

Agenda

Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Monday, 25 March 2024, 10.00 am
Lakeview Room, County Hall, Worcester

All County Councillors are invited to attend and participate

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DISCLOSING INTERESTS

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

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

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

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

WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

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

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

WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

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

WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

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

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

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

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

DON'T FORGET

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

Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Monday, 25 March 2024, 10.00 am, County Hall, Worcester

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 Assistant Director for Legal and Governance 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 (Friday 22 March 2024). 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	Performance (Q3 October to December) and In-Year Budget Monitoring	1 - 42
6	Work Programme Refresh	43 - 46

Agenda produced and published by the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP. To obtain further information or hard copies of this agenda please contact Deborah Dale 01905 846282, email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

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

Date of Issue: Friday, 15 March 2024

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ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 25 MARCH 2024

PERFORMANCE AND 2023/24 IN YEAR BUDGET MONITORING

Summary

1. The Panel will be updated on performance and financial information for services relating to the economy.
2. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills, Senior Officers from the Economy and Infrastructure Directorate and the Deputy Chief Financial Officer 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 3 (October to December 2023). It covers the indicators from the Directorate level scorecard 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.

Financial Information

5. The Panel also receives in-year budget information. The information provided is for the Quarter 3 (Period 9) is attached at Appendix 2.

Purpose of the Meeting

6. Following discussion of the information provided, the Scrutiny Panel is asked to determine:
 - any comments to highlight to the Cabinet Members at the meeting and/or to Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board at its meeting on 27 March 2024
 - whether any further information or scrutiny on a particular topic is required.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Economy Performance Information Dashboard for Quarter 3 2023/24
Appendix 2 – Budget Monitoring Information Presentation Slides for Quarter 3 (Period 9) 2023/24

Contact Point

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Email: ddale@worcestershire.gov.uk Tel: 01905 846282

Background Papers

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

- [Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel](#) – 20 January and 27 March, 6 June, 17 July 2023 and 5 October 2023, 17 November, 16 January
- [Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board](#) – 19 December, 19 October, 6 September, 26 July, 26 June, 28 April, 29 March, 27 February and 30 January 2023

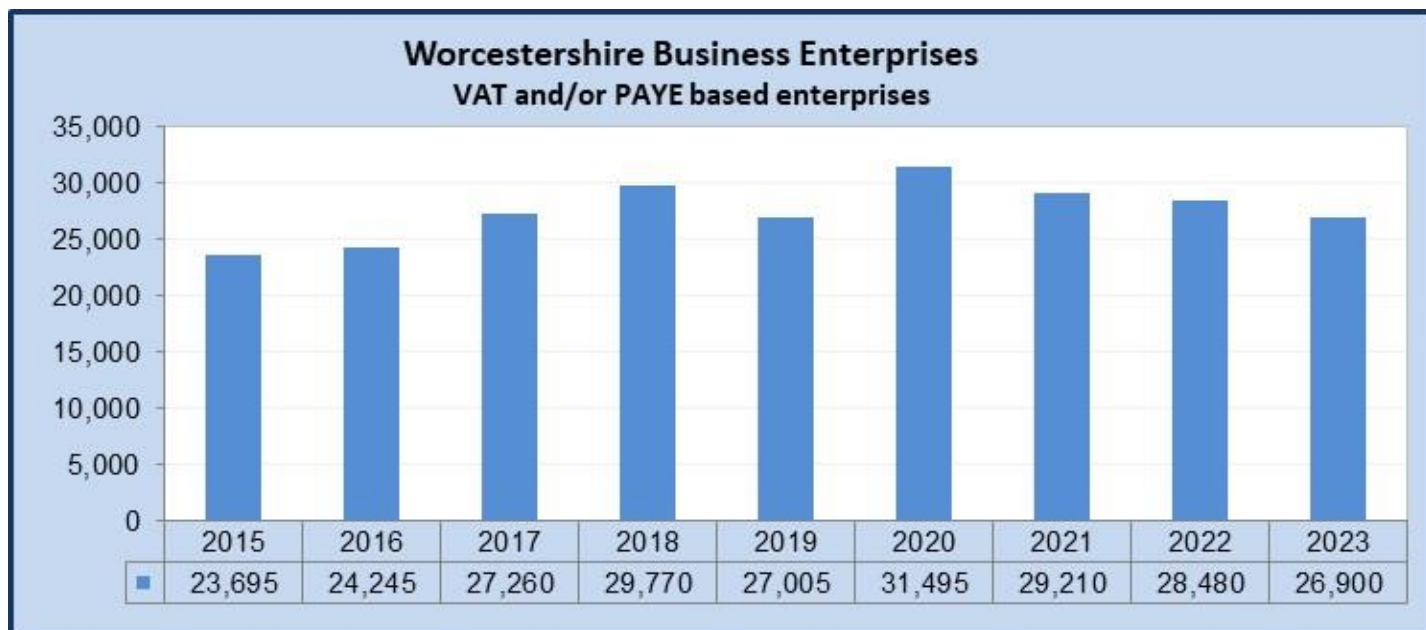
[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)

Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel Performance Summary

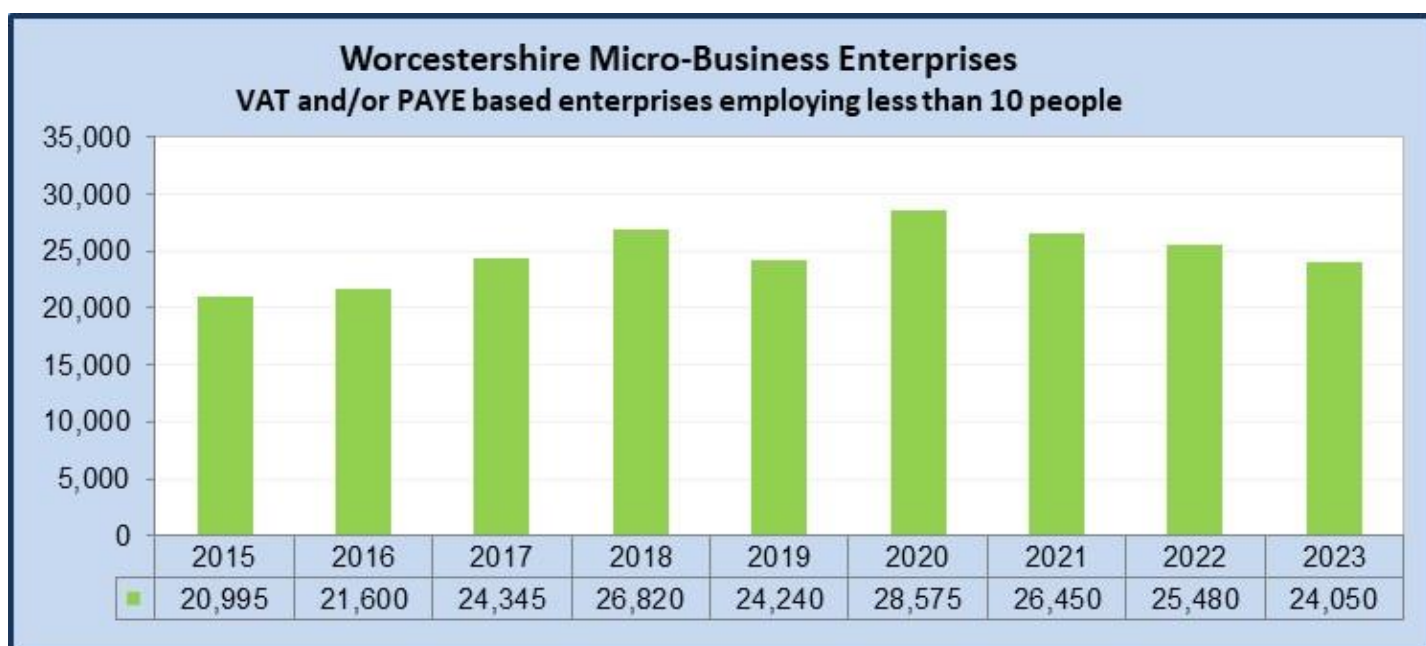
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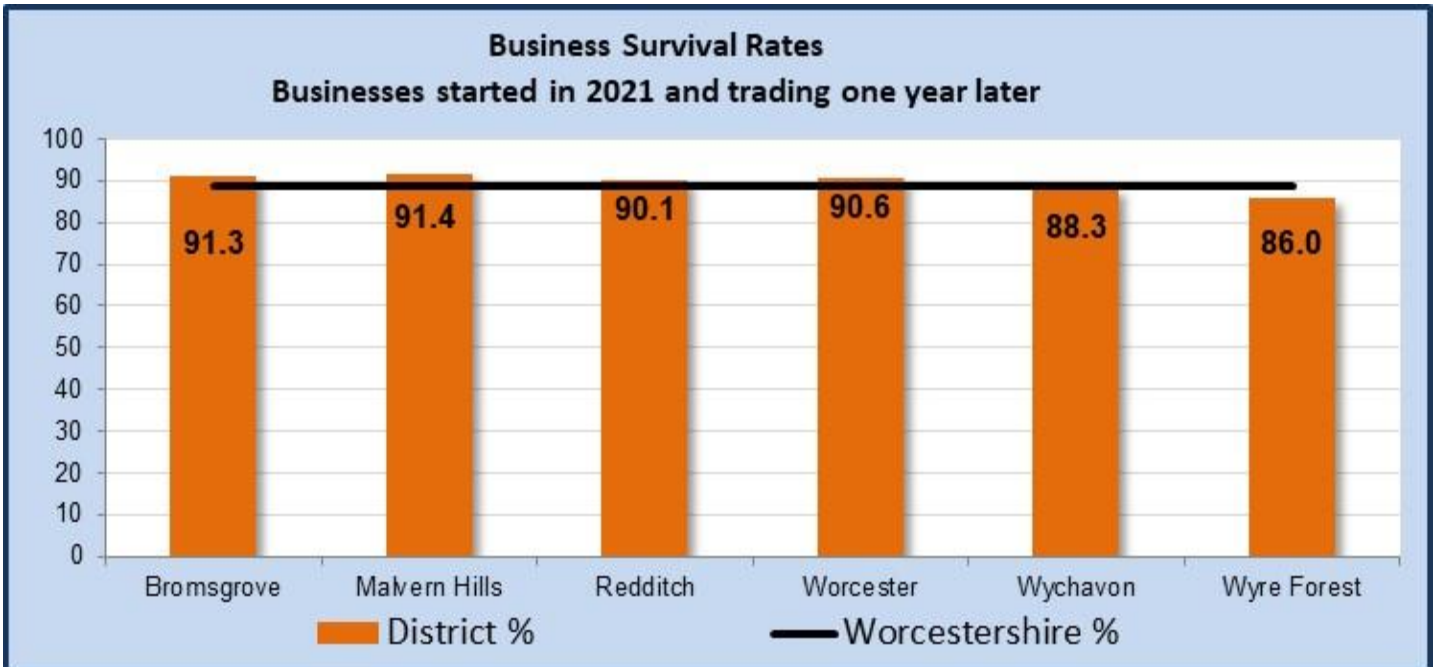
Economy and Infrastructure Dashboard



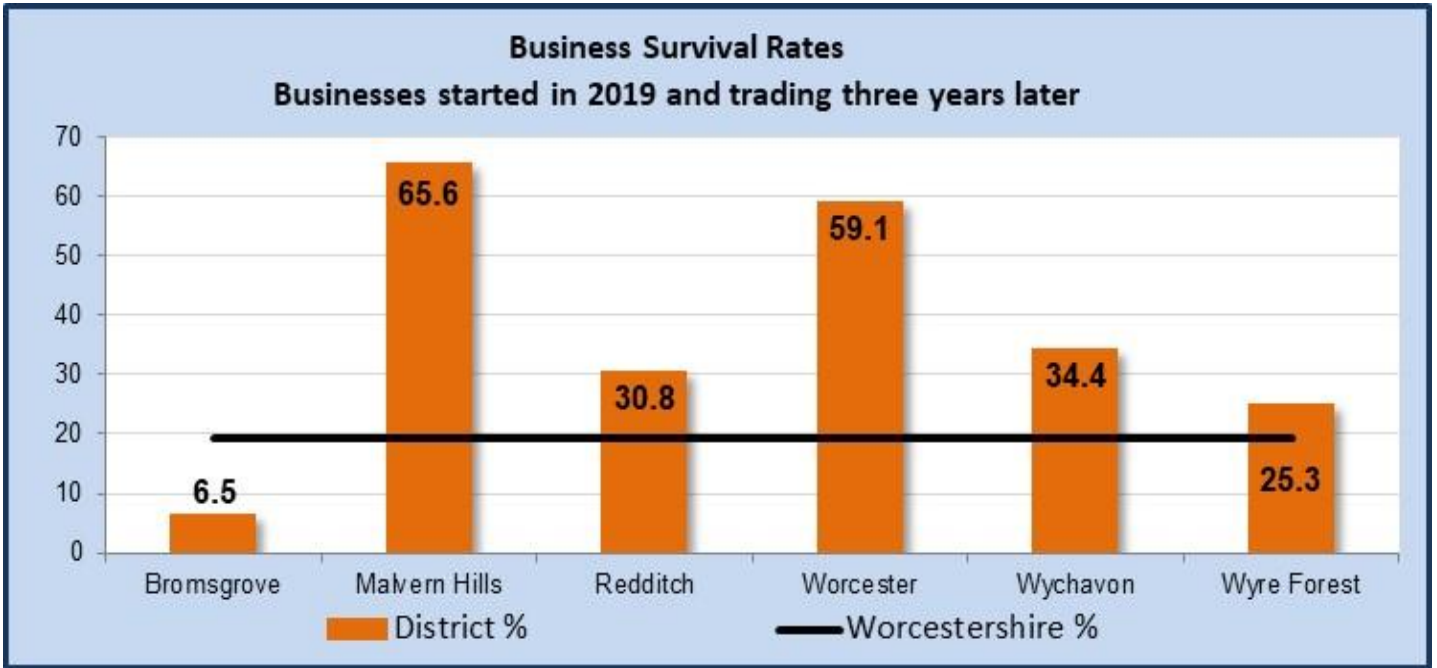
Figures are from Office for National Statistics' analysis of the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR). An enterprise is the smallest combination of legal units that has a certain degree of autonomy within an enterprise group. This is generally based on VAT and/or PAYE records.



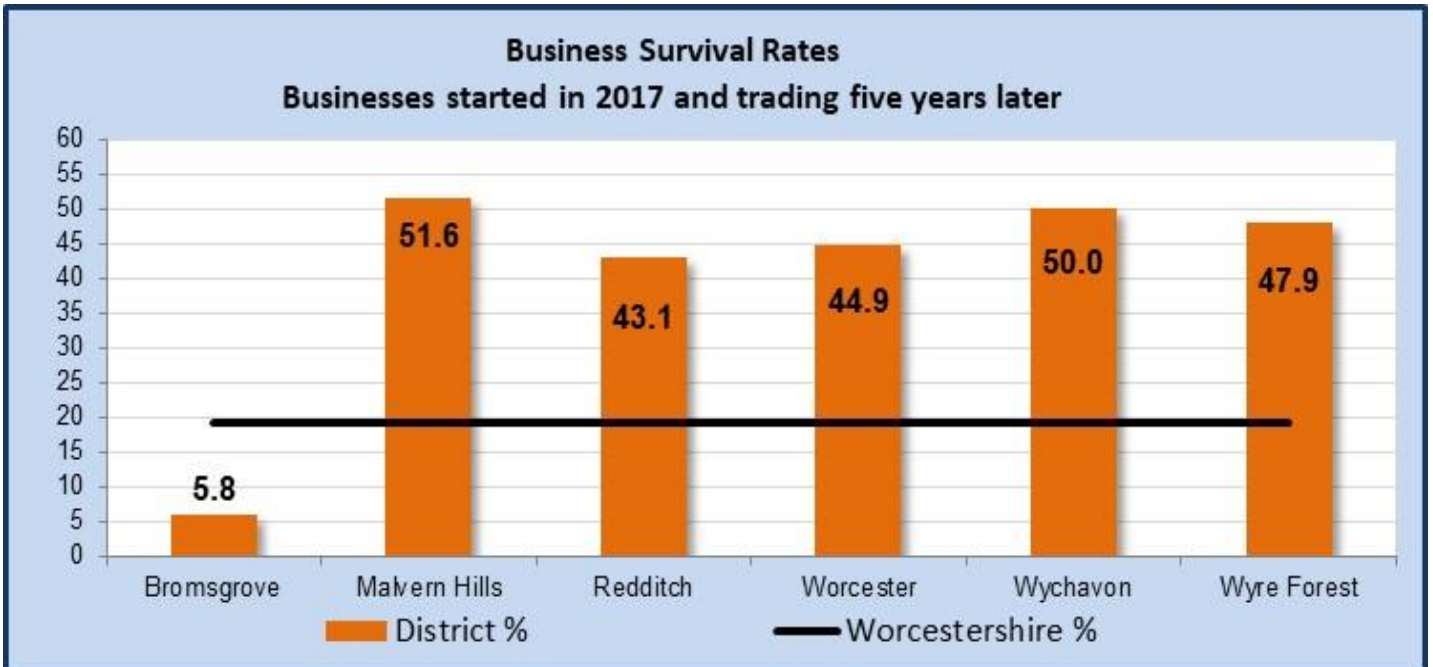
Figures are from Office for National Statistics' analysis of the Business Register Employment Survey (BRES).



For each district council area, the percentage of businesses that commenced trading in 2021 and were active in terms of employment and/or turnover in any part of 2022. 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 late-November 2023 publication, therefore relate to 2022.



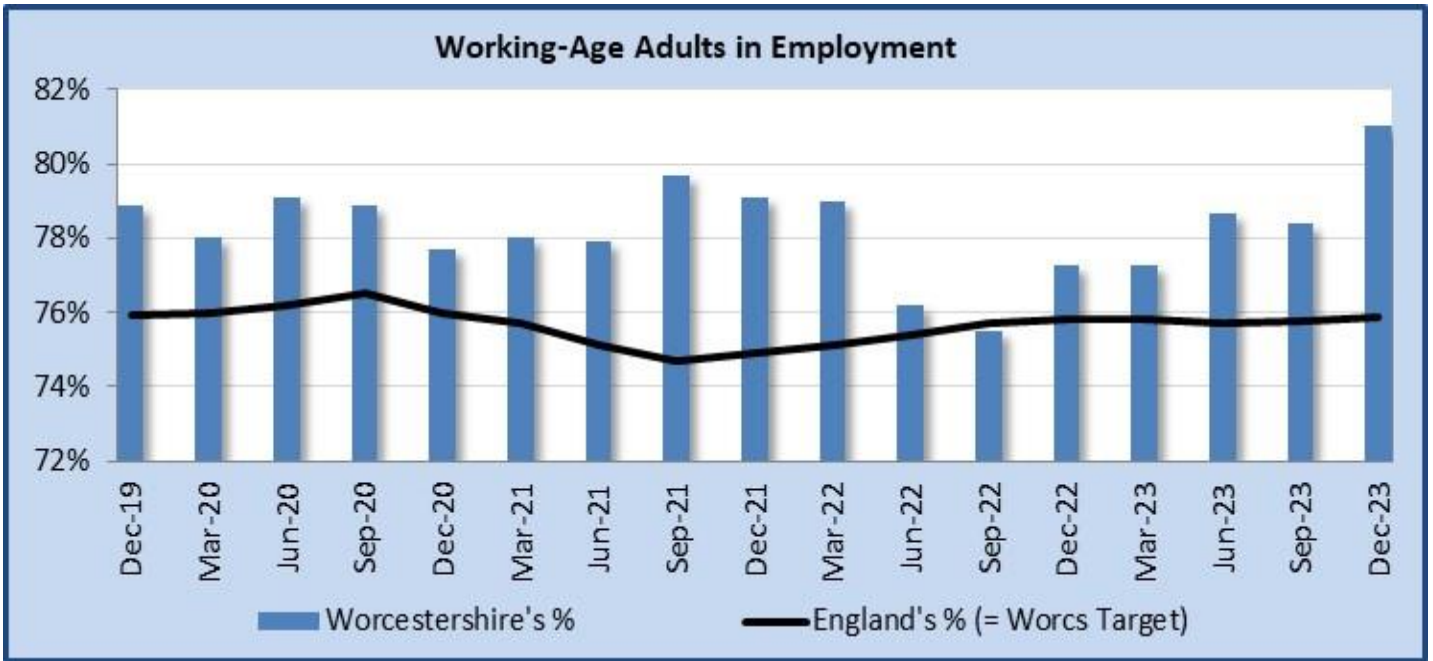
For each district council area, the percentage of businesses that commenced trading in 2019 and were active in terms of employment and/or turnover in any part of 2022. Office for National Statistics' annual Business Demography data-set provides information up to and including the year preceding publication. The latest available figures, contained in the late-November 2023 publication, therefore relate to 2022.



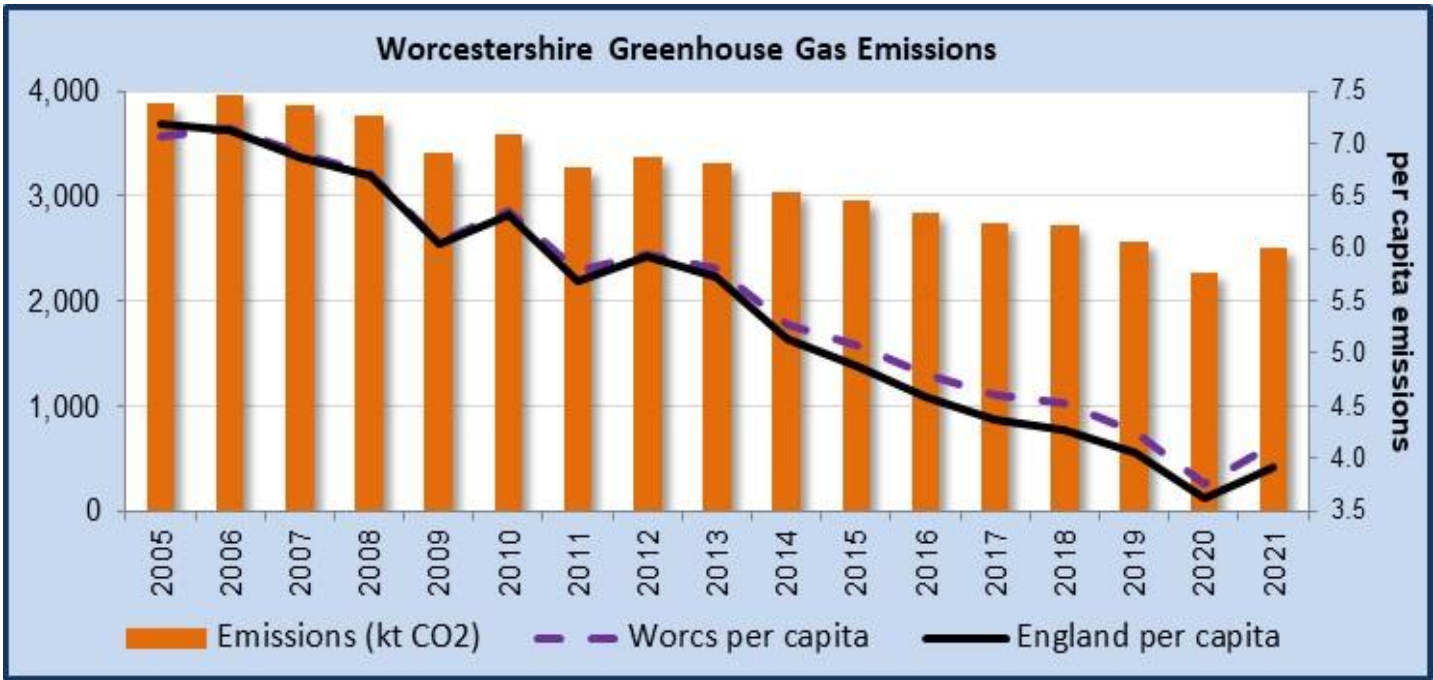
For each district council area, the percentage of businesses that commenced trading in 2017 and were active in terms of employment and/or turnover in any part of 2022. Office for National Statistics' annual Business Demography data-set provides information up to and including the year preceding publication. The latest available figures, contained in the late-November 2023 publication, therefore relate to 2022.



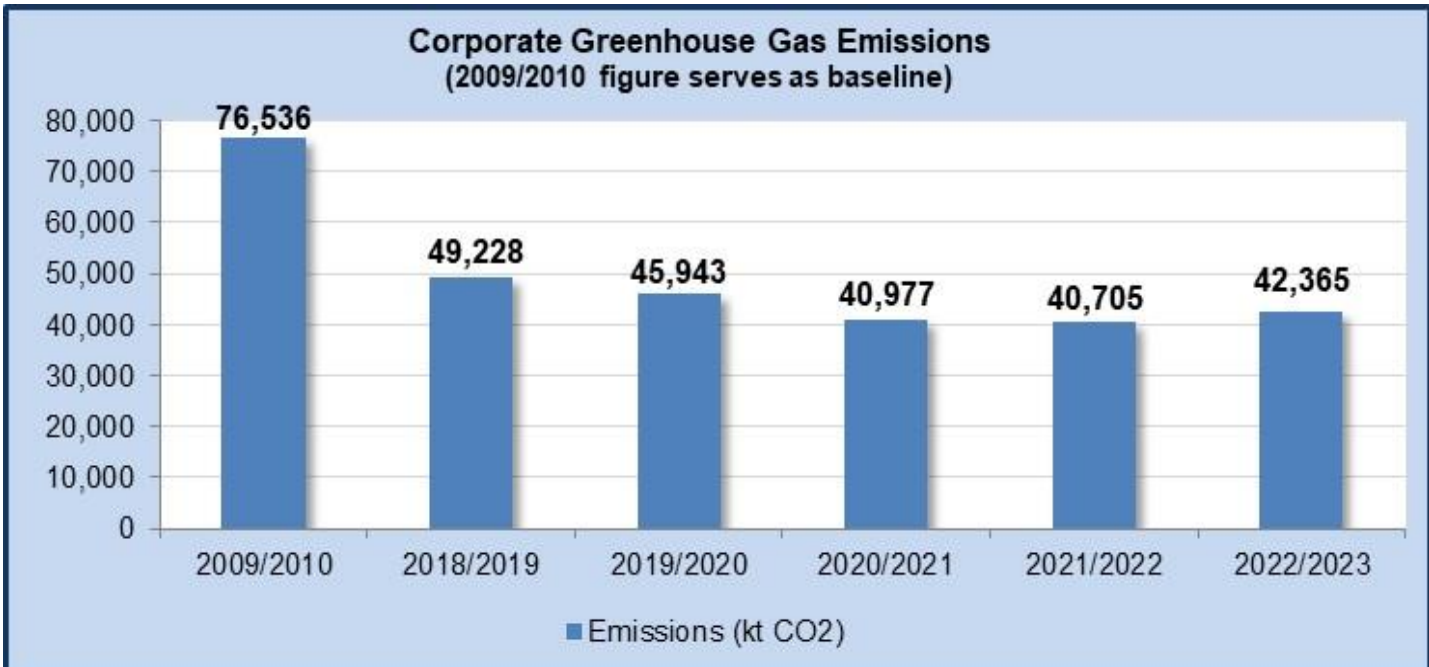
Gross Value Added (GVA) measures the contribution to the economy of each individual producer, industry or sector in the United Kingdom. Worcestershire's annual figures are the monetary value of goods and services produced in the county, less the cost of all inputs and raw materials directly attributable 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 is still to be confirmed by ONS.



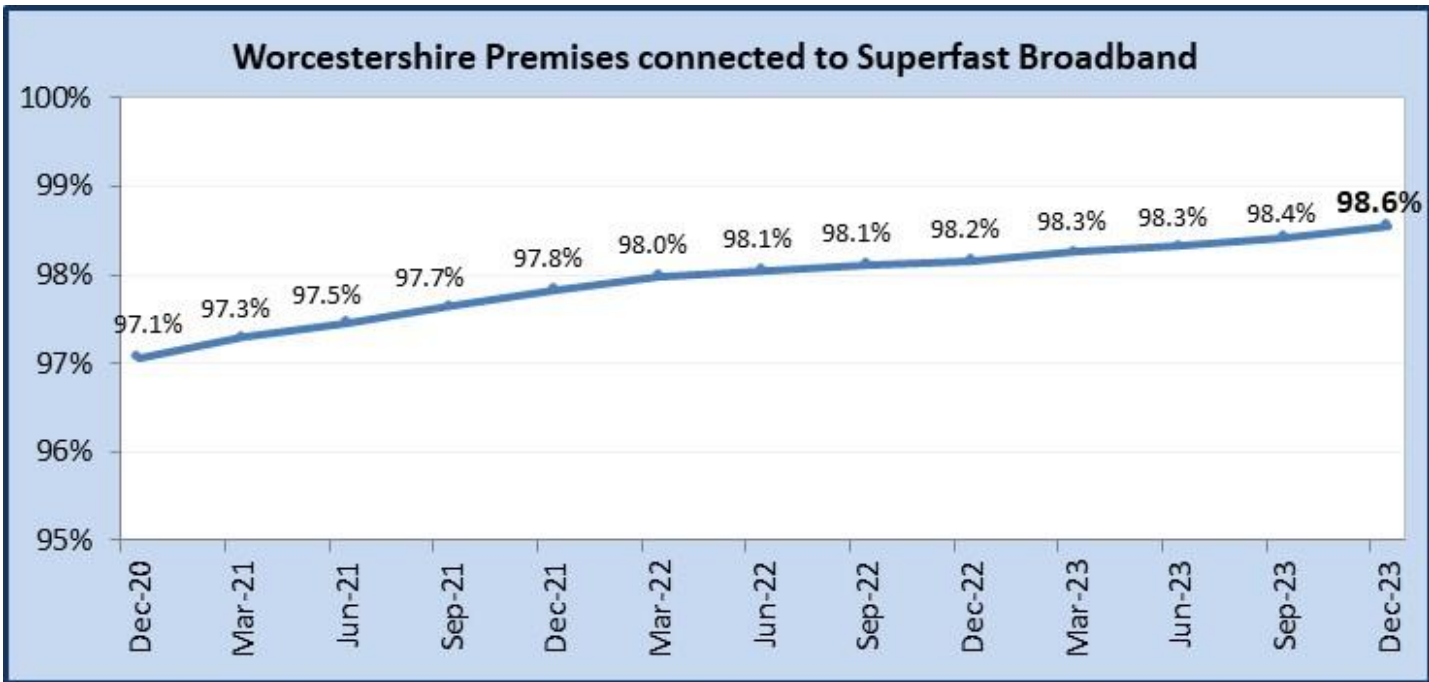
The left-hand axis and bars show the number of working-age adults (16 to 64) in employment at the end of each quarter. The right-hand axis and the two lines show, for the end of each quarter, the percentage of Worcestershire's population aged 16-64 in employment and England's equivalent percentage at the same point. The latest-available data (published in mid-January) is for the year ending 30th September 2023. The next end-of-quarter data-set will be released by Office for National Statistics in mid-April.



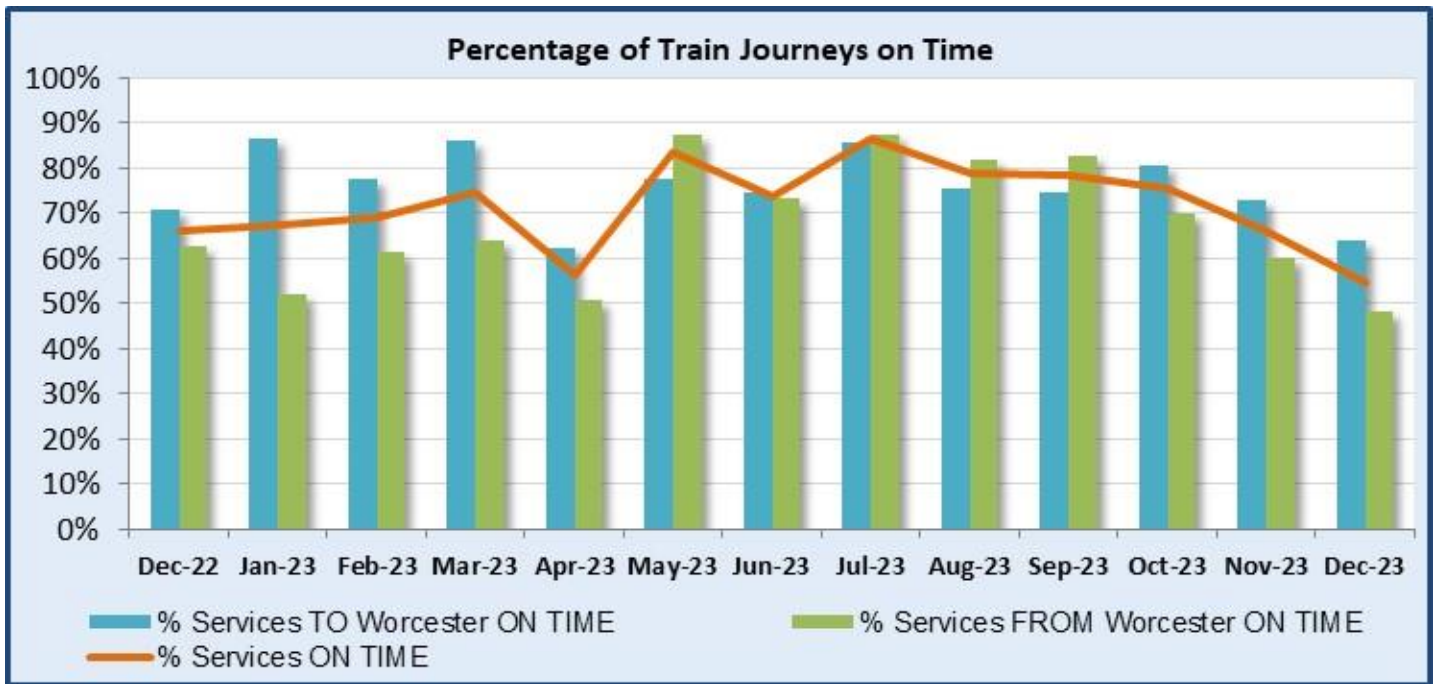
Worcestershire's estimated annual carbon dioxide emissions totals in kilotonnes of CO2. Also shown are per capita figures for the county and for England as a whole. The totals relate to emissions that can be influenced, i.e. they exclude emissions from large industrial sites, railways, and motorways. Data is published two years in arrears by Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. 2022's data is scheduled to be published in June 2024.



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. Worcestershire County Council's GHG Emissions Report 2022/2023 was published in September 2023.

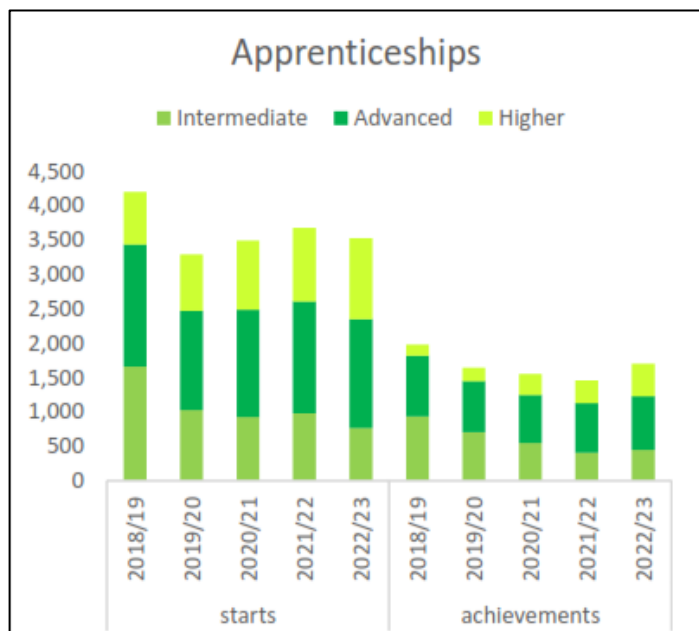
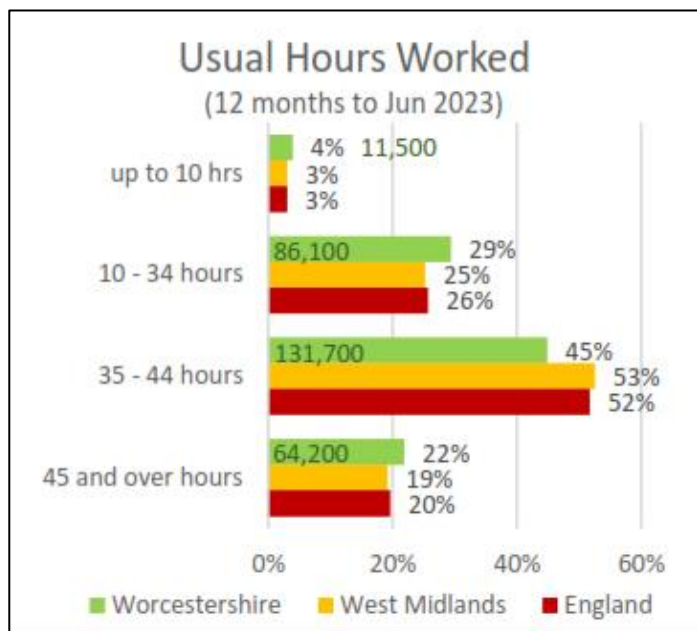
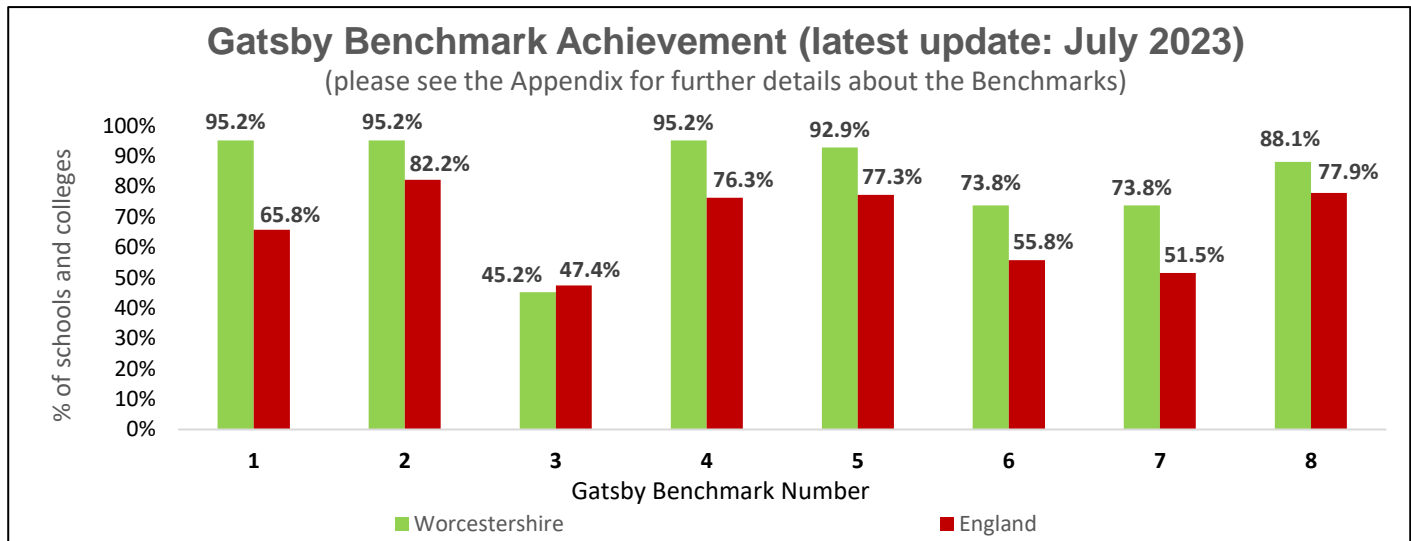
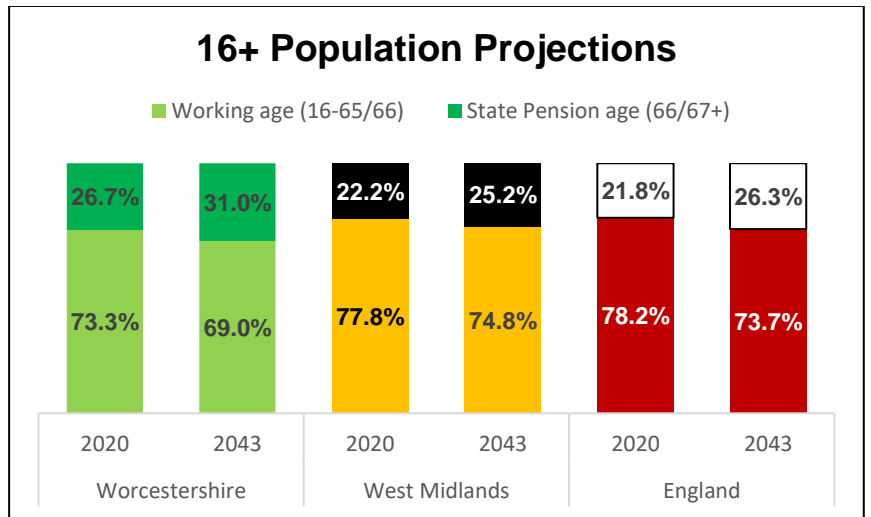
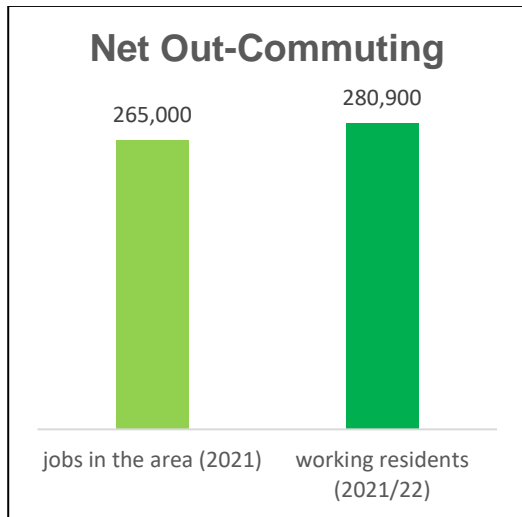


The percentage of all Worcestershire homes and business premises connect to Superfast broadband (24 Megabits per second).

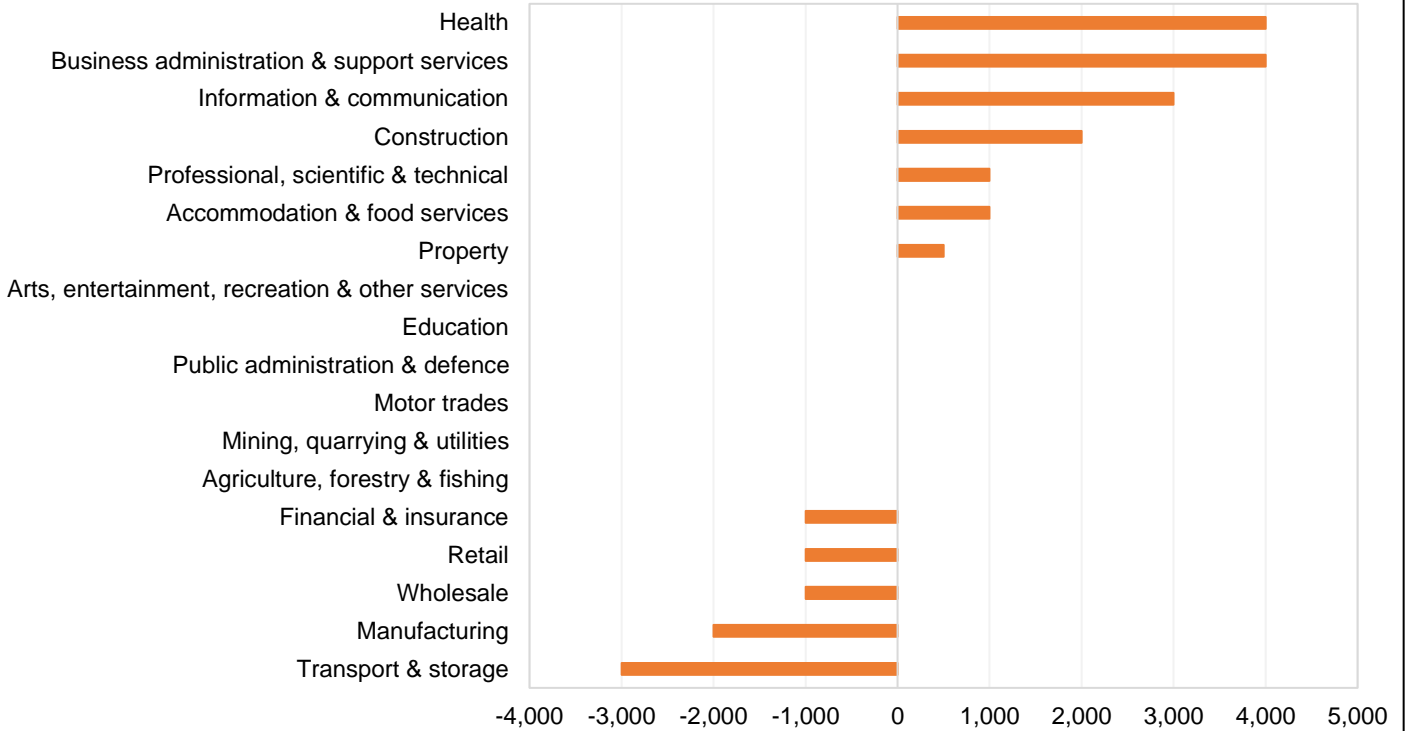


This corporate-level performance indicator covers the percentage of on-time train journeys in and out of Worcester at morning and evening peak times. Morning peak-time trains are those arriving at their destination between 6am and 10am; evening peak-time trains arrive at their destination between 4pm 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.

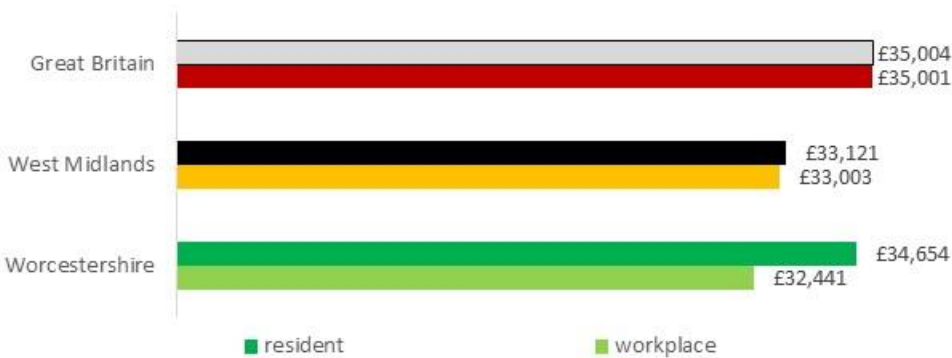
Worcestershire People Dashboard



Change in Workplace Jobs 2016 to 2021



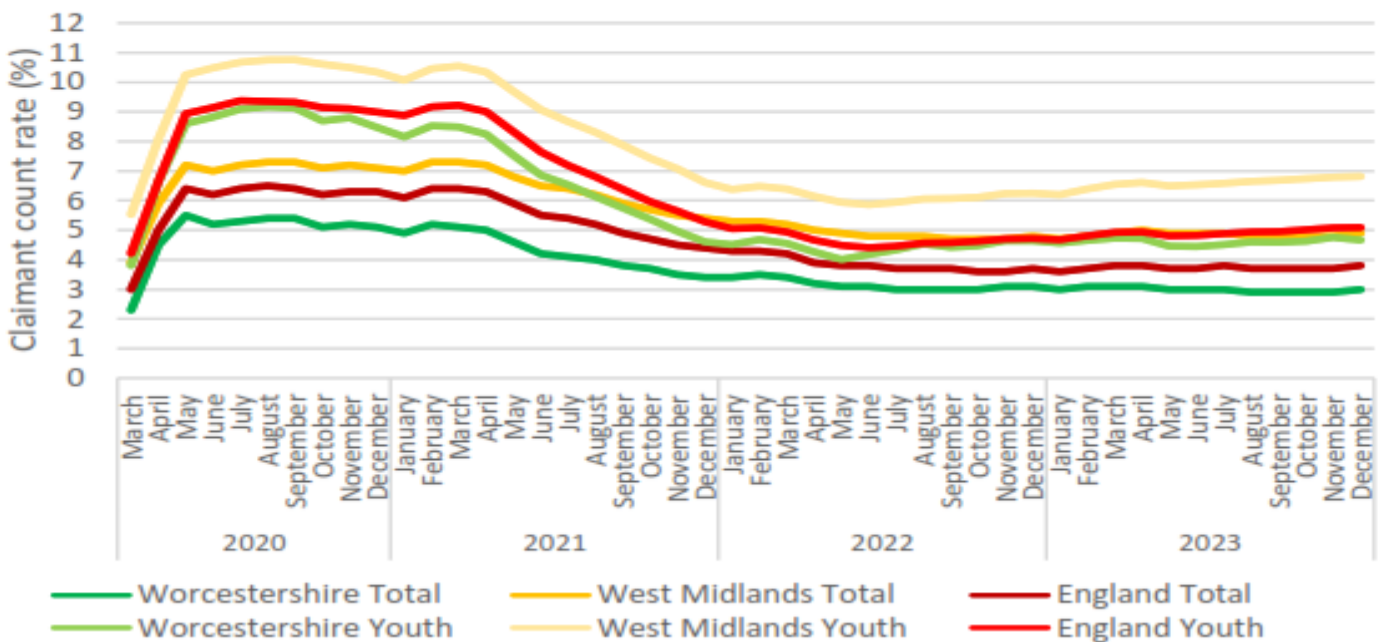
Average earnings (2023)



GVA per hour worked (2021)



Total and Youth Claimant Count Unemployment



Business Enterprises by Employment Sizebands

VAT and/or PAYE based enterprises broken down by the number of employees. Numbers of enterprises and local units produced from a snapshot of the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR) taken on 10th March 2023 and released by Office for National Statistics on 27th September.

England	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+	Total
2021	1,899,275	261,775	129,560	69,765	23,275	13,010	9,305	2,405,965
2022	1,889,220	268,025	133,470	71,490	23,525	12,965	9,345	2,408,040
2023	1,845,670	267,970	135,170	74,385	24,080	13,225	9,630	2,370,130
2023 % +/- 2022	-2.3	0.0	1.3	4.0	2.4	2.0	3.0	-1.6

West Midlands Region	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+	Total
2021	170,330	26,005	12,225	6,535	2,195	1,170	935	219,395
2022	170,165	27,165	13,160	6,730	2,215	1,150	925	221,510
2023	167,055	26,650	12,910	6,950	2,200	1,175	945	217,885
2023 % +/- 2022	-1.8	-1.9	-1.9	3.3	-0.7	2.2	2.2	-1.6

Worcestershire	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
2023	20,745	3,305	1,510	835	255	135	115	26,900
2023 % +/- 2022	-4.0	-14.7	-9.9	3.7	-3.8	-6.9	4.5	-5.5

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
2023	3,875	650	285	165	45	25	20	5,065
2023 % +/- 2022	-2.5	-2.3	1.8	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.0

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
2023	3,405	470	225	115	25	20	10	4,270
2023 % +/- 2022	-6.2	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-4.8

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
2023	2,190	395	205	120	50	20	25	3,005
2023 % +/- 2022	-2.9	3.9	5.1	4.3	0.0	-33.3	0.0	-1.5

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
2023	2,525	430	210	125	30	25	25	3,370
2023 % +/- 2022	-3.4	-6.5	-10.6	4.2	-14.3	0.0	0.0	-4.1

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
2023	5,520	820	345	220	70	30	25	7,030
2023 % +/- 2022	-2.6	-22.6	-26.6	12.8	-6.7	-14.3	25.0	-6.6

Wyre Forest	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+	Total
2021	3,295	600	210	110	25	10	10	4,260
2022	3,460	840	280	100	35	10	10	4,735
2023	3,230	540	240	90	35	15	10	4,160
2023 % +/- 2022	-6.6	-35.7	-14.3	-10.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	-12.1

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 set released in late September each year. The industry categories are those used and defined in the Standard Industrial Classification (UK SIC 2007)

Worcestershire	2021	2022	2023	2023 % +/- 2022
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,665	1,665	1,645	-1.2
Production	1,815	1,800	1,845	2.5
Construction	3,520	3,860	3,660	-5.2
Motor trades	930	935	925	-1.1
Wholesale	1,270	1,140	1,095	-3.9
Retail	1,660	1,750	1,725	-1.4
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	2,280	2,545	1,825	-28.3
Accommodation and food services	1,580	1,845	1,570	-14.9
Information and communication	1,505	1,425	1,385	-2.8
Finance and insurance	480	500	485	-3.0
Property	1,080	1,095	1,110	1.4
Professional, scientific and technical	4,025	3,840	3,690	-3.9
Business administration and support services	4,320	2,925	2,750	-6.0
Public administration and defence	140	145	145	0.0
Education	445	450	435	-3.3
Health	920	920	935	1.6
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	1,575	1,635	1,675	2.4
Total	29,210	28,475	26,900	-5.5

Bromsgrove	2021	2022	2023	2023 % +/- 2022
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	175	175	175	0.0
Production	280	280	285	1.8
Construction	755	770	760	-1.3
Motor trades	185	180	170	-5.6
Wholesale	195	195	185	-5.1
Retail	275	285	280	-1.8
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	460	270	240	-11.1
Accommodation and food services	230	255	255	0.0
Information and communication	345	325	310	-4.6
Finance and insurance	100	110	100	-9.1
Property	240	240	250	4.2
Professional, scientific and technical	885	810	760	-6.2
Business administration and support services	2,485	605	615	1.7
Public administration and defence	15	15	15	0.0
Education	105	105	90	-14.3
Health	215	205	220	7.3
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	305	345	355	2.9
Total	7,250	5,170	5,065	-2.0

Malvern Hills	2021	2022	2023	2023 % +/- 2022
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	610	615	620	0.8
Production	295	290	285	-1.7
Construction	485	525	515	-1.9
Motor trades	115	115	120	4.3
Wholesale	175	170	160	-5.9
Retail	265	270	260	-3.7
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	90	140	75	-46.4
Accommodation and food services	235	290	235	-19.0
Information and communication	245	230	230	0.0
Finance and insurance	60	70	65	-7.1
Property	210	215	205	-4.7
Professional, scientific and technical	690	675	655	-3.0
Business administration and support services	335	360	340	-5.6
Public administration and defence	45	45	45	0.0
Education	75	80	80	0.0
Health	150	145	145	0.0
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	240	245	240	-2.0
Total	4,320	4,480	4,275	-4.6

Redditch	2021	2022	2023	2023 % +/- 2022
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	40	40	40	0.0
Production	325	305	315	3.3
Construction	465	495	500	1.0
Motor trades	125	135	125	-7.4
Wholesale	165	155	155	0.0
Retail	175	185	190	2.7
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	230	280	250	-10.7
Accommodation and food services	155	150	175	16.7
Information and communication	175	170	170	0.0
Finance and insurance	50	55	50	-9.1
Property	100	100	100	0.0
Professional, scientific and technical	400	365	345	-5.5
Business administration and support services	285	315	290	-7.9
Public administration and defence	5	5	0	-100.0
Education	55	50	50	0.0
Health	100	95	90	-5.3
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	145	150	160	6.7
Total	2,995	3,050	3,005	-1.5

Worcester	2021	2022	2023	2023 % +/- 2022
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	20	20	20	0.0
Production	190	185	200	8.1
Construction	365	410	385	-6.1
Motor trades	115	115	115	0.0
Wholesale	235	120	115	-4.2
Retail	250	265	270	1.9
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	175	325	225	-30.8
Accommodation and food services	225	285	250	-12.3
Information and communication	210	205	200	-2.4
Finance and insurance	80	80	80	0.0
Property	125	120	130	8.3
Professional, scientific and technical	550	545	530	-2.8

Business administration and support services	265	340	335	-1.5
Public administration and defence	5	10	5	-50.0
Education	70	70	75	7.1
Health	155	160	160	0.0
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	265	260	275	5.8
Total	3,300	3,515	3,370	-4.1

Wychavon	2021	2022	2023	2023 % +/- 2022
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	670	665	655	-1.5
Production	455	465	475	2.2
Construction	845	950	900	-5.3
Motor trades	230	225	235	4.4
Wholesale	320	315	300	-4.8
Retail	425	450	435	-3.3
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	655	770	515	-33.1
Accommodation and food services	380	460	370	-19.6
Information and communication	375	350	330	-5.7
Finance and insurance	125	120	125	4.2
Property	275	290	300	3.4
Professional, scientific and technical	1,030	985	965	-2.0
Business administration and support services	605	755	695	-7.9
Public administration and defence	50	55	60	9.1
Education	90	95	90	-5.3
Health	195	205	205	0.0
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	360	370	375	1.4
Total	7,085	7,525	7,030	-6.6

Wyre Forest	2021	2022	2023	2023 % +/- 2022
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	150	150	135	-10.0
Production	270	275	285	3.6
Construction	605	710	600	-15.5
Motor trades	160	165	160	-3.0
Wholesale	180	185	180	-2.7
Retail	270	295	290	-1.7
Transport and Storage (incl. postal)	670	760	520	-31.6
Accommodation and food services	355	405	285	-29.6
Information and communication	155	145	145	0.0
Finance and insurance	65	65	65	0.0
Property	130	130	125	-3.8
Professional, scientific and technical	470	460	435	-5.4
Business administration and support services	345	550	475	-13.6
Public administration and defence	20	15	20	33.3
Education	50	50	50	0.0
Health	105	110	115	4.5
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	260	265	270	1.9
Total	4,260	4,735	4,155	-12.2

Business Survival Rates

The survival of enterprises new in each year from 2017 to 2021 inclusive. The source of the information is the Office for National Statistics Business Demography data-set. The latest-available survival-rate data is for 2022. It was published in late-November 2023.

BIRTHS OF UNITS IN 2021 AND THEIR SURVIVAL	Births	1-year survival	1-year per cent
United Kingdom	363,995	339,920	93.4
England	324,485	303,485	93.5
West Midlands Region	34,155	31,590	92.5
Herefordshire	920	870	94.6
Shropshire (including Telford and Wrekin)	2,050	1,940	94.6
Staffordshire	4,145	3,785	91.3
Warwickshire	3,535	3,270	92.5
West Midlands (Metropolitan County)	16,550	15,515	93.7
Worcestershire	5,825	5,160	88.6
Bromsgrove	745	680	91.3
Malvern Hills	405	370	91.4
Redditch	355	320	90.1
Worcester	800	725	90.6
Wychavon	1,660	1,465	88.3
Wyre Forest	1,860	1,600	86.0

Births of Units in 2020 and their Survival	Births	1-year survival	1-year per cent	2-year survival	2-year per cent
United Kingdom	333,020	309,470	92.9	236,955	71.2
England	299,115	277,810	92.9	212,590	71.1
West Midlands Region	28,145	26,410	93.8	18,470	65.6
Herefordshire	780	730	93.6	585	75.0
Shropshire (including Telford and Wrekin)	2,185	2,080	95.2	1,560	71.4
Staffordshire	3,050	2,870	94.1	2,255	73.9
Warwickshire	3,030	2,845	93.9	2,040	67.3
West Midlands (Metropolitan County)	14,125	13,290	94.1	9,405	66.6
Worcestershire	3,950	3,675	93.0	1,945	49.2
Bromsgrove*	1,655	1,600	96.7	400	24.2
Malvern Hills	325	310	95.4	260	80.0
Redditch	340	315	92.6	255	75.0
Worcester	480	345	71.9	295	61.5
Wychavon	550	525	95.5	415	75.5
Wyre Forest	600	580	96.7	320	53.3

Births of Units in 2019 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	363,825	344,140	94.6	271,295	74.6	203,470	55.9
England	325,355	308,105	94.7	242,475	74.5	181,830	55.9
West Midlands Region	34,440	32,830	95.3	24,255	70.4	15,515	45.0
Herefordshire	770	745	96.8	630	81.8	505	65.6
Shropshire (including Telford and Wrekin)	2,260	2,155	95.4	1,770	78.3	1,230	54.4
Staffordshire	3,240	3,065	94.6	2,555	78.9	2,035	62.8
Warwickshire	3,185	3,030	95.1	2,445	76.8	1,835	57.6
West Midlands (Metropolitan County)	15,310	14,470	94.5	10,375	67.8	7,710	50.4
Worcestershire	8,745	8,490	97.1	5,805	66.4	1,690	19.3
Bromsgrove*	5,035	4,995	99.2	3,095	61.5	325	6.5
Malvern Hills	320	305	95.3	255	79.7	210	65.6
Redditch	860	805	93.6	555	64.5	265	30.8
Worcester	440	415	94.3	345	78.4	260	59.1

Wychavon	1,120	1,030	92.0	860	76.8	385	34.4
Wyre Forest	970	940	96.9	695	71.6	245	25.3

Births of Units in 2018 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	348,630	330,330	94.8	258,465	74.1	200,650	57.6	164,730	47.3
England	311,580	295,435	94.8	231,390	74.3	179,140	57.5	147,155	47.2
West Midlands Region	29,505	27,790	94.2	21,310	72.2	14,925	50.6	12,270	41.6
Herefordshire	665	630	94.7	520	78.2	435	65.4	375	56.4
Shropshire (including Telford and Wrekin)	1,775	1,665	93.8	1,360	76.6	1,120	63.1	945	53.2
Staffordshire	3,230	3,060	94.7	2,445	75.7	2,000	61.9	1,700	52.6
Warwickshire	3,200	3,060	95.6	2,510	78.4	1,875	58.6	1,520	47.5
West Midlands (Metropolitan County)	15,785	14,750	93.4	11,575	73.3	7,405	46.9	6,000	38.0
Worcestershire	3,995	3,825	95.7	2,325	58.2	1,640	41.1	1,355	33.9
Bromsgrove*	1,835	1,760	95.9	675	36.8	330	18.0	285	15.5
Malvern Hills	375	365	97.3	300	80.0	250	66.7	215	57.3
Redditch	355	335	94.4	240	67.6	190	53.5	150	42.3
Worcester	375	355	94.7	275	73.3	210	56.0	170	45.3
Wychavon	655	630	96.2	520	79.4	425	64.9	335	51.1
Wyre Forest	400	380	95.0	315	78.8	235	58.8	200	50.0

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	4-year survival	4-year per cent	5-year survival	5-year per cent
United Kingdom	356,895	334,450	93.7	260,095	72.9	200,360	56.1	163,995	46.0	141,315	39.6
England	318,240	298,350	93.8	231,110	72.6	177,830	55.9	145,505	45.7	125,500	39.4
West Midlands Region	29,320	27,685	94.4	18,965	64.7	14,280	48.7	11,940	40.7	10,325	35.2
Herefordshire	715	690	96.5	570	79.7	465	65.0	405	56.6	380	53.1
Shropshire (including Telford and Wrekin)	1,800	1,710	95.0	1,405	78.1	1,145	63.6	990	55.0	870	48.3
Staffordshire	3,280	3,045	92.8	2,450	74.7	1,990	60.7	1,710	52.1	1,510	46.0
Warwickshire	2,985	2,830	94.8	2,320	77.7	1,760	59.0	1,465	49.1	1,215	40.7
West Midlands (Metropolitan County)	13,795	12,870	93.3	9,300	67.4	6,915	50.1	5,695	41.3	4,875	35.3
Worcestershire	5,950	5,805	97.6	2,350	39.5	1,560	26.2	1,300	21.8	1,145	19.2
Bromsgrove*	4,045	4,005	99.0	860	21.3	340	8.4	265	6.6	235	5.8
Malvern Hills	310	295	95.2	255	82.3	210	67.7	180	58.1	160	51.6
Redditch	290	280	96.6	225	77.6	175	60.3	150	51.7	125	43.1
Worcester	390	360	92.3	295	75.6	235	60.3	195	50.0	175	44.9
Wychavon	560	530	94.6	440	78.6	365	65.2	325	58.0	280	50.0
Wyre Forest	355	335	94.4	275	77.5	235	66.2	185	52.1	170	47.9

* Bromsgrove's business births and survival-rate figures for 2017 to 2020 and Wyre Forest's equivalent figures for 2021: 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 Office for National Statistics data-set that will provide the figure as at 31st December 2023 will be released in mid-April.

Quarter-End Month	Worcestershire	England (also Worcestershire Target)
March 2015	78.30%	71.70%
June 2015	78.20%	72.90%
September 2015	78.20%	73.30%
December 2015	77.60%	73.60%
March 2016	76.10%	73.90%
June 2016	75.40%	73.90%
September 2016	75.90%	73.90%
December 2016	75.90%	73.90%
March 2017	76.10%	74.10%
June 2017	76.90%	74.40%
September 2017	76.40%	74.60%
December 2017	75.80%	74.70%
March 2018	76.90%	75.10%
June 2018	78.00%	75.20%
September 2018	78.30%	75.20%
December 2018	78.20%	75.30%
March 2019	79.50%	75.30%
June 2019	78.70%	75.30%
September 2019	78.20%	75.80%
December 2019	78.90%	75.90%
March 2020	78.00%	76.00%
June 2020	79.10%	76.20%
September 2020	78.90%	76.50%
December 2020	77.70%	76.00%
March 2021	78.00%	75.70%
June 2021	77.90%	75.10%
September 2021	79.70%	74.70%
December 2021	79.10%	74.90%
March 2022	79.00%	75.10%
June 2022	76.20%	75.40%
September 2022	75.48%	75.70%
December 2022	77.28%	75.82%
March 2023	77.28%	75.83%
June 2023	78.65%	75.69%
September 2023	78.41%	75.76%
December 2023	81.03%	75.89%

Employment: Payrolled Employees

The figures are from an experimental HMRC/Office for National Statistics data-set covering all age-groups. The figures for December 2023 are estimates, more likely to be subject to significant revisions than previous months' figures.

Values for each month are an average of employee counts on each day of the month. It is a measure of payrolled employees, as opposed to a measure of employee jobs. December 2023's estimates indicate the UK's number of payrolled employees rose by 1% compared with December 2022 (Worcestershire: +0.6%).

In the following table, the figures for Shropshire are a combination of those for Shropshire Council and Telford and Wrekin Council. All 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
Dec 2019	264,853	281,611	77,112	209,684	384,988	269,618	1,180,437	29,033,583
Mar 2020	263,365	279,378	77,129	208,908	383,070	268,318	1,169,097	28,882,209
Jun 2020	260,334	274,940	78,838	206,257	379,474	265,759	1,149,289	28,439,210
Sep 2020	258,803	273,889	78,295	205,245	377,956	263,962	1,140,948	28,249,498
Dec 2020	257,530	273,610	75,465	205,365	376,454	263,535	1,145,398	28,163,208
Mar 2021	256,612	271,715	75,418	204,840	375,760	263,188	1,138,166	28,064,022
Jun 2021	262,912	278,463	79,496	209,686	384,324	268,997	1,165,205	28,762,427
Sep 2021	265,141	281,277	80,335	212,052	387,386	271,495	1,183,001	29,101,256
Dec 2021	265,242	281,824	77,874	213,315	387,989	272,890	1,200,203	29,291,072
Mar 2022	265,854	281,833	78,565	213,665	388,353	273,676	1,197,193	29,364,882
Jun 2022	268,087	283,533	81,852	214,928	391,574	275,410	1,208,180	29,657,207
Sep 2022	269,594	285,663	82,172	216,462	393,433	277,835	1,216,781	29,822,330
Dec 2022	269,516	287,050	79,245	216,833	393,484	279,064	1,234,021	29,962,355
Mar 2023	269,209	286,837	78,994	216,520	392,243	278,905	1,225,170	29,914,827
Jun 2023	272,214	289,146	82,761	219,175	396,834	281,337	1,242,737	30,239,684
Sep 2023	273,028	290,399	83,393	219,858	397,413	282,335	1,243,657	30,287,405
Dec 2023	271,207	290,290	79,853	220,148	396,316	282,049	1,252,223	30,269,320

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 2005-2021 (kilotonnes of CO2)

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy - UK Local Authority and Regional Carbon Dioxide Emissions National Statistics (Latest update: June 2023 for calendar years 2005 to 2021).

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	729.1	478.1	1,385.8	192.5	1,749.1	-84.3	--	--	4,450.3	8.3	8.6
2006	751.7	522.9	1,399.8	189.9	1,758.4	-85.4	--	--	4,537.3	8.4	8.5
2007	720.6	490.7	1,352.5	176.8	1,774.1	-90.7	--	--	4,424.1	8.2	8.2
2008	667.3	480.9	1,349.9	166.3	1,708.0	-97.1	--	--	4,275.3	7.9	7.9
2009	557.4	400.0	1,224.2	141.8	1,672.8	-96.7	--	--	3,899.5	7.2	7.1
2010	627.5	419.1	1,318.4	152.8	1,657.6	-97.4	--	--	4,078.1	7.4	7.3
2011	563.9	396.0	1,142.7	140.9	1,613.4	-100.7	--	--	3,756.3	6.8	6.6
2012	574.8	413.5	1,225.0	145.8	1,558.4	-98.0	--	--	3,819.5	6.9	6.9
2013	584.9	399.1	1,193.9	144.6	1,570.3	-102.7	--	--	3,790.1	6.8	6.7
2014	547.9	342.0	1,015.2	124.3	1,601.5	-101.8	--	--	3,529.1	6.3	6.1
2015	510.4	309.6	981.4	112.9	1,643.0	-106.0	--	--	3,451.2	6.1	5.8
2016	465.6	271.8	935.9	98.7	1,680.5	-99.5	--	--	3,353.2	5.9	5.4
2017	489.4	207.1	884.3	110.6	1,665.0	-102.9	--	--	3,253.5	5.7	5.2
2018	540.6	132.8	867.0	114.6	1,615.4	-102.3	103.0	7.4	3,278.5	5.5	5.1
2019	481.7	117.7	833.8	114.9	1,595.3	-104.5	77.1	9.0	3,124.9	5.2	4.8
2020	431.8	86.3	816.6	114.2	1,275.5	-104.3	73.2	8.1	2,701.4	4.5	4.3
2021	513.9	96.5	841.2	127.8	1,456.6	-103.8	81.1	7.5	3,020.8	5.0	4.6

Worcestershire Greenhouse Gas Emissions: CO2 emissions estimates 2005-2021 (kilotonnes of CO2) - Scope of Influence

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy - UK Local Authority and Regional Carbon Dioxide Emissions National Statistics (Latest update: June 2023 for calendar years 2005 to 2021). 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	697.8	478.1	1,385.8	192.5	1,054.0	75.7	10.5	3,894.3	7.1	7.2
2006	719.1	522.9	1,399.8	189.9	1,047.1	81.9	7.8	3,968.5	7.2	7.1
2007	688.1	490.7	1,352.5	176.8	1,062.2	81.0	8.3	3,859.7	6.9	6.9
2008	634.1	480.9	1,349.9	166.3	1,035.5	88.8	8.3	3,763.8	6.7	6.7
2009	546.6	400.0	1,224.2	141.8	1,007.5	78.6	8.5	3,407.2	6.1	6.1
2010	615.9	419.1	1,318.4	152.8	996.1	76.8	8.4	3,587.4	6.4	6.3
2011	554.8	396.0	1,142.7	140.9	971.0	68.7	7.8	3,282.0	5.8	5.7
2012	566.1	413.5	1,225.0	145.8	941.5	78.2	7.2	3,377.3	5.9	5.9
2013	575.1	399.1	1,193.9	144.6	929.6	70.4	7.6	3,320.4	5.8	5.7
2014	535.4	342.0	1,015.2	124.3	949.0	67.9	8.1	3,041.9	5.3	5.1
2015	497.0	309.6	981.4	112.9	974.3	71.5	7.1	2,953.6	5.1	4.9
2016	452.9	271.8	935.9	98.7	1,000.2	65.5	7.9	2,833.0	4.8	4.6
2017	471.7	207.1	884.3	110.6	998.2	70.6	8.0	2,750.4	4.6	4.4
2018	521.1	132.8	867.0	114.6	982.1	93.2	7.4	2,718.3	4.5	4.3
2019	464.7	117.7	833.8	114.9	956.0	66.2	9.0	2,562.2	4.2	4.0
2020	418.9	86.3	816.6	114.2	769.7	62.5	8.1	2,276.3	3.8	3.6
2021	497.4	96.5	841.2	127.8	861.9	69.8	7.5	2,502.0	4.1	3.9

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

Latest update: September 2023 for the 2022/2023 financial year.

Emissions Category (please see notes for details)	2009/2010 (baseline)	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2022/2023 % +/- 2021/2022	2022/2023 % +/- 2009/2010
Scope 1	4,598	2,668	2,467	2,480	2,300	2,008	-12.7	-56.3
Scope 2	16,672	7,304	6,459	0	0	0	0.0	-100.0
Scope 3	55,266	38,256	37,017	38,497	38,405	40,357	+5.1	-27.0
Totals	76,536	49,228	45,943	40,977	40,705	42,365	+4.1	-44.6

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). Since 2020, the County Council has purchased Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) accredited green electricity for all corporate sites and street lighting. All scope 2 emissions associated with the generation of REGO-accredited electricity can be classed as a net benefit, or carbon offset, for reporting purposes.

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.

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.

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

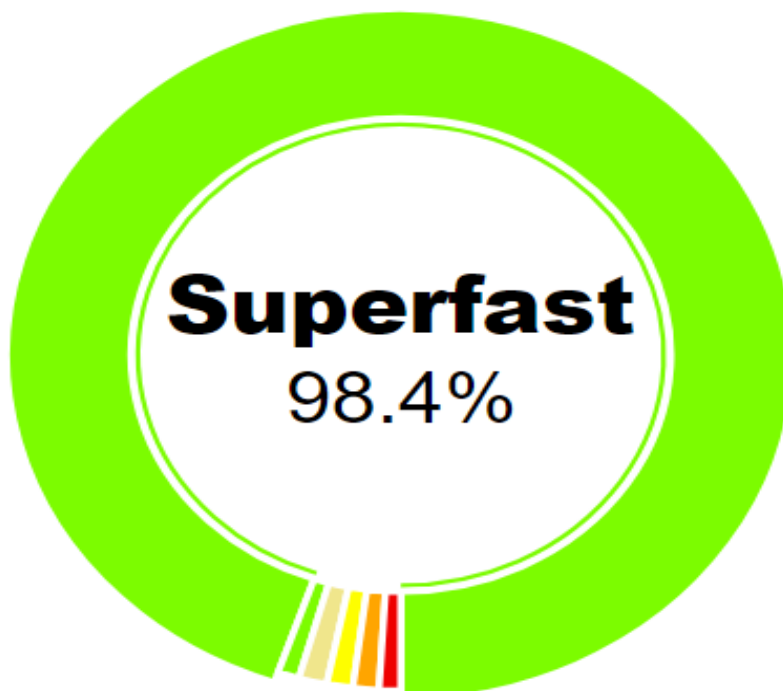
Latest update: September 2023 for 2022/2023

Share of Annual Corporate Emissions by Activity	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
Waste Disposal	67%	69%	72%	74%	78%
Severn Waste	4%	5%	4%	5%	9%
Buildings - Gas	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%
Ringway	4%	3%	4%	3%	3%
Fleet	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%
Staff Mileage	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%
Contract Fleet	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Buildings - Electricity	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
Street Lighting	12%	11%	10%	8%	0%
Residual Fuels	0%	0.4%	0%	0%	0%
Staff Air Travel	0%	0.1%	0%	0%	0%

Broadband Connectivity

Data source for Worcestershire's data is <https://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/worcestershire,E10000034>.

Latest update: December 2023

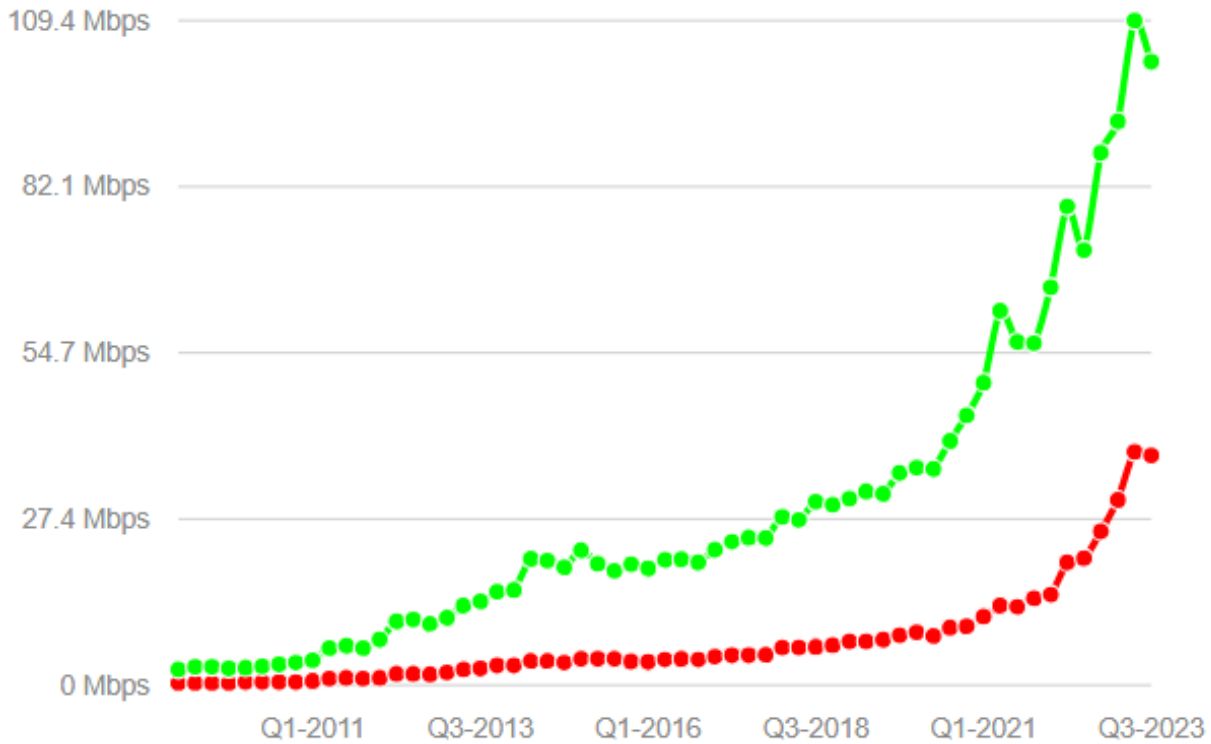


Superfast (>24 Mbps):	98.55%	Below 2 Mbps down:	0.15%
Superfast (>=30 Mbps):	98.35%	Below 10 Mbps down: (Legal USO)	0.59%
Gigabit (DOCSIS 3.1 or FTTP):	78.53%	Below 10 Mbps, 1.2 Mbps up:	0.61%
Full Fibre (FTTP or FTTH):	62.82%	Below 15 Mbps: (High Speed Broadband)	0.97%
Alt Net FTTP: FTTP excluding Openreach, KCOM and Virgin Media RFOG	34.31%	Ultrafast (>100 Mbps):	79.18%
Openreach FTTP:	43.64%	Virgin Media Cable:	25.70%
'Fibre' partial/full at any speed: (FTTC/VDSL/G.fast/Cable/FTTP)	99.80%	Openreach (>30 Mbps):	96.32%
		Openreach G.fast:	1.99%

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.

Worcestershire Speed Test Results (Mbps)

Technology Split:



Estimated Maximum Mean Download Speed:

680 Mbps

This figure is based around everyone buying the fastest Virgin Media, KC or Openreach product available to them, based on current product availability. Distance limitations of ADSL2+ and VDSL2 are factored into the calculation.

Superfast 30 Mbps and faster

Generated: Monday 1st January 2024

UK	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
97.8%	98.1%	97.7%	96.0%	97.2%

Full Fibre - Fibre to the Premises

Generated: Monday 1st January 2024

UK	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
60.5%	60.1%	94.1%	54.8%	59.1%

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 was refreshed in mid-December by Office of Rail and Road (ORR).

According to ORR, in the 2022/2023 financial year, 1,385 million passenger journeys were made in Great Britain, up 39.9% from 990 million in 2021/2022 and equivalent to 79.6% of the pre-COVID 2019/2020 tally of 1,739 million. The 2021/2022 total equated to 56.9% of that for 2019/2020.

Worcestershire Stations	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	22/23 as % of 19/20
Blakedown	111,280	97,242	99,500	38,914	60,810	72,972	73.3
Bromsgrove	690,894	752,792	790,432	133,276	415,268	513,174	64.9
Droitwich	567,790	527,594	520,326	133,952	325,718	397,054	76.3
Evesham	246,898	234,006	245,990	66,164	203,748	245,142	99.7
Great Malvern	562,634	531,124	537,454	126,294	324,946	367,552	68.4
Hagley	617,488	524,806	492,262	278,276	300,246	361,810	73.5
Hartlebury	57,810	57,538	54,064	18,278	38,002	44,184	81.7
Honeybourne	61,858	66,612	71,830	16,280	64,078	85,768	119.4
Kidderminster	1,695,390	1,638,322	1,529,896	371,364	799,082	915,886	59.9
Malvern Link	348,714	355,256	360,234	93,628	253,760	302,128	83.9
Pershore	102,038	94,844	102,550	37,112	88,116	103,874	101.3
Redditch	1,074,110	1,059,610	1,001,912	209,822	581,316	685,240	68.4
Worcester Foregate	2,172,026	2,071,468	2,190,982	534,904	1,358,222	1,582,976	72.2
Worcester Shrub Hill	845,794	806,636	660,638	161,288	409,540	477,310	72.2
Worcestershire Parkway	--	--	25,478	32,350	314,894	334,658	1,313.5
Wythall	59,780	68,646	68,712	16,442	46,348	51,570	75.1

'Borderline' Stations	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	22/23 as % of 19/20
Ashchurch	101,236	102,688	108,234	17,576	68,810	81,830	75.6
Colwall	64,162	62,146	67,664	19,102	44,866	52,402	77.4
Ledbury	216,606	218,822	218,858	67,320	162,662	187,960	85.9
Moreton-in-Marsh	268,866	273,018	292,544	50,588	200,094	269,072	92.0
Stratford	1,043,680	1,035,644	911,400	209,670	574,818	671,228	73.6
Stratford Parkway	92,782	107,638	110,176	13,696	54,602	73,066	66.3
Warwick	618,832	643,994	631,694	148,090	403,526	481,684	76.3
Warwick Parkway	669,460	682,228	611,566	52,272	270,714	377,132	61.7

Parkway Stations	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	22/23 as % of 19/20
West Midlands*	1,672,890	1,755,190	1,676,504	256,834	1,121,076	1,453,786	86.7
England†	19,847,546	20,840,948	20,982,698	3,545,328	11,749,298	16,001,410	76.3

* These totals are for the five stations in the West Midlands region with 'Parkway' in the name: Coleshill, Stratford-upon-Avon, Tame Bridge, Warwick, and Worcestershire.

† The most-used of England's 20 'Parkway' stations in 2022/2023 was Luton Airport (3,767,390 visits). Worcestershire's total, which equates to 8.9% of Luton's, made it the 14th most-used Parkway station (2021/2022's rank: 11th).

Rail Journeys: Timeliness of Journeys

The following tables cover all train services departing from the stations listed and travelling to Birmingham (Snow Hill or New Street). As there are no *direct* services from Evesham or Pershore to Birmingham, the information provided relates to services to Worcester. The information is taken from www.recenttraintimes.co.uk

Bromsgrove	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
July to September 2022	54	1	4	13	28	6	2	0	0
October to December 2022	83	8	1	10	26	27	5	0	6
January to March 2023	58	0	2	12	26	14	2	0	2
April to June 2023	87	2	2	9	36	29	6	0	3
July to September 2023	81	5	0	7	28	28	7	2	4
October to December 2023	86	8	0	4	23	32	10	1	8

Droitwich	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
July to September 2022	53	2	4	8	15	19	3	1	1
October to December 2022	63	6	0	9	19	20	2	1	6
January to March 2023	59	4	2	21	23	6	2	0	1
April to June 2023	46	2	1	8	16	13	3	0	3
July to September 2023	67	0	0	11	37	16	1	1	1
October to December 2023	44	4	0	4	21	12	0	0	3

Evesham	Total number of Services to Worcester	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
July to September 2022	19	1	0	1	6	7	4	0	0
October to December 2022	27	3	0	1	4	7	7	2	3
January to March 2023	37	4	0	1	3	12	2	3	12
April to June 2023	40	1	0	5	9	17	3	1	4
July to September 2023	32	2	0	2	6	10	7	2	3
October to December 2023	44	5	0	2	4	14	6	1	12

Great Malvern	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
July to September 2022	20	1	1	9	7	1	0	0	1
October to December 2022	25	5	1	6	9	1	0	0	3
January to March 2023	22	2	2	11	5	1	1	0	0
April to June 2023	45	1	0	10	20	9	3	0	2
July to September 2023	22	0	0	1	8	9	3	0	1
October to December 2023	37	4	0	3	11	13	2	0	4

Kidderminster	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
July to September 2022	60	1	0	4	14	30	7	2	2
October to December 2022	62	0	0	2	18	34	4	1	3
January to March 2023	64	3	0	12	26	18	3	0	2
April to June 2023	156	28	2	27	68	20	5	0	6
July to September 2023	92	23	0	9	35	19	2	0	4
October to December 2023	73	4	0	5	33	25	4	1	1

Pershore	Total number of Services to Worcester	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
July to September 2022	18	1	0	1	6	7	3	0	0
October to December 2022	27	3	0	1	4	7	8	1	3
January to March 2023	36	4	0	1	3	12	2	2	12
April to June 2023	40	1	0	5	9	17	4	0	4
July to September 2023	32	2	0	2	6	10	7	1	4
October to December 2023	19	0	0	2	2	9	5	0	1

Redditch	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
July to September 2022	36	0	0	5	17	12	2	0	0
October to December 2022	82	2	0	7	29	30	7	0	7
January to March 2023	46	4	0	4	16	14	2	0	6
April to June 2023	61	5	0	1	20	20	7	1	7
July to September 2023	48	6	0	0	14	21	1	0	6

October to December 2023	44	0	0	1	13	20	5	1	4
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Worcester Foregate Street	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
July to September 2022	44	2	2	9	13	16	0	1	1
October to December 2022	27	6	1	5	10	1	0	0	4
January to March 2023	26	3	0	6	13	4	0	0	0
April to June 2023	42	1	2	7	18	9	3	0	2
July to September 2023	67	7	0	20	24	10	1	1	4
October to December 2023	73	8	0	6	29	25	0	0	5

Worcester Shrub Hill	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
July to September 2022	16	2	1	1	2	5	3	0	2
October to December 2022	23	2	0	2	8	2	2	0	7
January to March 2023	19	3	0	3	5	0	1	0	7
April to June 2023	26	5	1	2	3	6	0	0	9
July to September 2023	49	9	1	8	12	4	1	1	13
October to December 2023	61	9	0	3	15	9	1	0	24

Worcestershire Parkway	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
July to September 2022	24	2	0	0	3	7	5	0	7
October to December 2022	44	0	0	1	5	9	11	2	16
January to March 2023	30	4	0	0	2	8	4	0	12
April to June 2023	54	11	0	1	2	4	10	4	22
July to September 2023	48	9	0	0	2	9	9	1	18
October to December 2023	51	2	0	1	3	6	13	1	25

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 in England. 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. The year-end position maintained the above-target status first attained during the October-to-December 2022 quarter and by the end of the third quarter of the 2022/2023 financial year, Worcestershire's overall score was 6.56. The average Gatsby score for the 4,534 Secondary, FE, PRU, and SEND establishments across England completing the self-assessment tool was 5.48. Worcestershire's current level of performance is currently one of the best three figures. 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

Budget Position – Quarter 3 (Period 9)

Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

25 March 2024

Corporate Budget Position – Quarter 3 (Period 9)

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Key Headlines – 2023/24

- At the end December, our net overspend was at **£19.2m** on a £401m net budget – this was **after** using one off monies from additional income from business rates (£4.1m), £9m additional use of reserves (on top of £5.5m used to balance the budget approved before the start of this year) that were set aside in the budget to manage.

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Our structural deficit (*a budget deficit due to our ongoing expenditure greater than our income*) is **c£35m**.

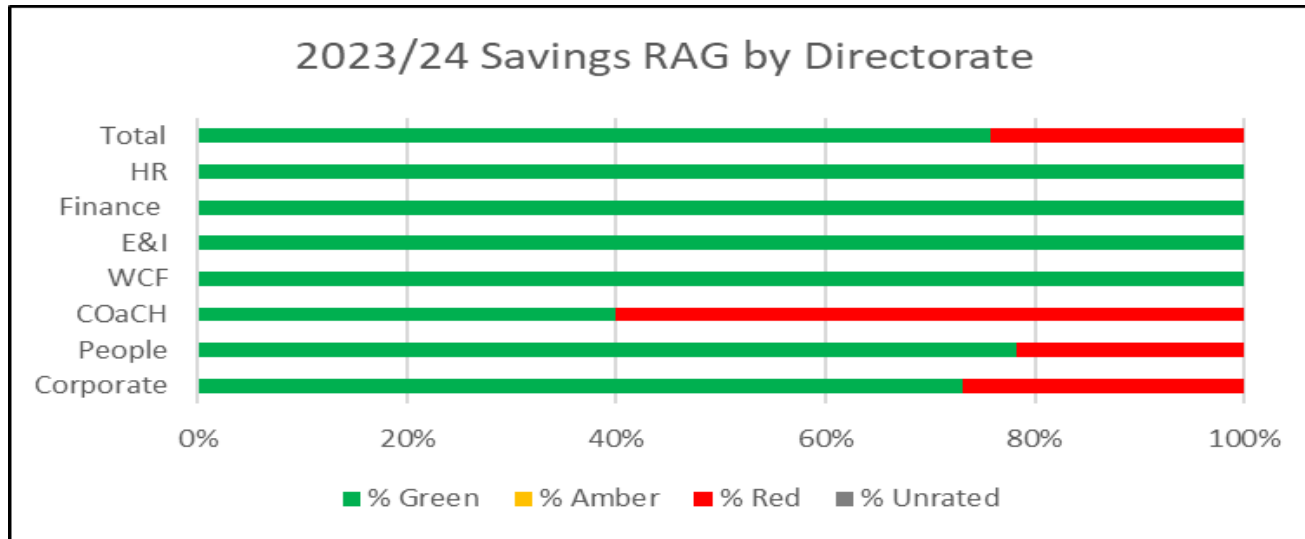
- Our overspend position is not because of poor control, oversight or policy decisions. It is simply an exceptionally large increase in our costs for demanded services, set against our constrained ability to raise additional income.

FY 2023/24 P9			
Service Area	Budget £m	Forecast £m	Variance £m
People – Adults	145.816	151.145	5.329
People – Communities	21.596	22.023	0.427
WCF Contract	90.244	90.244	0.000
Economy & Infrastructure	72.072	72.581	0.509
Home to School Transport	20.759	29.750	8.991
Commercial & Change	10.291	11.586	1.295
Chief Executive / HR / Finance	3.222	3.085	-0.137
Public Health	0.186	0.186	0.000
Total: Service excl DSG	364.186	380.600	16.414
Corporate Items	36.630	33.948	-2.682
Non-assigned items	0.000	0.000	0.000
WCC TOTAL	400.816	414.548	13.732
WCF Company Position	123.284	141.820	18.536
WCF Total	123.284	141.820	18.536
WCC Net Budget	400.816	433.084	32.268
Additional Funding:			
Business Rates			-4.100
Use of Reserves			-9.000
Net WCC & WCF Overspend			19.168

Savings within the 2023/24 Budget

- £22.4m of savings built into the overall budget
- 76% rated as green i.e., delivered or expected to be fully delivered and 24% rated red where there is significant risk of non-delivery
- £1.6m relate to one-off use of grants, including Public Health, and a further £1.5m are one-off, giving a recurrent pressure from 2024/25 of £3.1m which has been built into the 2024/25 base budget

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- Current value of the Capital Programme for 2023/24 to 2026/27, following approval by Full Council, totals £390m
- 54% is funded via external sources, namely developer contributions (s106 funding) and government grants including those allocated to the County Council for scheme delivery by district partners. The remainder is a mixture of borrowing (40%), capital receipts (4%) and use of earmarked reserves held for capital (1%) and revenue funding (1%)

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Total Expenditure	23/24	23/24 Revised	24/25 Revised	25/26 Revised	26/27 Onwards	Total 23/24 +
	Actuals YTD	Budget	Budget	Budget	Revised Budget	Revised Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Open for Business	6,240	15,804	47,978	17,585	8,788	90,154
The Environment	47,188	80,913	64,795	3,930	815	150,453
Children and Families	14,830	24,656	51,597	28,796	25,802	130,850
Efficiency and Transformation	1,252	6,344	4,213	2,214	3,076	15,847
Health and Well-Being	101	768	1,899	27	0	2,694
TOTAL	69,611	128,485	170,481	52,552	38,480	389,999

Spending Controls for the Council

Management actions have been put in place to control spending across the council to reduce the deficit in the current financial year based on the following principles, spend will be allowed on:

- Existing permanent staffing and payroll costs,
- expenditure on goods and services which have already been received,
- contractually committed expenditure,
- urgent expenditure to safeguard vulnerable residents (Adults and Children),
- expenditure required to deliver the council's provision of essential statutory services at a minimum possible level, which includes adults and children's services including HTST,
- agreed political priorities of the council,
- expenditure necessary to achieve value for money and / or mitigate additional in year costs and / or generate additional income where evidenced through an "invest to save" business case.

Financial planning, strategy and the Medium-Term Financial Plan

- Required refresh of the MTFP has been approved by Council.
- Significant and sustained inflation.
- Extremely challenging time for local government.
- Council remains focused on living within its means.
- 2024/25 budget setting process has been extremely tough as the Council seeks to achieve its priorities whilst meeting the growing cost of demand, all from within limited funds.

- 15 Feb Council Report outlines all the areas of pressures, demand and savings and efficiencies.
- Appendix 3 outlines the approved savings and efficiencies as part of the budget.

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Proposed Budget	2024/25
	£m
Structural deficit	35.0
Pressures and Investments	52.0
Removal of non-recurrent reserves	0.0
Total pressures and investments	87.0
Funded From:	
Government Funding	-27.9
Council Tax	-19.6
Additional use of Reserves	-2.3
Savings and Efficiencies	-37.2
Gap	0.0

Key Messages

- Very difficult time for local government
- Essential that services remain within budget and implement the delivery of the £37.2m savings
- Council will still constantly review and ensure we only spend where it is absolutely necessary throughout 2024/25.

Specific 2023/24 Quarter 3 (Period 9) information

Areas within remit of the Economy Panel

P9 Revenue Position for E&I, HTST and Skills

E&I Revenue Forecast	2023-24 Gross Budget Q3	2023-24 Net Budget Q3	2023-24 Forecast Outturn Q3	2023-24 Forecast Variance Q3	2023-24 Forecast Variance Q1	2023-24 Forecast Variance Q2
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Economy & Sustainability	3,032	1,424	1,356	-68	-3	-53
Planning and Regulation	1,655	890	1,447	557	473	552
Infrastructure & Contracts	1,594	1,594	1,661	67	24	67
Major Projects	2,570	248	321	73	10	40
Passenger Transport Operations	17,766	11,254	11,064	-190	-190	-190
Business Management	871	13	13	0	0	0
Road Lighting	5,983	5,919	5,412	-507	-607	-507
Waste Management	53,685	39,229	39,757	528	627	578
Network Management	3,979	-33	47	80	84	79
Development Management - S278/S38	1,165	206	278	72	42	71
Highways Operations & PROW	11,350	11,328	11,468	140	201	79
TOTAL ECONOMY & INFRASTRUCTURE	103,650	72,072	72,824	752	661	716
Home to School Transport	23,041	20,759	29,750	8,991	6,000	9,500
Skills and Investment	6,681	347	424	77	0	82

Key Headlines – P9 Revenue Position for E&I

- Forecast overspend of c£0.7m (1% of the net budget)
- Inflationary pressures being seen in the department and the continuing need to employ consultants to cover hard to fill vacancies
- The most significant variances from budget
 - Planning and Regulation is forecast to overspend by £0.5 million, with pressures in Transport Planning which is after the full utilisation of the £1.037 million earmarked reserve.
 - Within Waste Management, there is a £0.5 million overspend projected, due to rates on waste tonnage increasing beyond what was assumed at budget setting. This is net of a favourable position relating to recycling within the contract.
 - £0.5 million underspend in Road Lighting, based on the current LED rollout reducing kWh usage by 20% rather than the expected and budgeted 15%.

- Current value of the Capital Programme for 2023/24 to 2026/27, approved by Full Council at [Appendix 2 - Capital Programme.pdf \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#):
 - £90m relating to Open For Business
 - £150m relating to The Environment
- Funded by
 - 45% funded from borrowing / capital receipts
 - 44% via Government Grants
 - 9% via developer contributions (s106 funding)
 - 2% from Revenue
- £97m forecast to be spent this financial year
- £53m spent to date

ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

25 MARCH 2024

REFRESH OF THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

2024/25

Summary

1. The Panel is being asked to consider suggestions for its 2024/25 Work Programme prior to it being submitted to Council for approval.

Background

2. Worcestershire County Council has a rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny. The Panel routinely reviews its work programme at each meeting to consider which issues should be investigated as a priority.
3. In addition, on an annual basis, the rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny is approved by Council.

Scrutiny Work Programme 2024/25

4. The Scrutiny Work Programme for 2024/25 is now being refreshed. Panel Members and other stakeholders have been invited to suggest topics for future scrutiny.
5. The suggestions are detailed on the draft Work Programme (attached at Appendix 1).
6. Members are asked to consider the draft Work Programme and agree its priorities for 2024/25. Issues should be prioritised by using the scrutiny feasibility criteria agreed by OSPB.
7. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board will receive feedback on the Scrutiny Panels' and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee's discussions and agree the final Scrutiny Work Programme at its 25 April meeting. Council will be asked to agree the Work Programme at its meeting on 16 May.

Feasibility Criteria

8. The criteria (listed below) will help to determine the scrutiny programme. A topic does not need to meet all of these criteria to be scrutinised, but they are intended as a guide for prioritisation.
 - Is the issue a priority area for the Council?
 - Is it a key issue for local people?
 - Will it be practicable to implement the outcomes of the scrutiny?
 - Are improvements for local people likely?

- Does it examine a poor performing service?
- Will it result in improvements to the way the Council operates?
- Is it related to new Government guidance or legislation?

Remit of the Panel

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

Dates of Future 2024 Meetings

- 5 June at 10am
- 15 July at 10am
- 3 October at 10am
- 20 November at 10am

Purpose of the Meeting

10. The Panel is asked to consider and prioritise the draft 2024/25 Work Programme and consider whether it would wish 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 2024/25

Contact Points

Deborah Dale, Member Engagement Officer 01905 846282
Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

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

[Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on Friday, 28th April, 2023, 2.00 pm - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

All Agendas and Minutes are available on the Council's website [weblink to Agendas and Minutes](#)

SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24

Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date of Meeting	Issue for Scrutiny	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
25 March 2024	Performance (Q3 October to December) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		
	Work Programme Refresh for May Council		
5 June 2024	Workforce Planning (including over 50's and rural sector workforce)		Rescheduled from March meeting, agreed by Chairman.
	Strategic Infrastructure, including road and rail developments		
	Shrub Hill Quarter		
15 July 2024	Performance (Q4 January - March) and Year End Budget Monitoring		
3 October 2024	Performance (Q1 April to June) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		
20 November 2024	Performance (Q2 July to September) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		
Possible Future Items			
TBC	The support provided by the Council for business start-ups in relation to young entrepreneurs and		Agreed at 17 November 2023 Panel meeting

	graduates and how they are encouraged to remain in the County.		
TBC	UK Shared Prosperity Fund – looking at forward trajectory beyond 2025 and output data per District		Suggested by Chairman
TBC	The implications of the cancellation of the High Speed 2 (HS2) on the Local Transport Plan 5		Awaiting Government guidance – consider overlap and implications for the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel
TBC	Commercialisation Strategy of the County Councils Property Assets		Suggested by the Chairman
TBC	The role of the Council in encouraging the development of commercial space and support for specific growth sectors identified in the Economic Strategy ‘the Plan for Growth 2020 – 2040’		Panel Member suggestion June 2022
Standing Items			
Mar/Jul/Sep/Nov	Performance and In-year Budget Monitoring		Quarterly
November/January	Budget Scrutiny Process		Annually
	District Council Economic Challenges and how the County Council could help		