

CABINET

23 NOVEMBER 2023

SCRUTINY REPORT: DEVELOPER FUNDED HIGHWAYS INFRASTRUCTURE

Relevant Cabinet Member

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways & Transport

Relevant Chief Officers

Strategic Director of Economy and Infrastructure

Assistant Director Economy Major Projects & Waste

Recommendation

- 1. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways & Transport recommends that Cabinet:**
 - (a) receives the Scrutiny Report about Developer Funded Highways Infrastructure, together with the response from the Cabinet Member with Responsibility; and**
 - (b) notes the Scrutiny Report's findings and recommendations and adopts the response of the Cabinet Member with Responsibility as the way forward.**

Background

- 2. In January 2021, the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) agreed that a Scrutiny Task Group should be set up to look at this area. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and subsequent impact on scrutiny priorities, this work started in October 2021.**
- 3. The Terms of Reference for the scrutiny exercise were to investigate:**
 - How to get developer-funded highways infrastructure built quicker for the benefit of residents and road users
 - How the Council can help ensure the planning conditions imposed on developers to build key highways infrastructure by certain deadlines are met.
- 4. The Task Group gathered evidence by interviewing Officers from the Council, District Councils who are the Local Planning Authorities (LPAs), housing developers, other county councils, a construction engineering company and the Council's current Highways Professional Services Technical Contractor (HPSTC) and has identified a number of areas where it believes improvements could be made to current arrangements in place in Worcestershire, which would reduce delays in developer-funded infrastructure being built.**

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board

5. The OSPB considered the Scrutiny report on 28 April 2023 and fully endorsed the recommendations. The report is included at Appendix 1.

Responses to the Scrutiny Report

6. The Scrutiny process provides for the relevant Cabinet Member with Responsibility to submit to the Cabinet a response to the Scrutiny Report's findings and recommendations to be considered alongside the Scrutiny Report.

7. The response of the Cabinet Member with Responsibility on behalf of the Cabinet, is included as Appendix 2.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 - Scrutiny Report: Developer Funded Highways Infrastructure

Appendix 2 – Response of the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways & Transport

Contact Points

Specific Contact Points for this report

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Background Papers

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

Agenda and minutes of the OSPB meetings on [10 December 2019](#) and [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 here.](#)