moor, Pinvin, Wyre Piddle, Severn Stoke & Clifton, Tenbury Wells.*
- **FullFibre Ltd** – aim to cover "at least" 500,000 premises by 2025. Positively, over 90,000 premises are in Worcestershire, including: *Droitwich and Stourport-on-Severn, Bewdley, Evesham, Malvern, Pershore, Cookley and Wychbold, Broadway, Honeybourne, Badsey, Bretforton, Offenham and the Littletons.*
- **CityFibre** - £21m full fibre rollout around *Worcester City* is underway, which includes *Hallow, Norton, Fernhill Heath and Norton*. Expected completion – Dec 2023
- **Zzoomm** – *Bewdley*
- **Gigaclear** – *Broadway*
- **BeFibre** – in Apr 22, the supplier announced Worcester as part of their build
- **LitFibre** – in June 22, LitFibre added *Redditch* to plans, (also includes *Evesham*)
- **Virgin Media** – plan to upgrade their fixed network to full fibre by 2028.

36. In addition to engaging with the operators, the Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity Team works with County and District teams around matters such as ensuring broadband and mobile infrastructure considerations are included in Local Development Plans, that projects are in place to support the adoption of broadband

and connectivity into business solutions and coordinating with Highways colleagues to minimise disruption to the Highway and protect Council assets.

37. It is important to highlight that whilst for many their current broadband solution may now be sufficient for their needs, evidence shows that there will be an expediently increasing demand for faster more reliable broadband for both business and recreational uses in coming years.

38. The Universal Service Obligation (USO) is a UK-wide measure, intended to fill the gap left by the UK Government's existing broadband roll-out programmes, to deliver broadband connections to the hardest to reach premises in the UK, specifically those with less than 10Mbps download speed and less than 1Mbps upload speed – this is currently 0.8% of Worcestershire premises. BT, the USO provider for Worcestershire, have written to all eligible premises across Worcestershire, advising them of the availability of the funding and informing how to request a quote. A very helpful guide is available on Ofcom's website: https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/broadband-uso-need-to-know.

39. The Panel is reminded, that in November 2017, Openreach announced that they would be retiring their Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) and Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) by the target date of December 2025 and eventually planning to retire the copper network. With some areas, initially in North Worcestershire, having already stopped selling new services over PSTN and ISDN networks. The more immediate PSTN/ISDN switch off means many services such as telephone switchboards, lift lines, alarm systems, traffic signals and even 'careline' style services that are currently delivered via PSTN and ISDN solutions need to understand the impact. It is expected that the majority of services will be capable of being switched across to the new 'digital' networks, however users are encouraged to check with their equipment or service provider.

Mobile and 5G

40. According to the website www.signalchecker.co.uk, Worcestershire is ranked the 27th best area for mobile coverage in the UK out of 96 areas, their website provides the coverage information in the below table (It is not clear if this is reported as geographic coverage or by population).

Operator	Indoor or Outdoor	3G	4G	5G
Three	Indoor	94.1%	79.3%	28%
Three	Outdoor	94.1%	79.5%	28%
O2	Indoor	88%	92.9%	0.9%
O2	Outdoor	99.8%	100%	0.9%
Vodafone	Indoor	90.6%	92.1%	17.2%
Vodafone	Outdoor	99.6%	99.9%	17.2%
EE	Indoor	82.5%	98.1%	64.9%
EE	Outdoor	96.5%	100%	64.9%
All Providers	**Indoor**	**99.8%**	**100%**	**72%**
All Providers	**Outdoor**	**100%**	**100%**	**72%**

41. From available data, contacts with residents and business owners, and more anecdotally, we know that people living and working in Worcestershire do not always receive the mobile connectivity they need (as services move online) or want. We recognise the above data may not reflect the experiences on the ground and are also

of the view that modelled data from Ofcom and mobile operator is overestimated, this view is supported from our own drive trials in 2017 and 2019.

42. For example, in 2017 and 2019, the Council and WLEP commissioned an expert third party to conduct an 'Independent Benchmark Assessment of Mobile Coverage in Worcestershire.' These assessments included the surveying by car, by rail and on foot of around 1,500km of Worcestershire's roads, six railway routes and 38 locations in the county. They identified stable coverage for 2G and 3G and around a 10% increase in coverage for 4G across from 2017 to 2019. The surveys also provided data on voice and data services, highlighting areas of poor general coverage, as well as providing information on areas with technical network issues such as call attempt failures, dropped calls and handover failures. The findings revealed a picture of 5G deployments planned or in place in Worcestershire for all operators

43. Currently, as data and sources vary and do not always reflect reality, it is challenging to answer fully the question around where services do not meet expectations. This means an important part of our strategy will be investigating to form our own up to date and independent view, so we can focus attention on possible solutions in the most effective way in 2023 and beyond.

44. In the meantime, the Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity Team continues with efforts to improve mobile coverage in Worcestershire, largely by building relationships with the industry and making Worcestershire an attractive place to invest. This has included arranging a session for mobile industry experts to speak with Planners in Worcestershire (Spring 2021), to better understand the process mobile operators and their agents go through when proposing new mast sites, why new sites are required and providing the opportunity for Planners to raise questions on site design etc.

45. Off the back of the 2017 and 2019 assessments, the Council and WLEP has engaged with the mobile operators to discuss areas of concern and opportunities for their investment, this has resulted in positive changes being made to network optimisation by two of the operators and business cases being put forward for upgrades and additional mast sites. The Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity Team is also working with the Digital Connectivity Infrastructure Accelerator (DCIA) re-use of assets pilot, with the aim to reduce challenges in the deployment of wireless networks, including 5G and this project specifically explores those involved in using publicly owned infrastructure assets to support the roll out of advanced wireless connectivity. Whilst not having a 'pilot project' in the county we are working with the early adopter's group to explore the implementation of digital asset management solutions to open up public assets for the rollout of wireless communication networks as well as exploring options for communities to feed their assets into the mix to make it easier for companies to invest, which would lead to improved connectivity.

46. The Panel is asked to note the planned sunsetting of 2G and 3G networks. 3G networks are to be switched off from 2023, with 2G expected by 2030. This is further justification for the need to ensure robust 4G and 5G networks are being deployed and that 4G 'not spots' are tackled.

47. There is a national drive to improve 4G coverage, through the Shared Rural Network programme, https://srn.org.uk/, which aims to deliver reliable mobile broadband to 95% of the UK, addressing the digital divide by improving 4G coverage in the areas that need it most. Progress on the industry funded part of the programme continues. As part of this mobile network operators (VMO2, Three and

Vodafone) are working on new mast locations in partial not spot areas nationwide. The first sites are expected to go live around now. Further sites will be upgraded in 2023 and beyond. EE will be able to meet its coverage target predominantly through upgrading existing sites. Extensive work on these upgrades is underway, some sites were upgraded at the end of 2021. More work was planned throughout 2022 and will continue to provide improved coverage as part of the Shared Rural Network.

48. As mentioned above, the switch-off of the PSTN/ISDN and copper services is already being turned off in stages. This is important for several reasons, not least the mitigation for the fixed communications network during a power-cut is to use 'mobile', which in rural areas presents potential issues of increased power cuts but also increased mobile 'not-spots'.

49. As well as trying to improve current connectivity issues, the Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity team, alongside WLEP and other partners, has been exploring the potential new connectivity technologies can have for local organisations to support digital transformation. Two examples of this are the Worcestershire 5G project and the West Mercia Rural 5G project.

50. The Worcestershire 5G Testbed and Trials Phase 1 (ended in June 2020). The Worcestershire 5G consortium successfully built a 5G network across sites in Malvern and Worcester and undertook a series of 'use cases' that demonstrated the potential productivity gains that 5G can bring to UK plc. A number of significant achievements put Worcestershire on the global stage including the first deployment of 5G in an industrial factory setting in the UK, use cases demonstrating productivity improvement estimates of 13% and work around 'security by design'.

51. The West Mercia Rural 5G Testbed and Trial (April 2020 to June 22) set out to explore infrastructure challenges when planning, building and operating a rural 5G network and look at how 5G can enhance services for the benefit of residents, particularly researching 5G enabled health and social care applications. Two specific use cases included the 'use of Extended Reality (XR) to support remote monitoring of patients' and the 'Connected Worker' utilising wearable video & mobile telemedicine. A high-level summary report is now available on the West Mercia Rural 5G website.

Purpose of the Meeting

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, Infrastructure and Skills

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Superfast and other broadband statistics by UK, County and Districts within Worcestershire
Appendix 2 – Map A and Map B show FTTP and Gigabit capable coverage in the County as a result of Contracts 2 and 3 as well as the voucher schemes
Appendix 3 – Presentation provided by Openreach.

Contact Points

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Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager) 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 20 September 2021, 19 June 2020, 14 November 2018, 29 November 2017, 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
- Meeting of Council on 18 February 2021

All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website: weblink to agendas and minutes

Appendix 1

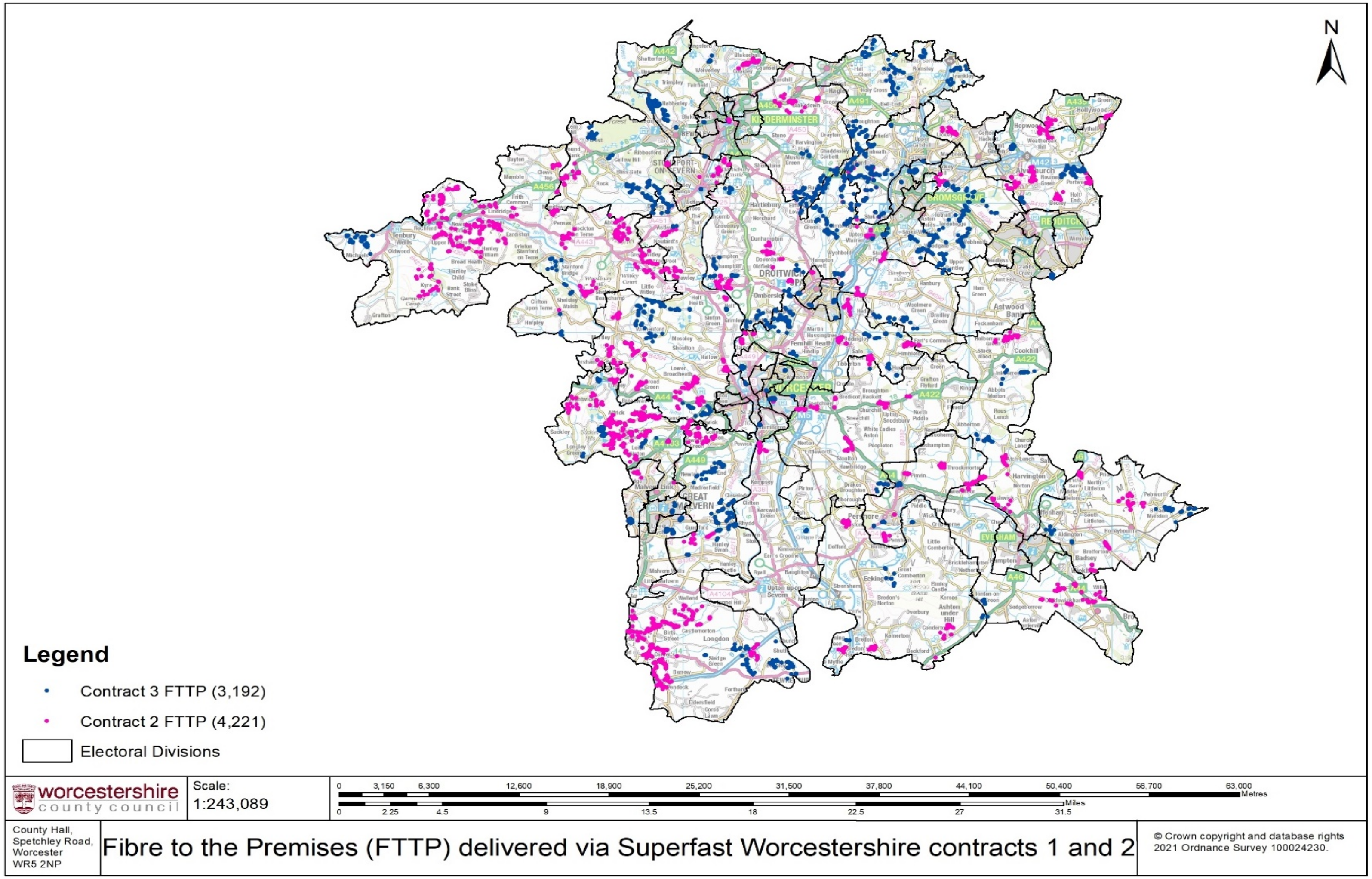
Superfast and other broadband statistics by UK, County, and Districts within Worcestershire (taken from www.thinkbroadband.com November 2022)

	UK	Worcestershire	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester	Wychavon	Wyre Forest
			Authority classed as Significant Rural (SR)	Authority classed as Rural-50 (R50)	Authority classed as Other Urban (OU)	Authority classed as Other Urban (OU)	Authority classed as Rural-80 (R80)	Authority classed as Rural-80 (R80)
Superfast (>24 Mbps):	97.58%	98.15%	98.91%	95.60%	99.50%	99.73%	96.95%	98.32%
Superfast (>=30 Mbps):	97.33%	97.87%	98.77%	94.92%	99.45%	99.73%	96.55%	97.93%
Ultrafast (>100 Mbps):	73.36%	56.29%	81.22%	36.94%	89.23%	55.60%	31.89%	53.83%
Openreach (>30 Mbps):	93.00%	96.09%	95.34%	93.17%	94.52%	99.68%	95.99%	96.94%
Openreach FTTP:	**28.02%	27.31%	58.75%	15.39%	9.08%	41.94%	20.22%	5.97%
Openreach G.fast:	6.88%	3.75%	0.00%	5.52%	0.00%	6.17%	8.78%	0.00%
Fibre' partial/full at any speed: (FTTC/VDSL/G.fast/Cable/FTTP)	98.98%	99.71%	99.81%	99.07%	99.97%	99.77%	99.70%	99.87%
Below 2 Mbps down:	0.37%	0.21%	0.10%	0.62%	0.04%	0.00%	0.28%	0.22%
Below 10 Mbps down: (Legal USO)	1.05%	0.80%	0.35%	2.34%	0.13%	0.01%	1.39%	0.58%
Below 10 Mbps, 1.2 Mbps up:	1.69%	0.83%	0.41%	2.52%	0.12%	0.24%	1.22%	0.57%
Below 15 Mbps: (High Speed Broadband)	1.54%	1.26%	0.69%	3.46%	0.27%	0.12%	1.98%	1.34%
Virgin Media Cable:	50.34%	24.44%	27.82%	0.00%	83.22%	0.00%	0.96%	47.96%
Full Fibre (FTTP or FTTH):	42.65%	30.91%	60.52%	31.42%	9.08%	50.30%	25.80%	6.03%
Gigabit (DOCSIS 3.1 or FTTP):	71.51%	53.32%	81.22%	31.42%	89.23%	50.30%	25.98%	53.83%

Coverage percentages include both residential and business premises and is based around postcode level data. The speed available are determined by a model that reconstructs the Openreach exchange/cabinet-based network and takes into account the distance limitations of ADSL2+ and VDSL2/G.fast (FTTC) services. ** UK FTTP includes Openreach and Kcom

Appendix 2

Map A



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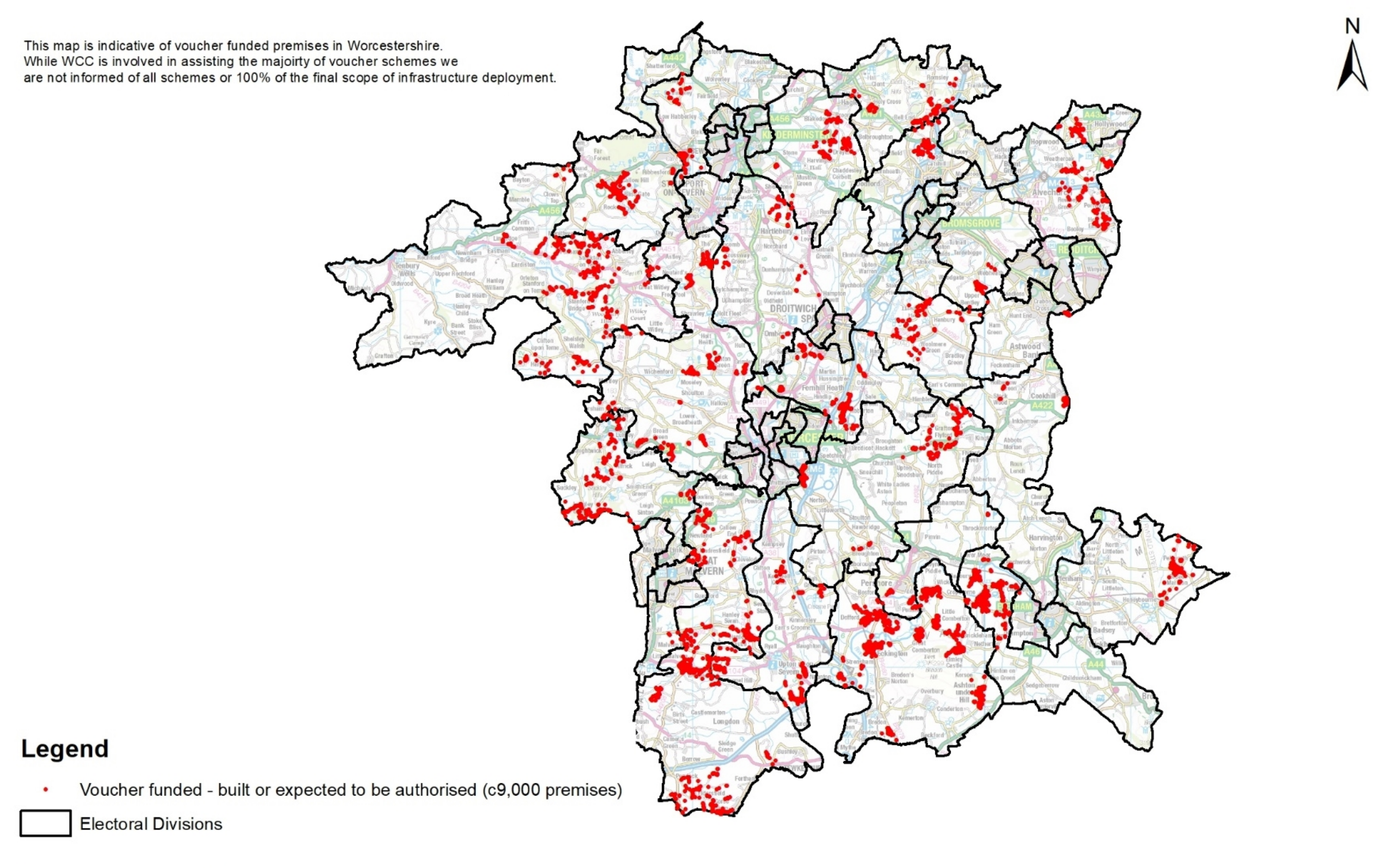
Map B



worcestershire county council	Scale: 1:242,911	0 3,150 6,300 12,600 18,900 25,200 31,500 37,800 44,100 50,400 56,700 63,000 Metres / 0 2.25 4.5 9 13.5 18 22.5 27 31.5 Miles

County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP	Known voucher funded premises as of November 2022	© Crown copyright and database rights 2022 Ordnance Survey 100024230.

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Worcestershire: Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Openreach Update

30.11.2022

openreach

Current UK coverage

England Full Fibre national coverage – 42.26%

UK National Full Fibre coverage – 43.24%

England Superfast coverage – 97.70%

UK Superfast coverage – 97.40%

Worcestershire Coverage

Using Think Broadband as a source we can see that a significant portion of the FTTP in Worcestershire is provided by Openreach

- Worcestershire Full Fibre coverage – 31.11%
- Openreach Full Fibre in Worcestershire – 27.53%
- Worcestershire Superfast coverage – 97.90%
- Openreach Superfast coverage – 96.09%

With further full fibre builds in the area, these percentages will increase as exchange build progresses.

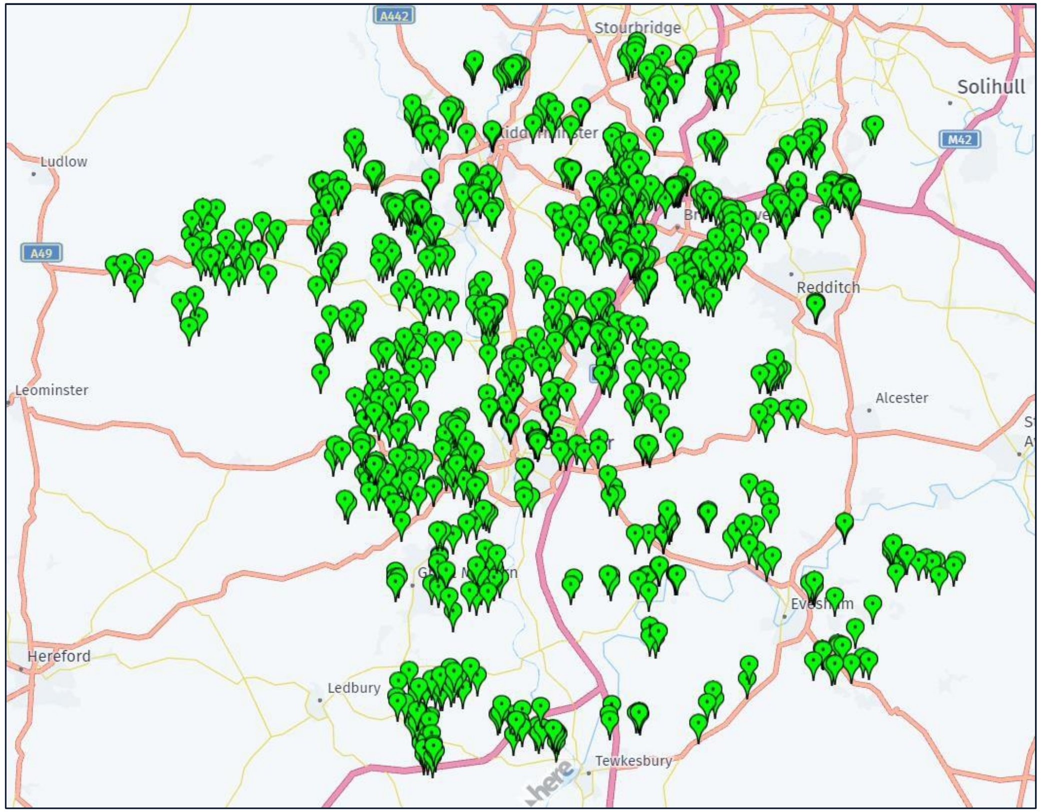
Check UK Broadband Performance and Coverage Statistics (thinkbroadband.com)

BDUK Co-funded contracts

Together we have connected c59.9k premises with superfast FTTC and c7.5k premises with Full Fibre.

BDUK Programme	Volume of premises connected with FTTP (Full fibre)	FTTP Take Up	Volume of premises connectd with FTTC (Superfast)	FTTC Take Up
Contract 3 2018- 2021	3,217	65.17%	248	69.09%
Contract 2 2016 - 2018	4,221	66.87%	11,668	77.91%
Contract 1 2014-2016	130	32.74%	47,947	83.85%
Total	**7,568**		**59,863**	

Full Fibre Post Code coverage



- Contract 3 contract completed Q1 21/22 connecting 3465 premises.
- Contract closure assurance in progress

Worcestershire Update

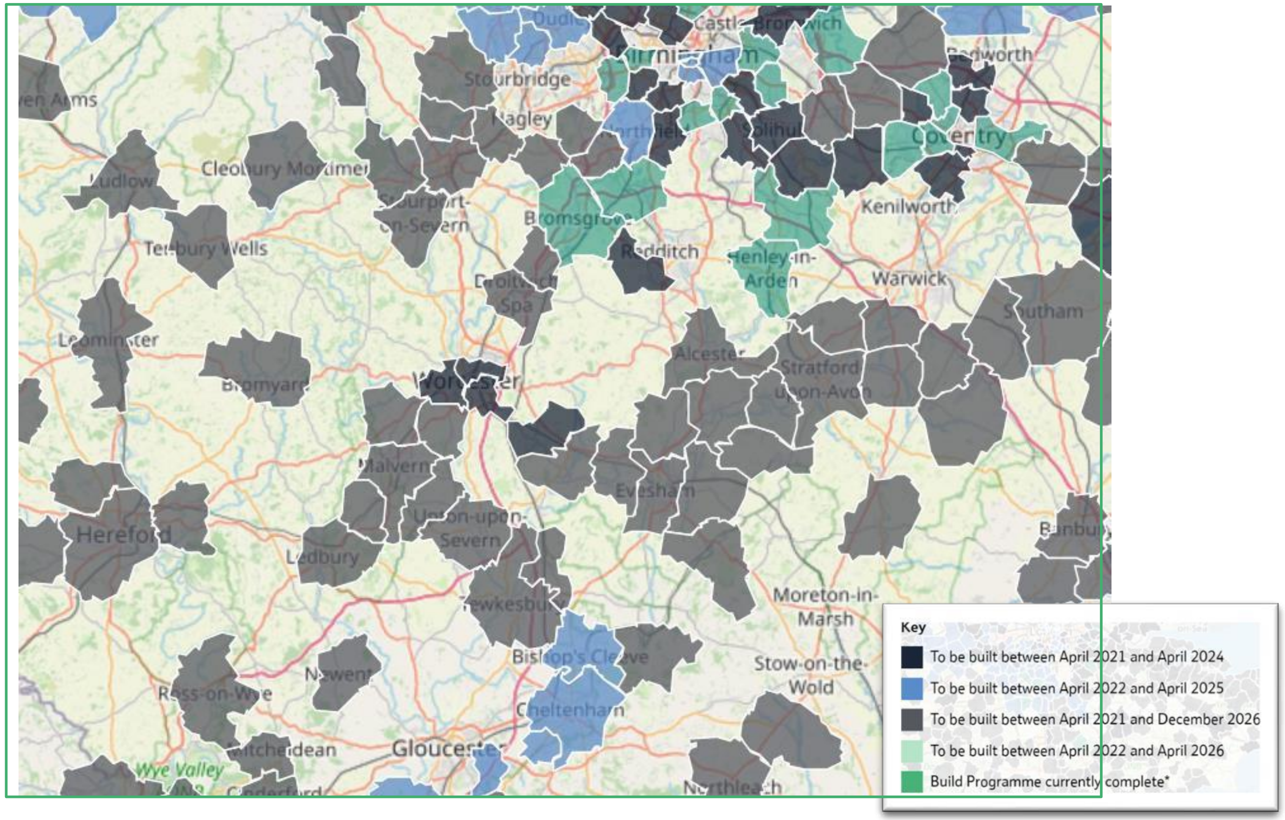
Commercial Build – Fibre

Openreach are building the largest and best Full Fibre network across Worcestershire and the UK, spending £15 billion to reach 25 million homes and businesses by the end of 2026. There is no bigger network investment across Worcestershire or the rest of the UK

29 exchanges areas are announced so far within our plans, 21 of these exchanges are defined by OFCOM as Area 3 (harder to reach) showing our commitment to building out to our rural communities.

Exchange map

Badsey	Hanley Swan	Romsley
Belbroughton	Harvington	St Johns
Bewdley	Headless Cross	St Peters
Blakedown	Hillside; Hereford & Worcester	Stourport
Bredon	Kidderminster	Tenbury Wells
Broadway	Leigh Sinton	Upton Upon Severn
Bromsgrove	Malvern	Wolverley
Cropthorne	Peopleton	Worcester
Droitwich	Pershore	Wychbold
Evesham	Powick	



Updates to the build can be found on our website at Openreach Fibre Cities (superfastmaps.co.uk)

Worcestershire regional update

Commercial build – fibre

Constituency	Total footprint	Openreach build footprint	Premises Built
Badsey	4,416	4,139	510
Belbroughton	1,127	1,039	248
Bewdley	5,317	5,017	438
Blakedown	951	909	126
Bredon	1,529	1,437	145
Broadway	3,189	2,832	390
Bromsgrove	23,738	21,467	18,862
Cropthorne	1,360	1,213	101
Droitwich	13,264	12,501	2,825
Evesham	14,363	13,228	2,871
Hanley Swan	1,359	1,192	411
Harvington	1,369	1,537	30
Headless Cross	11,820	11,447	1,843
Hillside	6,562	5,249	5,681
Kidderminster	27,830	26,380	546
Leigh Sinton	1,845	1,721	700
Malvern	17,667	16,477	5,498
Peopleton	1,464	1,360	208

Constituency	Total footprint	Openreach build footprint	Premises Built
Pershore	5,612	5,072	1,016
Powick	1,588	1,528	246
Romsley	1,076	996	320
St Johns	10,991	10,553	2,292
St Peters	13,801	13,262	9,173
Stourport	10,947	10,300	764
Tenbury Wells	2,580	2,288	297
Upton Upon Severn	2,792	2,552	213
Wolverley	2,285	2,201	374
Worcester	17,721	15,816	11,291
Wychbold	1,056	963	489
Worcestershire	**209,619**	**194,676**	**67,908**

67.9k+ customers ready for service across Worcestershire

34% of the Openreach build footprint are now Customers Ready for Service

Take-up upgrade isn't automatic

Worcestershire regional update

Commercial build – fibre - continued

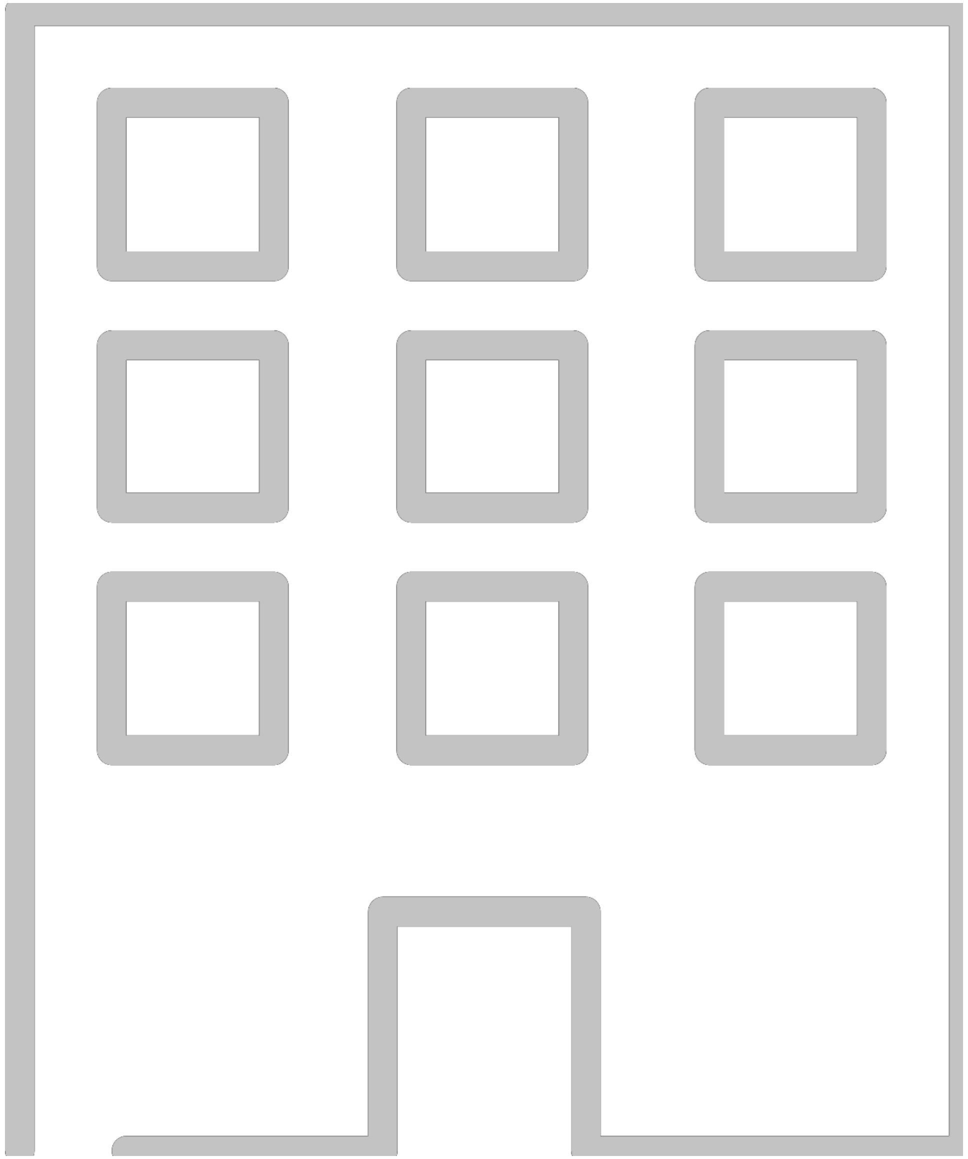
Upgrading Multi Dwelling Units (MDU).

Worcestershire currently has an MDU footprint of 25,473 with 3,950 MDU Ready For Service.

We will nominate a single point of contact from the Openreach MDU Team with yourselves for any issues / queries moving forward in our journey.

We will need a building wide wayleave agreement for permission to install or upgrade our apparatus in the common areas in your apartment building.

We will also need key contacts In each area for access / building specific information to enable us to organise and review surveys as each building comes into plan.



Worcestershire

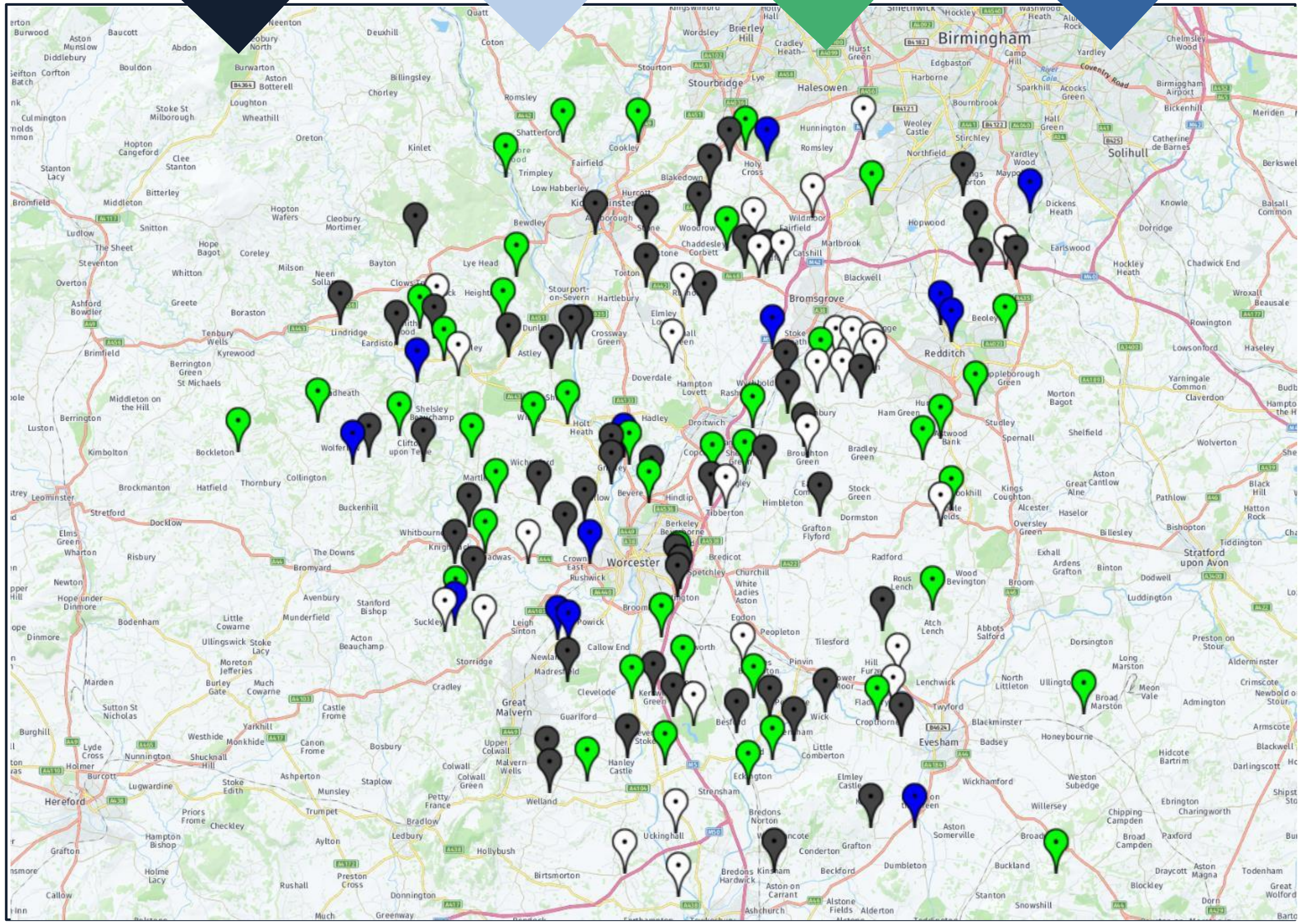
Fibre Community Partnerships (FCPs)

61 Communities Completed – 3390 Premises Built

26 Communities in build. Due to be completed in next 12 months

53 Communities waiting outcome of procurement

Delivered	In Build	Initial Offer +	Reg. Interest
61	26	38	15



Summary

Procurement process began on 8th April 2022

FCP registrations currently on pause within the UK

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worcestershire county council

ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 30 NOVEMBER 2022

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Summary

1. The Panel will be updated on performance for services relating to the economy.

2. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills, and Senior Officers from the Economy and Infrastructure Directorate have been invited to attend the meeting to respond to any queries from Panel Members.

Performance Information

3. Attached at Appendix 1 is a dashboard of performance information relating to Quarter 2 (July to September 2022). It covers the indicators from the directorate and corporate level and other management information (as appropriate) which relate to services relevant to this Scrutiny Panel's remit.

4. The Scrutiny Panels consider this information on a quarterly basis and then report by exception to the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) any suggestions for further scrutiny or areas of concern.

Purpose of the Meeting

5. Following discussion of the information provided, the Scrutiny Panel is asked to determine:

   - any comments to highlight to the Cabinet Member at the meeting and/or to OSPB at its meeting on 7 December 2022
   - whether any further information or scrutiny on a particular topic is required.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Economy Performance Information Dashboard

Contact Points

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

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and Minutes of the Economy Overview and Scrutiny on 6 October and 29 July 2022– available on the website: [weblink to Agendas and Minutes]

- Agendas and minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on 29 September, 20 July, 23 March 2022, 17 November, 30 September and 21 July 2021

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

Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel Performance Summary

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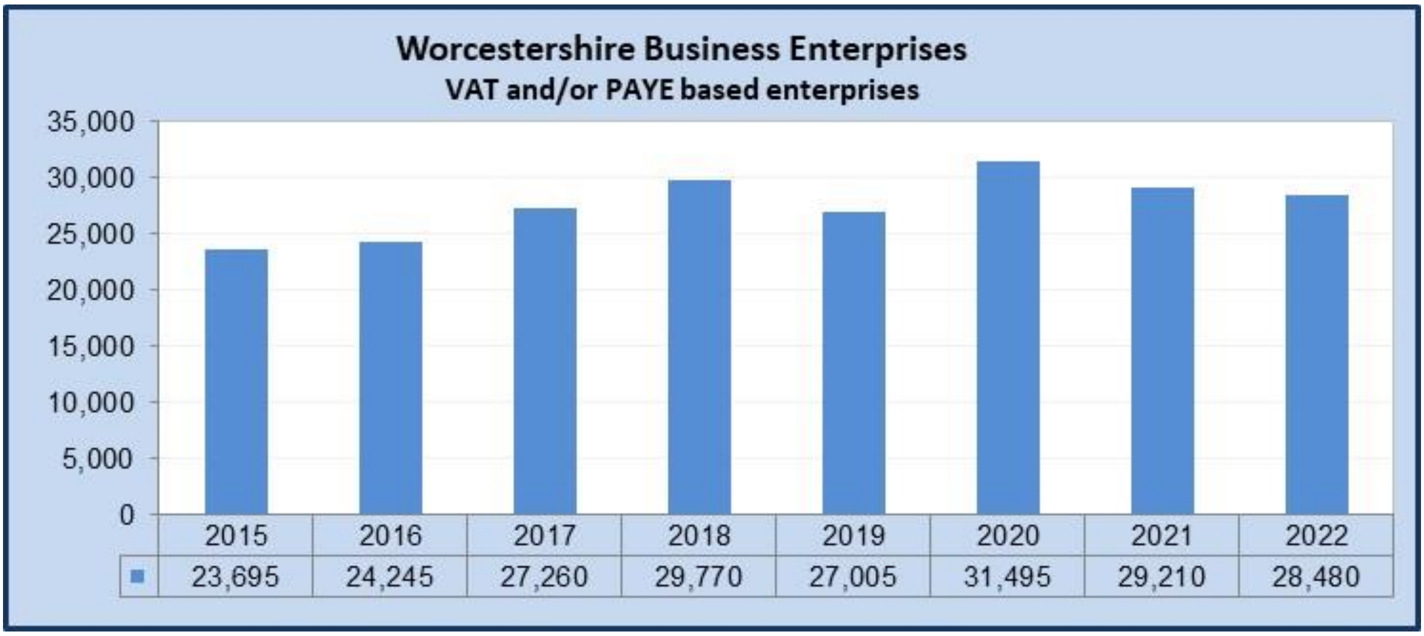
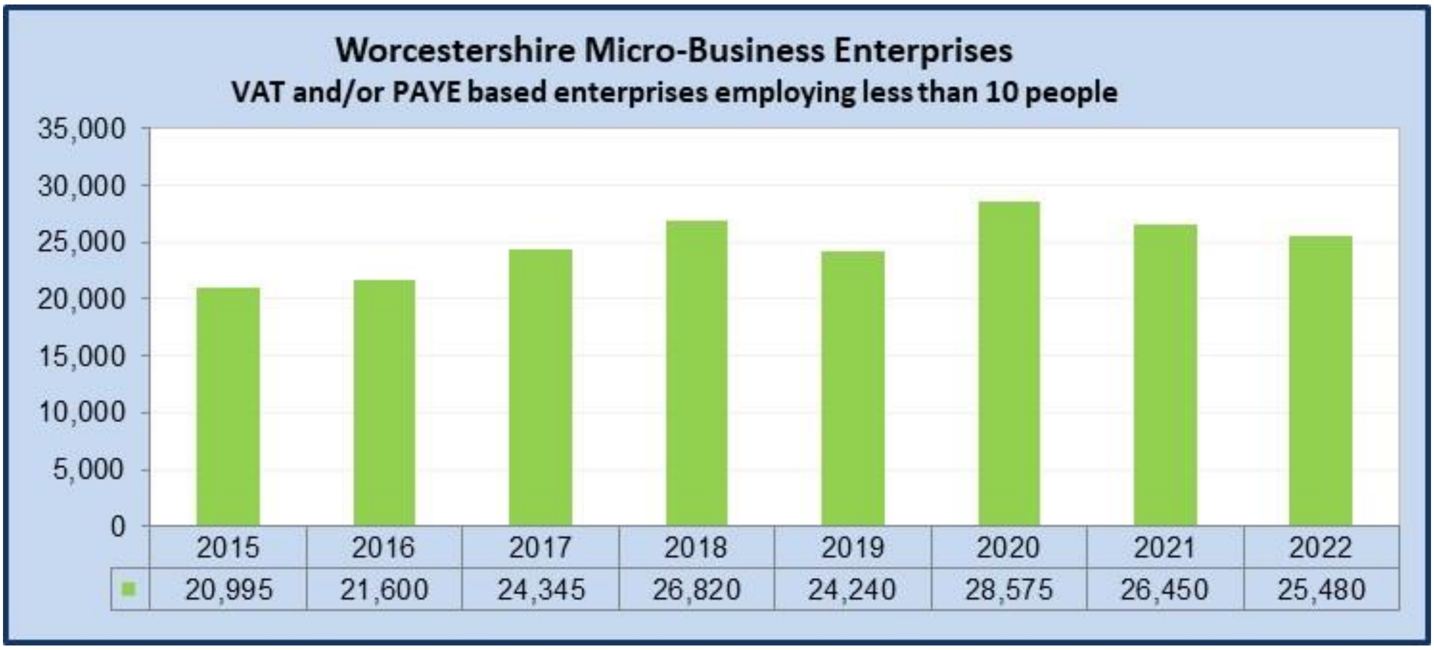
Economy and Infrastructure Dashboard

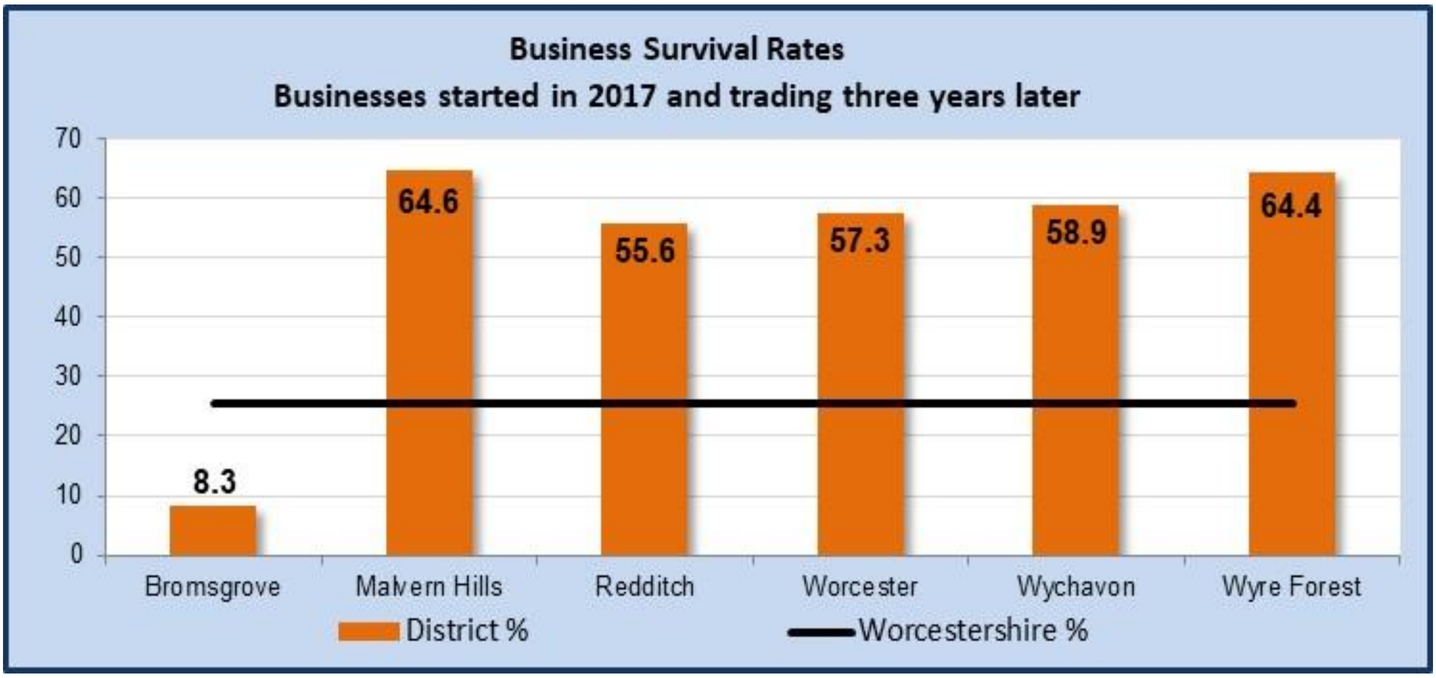


Figures are from Office for National Statistics' analysis of the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR). An enterprise is the smallest combination of legal units that has a certain degree of autonomy within an enterprise group. This is generally based on VAT and/or PAYE records.

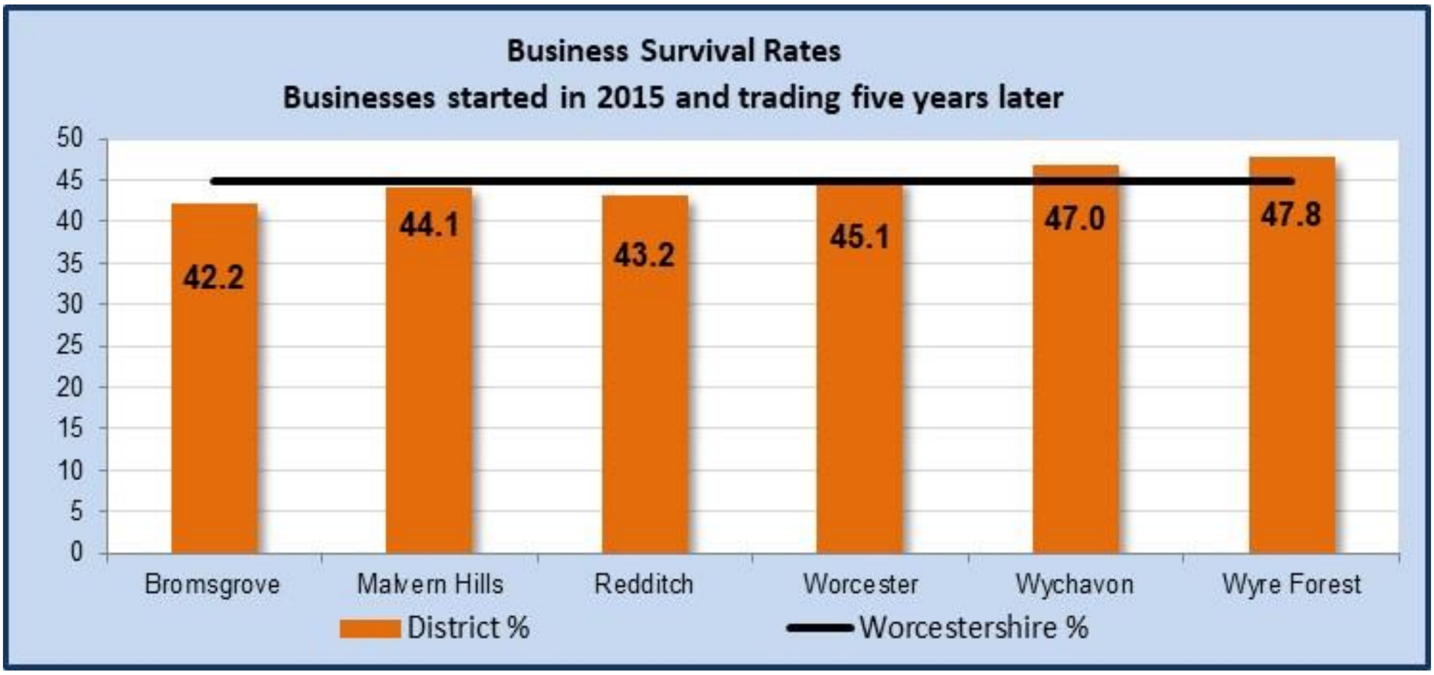


Figures are from Office for National Statistics' analysis of the Business Register Employment Survey (BRES).

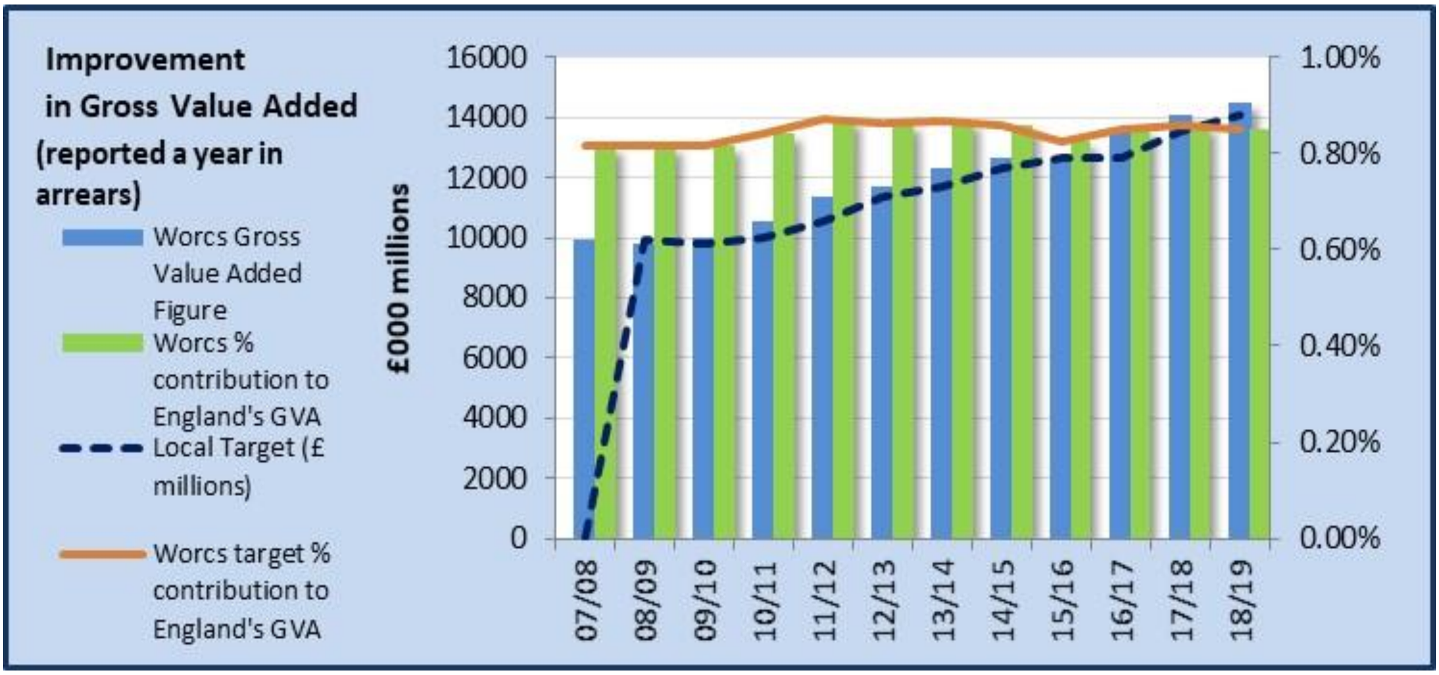
For each district council area, the percentage of businesses that commenced trading in 2019 and were active in terms of employment and/or turnover in any part of 2020. Office for National Statistics' annual Business Demography data-set provides information up to and including the year preceding publication. The latest available figures, contained in the November 2021 publication, therefore relate to 2020.



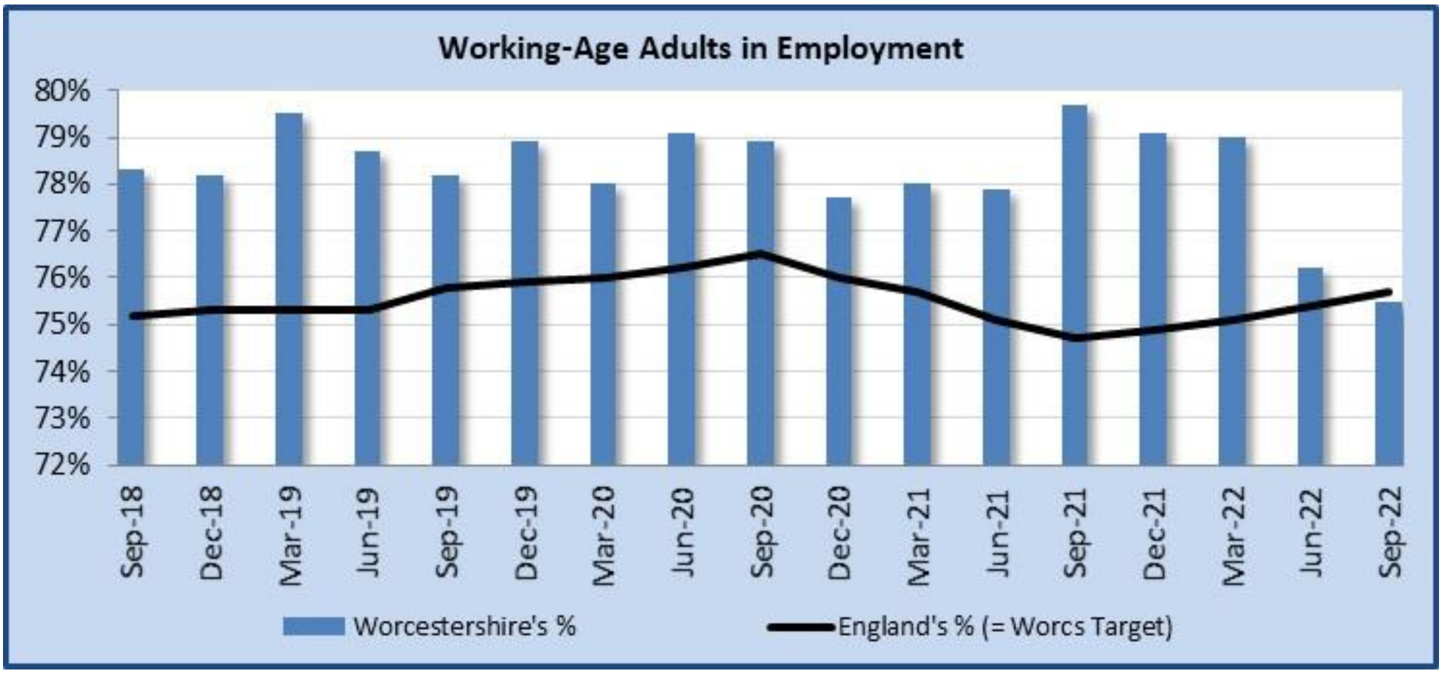
For each district council area, the percentage of businesses that commenced trading in 2015 and were active in terms of employment and/or turnover in any part of 2020. Office for National Statistics' annual Business Demography data-set provides information up to and including the year preceding publication. The latest available figures, contained in the November 2021 publication, therefore relate to 2020.



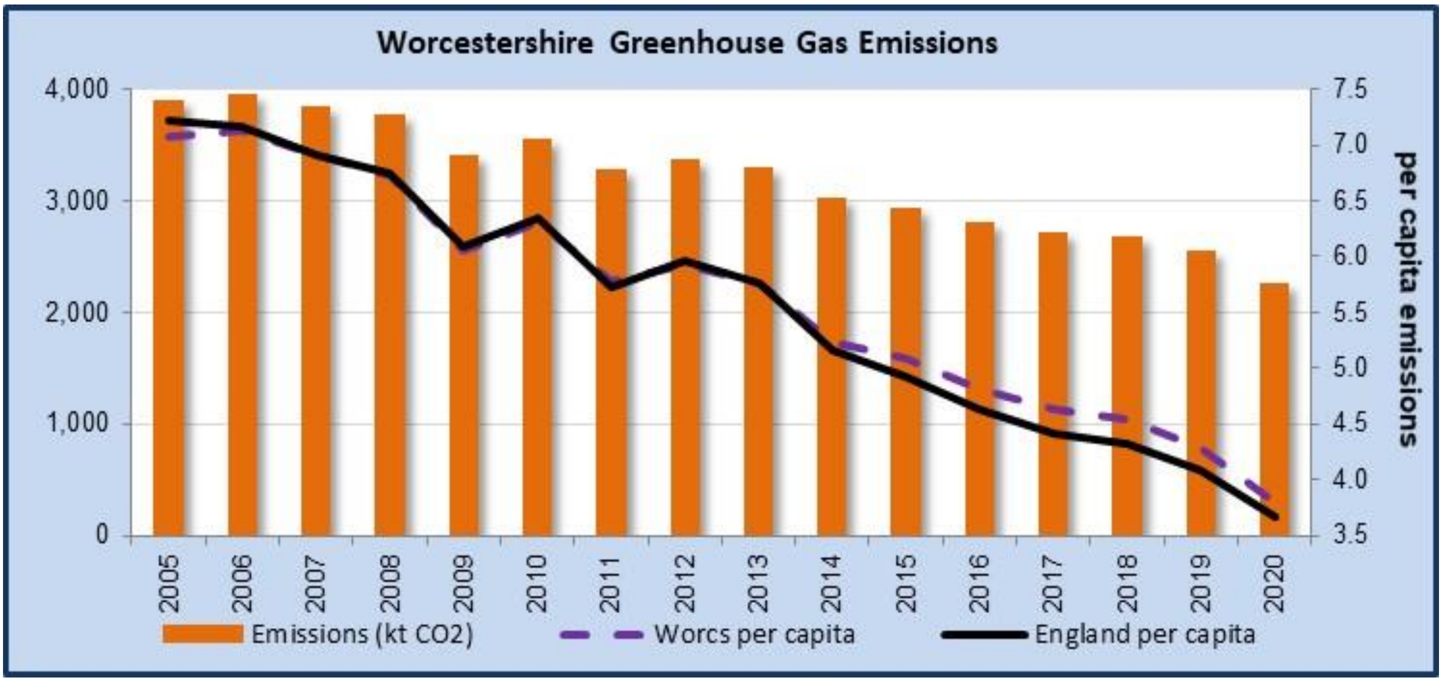
For each district council area, the percentage of businesses that commenced trading in 2015 and were active in terms of employment and/or turnover in any part of 2020. Office for National Statistics' annual Business Demography data-set provides information up to and including the year preceding publication. The latest available figures, contained in the November 2021 publication, therefore relate to 2020.



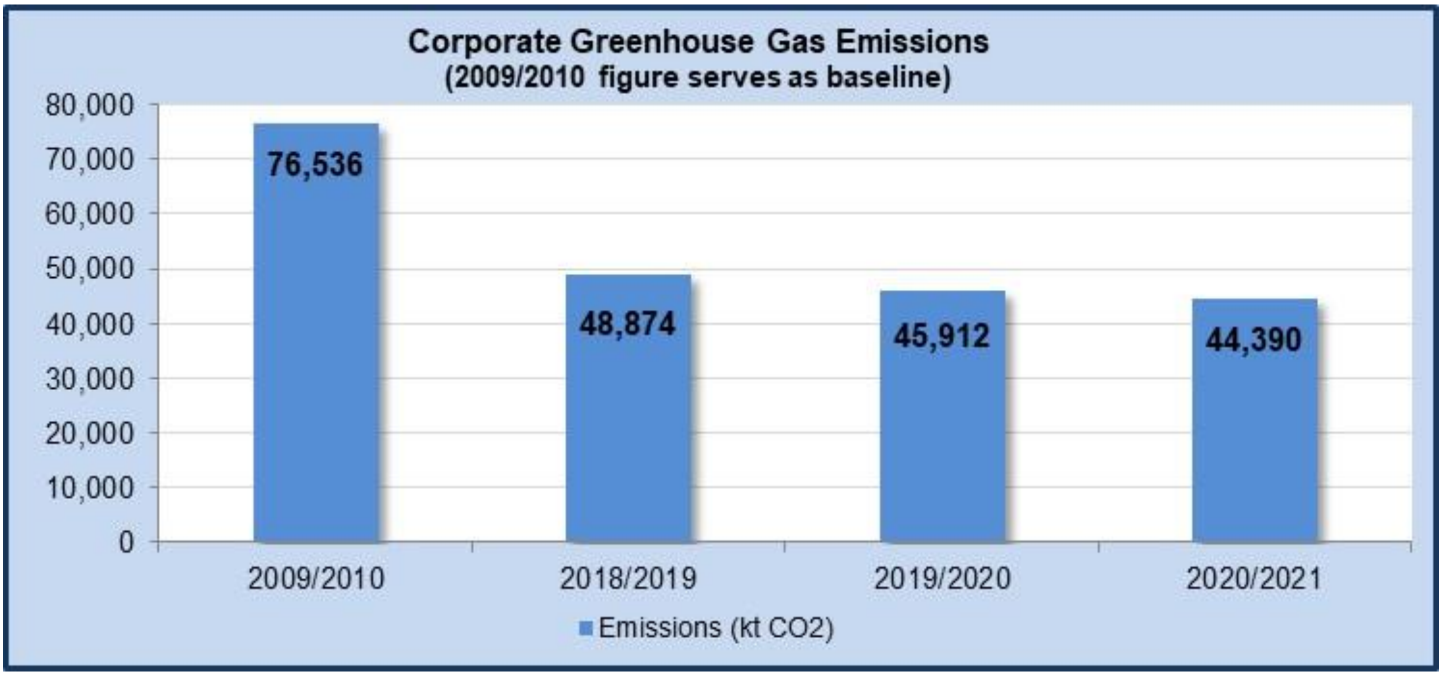
Gross Value Added (GVA) measures the contribution to the economy of each individual producer, industry or sector in the United Kingdom. Worcestershire's annual figures are the monetary value of goods and services produced in the county, less the cost of all inputs and raw materials directly attributable to their production. Office for National Statistics (ONS) released 2018/2019's data on 26th May 2021. Amendments were published in June. Release date of 2019/2020's data to be confirmed by ONS.



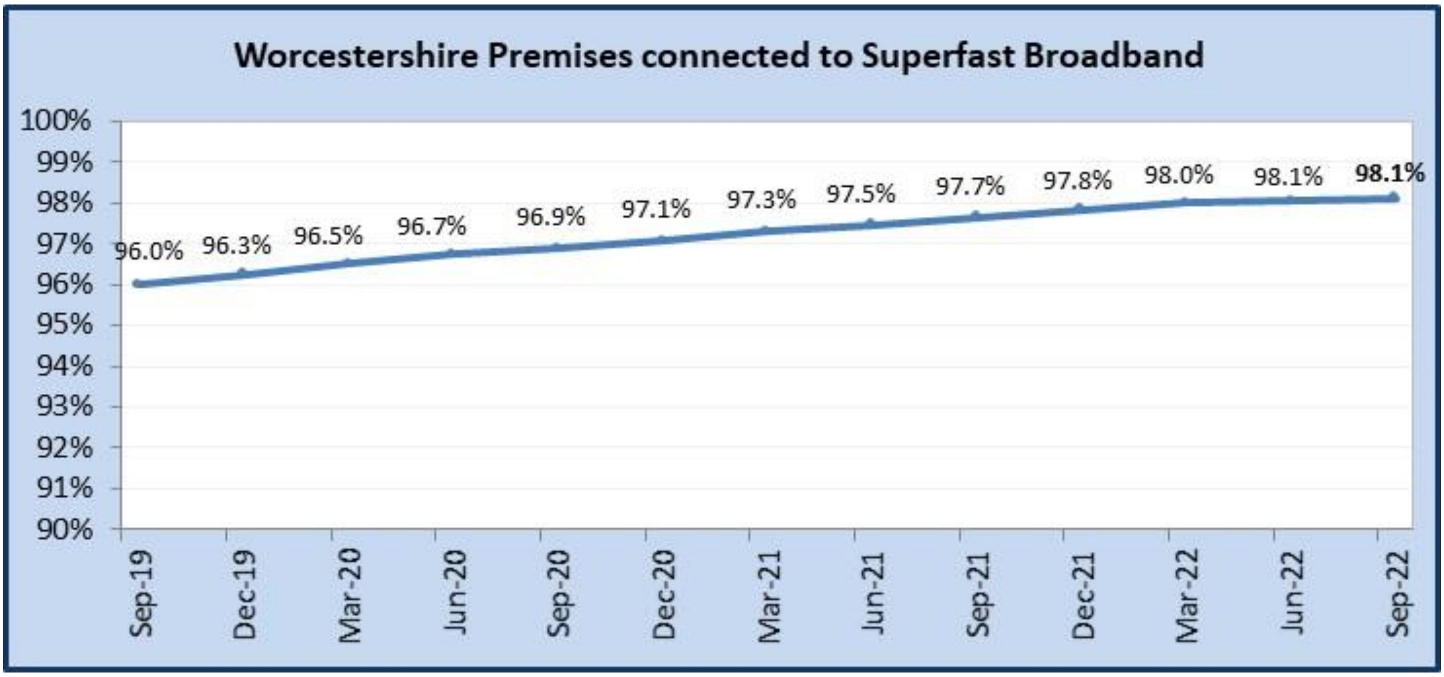
The percentage at the end of each Quarter of Worcestershire's population aged 16-64 in employment compared to England's equivalent percentage for the same period. The next Office for National Statistics (ONS) data-set will be released in mid-January 2023. ONS has advised that in the latest data-set, an issue with the collection of occupational data affected the accuracy of breakdowns of some detailed occupations, and hence the data derived from them. Caution should therefore be exercised in the interpretation of the latest data release.



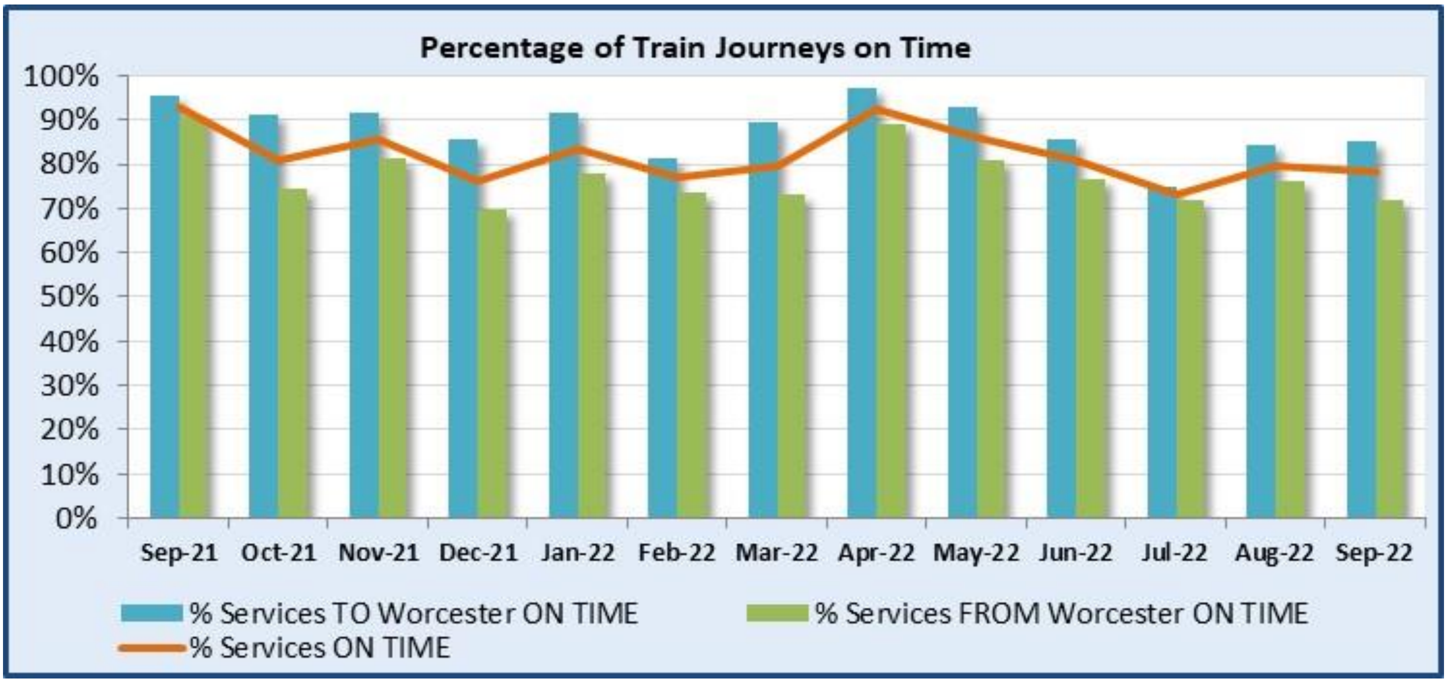
Worcestershire's estimated annual carbon dioxide emissions totals in kilotonnes of CO_2. Also shown are per capita figures for the county and for England as a whole. The totals relate to emissions that can be influenced, i.e. they exclude emissions from large industrial sites, railways, and motorways. Data is published two years in arrears by Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. 2020's data was published in late-June 2022.



Corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reporting follows the international protocol guidelines. Emissions are categorised in three different 'scopes'. Between them, these cover direct emissions from Council activities under our control and all indirect emissions, whether they emanate from corporately-owned buildings or assets (e.g. street lights), staff travel or outsourced operations, including municipal waste-disposal. WCC's GHG Emissions Report 2020/2021 was published in early November 2021. The 2021/2022 report will be published in late-2022.

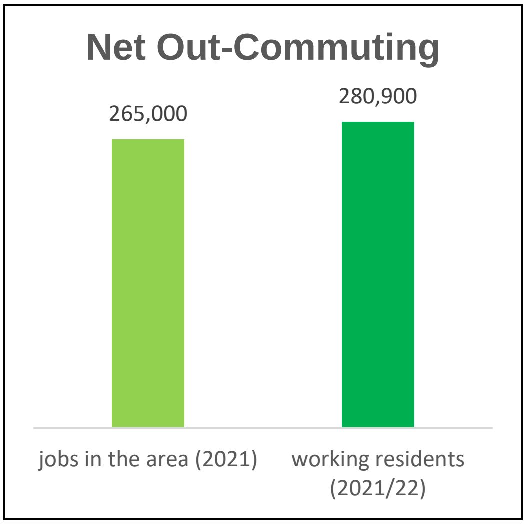


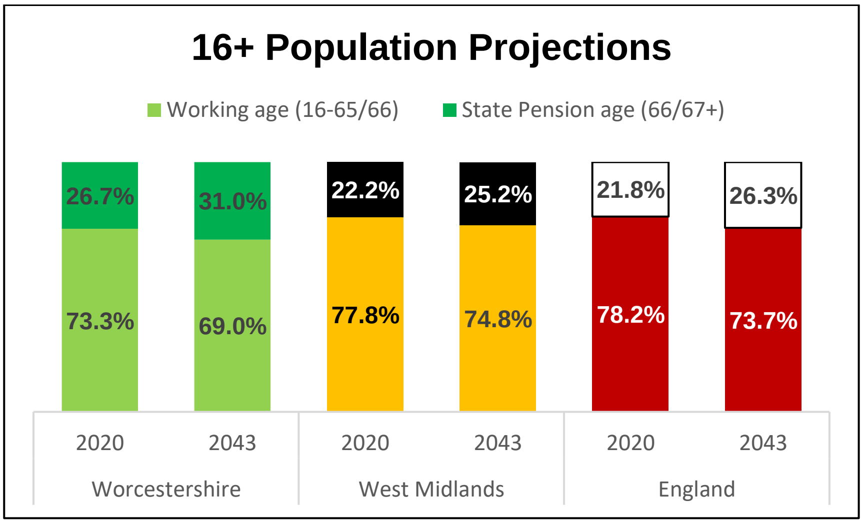
Percentage of all Worcestershire homes and business premises connect to Superfast broadband (24 Megabits per second).

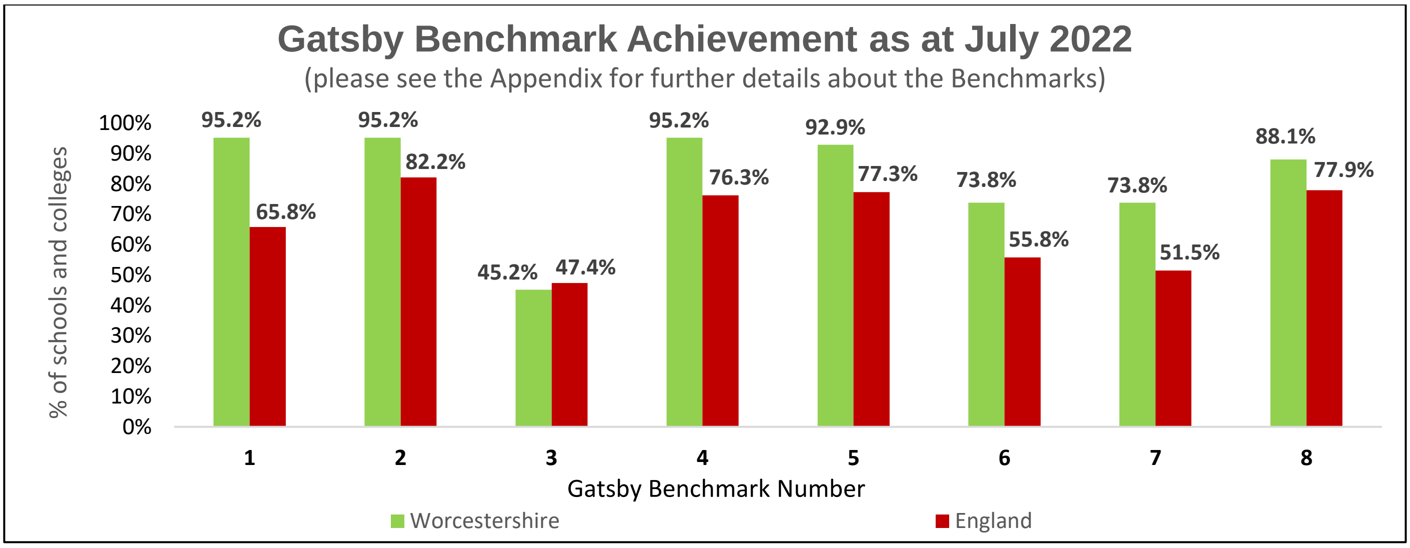


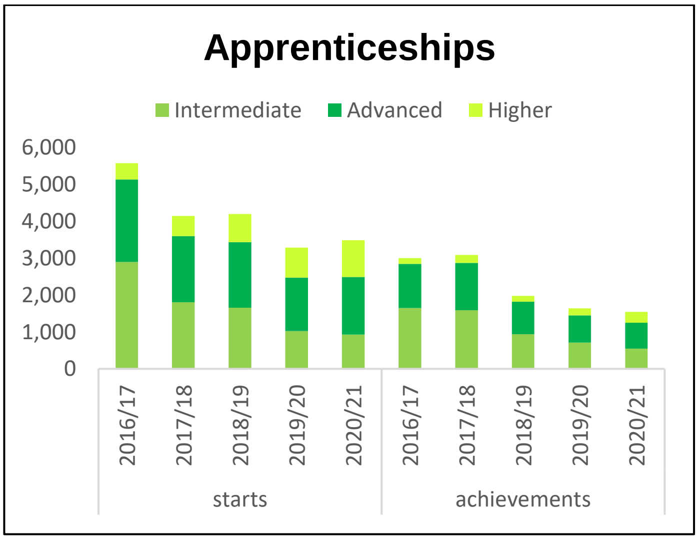
This corporate-level performance indicator covers the percentage of on-time train journeys in and out of Worcester at morning and evening peak times. Morning peak-time trains are those arriving at their destination between 6am and 10am; evening peak-time trains arrive at their destination between 4pm and 8pm. Train journeys are included to and from four major cities: Birmingham; Bristol; London; Oxford. Details of train journeys from other locations in Worcestershire are provided in the accompanying summary document.

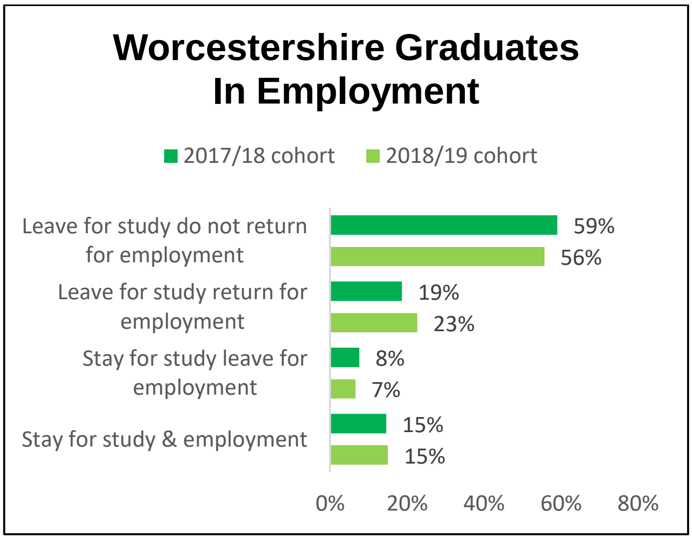
Worcestershire People Dashboard 2022



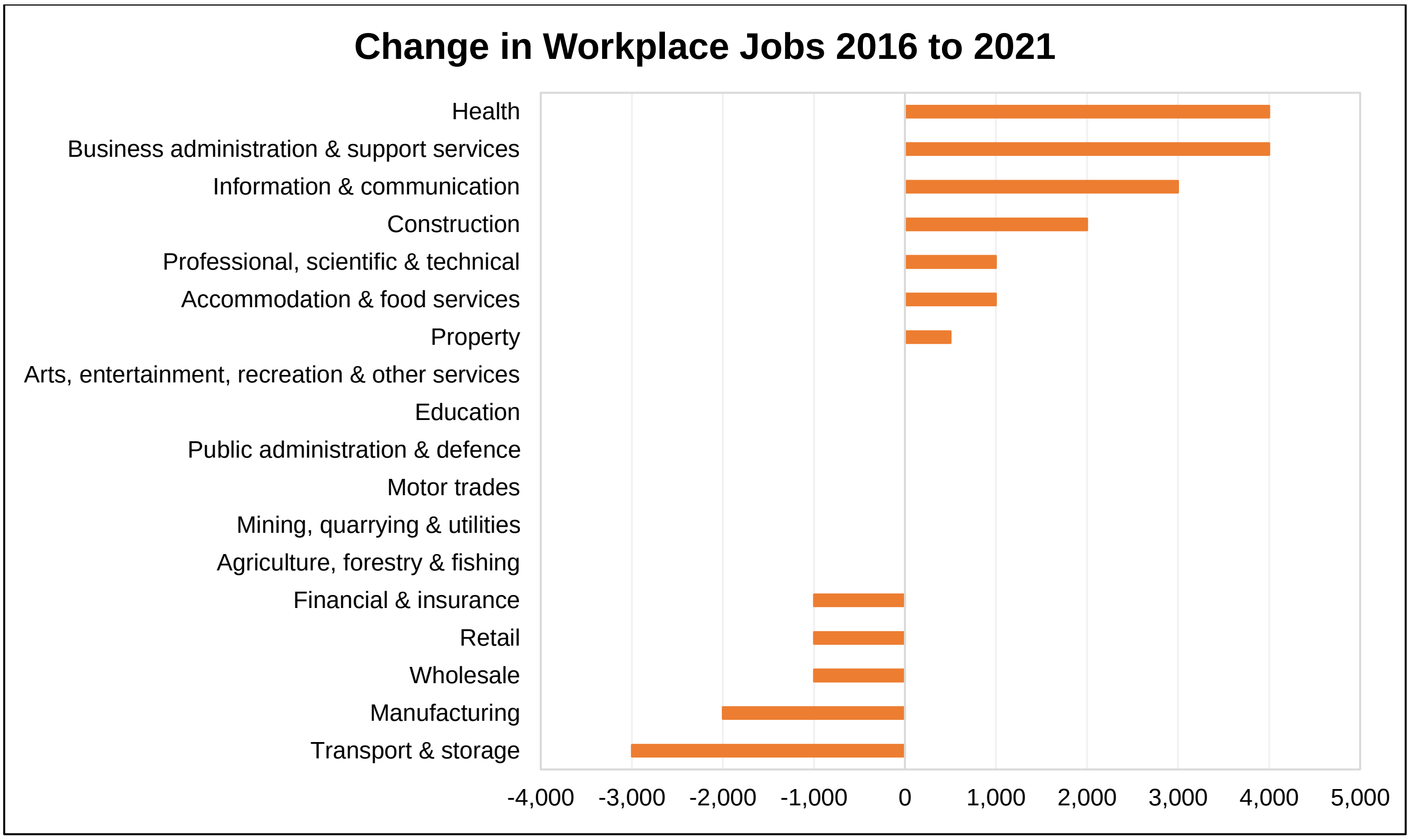




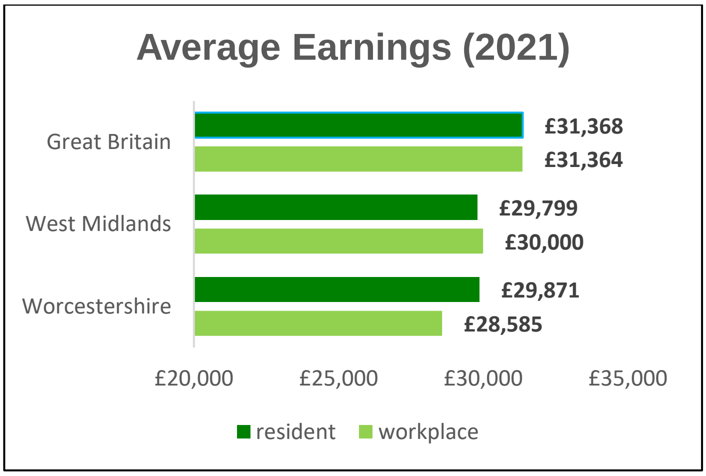




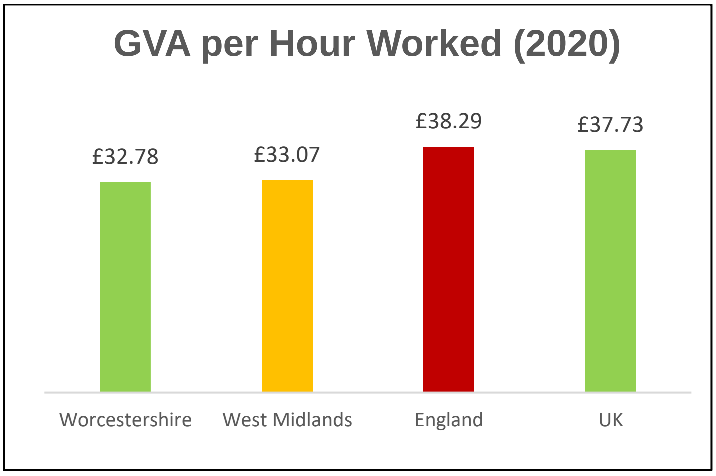
The Worcestershire Graduates in Employment graph uses data that is copyright of the Higher Education Statistics Agency Limited 2021. Neither the Higher Education Statistics Agency Limited nor HESA Services Limited can accept responsibility for any inferences or conclusions derived by third parties from data or other information supplied by the Higher Education Statistics Agency Limited or HESA Services Limited.



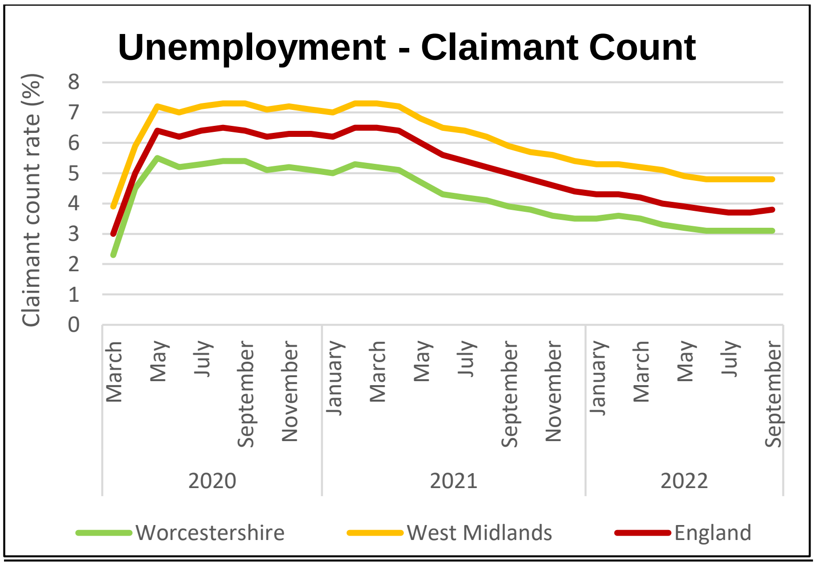
Change in Workplace Jobs 2016 to 2021
Health
Business administration & support services
Information & communication
Construction
Professional, scientific & technical
Accommodation & food services
Property
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services
Education
Public administration & defence
Motor trades
Mining, quarrying & utilities
Agriculture, forestry & fishing
Financial & insurance
Retail
Wholesale
Manufacturing
Transport & storage
-4,000
-3,000
-2,000
-1,000
0
1,000
2,000
3,000
4,000
5,000



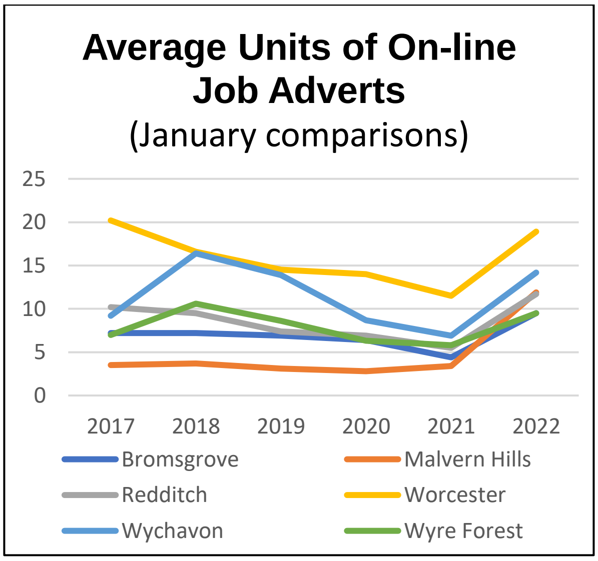
Average Earnings (2021)
Great Britain
£31,368
£31,364
West Midlands
£29,799
£30,000
Worcestershire
£29,871
£28,585
£20,000
£25,000
£30,000
£35,000
resident
workplace



GVA per Hour Worked (2020)
£32.78
£33.07
£38.29
£37.73
Worcestershire
West Midlands
England
UK



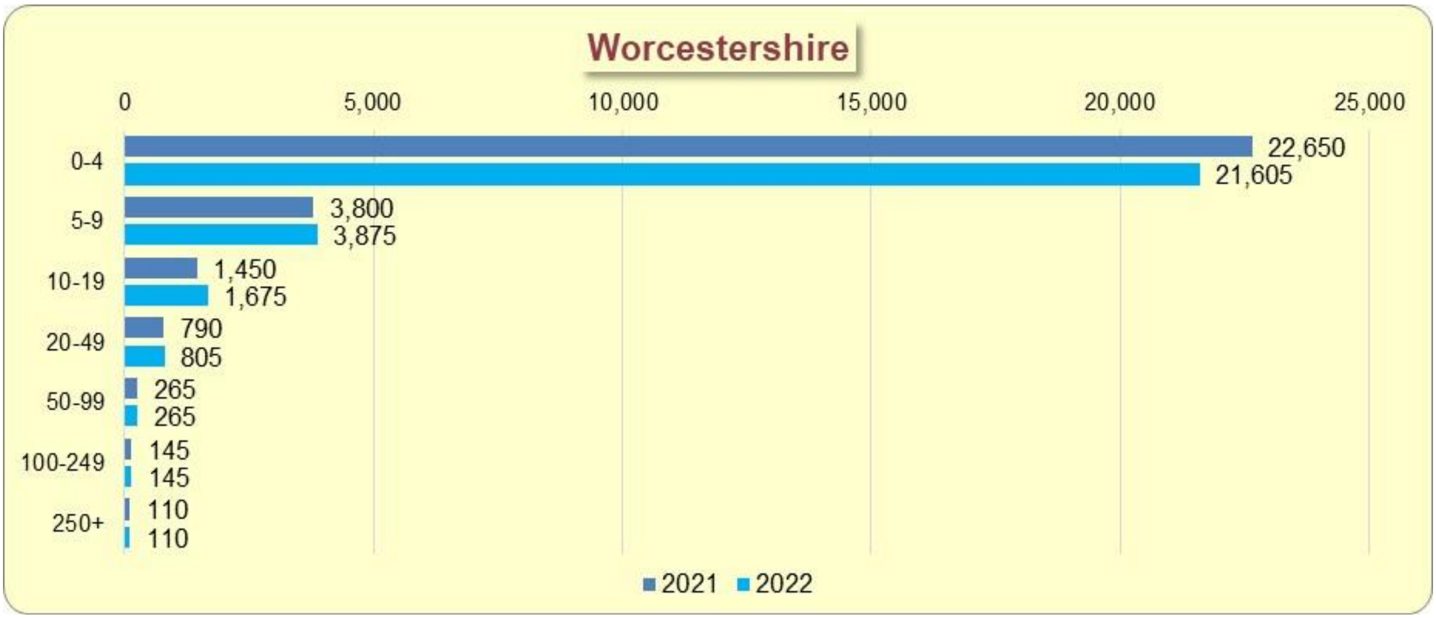
Unemployment - Claimant Count
Claimant count rate (%)
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
0
March
May
July
September
November
January
March
May
July
September
November
January
March
May
July
September
2020
2021
2022
Worcestershire
West Midlands
England



Average Units of On-line Job Adverts
(January comparisons)
25
20
15
10
5
0
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
Bromsgrove
Malvern Hills
Redditch
Worcester
Wychavon
Wyre Forest

Business Enterprises by Employment Sizebands

VAT and/or PAYE based enterprises broken down by the number of employees. The figures are from the Office for National Statistics data sets released in October 2021 and October 2022.



Worcestershire % Changes	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+	Total
2021	22,650	3,800	1,450	790	265	145	110	29,210
2022	21,605	3,875	1,675	805	265	145	110	28,480
2022 % change from 2021	-4.6	2.0	15.5	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.5

Bromsgrove	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+	Total
2021	5,615	1,110	290	150	40	25	20	7,250
2022	3,975	665	280	160	45	25	20	5,170
% change from 2021	-29.2	-40.1	-3.4	6.7	12.5	0.0	0.0	-28.7

Malvern Hills	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+	Total
2021	3,490	450	205	110	30	25	10	4,320
2022	3,630	470	215	115	25	20	10	4,485
% change from 2021	4.0	4.4	4.9	4.5	-16.7	-20.0	0.0	3.8

Redditch	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+	Total
2021	2,175	395	200	115	60	30	20	2,995
2022	2,255	380	195	115	50	30	25	3,050
% change from 2021	3.7	-3.8	-2.5	0.0	-16.7	0.0	25.0	1.8

Worcester	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+	Total
2021	2,520	390	180	130	30	20	30	3,300
2022	2,615	460	235	120	35	25	25	3,515
% change from 2021	3.8	17.9	30.6	-7.7	16.7	25.0	-16.7	6.5

Wychavon	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+	Total
2021	5,555	855	365	175	80	35	20	7,085
2022	5,670	1,060	470	195	75	35	20	7,525
% change from 2021	2.1	24.0	28.8	11.4	-6.3	0.0	0.0	6.2

Business Enterprises by Broad Industry Group

VAT and/or PAYE based enterprises. An enterprise is the smallest combination of legal units (generally based on VAT and/or PAYE records), which has a certain degree of autonomy within an enterprise group. An individual site (for example a factory or shop) in an enterprise is called a local unit. The figures are from the Office for National Statistics data sets released in October 2021 and October 2022. The industry categories are those used and defined in the Standard Industrial Classification (UK SIC 2007)

Worcestershire	2021	2022	% change from 2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,665	1,665	0.0
Production	1,815	1,800	-0.8
Construction	3,520	3,860	9.7
Motor trades	930	935	0.5
Wholesale	1,270	1,140	-10.2
Retail	1,660	1,750	5.4
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	2,280	2,545	11.6
Accommodation and food services	1,580	1,845	16.8
Information and communication	1,505	1,425	-5.3
Finance and insurance	480	500	4.2
Property	1,080	1,095	1.4
Professional, scientific and technical	4,025	3,840	-4.6
Business administration and support services	4,320	2,925	-32.3
Public administration and defence	140	145	3.6
Education	445	450	1.1
Health	920	920	0.0
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	1,575	1,635	3.8
Total	**29,210**	**28,475**	**-2.5**

Bromsgrove	2021	2022	% change from 2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	175	175	0.0
Production	280	280	0.0
Construction	755	770	2.0
Motor trades	185	180	-2.7
Wholesale	195	195	0.0
Retail	275	285	3.6
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	460	270	-41.3
Accommodation and food services	230	255	10.9
Information and communication	345	325	-5.8
Finance and insurance	100	110	10.0
Property	240	240	0.0
Professional, scientific and technical	885	810	-8.5
Business administration and support services	2,485	605	-75.7
Public administration and defence	15	15	0.0
Education	105	105	0.0
Health	215	205	-4.7
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	305	345	13.1
Total	**7,250**	**5,170**	**-28.7**

Malvern Hills	2021	2022	% change from 2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	610	615	0.8
Production	295	290	-1.7
Construction	485	525	8.2
Motor trades	115	115	0.0
Wholesale	175	170	-2.9
Retail	265	270	1.9
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	90	140	55.6
Accommodation and food services	235	290	23.4
Information and communication	245	230	-6.1
Finance and insurance	60	70	16.7
Property	210	215	2.4
Professional, scientific and technical	690	675	-2.2
Business administration and support services	335	360	7.5
Public administration and defence	45	45	0.0
Education	75	80	6.7
Health	150	145	-3.3
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	240	245	2.1
Total	**4,320**	**4,480**	**3.7**

Redditch	2021	2022	% change from 2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	40	40	0.0
Production	325	305	-6.2
Construction	465	495	6.5
Motor trades	125	135	8.0
Wholesale	165	155	-6.1
Retail	175	185	5.7
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	230	280	21.7
Accommodation and food services	155	150	-3.2
Information and communication	175	170	-2.9
Finance and insurance	50	55	10.0
Property	100	100	0.0
Professional, scientific and technical	400	365	-8.8
Business administration and support services	285	315	10.5
Public administration and defence	5	5	0.0
Education	55	50	-9.1
Health	100	95	-5.0
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	145	150	3.4
Total	**2,995**	**3,050**	**1.8**

Worcester	2021	2022	% change from 2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	20	20	0.0
Production	190	185	-2.6
Construction	365	410	12.3
Motor trades	115	115	0.0
Wholesale	235	120	-48.9
Retail	250	265	6.0
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	175	325	85.7
Accommodation and food services	225	285	26.7
Information and communication	210	205	-2.4
Finance and insurance	80	80	0.0
Property	125	120	-4.0
Professional, scientific and technical	550	545	-0.9
Business administration and support services	265	340	28.3
Public administration and defence	5	10	100.0
Education	70	70	0.0
Health	155	160	3.2
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	265	260	-1.9
Total	**3,300**	**3,515**	**6.5**

Wychavon	2021	2022	% change from 2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	670	665	-0.7
Production	455	465	2.2
Construction	845	950	12.4
Motor trades	230	225	-2.2
Wholesale	320	315	-1.6
Retail	425	450	5.9
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	655	770	17.6
Accommodation and food services	380	460	21.1
Information and communication	375	350	-6.7
Finance and insurance	125	120	-4.0
Property	275	290	5.5
Professional, scientific and technical	1,030	985	-4.4
Business administration and support services	605	755	24.8
Public administration and defence	50	55	10.0
Education	90	95	5.6
Health	195	205	5.1
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	360	370	2.8
Total	**7,085**	**7,525**	**6.2**

Wyre Forest	2021	2022	% change from 2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	150	150	0.0
Production	270	275	1.9
Construction	605	710	17.4
Motor trades	160	165	3.1
Wholesale	180	185	2.8
Retail	270	295	9.3
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	670	760	13.4
Accommodation and food services	355	405	14.1
Information and communication	155	145	-6.5
Finance and insurance	65	65	0.0
Property	130	130	0.0
Professional, scientific and technical	470	460	-2.1
Business administration and support services	345	550	59.4
Public administration and defence	20	15	-25.0
Education	50	50	0.0
Health	105	110	4.8
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	260	265	1.9
Total	**4,260**	**4,735**	**11.2**

Business Survival Rates

The survival of enterprises new in 2017, 2018 and 2019. The source of the information is the Office for National Statistics Business Demography data-set. The latest-available data is for 2020. It was published in mid-November 2021. The timing of the next update is to be confirmed.

BIRTHS OF UNITS IN 2019 AND THEIR SURVIVAL	Births	1-year survival	1-year per cent
United Kingdom	390,230	344,625	88.3
England	349,675	308,555	88.2
West Midlands Region	36,005	32,855	91.3
Herefordshire	805	745	92.5
Shropshire (including Telford and Wrekin)	2,340	2,160	92.3
Staffordshire	3,430	3,075	89.7
Warwickshire	3,390	3,035	89.5
West Midlands (Metropolitan County)	16,150	14,480	89.7
Worcestershire	8,925	8,485	95.1
Bromsgrove*	5,060	4,995	98.7
Malvern Hills	355	305	85.9
Redditch	880	805	91.5
Worcester	470	415	88.3
Wychavon	1,180	1,025	86.9
Wyre Forest	980	940	95.9

Births of Units in 2018 and their Survival	Births	1-year survival	1-year per cent	2-year survival	2-year per cent
United Kingdom	370,165	330,665	89.3	258,510	69.8
England	331,305	295,750	89.3	231,430	69.9
West Midlands Region	30,840	27,805	90.2	21,310	69.1
Herefordshire	715	630	88.1	520	72.7
Shropshire (including Telford and Wrekin)	1,865	1,665	89.3	1,360	72.9
Staffordshire	3,405	3,065	90.0	2,445	71.8
Warwickshire	3,350	3,065	91.5	2,510	74.9
West Midlands (Metropolitan County)	16,470	14,755	89.6	11,575	70.3
Worcestershire	4,150	3,825	92.2	2,325	56.0
Bromsgrove*	1,865	1,760	94.4	675	36.2
Malvern Hills	400	365	91.3	300	75.0
Redditch	380	340	89.5	240	63.2
Worcester	395	355	89.9	275	69.6
Wychavon	705	625	88.7	520	73.8
Wyre Forest	405	380	93.8	315	77.8

Births of Units in 2017 and their Survival	Births	1-year survival	1-year per cent	2-year survival	2-year per cent	3-year survival	3-year per cent
United Kingdom	375,605	334,790	89.1	260,135	69.3	200,390	53.4
England	335,280	298,645	89.1	231,145	68.9	177,860	53.0
West Midlands Region	30,685	27,705	90.3	18,965	61.8	14,280	46.5
Herefordshire	750	690	92.0	570	76.0	465	62.0
Shropshire (including Telford and Wrekin)	1,900	1,710	90.0	1,405	73.9	1,145	60.3
Staffordshire	3,440	3,050	88.7	2,450	71.2	1,990	57.8
Warwickshire	3,150	2,830	89.8	2,320	73.7	1,760	55.9
West Midlands (Metropolitan County)	14,495	12,885	88.9	9,305	64.2	6,915	47.7
Worcestershire	6,120	5,805	94.9	2,350	38.4	1,560	25.5
Bromsgrove*	4,085	4,005	98.0	860	21.1	340	8.3
Malvern Hills	325	295	90.8	255	78.5	210	64.6
Redditch	315	280	88.9	225	71.4	175	55.6
Worcester	410	360	87.8	295	72.0	235	57.3
Wychavon	620	530	85.5	440	71.0	365	58.9
Wyre Forest	365	335	91.8	275	75.3	235	64.4

Births of Units in 2016 and their Survival	Births	1-year survival	1-year per cent	2-year survival	2-year per cent	3-year survival	3-year per cent	4-year survival	4-year per cent
United Kingdom	413,900	378,890	91.5	282,830	68.3	215,120	52.0	178,535	43.1
England	373,580	342,095	91.6	253,880	68.0	192,450	51.5	159,665	42.7
West Midlands Region	34,695	32,040	92.3	24,895	71.8	16,500	47.6	13,695	39.5
Herefordshire	780	690	88.5	555	71.2	475	60.9	415	53.2
Shropshire (including Telford and Wrekin)	1,960	1,815	92.6	1,465	74.7	1,190	60.7	1,010	51.5
Staffordshire	4,025	3,725	92.5	2,975	73.9	2,255	56.0	1,895	47.1
Warwickshire	3,760	3,460	92.0	2,760	73.4	2,180	58.0	1,845	49.1
West Midlands (Metropolitan County)	18,160	16,680	91.9	12,265	67.5	7,880	43.4	6,440	35.5
Worcestershire	5,045	4,785	94.8	4,180	82.9	2,015	39.9	1,675	33.2
Bromsgrove*	2,705	2,645	97.8	2,455	90.8	665	24.6	555	20.5
Malvern Hills	400	370	92.5	295	73.8	235	58.8	200	50.0
Redditch	415	370	89.2	295	71.1	210	50.6	175	42.2
Worcester	475	420	88.4	345	72.6	275	57.9	220	46.3
Wychavon	650	605	93.1	495	76.2	400	61.5	330	50.8
Wyre Forest	400	375	93.8	295	73.8	230	57.5	195	48.8

Births of Units in 2015 and their Survival	Births	1-year survival	1-year per cent	2-year survival	2-year per cent	3-year survival	3-year per cent	4-year survival	4-year per cent	5-year survival	5-year per cent
United Kingdom	382,755	343,520	89.7	273,040	71.3	211,495	55.3	176,070	46.0	151,500	39.6
England	344,065	308,685	89.7	245,570	71.4	189,890	55.2	157,945	45.9	135,895	39.5
West Midlands Region	29,350	26,665	90.9	21,330	72.7	16,405	55.9	13,255	45.2	11,305	38.5
Herefordshire	780	705	90.4	580	74.4	460	59.0	400	51.3	360	46.2
Shropshire (including Telford and Wrekin)	1,985	1,835	92.4	1,495	75.3	1,220	61.5	1,045	52.6	910	45.8
Staffordshire	3,660	3,360	91.8	2,715	74.2	2,155	58.9	1,820	49.7	1,590	43.4
Warwickshire	3,790	3,470	91.6	2,810	74.1	2,235	59.0	1,830	48.3	1,535	40.5
West Midlands (Metropolitan County)	15,470	13,985	90.4	11,045	71.4	8,170	52.8	6,355	41.1	5,340	34.5
Worcestershire	2,740	2,455	89.6	2,020	73.7	1,655	60.4	1,405	51.3	1,230	44.9
Bromsgrove	580	510	87.9	415	71.6	325	56.0	275	47.4	245	42.2
Malvern Hills	340	305	89.7	245	72.1	210	61.8	170	50.0	150	44.1
Redditch	405	360	88.9	290	71.6	230	56.8	200	49.4	175	43.2
Worcester	410	390	95.1	320	78.0	260	63.4	225	54.9	185	45.1
Wychavon	660	570	86.4	470	71.2	400	60.6	350	53.0	310	47.0
Wyre Forest	345	320	92.8	280	81.2	230	66.7	185	53.6	165	47.8

* A note about Bromsgrove's business births and survival-rate figures for 2016 to 2019: In recent years, the number of multiple registrations on the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR) at a single postcode has increased. This can cause large fluctuations. There are several reasons why these multiple registrations can occur. For example, the increase in the use of management and personal service companies, the use of formation agents to register a new business with Companies House, virtual offices, the presence of the HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) local offices, and foreign on-line sellers. There has also been an increase in the number of temporary staff (for example supply teachers, drivers, and nurses) setting up their own limited companies. In these cases, when the person registers as a limited company they are the only employee and are also the owner or director of the business. Very often these limited companies, sometimes referred to as 'personal service companies', are using a management company and are registered at the address of the management company rather than the individual limited company address. These businesses may only exist for a few months, to cover the period of the temporary contract. In extreme cases, several thousand businesses can be registered at a single management company address. When new businesses are registered as limited companies by temporary workers and contractors, their survival rates can be shorter. For example, in the initial year the area could show a higher-than-normal business birth rate, but then the following year there could be an adverse effect on the business death rates that will result in lower business survival rates.

Employment: Working-Age Adults (16 to 64) In Employment

The percentage at the end of each quarter of Worcestershire's population aged 16 to 64 in employment compared to England's equivalent percentage for the same period. The next Office for National Statistics data-set will be released in mid-January 2023.

Quarter-End Month	Performance	Target
Jun-14	77.60%	71.90%
Sep-14	77.20%	72.50%
Dec-14	77.30%	72.50%
Mar-15	78.30%	71.70%
Jun-15	78.20%	72.90%
Sep-15	78.20%	73.30%
Dec-15	77.60%	73.60%
Mar-16	76.10%	73.90%
Jun-16	75.40%	73.90%
Sep-16	75.90%	73.90%
Dec-16	75.90%	73.90%

Mar-17	76.10%	74.10%
Jun-17	76.90%	74.40%
Sep-17	76.40%	74.60%
Dec-17	75.80%	74.70%
Mar-18	76.90%	75.10%
Jun-18	78.00%	75.20%
Sep-18	78.30%	75.20%
Dec-18	78.20%	75.30%
Mar-19	79.50%	75.30%
Jun-19	78.70%	75.30%
Sep-19	78.20%	75.80%
Dec-19	78.90%	75.90%
Mar-20	78.00%	76.00%
Jun-20	79.10%	76.20%
Sep-20	78.90%	76.50%
Dec-20	77.70%	76.00%
Mar-21	78.00%	75.70%
Jun-21	77.90%	75.10%
Sep-21	79.70%	74.70%
Dec-21	79.10%	74.90%
Mar-22	79.00%	75.10%
Jun-22	76.20%	75.40%
Sep-22	75.48%	75.70%

Employment: Payrolled Employees

The figures are from an experimental HMRC/Office for National Statistics data-set covering all age-groups. The figures for September 2022 are early estimates, more likely to be subject to significant revisions. Values for the month are an average of employee counts in each day of the month. It is a measure of payrolled employees, as opposed to a measure of employee jobs. The figures for September 2022 indicate the number of payrolled employees in the UK rose by 2.5% compared with September 2021 (Worcestershire: +1.7%).

In the following table, the figures for Shropshire are a combination of those for Shropshire Council and Telford and Wrekin Council. All of the totals for the West Midlands are combined figures for Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall, and Wolverhampton

Date	Worcestershire	Gloucestershire	Herefordshire	Shropshire	Staffordshire	Warwickshire	West Midlands	UK
Sep-18	263,825	279,479	79,420	208,289	385,327	267,212	1,165,457	28,725,334
Dec-18	263,524	280,460	76,845	207,852	384,449	267,259	1,178,968	28,796,410
Mar-19	263,558	280,786	77,490	206,002	380,410	267,729	1,175,742	28,749,345
Jun-19	265,568	281,172	80,795	209,559	387,119	269,343	1,168,087	28,989,350
Sep-19	265,233	281,943	80,277	209,588	385,623	269,365	1,175,096	29,018,220
Dec-19	264,765	282,498	77,204	209,341	384,001	269,030	1,181,963	29,033,203
Mar-20	263,252	280,003	77,213	208,754	382,490	268,649	1,168,206	28,881,641
Jun-20	260,380	275,817	78,923	205,935	378,412	266,121	1,150,282	28,436,493
Sep-20	258,698	274,235	78,406	205,442	377,747	264,234	1,139,231	28,246,785
Dec-20	257,357	273,513	75,496	205,850	376,934	262,542	1,141,325	28,160,422
Mar-21	256,161	271,343	75,507	205,273	376,302	263,131	1,133,090	28,062,803
Jun-21	262,679	278,859	79,593	209,474	383,363	269,164	1,164,494	28,754,106
Sep-21	264,670	281,446	80,417	212,006	386,643	271,617	1,181,384	29,090,654
Dec-21	264,753	281,863	77,757	213,416	387,838	272,185	1,197,146	29,278,761
Mar-22	265,194	281,890	78,245	213,791	388,363	273,623	1,192,445	29,345,605
Jun-22	267,786	284,236	81,729	214,549	390,922	275,502	1,205,434	29,620,002
Sep-22	269,283	286,441	82,206	216,912	393,861	277,976	1,213,671	29,808,969

Economic Growth: Gross Value Added (GVA)

Worcestershire’s Gross Value Added (GVA) is the value of goods and services produced in the county, less the cost of all inputs and raw materials directly attributable to their production. The latest Office for National Statistics data was published in May 2021, with the most recent financial year covered by the figures being 2018/2019.

Financial Year	Actual Figure (£s)	Actual Target (£s)	Performance (£000 millions)	Target (£000 millions)	Worcestershire’s Share of England's GVA	Target
2007/2008	9,937,000,000	--	9,937	--	0.82%	--
2008/2009	9,769,000,000	9,937,000,000	9,769	9,937	0.82%	0.82%
2009/2010	10,015,000,000	9,769,000,000	10,015	9,769	0.82%	0.82%
2010/2011	10,565,000,000	10,015,000,000	10,565	10,015	0.84%	0.82%
2011/2012	11,330,000,000	10,565,000,000	11,330	10,565	0.87%	0.82%
2012/2013	11,702,000,000	11,330,000,000	11,702	11,330	0.86%	0.82%
2013/2014	12,305,000,000	11,702,000,000	12,305	11,702	0.87%	0.82%
2014/2015	12,647,000,000	12,305,000,000	12,647	12,305	0.86%	0.82%
2015/2016	12,675,000,000	12,647,000,000	12,675	12,647	0.83%	0.82%
2016/2017	13,505,000,000	12,675,000,000	13,505	12,675	0.85%	0.82%
2017/2018	14,098,000,000	13,505,000,000	14,098	13,505	0.86%	0.82%
2018/2019	14,484,000,000	14,098,000,000	14,484	14,098	0.85%	0.82%

Worcestershire Greenhouse Gas Emissions: CO2 emissions estimates 2005-2020 (kilotonnes of CO2)

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy - UK Local Authority and Regional Carbon Dioxide Emissions National Statistics (Latest update: June 2022 for calendar years 2015 to 2020

Year	Industrial	Commercial	Domestic	Public Sector	Transport	Land use, land-use change, and forestry	Agriculture	Waste Management	Total	Worcs. per capita emissions	England per capita emissions
2005	772.8	427.4	1,428.5	205.2	1,788.4	-25.3	--	--	4,597.0	8.3	8.7
2006	801.1	459.2	1,440.9	208.7	1,784.2	-25.7	--	--	4,668.3	8.4	8.6
2007	762.2	431.3	1,391.5	194.9	1,810.3	-30.2	--	--	4,560.0	8.2	8.3
2008	735.9	419.0	1,387.1	187.9	1,730.9	-35.4	--	--	4,425.4	7.9	8.1
2009	607.2	350.1	1,260.0	161.1	1,687.1	-34.3	--	--	4,031.4	7.2	7.2
2010	650.0	368.1	1,355.1	172.2	1,668.2	-34.5	--	--	4,179.1	7.4	7.4
2011	589.4	347.2	1,177.8	160.2	1,637.5	-37.2	--	--	3,874.9	6.8	6.7
2012	614.7	361.3	1,263.0	166.1	1,578.2	-35.1	--	--	3,948.2	6.9	7.0
2013	601.7	349.8	1,227.7	163.1	1,582.3	-39.6	--	--	3,885.0	6.8	6.8
2014	551.9	300.4	1,046.7	140.1	1,614.1	-39.1	--	--	3,614.1	6.3	6.1
2015	522.9	273.7	1,014.5	126.6	1,651.7	-43.3	--	--	3,546.1	6.1	5.9
2016	478.7	231.5	963.2	109.6	1,678.6	-37.2	--	--	3,424.3	5.9	5.5
2017	471.4	209.8	902.6	110.3	1,672.6	-40.4	--	--	3,326.4	5.7	5.3
2018	462.3	202.9	885.4	118.7	1,625.9	-39.8	325.7	213.1	3,794.2	6.4	6.0
2019	424.6	180.3	852.9	104.9	1,600.3	-40.6	327.7	215.9	3,665.9	6.2	5.7
2020	371.4	145.4	842.8	97.6	1,277.8	-37.5	316.7	200.9	3,215.1	5.4	5.1

Worcestershire Greenhouse Gas Emissions: CO_2 emissions estimates 2005-2020 (kilotonnes of CO_2) - Scope of Influence

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy - UK Local Authority and Regional Carbon Dioxide Emissions National Statistics (Latest update: June 2022 for calendar years 2015 to 2020. Totals exclude large industrial sites, railways, motorways, and land-use)

Year	Industrial	Commercial	Domestic	Public Sector	Transport	Agriculture	Waste Management	Total	Worcs. per capita emissions	England per capita emissions
2005	717.3	414.1	1,384.8	198.9	1,100.9	72.6	9.6	3,898.0	7.1	7.2
2006	745.5	445.9	1,398.6	202.7	1,080.5	78.5	6.9	3,958.6	7.1	7.2
2007	705.9	419.4	1,351.8	189.4	1,104.9	74.9	7.4	3,853.7	6.9	6.9
2008	679.6	407.6	1,349.0	182.8	1,069.1	74.0	7.4	3,769.4	6.7	6.7
2009	574.3	339.7	1,223.2	156.3	1,033.3	67.2	7.7	3,401.8	6.0	6.1
2010	616.6	357.9	1,317.3	167.4	1,023.4	69.3	7.6	3,559.5	6.3	6.4
2011	558.6	337.2	1,142.3	155.5	1,011.4	67.4	7.1	3,279.5	5.8	5.7
2012	584.8	351.5	1,225.0	161.4	974.2	69.5	6.5	3,372.7	5.9	6.0
2013	573.6	341.4	1,193.9	158.9	960.8	68.9	6.8	3,304.3	5.8	5.8
2014	522.1	292.2	1,015.0	136.2	982.3	64.3	7.4	3,019.5	5.2	5.2
2015	492.8	266.0	983.6	122.9	1,007.3	63.7	6.4	2,942.7	5.1	4.9
2016	449.0	225.3	935.7	106.6	1,025.8	63.0	7.1	2,812.6	4.8	4.6
2017	437.0	204.1	877.1	107.4	1,031.3	61.4	7.3	2,725.4	4.6	4.4
2018	425.6	197.3	860.1	115.5	1,019.3	60.9	6.7	2,685.4	4.5	4.3
2019	391.1	175.0	828.0	101.9	993.1	59.3	8.2	2,556.7	4.3	4.1
2020	343.1	141.1	818.5	94.9	799.8	58.4	8.0	2,263.8	3.8	3.7

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Worcestershire County Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Scope (Type of Activity)

The last four columns in the table below show the percentage change in each financial year compared with 2009/2010's baseline. Latest update: November 2022.

Emissions Category (please see notes for details)	2009/2010 (baseline)	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Scope 1	4,598	2,669	2,467	2,480	2,300	-42.0	-46.3	-46.1	-50.0
Scope 2	16,672	7,934	6,459	5,273	4,286	-52.4	-61.3	-68.4	-74.3
Scope 3	55,266	38,271	36,986	36,637	38,342	-30.8	-33.1	-33.7	-30.6
Totals	**76,536**	**48,874**	**45,912**	**44,390**	**44,928**	**-36.1**	**-40.0**	**-42.0**	**-41.3**

Scope 1: Natural gas use in WCC buildings (excluding schools); fuel use in WCC vehicle fleet; residual fuel use (e.g. burning oil, LPG, etc.) consumed at WCC sites (excluding schools).
Scope 2: Indirect emissions - electricity use in WCC buildings (excluding schools) and street lighting (grid generation).
Scope 3: Other indirect emissions, e.g. electricity use in WCC buildings (excluding schools) and street lighting (grid transmission and distribution); staff mileage travelled by WCC staff for business purposes; electricity and gas consumption in buildings operated by the main out-sourced contractors for Waste Management and Highways services; fleet and staff mileage undertaken by main out-sourced contractors for Waste Management and Highways services on behalf of WCC; petrol and diesel consumption by contracted fleet vehicles; emissions from municipal waste disposal.

During 2021/22, WCC purchased green electricity for all corporate sites and street lighting that met the Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) standard. All Scope 2 emissions associated with the generation of REGO-accredited electricity can be classed as a net benefit (carbon offset) for reporting purposes. The elimination of all the Scope 2 emissions reduces the overall 2021/2022 emissions figure from 44,928 to 40,642, down 46.9% compared with 2009/2010's baseline figure of 76,536.

Local authorities have removed schools' emissions from their Greenhouse Gas reporting. In Worcestershire, an exercise was undertaken in 2019 to remove schools' emissions from the 2009/2010 data. This was done to ensure the baseline total against which progress is being monitored was calculated using the same methodology as has been applied for all years from 2018/2019. Re-calculation of figures for years from 2010/2011 to 2017/2018 would be a major piece of work.

Worcestershire County Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Share of Annual Corporate Emissions by Activity

Latest update: November 2022 for 2021/2022

Share of Annual Corporate Emissions by Activity	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Waste Disposal	67%	69%	72%	74%
Street Lighting	12%	11%	10%	8%
Severn Waste	4%	5%	4%	5%
Buildings - Gas	3%	3%	4%	3%
Ringway	4%	3%	4%	3%
Buildings - Electricity	5%	4%	3%	2%
Fleet	2%	2%	1%	2%
Staff Mileage	2%	2%	1%	2%
Contract Fleet	1%	1%	1%	1%
Residual Fuels	0%	0.4%	0%	0%
Staff Air Travel	0%	0.1%	0%	0%

Superfast Broadband

The percentage of Worcestershire homes and business premises connected to Superfast broadband (24 Megabits per second) at the end of each quarter of each financial year from 2017/2018. This data and other connectivity figures (local, regional, and national) can be found on the Think Broadband website. The immediate link to Worcestershire's data is https://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/worcestershire,E10000034.

Financial Year	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
2017/2018	92.9%	93.3%	94.1%	94.6%
2018/2019	94.7%	95.3%	95.5%	95.7%
2019/2020	95.8%	96.0%	96.3%	96.5%
2020/2021	96.7%	96.9%	97.1%	97.3%
2021/2022	97.5%	97.7%	97.8%	98.0%
2022/2023	98.1%	98.1%		

Rail Journeys: Station Usage

The combined entry and exit totals in the table below are financial-year estimates derived from manual station counts and local ticketing data. The data is refreshed annually in late-November by Office of Rail and Road. The data-set for 2021/2022 is scheduled to be published on 24th November.

Station	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Bromsgrove	644,350	690,894	752,792	790,432	133,276
Droitwich	550,594	567,790	527,594	520,326	133,952
Evesham	257,544	246,898	234,006	245,990	66,164
Great Malvern	559,494	562,634	531,124	537,454	126,294
Kidderminster	1,613,640	1,695,390	1,638,322	1,529,896	371,364
Pershore	103,956	102,038	94,844	102,550	37,112
Redditch	1,032,940	1,074,110	1,059,610	1,001,912	209,822
Worcester Foregate	2,100,826	2,172,026	2,071,468	2,190,982	534,904
Worcester Shrub Hill	818,070	845,794	806,636	660,638	161,288
Worcestershire Parkway	--	--	--	25,478	32,350

Rail Journeys: Timeliness of Journeys

The following two tables cover all train services departing from the stations listed and travelling to Birmingham (Snow Hill or New Street) during September 2022. As there were no direct services from Evesham or Pershore to Birmingham during September, a third table provides information about services run from the two stations in September to Worcester. The information is taken from www.recenttraintimes.co.uk

Station	Total number of Services to B'ham	Always on Time	On Time 90%-99% of the Time	On Time 75% to 89% of the time	On Time 50% to 74% of the time	On time 25% to 49% of the time	On time 10% to 24% of the time	On time less than 10% of the time	Never on time
Bromsgrove	54	1	4	13	28	6	2	0	0
Droitwich	53	2	4	8	15	19	3	1	1
Great Malvern	20	1	1	9	7	1	0	0	1
Kidderminster	60	1	0	4	14	30	7	2	2

Station	Total number of Services to B'ham	Always on Time	On Time 90% to 99% of the Time	On Time 75% to 89% of the time	On Time 50% to 74% of the time	On time 25% to 49% of the time	On time 10% to 24% of the time	On time less than 10% of the time	Never on time
Redditch	36	0	0	5	17	12	2	0	0
Worcester Foregate Street	44	2	2	9	13	16	0	1	1
Worcester Shrub Hill	16	2	1	1	2	5	3	0	2
Worcestershire Parkway	24	2	0	0	3	7	5	0	7

Station	Total number of Services to Worcs.	Always on Time	On Time 90% to 99% of the Time	On Time 75% to 89% of the time	On Time 50% to 74% of the time	On time 25% to 49% of the time	On time 10% to 24% of the time	On time less than 10% of the time	Never on time
Evesham	19	0	0	1	6	7	4	0	0
Pershore	18	2	0	1	6	7	3	0	0

Appendix – Gatsby Benchmarking System

The eight benchmarks serve as a framework for improvement in careers advice provision, links between curriculums and career pathways, and the needs of pupils in higher education and the workplace. They form part of the Government's Careers Strategy and statutory guidance for schools and colleges. The Careers and Enterprise Company supports the implementation of the benchmarks in schools and colleges with a national network of support, resources and targeted funding. The service target is an average of 6 out of 8 Gatsby Benchmarks across 65 educational establishments. Performance dipped slightly during the last quarter of 2021/2022, but the year-end position maintained the above-target status first attained during the October-to-December quarter. Careers Hub Enterprise Co-ordinators are working with Hub schools in their assigned districts by supporting the facilitation of activities to maintain and exceed Gatsby benchmark performance. Also key are actions to mitigate the effects the COVID-19 pandemic had on the benchmarks that require involvement from external partners such as employers, training providers, and education providers to support the delivery of careers activities. There will continue to be a focus on the creation and development of resources to help support Hub member schools.

The 8 Benchmarks are:
1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from careers and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each student
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

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ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
30 NOVEMBER 2022

WORK PROGRAMME

Summary

1. From time to time the Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel (the Panel) will review its work programme and consider which issues should be investigated as a priority.

Background

2. The Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel is responsible for scrutiny of:
   - Economy
   - Workforce Skills
   - Strategic Infrastructure
   - Broadband and Communications

3. The Work Programme, which is part of the Council's rolling Annual Work Programme (attached at Appendix 1) was discussed by the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) on 29 June and was agreed by Council on 14 July 2022.

Dates of 2023 Meetings

- 20 January at 10am
- 27 March at 10am
- 7 June at 10am
- 17 July at 10am
- 5 October at 10am
- 17 November at 10am

Purpose of the Meeting

4. The Panel is asked to consider the 2022/23 Work Programme and agree whether it would like to make any amendments. The Panel will wish to retain the flexibility to take into account any urgent issues which may arise.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 - Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2022/23

Contact Points

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Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager), the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board 29 June 2022

Agenda and Minutes for Council on 14 July 2022

Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2022/23

Date of Meeting	Issue for Scrutiny	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
30 November 2022	District Council Economic Challenges and how the County Council could help		Standing item where meetings are held at district council offices
	Tourism		Agenda Planning September 2022
	Superfast Broadband Annual Update (to include mobile and 5G coverage)	20 September 2021	
	Performance Monitoring (Q2 July to September)		
20 January 2023	Update on the local economy and what the Council is doing to help businesses recover and grow	20 September 2021	Update in 12 months requested
	Scrutiny of 2023/24 Budget		
27 March 2023	Performance (Q3 October to December) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		
Work Programme Suggestions			
7 June 2023	Performance (Q4 January to March) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		
5 October 2023	Performance (Q1 April to June) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		

17 November 2023	Performance (Q2 July to September) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		
TBC	Rail Strategy		Agenda Planning Directorate suggestion September 2022
TBC	Local Transport Plan 5		Agenda Planning Directorate suggestion September 2022
TBC	Worcestershire's Workforce Skills, including the role of Colleges		Panel Member suggestion June 2022
TBC	Rural Economy and Agriculture, including workforce and skills, access to training and operating costs		Panel Member suggestion June 2022
TBC	Worcestershire's Business Parks, including occupancy levels post Covid-19		Panel Member suggestion June 2022
TBC	Worcestershire's Employment Levels		Panel Member suggestion June 2022
TBC	Opportunities for Growth, including the available space for specific sectors		Panel Member suggestion June 2022
TBC	Strategic Infrastructure, including road and rail developments		Panel Member suggestion June 2022
TBC	Partnership Working, including the role of District Councils and the Private Sector		Panel Member suggestion June 2022
TBC	The levelling up agenda and the impact on Worcestershire (including the Towns funding allocated to Redditch and Worcester and the impact on all main towns in Worcestershire)		Suggested by OSPB 29 June 2022
TBC	Post Offices/Postal Services in Worcestershire		Suggested by OSPB 29 June 2022

TBC	County Council processes for scrutinising contracts involving County Council funding		Suggested at the 29 July 2022 Panel meeting
TBC	Town Centres		Suggested at the 29 July 2022 Panel meeting
Standing Items			
Mar/Jul/Sep/Nov	Budget and In-year performance monitoring		
November/January	Budget Scrutiny Process		
	District Council Economic Challenges and how the County Council could help		
	Broadband Annual Update		
	Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (WLEP)		Moved from OSPB Agenda for 2023 Annual Update

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