#### **Public Document Pack**

**Steve Atkinson** MA(Oxon) MBA FIOD FRSA *Chief Executive* 

Date: 11 October 2016



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

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To: Members of the Executive

Mr MA Hall (Chairman) Mr M Nickerson
Mr K Morrell (Vice-Chairman) Mr SL Rooney
Mr CW Boothby Mrs MJ Surtees
Mr C Ladkin Ms AV Wright

Copy to all other Members of the Council

(other recipients for information)

Dear Councillor,

There will be a meeting of the **EXECUTIVE** in the De Montfort Suite - Hub on **WEDNESDAY**, **19 OCTOBER 2016** at **6.30 pm** and your attendance is required.

The agenda for the meeting is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Owen

**Democratic Services Officer** 

#### **EXECUTIVE - 19 OCTOBER 2016**

#### AGENDA

#### 1. APOLOGIES

2. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 2)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 24 August 2016.

#### 3. ADDITIONAL URGENT BUSINESS BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

To be advised of any additional items of business which the Chairman decides by reason of special circumstances shall be taken as matters of urgency at this meeting.

#### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive verbally from Members any disclosures which they are required to make in accordance with the Council's code of conduct or in pursuance of Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. This is in addition to the need for such disclosure to be also given when the relevant matter is reached on the agenda.

#### 5. QUESTIONS

To hear any questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.

6. ISSUES ARISING FROM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

(If any)

7. ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY 2016 TO 2020 (Pages 3 - 44)

Report presenting the new Economic Regeneration Strategy 2015-2020. The Executive is asked to endorse the strategy for consultation.

8. CONTROL CENTRE RELOCATION & FACILITIES UPGRADE (Pages 45 - 50)

Report seeking approval to relocate and upgrade the existing Control Centre facility.

9. CARBON MANAGEMENT (Pages 51 - 56)

To provide information on reduction in carbon emissions and on greenhouse gas emissions.

10. <u>ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES HAVE TO BE</u> DEALT WITH AS MATTERS OF URGENCY

#### HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### **EXECUTIVE**

#### 24 AUGUST 2016 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Mr MA Hall - Chairman

Mr K Morrell – Vice-Chairman

Mr CW Boothby, Mr C Ladkin, Mr M Nickerson, Mr SL Rooney and Ms AV Wright

Members in attendance: Councillors Mr DC Bill MBE, Mrs MA Cook, Mr LJP O'Shea, Mrs J Richards, Mr RB Roberts, Mrs H Smith, Mr P Wallace and Mr HG Williams

Officers in attendance: Steve Atkinson, Daniel Britton, Bill Cullen, Simon D Jones, Rebecca Owen, Rob Parkinson and Caroline Roffey

#### 131 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Surtees.

#### 132 MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Rooney, seconded by Councillor Wright and

<u>RESOLVED</u> – the minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### 133 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared at this stage.

#### 134 ISSUES ARISING FROM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

Following approval of the report "Hinckley Markets Procurement" at the previous meeting of the Executive, the Scrutiny Commission had reviewed the report and had made the following recommendation to the Executive:

"That the Executive takes no further steps on the procurement of markets' management until the Scrutiny Commission has had the opportunity both to examine the tender specification and to review the business case for change".

In considering the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission, the Executive member highlighted the positive aspects of the proposals to consider the future of markets' management. He did, however, acknowledge the importance of the Scrutiny Commission viewing the information requested.

It was moved by Councillor Hall and seconded by Councillor Ladkin that the comments of the Scrutiny Commission be noted and the business case and tender specification be submitted to the Scrutiny Commission, when available, for review. The motion was supported and it was subsequently

<u>RESOLVED</u> – the comments of the Scrutiny Commission be noted and the business case and tender specification be reviewed by the Scrutiny Commission before being published more widely.

#### 135 GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE 2017/18

The Executive received a report which recommended setting of the charge for the garden waste service for 2017/18 and in part for 2018/19. The high take up of the service was noted and the Executive member asked that members' thanks to Streetscene Services and Customer Services, who had dealt with very high volumes of calls, be passed on.

It was moved by Councillor Nickerson, seconded by Councillor Boothby and

#### RESOLVED -

- (i) The charge of £24 for the garden waste service for 2017/18 be approved;
- (ii) The charge of £24 for those paying for the garden waste service by direct debit be approved for 2018/19 also.

#### 136 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMERCIAL SERVICE PLAN

Members gave consideration to the Environmental Health Commercial Services Enforcement Service Delivery Plan for 2016/17. Members thanked officers within the service for their consistently hard work. It was moved by Councillor Morrell, seconded by Councillor Hall and

#### RESOLVED -

- (i) The Environmental Health Commercial Services Enforcement Service Delivery Plan be approved;
- (ii) The achievements of the Environmental Health Commercial Service in 2015/16 be noted and endorsed.

#### 137 <u>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME</u>

The Executive received details of the Environmental Improvement Programme for 2016/17 which, it was noted, had always proven to be a very helpful and successful scheme. The support from the Scrutiny Commission was noted and it was moved by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Morrell and

<u>RESOLVED</u> – the enhancement schemes recommended within the report be agreed for implementation in 2016/17 under the Environmental Improvement Programme.

(The Meeting closed at 6.48 pm)	
	CHAIRMAN

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#### FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND DECISION MAKING

SCRUTINY COMMISSION 6 OCTOBER 2016 EXECUTIVE 19 OCTOBER 2016

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

#### **ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY 2015 - 2020**

#### Report of Deputy Chief Executive (Community Direction)

- PURPOSE OF REPORT
- 1.1 This report is to present to Members the new Economic Regeneration Strategy 2015-2020 document.
- 2. RECOMMENDATION
- 2.1 That Executive Briefing endorses the strategy and agrees to it being made available for public consultation for a period of six weeks.
- 3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT
- 3.1 The Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council's Economic Regeneration Strategy 2009-2014 set out a clear understanding of the economic challenges and opportunities facing the borough and put forward a vision and action plan for future development, which officers, through partnership working, have sought to implement. However much has changed in terms of economic regeneration policy drivers since the strategy was formulated e.g. the inception of Local Enterprise Partnerships, which now lead on the way forward for economic regeneration and are the main conduit for funding opportunities. Accordingly it is seen as important to refresh the strategy to take it forward over the next 5 years and at the same time celebrate what has been achieved since the production of the previous strategy.
- 3.2 This new strategy will assist the council in its important leadership role to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of the whole of the borough including all of the northern parishes. It will also act as a framework for influencing and supporting various partners and stakeholders, who will be involved in driving economic development and regeneration locally, and in particular help to enable the realisation of funding opportunities by demonstrating that the council has ambitious aspirations based on factual evidence.

#### 4. PUBLICATION OF STRATEGY

- 4.1 The strategy is being printed in-house but only a very limited number of copies will be available in hard copy format. The document will be available to download on the council's website.
- 4.2 The strategy is in a short 3-sided format to be accompanied by another document entitled 'Background & Action Plan'. The latter sets out statistical data that has led to the analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and this in turn has informed the compilation of key aims and objectives and the production of the action plan. Copies of both documents are attached to this report. The strategy also celebrates the economic successes that have been achieved and a synopsis of projects undertaken, many of which are ongoing, can be found in Appendix 1 of the 'Background & Action Plan'.
- 4.3 It should be noted that at the Scrutiny Commission meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> October Members asked that the publicity promoting the consultation of the strategy should highlight the very positive contributions of the council over the last few years and the very high levels of success that have been achieved across its area. Accordingly the positive news elements will be communicated as part of the economic regeneration strategy consultation process.
- 5. <u>EXEMPTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION</u> PROCEDURE RULES
- 5.1 This report is to be taken in open session.
- 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [TF]
- None arising directly from this report. Any future projects requiring funding will be requested in accordance with financial procedure rules.
- 7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [ AR]
- 7.1 None raised directly by this report. However the legal implications for individual projects outlined in the strategy will be considered as they progress.
- 8. <u>CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS</u>
- 8.1 This report contributes to the following Strategic Aims of the Council; Strategic Aim Creating a vibrant place to work and live and in particular sustain economic growth.
- 9. CONSULTATION
- 9.1 A consultation period of six weeks is planned once Members have endorsed the strategy.

#### 10. RISK IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (Net Red) Ris	ks	
Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner
None identified	Risks associated with the projects described in this strategy will be assessed on a project by project basis and dealt with accordingly	

#### 11. KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Projects put forward in the Economic Regeneration Strategy generally have a good spread over the whole of the Borough and this includes the rural areas e.g. the LEADER programme.

#### 12. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:
  - Community Safety implications: None directly arising from this report
  - Environmental implications: None directly arising from this report
  - ICT implications: None directly arising from this report
  - Asset Management implications: None directly arising from this report
  - Human Resources implications: None directly arising from this report
  - Planning Implications: None directly arising from this report

- Voluntary Sector: None directly arising from this report

Background papers: The draft Economic Regeneration Strategy 2015 - 2020 and its

accompanying 'Background & Action Plan'.

Contact Officer: Judith Sturley, ext 5855 Executive Member: Councillor M Surtees





# Hinckley & Bosworth **Economic Regeneration Strategy**2016-2020







### **Background and Principles**

The Borough Council has economic regeneration as a key corporate priority and has delivered significant outcomes linked to its formerly adopted Economic Regeneration Strategy.

A number of key drivers now influence the need for a refresh and publication of a new Economic Regeneration Strategy to take us forward to 2020. These include the challenges and opportunities identified from a detailed economic assessment that was commissioned in 2015 and the increasingly important role Local Economic Partnerships play in securing Government funding for local economic initiatives.

This Strategy sets out the vision and aims for ensuring the whole borough prospers from economic growth over the next four years. It is supported by a detailed Action Plan aligned to the key objectives of this Strategy.

- To have a vibrant location with a competitive and thriving local economy across the whole of the borough
- To attract and sustain investment, business growth and entrepreneurship
- To have a flexible and skilled workforce enabling sustainable communities and a location where people want to live and work, because good quality jobs are available in both the urban and rural areas of the borough
- To enable an environment of partnership and collaboration, where the private and public sector come together to invest in the future of the borough

# The **Vision**

### **Key statistics**

18.2% of employee jobs in the manufacturing sector

High levels of outcommuting

Low level of NVQ4 and above qualifications Most
optimistic for
business
confidence in
Leicestershire

Job Seekers
Allowance
claimants is low
at 0.8%
active

Inward
investment
from the logistics
sector and high
technology
companies

Unemployment Gross
rate low at 3%
value added
is £2bn

4,820 businesses in the borough



Shortage of employment land

### **Key Aims and Objectives**

1 Local Investment in Place

cineworld

2 Local Investment in Business



- Implement the Town Centres' Vision document
- Promote and regularly update the Investor Prospectus and its sites
- Bring forward employment sites and facilitate quality 'move on' space for businesses wishing to expand
- To promote the MIRA Technology Park and Enterprise Zone
- Promote a business cluster of excellence
- Work with funding regimes to provide an additional innovative enterprise centre in Hinckley
- To promote infrastructure projects in order to open up employment and residential sites
- Continue to work on town centre related initiatives and events
- Delivery of the LEADER rural programme and promote a Destination Management Plan
- To work with tourism bodies in relation to tourism matters
- Continue to deliver the Environmental Improvement Programme
- Submit an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund's Townscape Heritage Initiative Fund



- Establish relationships with and an understanding of the needs of both existing and new businesses especially related to skills
- Signpost access to business support programmes
- Facilitate and promote business events by working in partnership on subjects chosen through collaboration with local businesses
- To further promote the local supply chain network
- To help to improve the supply of technically trained staff to fulfil the needs across business sectors especially the 8 Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership Sectors Growth Plans
- To facilitate a business directory
- To regularly update the economic regeneration pages of the Borough Council's website
- To enable the provision of courses on the best use of superfast broadband opportunities
- Work with funding regimes to enable the promotion of relevant grants programme for businesses
- To improve the ability of businesses to complete successful funding applications
- Provide a support management service in respect to the planning process



#### **Local Investment** in People

- - To work in Partnership to Fulfil the Economic Potential of the Area





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- To work with local schools to ensure pupils have an understanding of local employment and training opportunities
- To promote specific sector job opportunities at schools and colleges
- To work with education providers and businesses to match courses to local business needs
- To support people wishing to set up in business and those working from home
- To work with construction companies and developers on local sites to encourage them to take on local people for jobs, apprenticeships and work placements
- To engage with local transport providers to ensure people can access employment and training
- To work with local people on community regeneration projects
- To support agencies helping residents into work, for example Supporting Leicestershire Families



- To ensure a broad range of support packages are available to local businesses, particularly micro and small enterprises
- To develop strong partnership relationships, which have the capacity to lever in funding where required to deliver both large and small scale projects
- Support and work with town centres groups in respect to initiatives and events.





For more information please contact:

Regeneration Team, Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council tel 01455 255855

online contact form: www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/regenerationQ

website: Page 9 www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk







# Hinckley & Bosworth **Economic Regeneration Strategy** 2016 - 2020



# **Background and Action Plan**





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#### **INTRODUCTIONS**

This Delivery Plan aims to identify the key actions and interventions that this Council will seek to facilitate and influence to address the challenges and opportunities identified within the new Economic and Regeneration Strategy for this Borough. This document should be read in conjunction with the new Strategy 2016-2020.

This document highlights the key vision aimed at ensuring the Borough continues to prosper from economic activity and regeneration. It sets out the context by reviewing key economic trends and statistics, considers key outputs from the Economic Assessment carried out in 2015, reviews current and anticipated economic drivers and sets out detailed actions linked to the four thematic aims of the Strategy.

#### THE VISION

- To have a vibrant location with a competitive and thriving local economy across the whole of the borough
- > To attract and sustain investment, business growth and entrepreneurship
- To have a flexible and skilled workforce enabling sustainable communities and a location where people want to live and work, because good quality jobs are available in both the urban and rural areas of the borough
- > To enable an environment of partnership and collaboration, where the private and public sector come together to invest in the future of the borough

#### **KEY STATISTICS**

#### **Hinckley and Bosworth (Source: NOMIS):**

- In 2015 had a population of 107,700 with 61.4% in the working age population
- From January 2015 to December 2015 83.3% of the population were economically active slightly higher than both Leicestershire (79.1%) and Great Britain 77.8%
- From January 2015 to December 2015 the unemployment rate was 3% slightly below Leicestershire (3.1%) and Great Britain (5.2%)
- As of November 2015 0.8% of the population were claiming Job Seekers Allowance, slightly above the Leicestershire average of 0.7% but below the Great Britain average of 1.5%
- From January 2015 to December 2015 29.7% had an NVQ4 and above qualification which is lower than Leicestershire (34.5%) and Great Britain (37.1%)
- In 2015 full-time workers gross weekly pay earnings by residence was £524.10 which is lower than Leicestershire (£527.00) and Great Britain (£529.60)
- In 2014 had a job density of 0.72 which is below that of Leicestershire 0.76 and Great Britain 0.82
- In 2014 had 18.2% of employee jobs in the manufacturing sector
- The UK Business Counts data for 2015 shows that 99.5% of businesses were classed as Micro to Medium enterprise (0-249 employees), with 89.2% classed as micro enterprise (0-9 employees)

#### Leicester and Leicestershire Business Survey 2015:

- Respondents from Hinckley & Bosworth were by far the most optimistic about business prospects for Leicestershire as a whole with almost half (49%) expecting the County to see an improvement compared to an average of just 38%
- When asked to consider a list of factors that may be a cause of concern for their businesses respondents from Hinckley & Bosworth identified competition in the market (12%), the economy (9%), and general costs (8%) as the most common issues. However it should be noted that the most common answer to this question in Hinckley & Bosworth was 'nothing' (32%)
- Almost three quarters of respondents from Hinckley & Bosworth expect their businesses to grow over the next twelve months (73%), with the vast majority anticipating steady rather than rapid growth. This compares well with the overall figure for Leicestershire of 71%

- More than half of Hinckley & Bosworth businesses said that they had increased profits (56%) and sales turnover (57%) in the previous twelve months, a slightly higher proportion than the average for the whole County. With 80% of Hinckley and Bosworth businesses expect to have increased profits in the next 12 months
- Less than half of businesses in Hinckley & Bosworth said they had a formal written business plan (47%)
- The district had the lowest incidence of recruitment difficulties in the survey with just 20% reporting issues compared to an average of 25%. Where difficulties did arise the most commonly given reasons were a low number of applicants with the required skills (39%)
- Almost half (46%) of respondents in Hinckley & Bosworth said they would recruit staff in the next twelve months, which is the second highest of any area of Leicestershire

# Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership (LLEP) Sector Plan Hinckley and Bosworth findings:

- Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering (AME): Hinckley & Bosworth is around the third for the number of enterprises in the advanced manufacturing & engineering Sector. Highest for motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers. Further opportunities for supply chain development also exist through the world renowned MIRA Enterprise Zone
- Creative Industries: 10.5% of the LLEP area creative industries are located in Hinckley & Bosworth which is around the middle of the Leicestershire districts. IT is a more predominant sub-sector (41.1%) followed by design (14.8%) and Architecture (9.5%). With creative hubs like the Atkins Building, the town of Hinckley has an emerging cluster of creative businesses. Included in the action plan under the creative city and county hub programme including 'Expanded Atkins Building in Hinckley'
- Textiles: A significant presence around Hinckley
- The area has over 4,700 people working in Logistics and Distribution
- In terms of Food and Drink the area has less than 1% employment in this sector which is below the average for England

#### **Economic Review & Impact Assessment, December 2015:**

- The cross border partnership consisting of Hinckley and Bosworth, Nuneaton and Bedworth and North Warwickshire total gross value added is £5.5 billion with Hinckley and Bosworth contributing 37%
- For Hinckley and Bosworth inward investment tends to come from the logistics sector and high technology companies

- For Hinckley and Bosworth working age population is likely to remain stable
- For Hinckley and Bosworth life expectancy is higher than the national average
- For Hinckley and Bosworth travel to work flows show heavy use of the local road network and experiences high levels of net out-commuting
- The Index of Multiple Deprivation shows low level of deprivation compared to nationally but with 'pockets' of deprivation

#### A SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

The statistics highlighted above have helped to populate the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) below. This SWOT has been used to identify the key aims, objectives and actions that appear later in this document in order to build on the strengths and opportunities that the area possesses, whilst at the same time addressing the threats and looking for solutions to overcome economic weaknesses.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ul> <li>Within the Golden Triangle for logistics</li> <li>Good motorway links</li> <li>Assets</li> <li>MIRA Technology Park</li> <li>Tourism and heritage offer</li> <li>Quality of Life</li> <li>Low levels of deprivation</li> <li>Economic output</li> <li>Overall levels of output have improved</li> <li>Optimistic business community</li> <li>Knowledge and innovation</li> <li>Particularly in high tech manufacturing, creative and textile sectors</li> </ul>	Economic output Overall size of the economy is small relative to adjacent centres  Enterprise SMEs and business start-ups Low levels of food and drink businesses  Labour Market Skills and qualifications particularly related to NVQ and above  Knowledge Employment in knowledge intensive services
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Recent growth and potential to build on key assets     Investor prospectus and other promotional documents     Food and drink industry     Knowledge and innovation     High tech sector growth     Infrastructure     Improving road and digital infrastructure  Wider projects     Spill-over benefits from M42 corridor investment	Quality of life  Weak wage growth could impact on residents Pockets of deprivation  Enterprise Susceptible to shocks associated with performance of key employers Number of businesses without formal business plan  Labour Market Overall aging demographic  Location Shortage of employment land Potential for the growth of
Affordability     Potential to attract highly skilled workforce	neighbouring centres to divert investment from the area

#### **COTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS TO DATE**

The borough has been undergoing significant transformation economically recently with an investment of over £1billion creating approximately 10,000 jobs in Hinckley town centre and the wider borough. The table below shows the impact that completed projects have produced.

Projects include- The Atkins; The Hub; Greenfields Business Park; Hinckley campus of North Warwickshire & Hinckley College; Hinckley Business Improvement District; The Crescent; Hinckley Commercial Park; MIRA Technology Park; National Forest; Bosworth Water Trust Leisure Park.

Gross Direct Impacts	
Total investment	£301 million
Total gross construction jobs (person years)	1,960
Total gross permanent jobs	3,410
Total gross value added per annum	£155 million
Net Additional Impacts	
Total net additional local construction jobs (person years)	1,270
Total net additional local permanent jobs (resident based)	1,742
Total net additional permanent jobs (workplace based)	2,839
Total net additional GVA per annum	£133 million

# CONTRIBUTION OF RECENTLY COMPLETED, ONGOING AND FUTURE PROJECTS

The table below shows the impact that recently completed; ongoing and future projects may produce.

Projects include- Argents Mead Leisure Centre, Leicestershire County Council rural broadband, MIRA Technology Park, Barwell and Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extensions, Market Bosworth Marina, Twycross Zoo.

Gross Direct Impacts	
Total investment	£188 million
Total gross construction jobs (person years)	5,780
Total gross permanent jobs	5,600
Total gross value added per annum	£312 million
Net Additional Impacts	
Total net additional local construction jobs (person years)	3,745
Total net additional local permanent jobs (resident based)	3,300
Total net additional permanent jobs (workplace based)	5,100
Total net additional GVA per annum	£286 million

#### **ECONOMIC DRIVERS**

#### SUB-REGIONAL ECONOMIC DRIVERS

#### Leicester & Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (LLEP)

Local Enterprise Partnerships lead on economic regeneration priorities as set out by the Government. Accordingly it is important that our economic regeneration strategy has policies that reflect those of the LLEP although ours will further reflect the very local needs of the area.

#### The strategic objectives of the LLEP Economic Growth Plan include:

- Increase availability of employment land and infrastructure
- Match available capital to enterprise growth
- Support enterprise growth and investment

The LLEP Economic Growth Plan also has a key challenge to ensure that local training provision is able to meet both current and future needs and address skills shortages especially in engineering.

#### **LLEP Sector Plans**

The LLEP has a number of priority sectors and in summer 2015 has drawn up plans for each of these. The sectors comprise:

- Advanced manufacturing & engineering
- Creative industries
- ➤ Food & drink
- Logistics and distribution
- Low carbon
- Professional & financial services
- Textiles
- Tourism & hospitality
- Sport & physical activity

Across the LLEP sector plan action plans the following themes and issues stand out:

 Most of the sectors highlighted the need for sector specific advisory groups/boards to help promote the sector and give the industry a voice

- Issues of staff recruitment can range from issues related to attracting and retaining skilled people to a lack of supply of suitably qualified staff which needs addressing
- Suitable premises for expansion needs addressing through collaboration between local planning authorities for allocating land, allowing clustering and stimulating the provision of suitable premises
- Skills gaps in the current workforce are highlighted with the need to improve skills by businesses working with education providers linking the provision of the technical skills needs as well as the relevance of apprenticeships and increasing the flow of work ready candidates
- Staff transport issues are seen as an issue in many sectors whether this is the lack of public transport related to the 24/7 nature of many businesses or the rural location
- Funding in the form of grant schemes to support start up businesses and upfront costs through to premises improvement/upgrading facilities
- Most sectors support supply chain activity from a supply chain gap review to improving networking so businesses can see the opportunities available and highlight pressures in each stage of the supply chain
- Broadband technology issues need addressing through encouraging provision and take-up of broadband to funding to support website development
- Promotion and branding of sectors is seen as important from raising awareness and improving the public perception of a place to work to supporting accreditation to improve product standards
- A single point of contact for specific sector needs is seen as an important business support function including using sector specific expertise to improve clarity of grant applications as well as allowing for further networking between businesses
- A business growth programme for the specific sectors offering business development funds will help to grow each of the individual sectors

#### **LLEP Business Gateway**

The LLEP Business Gateway is a 'one-stop shop' growth hub for all business needs. The gateway provides information on forms of business support available from local and national partners across a wide range of industries and sectors. Information is available on starting a business, growing your business, how to access finance, hiring and training, and premises and investing.

#### **Combined Authority**

A proposal to develop a Combined Authority for Leicester and Leicestershire was submitted to the Government on 21 December 2015. The Combined Authority comprises Leicestershire County Council, Leicester City Council, the Leicestershire District Councils and the LLEP. The proposal focuses on the areas of long term economic investment/development through closer working in relation to the following key areas:

#### Planning:

Councils to work together to agree a clearer, long-term framework to meet future housing and employment needs for the whole area and identify future growth locations.

#### Transport:

To focus on long-term investment in road, rail and other public transport infrastructure.

#### Skills:

To drive and deliver skills and training, to give local people the chance to get better qualifications and employment.

It is currently anticipated that the Order to establish the Combined Authority will be made by the Secretary of State in October 2016.

#### LOCAL ECONOMIC DRIVERS

#### The Council's Corporate Plan 2013-2016

The council's Corporate Plan sets out the vision to make Hinckley and Bosworth 'A Borough to be proud of'. To support the vision there are four corporate aims:

- Creating a vibrant place to work and live
- Empowering communities
- Supporting individuals
- Providing value for money and pro-active services

#### The Development Plan is comprised of:

#### Core Strategy (2009)

The Core Strategy is the key Development Plan Document providing the vision and spatial strategy for the borough.

#### **Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD (2016)**

This document forms part of the Local Plan 2006 to 2026. It identifies sites for uses such as housing, employment, retail, open space and community facilities that will deliver the aims, vision and objectives of the Core Strategy.

#### **Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan (2011)**

The Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan sets out the strategy for the future of the town centre and identifies sites for development.

#### Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan (2014)

The purpose of the Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan is to set out the strategy for future development across the two settlements. It allocates land for housing, employment, retail, recreation, open space and community facilities within two Sustainable Urban Extensions north-west of Barwell and south-east of Earl Shilton.

#### **Town Centres' Vision**

This document sets out high level ambitions for the borough's town centres, highlighting key opportunities for regeneration and development to boost their economic success and attractiveness and promotes projects in Hinckley, Earl Shilton, Barwell and Market Bosworth.

#### **Investor Prospectus**

The investor prospectus acts as guide to development and occupier opportunities in the borough. The document assists with the specific site marketing of key sites. The document produced in 2015 and recently updated acts as a promotional tool for sites in the borough.

#### **Cross Border Partnership**

The Council is a member of a Cross Border Partnership with North Warwickshire Borough Council and Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council. This Partnership includes engagement with and the Leicester and Leicestershire LEP and Coventry & Warwickshire LEP. The purpose of the partnership is to share in expertise and develop/ deliver initiatives that will support the economy in the Cross Border area, a location where there are strong economic links. As an example, the MIRA Technology Park Enterprise Zone adjoins all three areas, and represents an opportunity for all three areas. Working jointly on supporting the Enterprise Zone is a key priority. An advantage of this partnership is also that it enables the authorities to become resilient when undertaking a project.

#### **KEY AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND ASSOCIATED ACTIONS**

The key objective of this document is to direct local economic and associated development activities and investment in line with the Council's Corporate Plan and its relevant planning documents such as the Core Strategy and Area Action Plans. Current economic baseline figures are used to help inform the decision as to the most pertinent objectives and actions required for this strategy.

Accordingly the document sets out a number of economic regeneration initiatives that will enhance and boost the economy of the local area, building on what has happened over the last 5 years and wherever appropriate to align proposals and projects with the LLEP Strategic Economic Plan.

# KEY AIM 1 Local investment in place

#### **Objectives**

- Encouraging and enabling town centre regeneration projects
- To support rural regeneration initiatives
- To promote and market the borough as an area that offers opportunities for development, investment and relocation
- To promote a business cluster where high quality end users locate and nurture excellence
- To provide advice on the availability of sites for both businesses wishing to locate in the area and to local businesses requiring 'grow on' on space
- To continue to develop the visitor economy

# KEY AIM 2 Local investment in business

#### **Objectives**

- To develop a sustainable and successful business base and encourage and support both established businesses and start-ups
- To engage with businesses expressing a desire to relocate in order to ensure their continued presence in the borough
- Regeneration of key employment sites within the borough to enable them to meet the needs of modern business requirements
- To work with all sectors and particularly the 8 sectors with LLEP sector growth plans

- Ongoing support for SMEs and for those wishing to start up a business
- To engage with and support businesses wishing to take on apprentices, and to generally promote the advantages to businesses of providing apprenticeship, traineeships and work placements opportunities
- To encourage the take-up of high speed broadband opportunities
- To encourage business awareness in respect to export market opportunities

# KEY AIM 3 Local investment in people

#### **Objectives**

- To create widespread employment opportunities
- To work in partnership to upskill the local workforce and to enable the best opportunity to meet the potential offered by local companies
- To have an emphasis on supporting skill development for young people Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEETS) and the unemployed
- To address any mismatch between the requirements of local businesses and the skill sets of the local community
- To develop the opportunity for local construction jobs as new development sites come forward
- To ensure local people have access to appropriate transport facilities in order to access employment and education locations

# KEY AIM 4 To work in partnership to fulfil the economic potential of the area

#### **Objectives**

- To ensure that a broad range of support packages are available to local businesses, particularly micro and small enterprises
- To develop strong partnership relationships, which have the capacity to lever in funding where required to deliver both large and small scale projects

### **ACTION PLAN**

Time Frame Key
S - Short Term 1 Year / Ongoing
M - Medium Term 3 Years
L – Long Term 3 – 5 Years

### Local investment in place

Action	Potential partners/initiatives	Monitoring	Timeframe
Implement the Town Centres' Vision document in respect to sites highlighted in Hinckley, Earl Shilton, Barwell and Market Bosworth	<ul> <li>Working with landowners and developers</li> <li>Town centre businesses and business groups</li> <li>Hinckley Business Improvement District (BID), Parish and Town Councils</li> <li>Leicestershire &amp; Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership (LLEP)</li> <li>Leicestershire County Council</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of new business</li> <li>Inward investment</li> <li>Number of new homes</li> </ul>	M/L

Action	Potential partners/initiatives	Monitoring	Timeframe
To promote a business cluster where high quality end users locate and nurture excellence	<ul> <li>Leicestershire &amp; Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership</li> <li>Leicestershire County Council</li> <li>Inward investment team at Leicester City Council</li> <li>Universities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of new business</li> <li>Inward investment</li> <li>Number of NVQ4 and above qualifications</li> </ul>	S/M
Promote the Investor Prospectus and its sites at business events and meetings with developers  To regularly update the Investor Prospectus	<ul> <li>Developers</li> <li>Business events</li> <li>Leicester City Inward Investment team</li> <li>Developers</li> <li>Inward investment team at Leicester City Council</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of sites brought forward</li> <li>Number of jobs created on sites</li> <li>Number of attendees at events</li> <li>Number of sites brought forward</li> <li>Number of jobs created on sites</li> </ul>	S
Bring forward employment sites and facilitate quality 'move on' space for businesses wishing to expand	<ul> <li>Work with consultants in respect to the Employment Land &amp; Premises Study that is being commissioned</li> <li>LLEP</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Number of sites coming forward</li><li>Number of new business</li><li>Inward investment</li></ul>	M/L
To collaborate with North West Leicestershire District Council to bring forward the new employment site near Bardon	<ul> <li>North West Leicestershire District Council</li> <li>Developers</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Number of new business</li><li>Inward investment</li></ul>	S/M

Action	Potential partners/initiatives	Monitoring	Timeframe
To promote the MIRA Technology Park and Enterprise Zone	<ul><li>Horiba MIRA</li><li>LLEP</li><li>Cross-Border Partnership</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Number of new businesses locating to the site</li> <li>Success of the Enterprise Zone</li> </ul>	S
Work with funding regimes to provide an additional innovative enterprise centre in Hinckley	<ul><li>LLEP programmes</li><li>Business community</li></ul>	New build enterprise centre established or existing building restored	S/M
To promote infrastructure projects in order to open up employment and residential sites and to improve the free flow of traffic on the borough's roads	<ul><li>Highways England</li><li>LCC</li><li>LLEP</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Number of sites brought forward</li> <li>Less traffic congestion</li> </ul>	M/L
Continue to work with the Town Centre Manager and Hinckley Business Improvement District in respect to town centre related initiatives and events	<ul> <li>Hinckley BID</li> <li>Town Centre Manager</li> <li>Federation of Small Businesses (FSB)</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Number of initiatives</li><li>Number of events</li><li>Number of businesses engaged</li></ul>	S
Ongoing work with North Warwickshire Borough Council in respect to the delivery of the LEADER programme for the rural areas of the borough	<ul> <li>LEADER Project Manager</li> <li>LEADER Development Officer</li> <li>Local Action Group Chair</li> </ul>	Number of grants awarded to rural businesses and communities	S

Action	Potential partners/initiatives	Monitoring	Timeframe
Promotion of a Destination Management Plan	<ul><li>North Warwickshire Borough Council</li><li>Coventry Warwickshire LEP</li></ul>	Plan production and implementation	S
To work with tourism bodies in relation to tourism matters	<ul> <li>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth Tourism Partnership</li> <li>Tourism destinations e.g. Twycross Zoo</li> <li>Leicestershire Promotions</li> <li>Hotels</li> </ul>	Tourism figures	S/M
Continue to deliver the Environmental Improvement Programme	<ul><li>Parish Councils</li><li>Heritage groups</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Number of schemes brought forward</li> <li>Environmental improvements</li> <li>Customer satisfaction</li> </ul>	S
Submit an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund's Townscape Heritage Initiative Fund	<ul><li>Hinckley BID</li><li>Local schools and college</li><li>Community groups</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Successful bid</li> <li>Number of buildings improved in the Hinckley Conservation Area</li> <li>Environmental improvements</li> <li>Community engagement levels</li> </ul>	S

### **Local investment in business**

Action	Potential partners/initiatives	Monitoring	Timeframe
Establish relationships with and an understanding of the needs of both existing and new businesses especially related to their skill requirements	<ul> <li>Business community</li> <li>Business groups e.g. Info to Grow</li> <li>Networking events</li> <li>Education providers</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Number of businesses engaged</li><li>Business confidence figures</li><li>Business surveys</li></ul>	S/M
Signpost access to business support programmes	<ul><li>LLEP Business Gateway</li><li>HBBC website</li></ul>	<ul><li>Business Gateway statistics</li><li>Number of businesses supported</li><li>Number of grants received</li></ul>	S
Facilitate and promote business events by working in partnership on subjects chosen through collaboration with local businesses	<ul> <li>HBBC website</li> <li>Business groups e.g. Info to Grow</li> <li>Social media</li> <li>Borough Bulletin</li> <li>BID digital promotion facilities</li> <li>LLEP Business Gateway</li> <li>Cross-Border Partnership</li> <li>North Warwickshire &amp; Hinckley College</li> <li>Local businesses</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of attendees at events</li> <li>Feedback after events</li> </ul>	8

Action	Potential partners/initiatives	Monitoring	Timeframe
To further promote the local supply chain network to encourage businesses to both sell to and procure goods and services from other local companies	<ul><li>Cross-Border Partnership</li><li>Local businesses</li><li>Business groups e.g. Info to Grow</li></ul>	Number of businesses registering on network	S
To help to improve the supply of technically trained staff to fulfil the needs across business sectors especially the 8 LLEP Sectors Growth Plans	<ul> <li>Cross-Border Employment &amp; Skills Partnership</li> <li>LLEP Enterprise Adviser Network</li> <li>Horiba MIRA</li> <li>North Warwickshire &amp; Hinckley College</li> <li>Local schools</li> <li>Universities</li> <li>LLEP Business Gateway</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Skills attainment figures for the borough</li> <li>Business satisfaction surveys</li> </ul>	S/M
To facilitate a business directory	Coventry Warwickshire LEP	Number of business registrations	S
To regularly update the economic regeneration pages of the Borough Council's website	HBBC staff	Up-to-date relevant information	S

Action	Potential partners/initiatives	Monitoring	Timeframe
To enable the provision of courses on the best use of superfast broadband opportunities	<ul><li>Leicestershire County Council</li><li>LLEP</li></ul>	<ul><li>Number of courses attended</li><li>Number of attendees</li><li>Business satisfaction survey</li></ul>	М
Work with funding regimes to enable the promotion of relevant grants programme for SMEs	<ul><li>LEADER project</li><li>LLEP</li><li>Leicestershire County Council</li></ul>	Number of grants attained	S
To improve the ability of businesses to complete successful funding applications	<ul><li>LLEP Business Gateway Advisors</li><li>HBBC staff</li></ul>	<ul><li>Number of successful bids</li><li>Number of funding regimes accessed successfully</li></ul>	S
Provide an account management service in respect to the planning process to help businesses to submit good quality applications	HBBC staff	<ul> <li>Number of successful applications by businesses</li> <li>Number of sites brought forward</li> </ul>	М

## Local investment in people

Action	Potential partners/initiatives	Monitoring	Timeframe
To work with local schools to ensure pupils have an understanding of local employment and training opportunities and in particular to engage with the LLEP Enterprise Adviser Network	<ul> <li>Local schools and academies</li> <li>North Warwickshire &amp; Hinckley College</li> <li>LLEP</li> <li>Leicestershire County Council</li> <li>Local businesses</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Employment figures</li><li>Business satisfaction survey</li><li>Number Job Centre claimants</li></ul>	S/M
To promote specific sector job opportunities at schools and colleges in order to improve perceptions and attract young people into employment in these sectors	<ul> <li>Job Centre Plus</li> <li>LLEP</li> <li>Leicestershire County Council</li> <li>Local schools and academies</li> <li>North Warwickshire &amp; Hinckley College</li> <li>Local businesses</li> <li>Youth clubs</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Employment figures</li> <li>Business satisfaction survey</li> <li>Number of Job Centre claimants</li> </ul>	S/M
To work with education providers and businesses to match courses to local business needs	<ul> <li>Local businesses</li> <li>Horiba MIRA Skills Academy</li> <li>Local schools and academies</li> <li>North Warwickshire &amp; Hinckley College</li> <li>Universities such as University of</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Skills attainment figures</li> <li>NVQ 1 to 4 attainments</li> <li>NVQ4 plus statistics for the borough</li> </ul>	S/M

Action	Potential partners/initiatives	Monitoring	Timeframe
	Leicester and De Montfort University		
To support people wishing to set up in business and those working from home	LLEP Business Gateway	<ul><li>Number of businesses created</li><li>Business satisfaction surveys</li></ul>	S
To work with construction companies and developers on local sites to encourage them to take on local people for jobs, apprenticeships and work placements	<ul><li>Developers</li><li>Job Centre Plus</li><li>LLEP</li><li>Further education providers</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Number of construction jobs obtained in the borough</li> <li>Number of apprenticeships</li> <li>Number of traineeships</li> <li>Number of work placements</li> </ul>	S/M
To engage with local transport providers to ensure people can access employment and training	<ul> <li>Leicestershire County Council</li> <li>Local bus companies e.g. Arriva</li> <li>Train companies</li> <li>Leicestershire County Council Wheels to Work project</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of LCC Wheels to Work clients in borough</li> <li>Job vacancy rates</li> <li>Commuting distances</li> <li>Community satisfaction survey</li> </ul>	S/M
To work with local people on community regeneration projects	<ul><li>Residents associations</li><li>Sports and youth clubs</li></ul>	<ul><li> Grants obtained</li><li> Number of projects implemented</li></ul>	M
To support agencies helping residents into work e.g. Supporting Leicestershire Families	<ul><li>Supporting Leicestershire Families</li><li>Job Centre Plus</li><li>Probation Service</li></ul>	Targeted persons achieve employment	М

# To work in partnership to fulfil the economic potential of the area

Action	Potential partners/Initiatives	Monitoring	Timeframe
To ensure a broad range of support packages are available to local businesses, particularly micro and small enterprises	<ul><li>LLEP Business Gateway</li><li>Town Centre Groups</li><li>Business groups</li><li>Events</li></ul>	<ul><li>Number of grants obtained</li><li>Business satisfaction</li></ul>	S
To develop strong partnership relationships, which have the capacity to lever in funding where required to deliver both large and small scale projects	<ul> <li>DCLG</li> <li>LLEP</li> <li>The Cross-Border Partnership</li> <li>Local education providers</li> <li>Leicestershire County Council</li> <li>Leicestershire District/Borough Councils</li> <li>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth Tourism Partnership</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Business satisfaction and engagement</li> <li>Number of sites/initiatives brought forward</li> </ul>	S
Support and work with Hinckley BID, Hinckley Chamber of Trade, Earl Shilton Town Team, Barwell Parish Council and other Parish Councils in respect to initiatives and events.	<ul> <li>Town Centre Manager</li> <li>Local business forums</li> <li>Neighbourhood Plan groups</li> <li>Local businesses</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of positive comments at events</li> <li>Business satisfaction</li> <li>Vacancy rates</li> <li>Footfall figures</li> </ul>	S

# IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION PLAN

Delivery of the Action Plan will primarily be dependent upon a strong relationship between the Borough Council and its key partners including:

- Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership to ensure that the best opportunities for funding and other implementation opportunities are achieved through the LLEP Growth Plan, Regional Growth Fund, current European funding and other sources
- Private sector partners such as land owners and developers
- Public sector bodies to ensure co-ordinated funding of key projects
- Existing businesses and business organisations for example to bolster our town centres' reputation for major investors / potential investors
- Public transport providers and the Local Highways Authority for example to deliver effective public transport services and junction improvements to mitigate the impacts of new development
- Local resident's organisations to ensure that the town centres' Area Action Plans objectives and vision match local communities aspirations for their town centres
- When justified and deemed necessary, the council will use Compulsory Purchase Order powers in order to bring forward development opportunities.

# CONCLUSION

The new strategy will assist the council in its important leadership role to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of its area. It will also act as a framework for influencing and supporting various partners and stakeholders, who will be involved in driving economic development and regeneration locally and in particular to help enable the realisation of funding opportunities by demonstrating that the council has ambitious aspirations based on factual evidence.

#### **APPENDIX 1**

#### RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND ONGOING INITIATIVES

#### The Crescent, Hinckley

There was promotion of Construction Jobs at the Crescent, through working with the building contractor, Bowmer and Kirkland, via The Tin Hat Partnership. 435 weeks of training and work experience opportunities were made possible during the 19 month demolition and build scheme. During the construction of The Crescent 2,373 people were employed on site. Bowmer and Kirkland also provided work experience to Harrowbrook Construction College's bricklaying students who spent several weeks gaining valuable on site experience, working on the scheme.

By working with Sainsbury's (180 jobs plus management jobs and 25 jobs to support the long-term unemployed), Cineworld (approximately 30 jobs) and Job Centre Plus, jobs, training and apprenticeship opportunities were promoted and enabled. The Council also assisted Sainsbury's by supporting them with space at The Hinckley Hub to act as a base and hold interviews. The companies were pleased with the quality of the applicants for the jobs, the majority of whom were recruited from the Hinckley & Bosworth area.

# **DPD**

Supported DPD to secure opening for 1,000 new employees in September 2015.

# **MIRA Training Centre**

Continued work to promote the ongoing development of the High Technology Park and Enterprise Zone. The new MIRA Training Centre, planned to open in 2017, is being supported through membership of the MIRA RGF Project Board.

# North Warwickshire and Hinckley and Bosworth England's Rural Heart LEADER Programme

In partnership with North Warwickshire Borough Council the LEADER programme has received £1.4 million for rural projects across the two boroughs is progressing well and to date:

There have been two calls for bids and under Round 1 three projects have been successful in Hinckley & Bosworth (two in North Warwickshire). The projects in Hinckley & Bosworth comprise two small/medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and one farm project, together totalling £60,946 (£27,090 in North Warwickshire). The second 'call for bids' (outline stage) in respect to SMEs, forestry and community projects has resulted in five projects (three SMEs and two community projects) in the Hinckley & Bosworth area being invited to submit full applications (nine in North Warwickshire).

In August 2016 the North Warwickshire & Hinckley & Bosworth LEADER Local Action Group submitted an application through Coventry & Warwickshire LEP EU EAFRD 'Call for Bids' for the production of a Destination Management Plan (DMP). A DMP will enable more informed decisions about LEADER tourism project application submissions, because it will provide an accurate picture of the tourism industry and a better understanding of the issues which face tourism operators. The DMP will enable funding to be directed more effectively.

# **Revision of Investor Prospectus**

The current Investor Prospectus was launched back in March 2015. It is aimed at potential new developers and businesses thinking of investing in the borough. It showcases the further opportunities that are available for investors to help regenerate other key vacant sites across the borough including the town centres and the Enterprise Zone. The document covers 11 sites that will create;

- Over 4,000 dwellings
- 3 million sq. feet of industrial, commercial and B8 floor space
- 360 acres of employment land

With developments continuing to evolve the Investor Prospectus is due to be revised in October 2016.

#### **Town Centres' Vision**

Hinckley is going through a transformation with an investment of over £1 billion creating approximately 10,000 jobs in Hinckley town centre and the wider borough. The Town Centres' Vision sets the high level ambitions for Hinckley and other key centres by identifying key opportunities for development and regeneration. This approach will help align the regeneration of specific sites with the economic regeneration strategy, planning policy documents such as the Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan, the Council Corporate Plan and the Investor Prospectus. The document includes an aerial photograph, which shows the scope of the developments that have been and are currently being completed in Hinckley.

#### **Cross-Border Employment & Skills Partnership**

Current actions of this partnership, comprising the boroughs of Hinckley & Bosworth, Nuneaton & Bedworth and North Warwickshire, are:

- Sharing best practice information to support the development of the Careers & Enterprise Company's Enterprise Advisor Network in both LEP areas
- Act as a central point of expertise for the cross border area on key educational initiatives
- > Identification of cross border employment linkages that require transport and training solutions
- Promoting and supporting employer engagement activities
- ➤ Utilising digital platforms to promote cross border activities relating to both employment and skills

#### **Economic Assessment**

Commissioned an Economic Impact Assessment from consultants Amion to look at the economy of the three authorities and to look at how economic regeneration initiatives are bringing economic benefits to the local economy.

# **Market Towns Study**

In November 2015 consultants were commissioned to undertake an economic study relating to 11 market towns across Leicestershire to include Hinckley, Earl Shilton and Barwell. This report includes separate chapters on each of the towns, as well as overall conclusions and recommendations. Potential economic focused projects are

also outlined. A profile of each of the Boroughs/Districts within which these towns are located is published as a companion document.

#### **Business Events**

Through the council's partnership in the 'Info to Grow' business network there was an event held in September 2015 on the subject of 'Pension Auto Enrolment'. In April 2016 an event was held at Twycross Zoo on the subject of 'Use your Animal Instincts for Business Success' at which there were 96 attendees.

A Supply Chain event in partnership with our cross-border colleagues, was held in October 2015 during the Leicester Business Festival and the event was sold out. At the event: HoribaMIRA provided information on suppliers they require, opportunities from HS2 and Cross Rail explained. Data gathered from business attendees was circulated and a database of suppliers created.

Over the last 3 years Job Fairs have been held at the Hinckley Leisure Centre, Atkins and the George Ward Centre in Barwell and at these, various apprenticeship opportunities were promoted.

# **Environmental Improvement Programme 2015/16**

The Environmental Improvement Programme 2015/16 supported at total of 15 projects and the council awarded £33,200 of grant funding. Working with Parish Councils and heritage groups a wide range of projects were delivered throughout the borough including installation of heritage plaques, heritage nameplates, village trail information boards, repairs to walls and repairs to Ashby Canal bridges.

#### The Enterprise Adviser Network

The council is working with LLEP, who lead on this, in order to promote this initiative in the borough. The network will help simplify engagement between Leicestershire schools, colleges and employers and stimulate more employment engagement where it is required. The cluster of schools, colleges and Enterprise Advisers are being supported by an Enterprise Coordinator. Research has shown that young people who have greater exposure to employers whilst at school, achieve better employment outcomes.

#### Pursuing funding opportunities for regeneration projects

# Business Case Submissions to Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership

In November 2015 an Open Call process began to capture projects from across the city and county to create a pipeline for funding opportunities. Projects were required to submit an online Expression of Interest outlining their strategic fit and funding requirements. This was followed by submissions of Business Case Applications. Projects submitted were for:

- Hinckley Creative Workspace
- Hinckley Townscape Heritage Initiative
- Stockwell Head Urban Village
- Improved Access to Twycross Zoo

- Earl Shilton and Barwell District Centres Phase 1 (Barwell)
- Barwell Employment & Skills
- A5 Strategic Enhancement Scheme

These projects were not identified as appropriate for the current Local Growth Fund to government. However there, in some cases, for development funding to be applied for in order to develop the project further.

# **Townscape Heritage Initiative**

A first round application for the Heritage Lottery Fund Townscape Heritage Initiative programme was submitted in August 2016. The scheme focuses on a defined area within Hinckley Town Centre Conservation Area and funding can be allocated to eligible works including generous grants for works of repair and reinstating traditional features, including a particular focus on shop fronts, works to improve the public realm and facilitate pedestrian movement and engaging the public through a range of activities and training.

#### HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

# **SCRUTINY COMMISSION**

#### 6 OCTOBER 2016 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Mr MR Lay - Chairman

Mrs R Camamile and Mr KWP Lynch – Vice-Chairman

Mr WJ Crooks, Mr K Nichols (for Mr SL Bray), Mrs J Richards, Mr BE Sutton, Mr P Wallace, Mr R Ward, Mr HG Williams and Ms BM Witherford (for Mr DC Bill MBE)

Also in attendance: Councillor SL Rooney and Councillor MJ Surtees

Officers in attendance: Steve Atkinson, Julie Kenny, Rob Parkinson, Stephen Meynell, Caroline Roffey and Nic Thomas

#### 187 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Bill and Bray, with the following substitutions authorised in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4:

Councillor Witherford for Councillor Bill Councillor Nichols for Councillor Bray.

#### 189 <u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>

No interests were declared at this stage.

#### 193 ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY 2016 TO 2020

The views of the Scrutiny Commission were sought on the draft of the revised Economic Regeneration Strategy which would be considered by Executive and, if approved, would be subject to public consultation. Members welcomed the strategy and the useful format of the report and requested that the positive news elements were communicated as part of the consultation process.

RESOLVED – the report be welcomed and supported.

(The Meeting closed at 7.52 pm)



#### FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND DECISION MAKING

Executive 19 October 2016

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

# **Control Centre Relocation & Facilities Upgrade**

#### Report of Deputy Chief Executive (Community Direction)

- 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT
- 1.1 To seek Members approval to relocate and upgrade the existing Control Centre facility based at Clarendon House, Hinckley, to the former Wardens house based at Castle Court, Burbage.
- 2. RECOMMENDATION

Members agree:

- 2.1 To relocate the existing Control Centre from its current office based at Clarendon House, Hinckley to the former Wardens house at Castle Court, Burbage.
- 2.2 To include within the scope of the works, improvements to IT infrastructure, staff facilities and working environment and inclusion of remote working space for HBBC staff.
- 2.3 That the relocation, upgrade and associated costs are funded from the HRA Community Alarm Upgrade Reserve.
- BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT
- 3.1 The Control Centre was established in 1987 to provide both a 24/7 response to older and vulnerable council tenants living in council properties with access to a community alarm (pull cord alarm), and to provide council out of hours services such as Housing Repairs, Environmental Health & Homeless provision.
- 3.2 Nearly 30 years on, control centre services have evolved and increased, particularly around the lifeline service which is delivered and available to all residents within the borough, offering a 24/7 monitoring and response service, and currently monitoring nearly 6,000 alarms. Similarly, floating support services to tenants have been increased over the last three years and are now delivered by three members of staff

who work from the Control Centre relying on the up to date information available at the centre to carry out their role. In addition whilst council services can be accessed during office hours via the Customer Contact Centre based at The Hub, the Control Centre is the main point of contact for residents out of working hours, weekends and public holidays. The combined effect of delivering these services equates to on average a total of 3,600 calls being made or received at the Control Centre each week.

- 3.3 In 2013 the Control Centre operating equipment was upgraded, which increased our ability to offer additional services, such as corporate lone worker monitoring and telecare provision and monitoring. A further report was approved by the Executive in January 2015 following extensive consultation with residents, which endorsed the recommendation to continue providing Control Centre services following the removal of Supporting People funding from the County Council.
- 3.4 Operating from a converted ground floor flat in Clarendon House a sheltered housing scheme, the Control Centre consists of a control room, office/store room, toilet and a kitchen area which is also used as the schemes communal kitchen and shared with residents. During the working day there can be up to five members of staff working from the two small rooms within the Control Centre, space is predominately occupied by the Control Centre operating equipment, which consists of two work stations and a server. In addition there are two PC's and printer. Lifeline alarms and other telecare equipment is also stored at the Control Centre. The small working environment not only means that there is often no working space for officers, but also means that there is increased noise which has the potential to affect Control Operators ability to handle calls received at the Control Centre.
- 3.5 The new Control Centre will enable us to provide a wider range of services to the whole of the community, particularly to those suffering from Dementia or other progressive illness. Equipment that can be installed in residents' homes to support their independence and monitor wellbeing will be more readily available with increased storage, enabling us to respond to service requests from residents, their families and carers.
- 3.6 In developing this proposal the views and experiences of staff working at the Control Centre have sought and considered and subject to approval a more formal consultation will take place with staff affected by the relocation.
- 3.7 In addition to the issues highlighted, the Control Centre deals with largely sensitive data and calls requiring an emergency response, access to the Control Centre is also required throughout the day and night and weekends. It is also important to point out that in the event of The Hub being unable to operate because of an unforeseen event such as telephone line failure, office closure/evacuation, the Control Centre would act as the emergency back up and therefore would need to operate outside the main Hub building to support business continuity arrangements for the council.
- 3.8 The three bedroom Warden house at Castle Court has been selected as potential new site, for several reasons, including its size, location and parking. The house is integral to the Castle Court building and accessed via the sheltered housing scheme, property.
- 3.9 Relocating the Control Centre, including improved IT, not only improves the working environment for staff, but also enables us to provide additional drop down working and meeting space for other council staff outside the main Hub building.

- 3.10 Discussions have taken place with housing repairs and ICT to discuss and scope the proposed relocation of the Control Centre. The financial implications below include costings for the conversion works (estimated to be £28,000) and for updated and improved ICT provision (estimated to be approximately £10,000). Technical advice has been sourced from Tunstall Communications, our Control Centre equipment supplier, who have provided costs of supporting the relocation in terms of removing and reconnecting equipment from the current Control Centre to the new premises and totalling approximately £4000.
- 3.11 Whilst further work will be needed to confirm these costs, the estimated total cost to relocate the Control Centre will be approximately £42,000, and it is recommended that a supplementary budget request is made and that this work is funded from the HRA Community Alarm Upgrade Reserve which currently holds £152,000.
- 4. <u>EXEMPTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION</u> PROCEDURE RULES
- 4.1 The report is to be taken in open session.
- 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [TF]
- 5.1 The total cost of relocation is expected to be £42,000.
- 5.2 It is proposed the total cost of the scheme is funded from the HRA Piper Reserve which currently has a balance of £151,939. The table below summaries the estimated position for the reserve:

Balance at 31 March 2016	£151,939
Contribution to reserve in 2016/17	£10,400
Control Centre relocation costs	£(42,000)
Forecast Balance 31 March 2017	£120,339

From the estimated 2016/17 year end balance of £120,339, a further £105,000 has been earmarked for future improvements to the Community alarm system.

- 5.3 The property at Castle court is currently vacant. In 2015/16 the void rental loss was £3.844.
- 5.4 Should the property at Clarendon House become lettable the budgeted income would be £3,487.
- 5.5 In accordance with financial procedure rules the use of the reserve will require Executive approval
- 6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [AR]
- 6.1 As set out within the proposed costings of the proposed works the Council will be required to submit a planning application. This will seek permission for the change of use of Warden House.
- 7. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS
- 7.1 The proposed relocation of the Control Centre including improved IT infrastructure provides opportunities to improve efficiency, and provide a wider range of services to

residents and partners across the borough and in doing this seeks to support the following Corporate Aims:

Improve health & wellbeing

Identify & support the most vulnerable people

Identify & plan to meet the needs of the aging population

Effective, efficient and pro-active services

Accessible services for all

#### 8. CONSULTATION

8.1 Consultation will form part of the normal planning process with local residents, members of Sheltered Housing Working Group have also been made aware of our intentions to seek approval to relocate the Control Centre and are generally supportive, however more specific consultation meetings will be held with residents of both Castle Court and Clarendon House once the report has been considered.

#### 9. RISK IMPLICATIONS

9.1

Management of significant (Net Red) Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner
Unforeseen costs, leading to a need to	More accurate costings	Clive
increase the budget.	obtained and project plan	Taylor
	developed to oversee project	
	and spending. [	
Opposition to the proposals from local	Advice sought from Planning	Mark Tuff
residents through the planning process	colleagues prior to	
and consultation meetings	submission of planning	
	application.	

#### 10. KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY - EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The Control Centre provides services to the whole of the community, but particularly to older, vulnerable and disabled people who may require assistance at any time of the day or night. In addition the Control Centre provides 24 hour emergency response services to residents, business and other organisations within the borough when the Council is closed. These include:
  - Environmental Services
  - Lone Working monitoring
  - Homelessness
  - Housing Repairs
- 10.2 As the demand on these services grows it is essential that the premises in which these services are monitored and operated from are fit for purposes and able to deal with this increased demand.

# 11. <u>CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS</u>

- 11.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:
  - Community Safety implications
  - Environmental implications
  - ICT implications
  - Asset Management implications
  - Procurement implications
  - Human Resources implications
  - Planning implications
  - Data Protection implications

- Voluntary Sector

Contact Officer: Clive Taylor ext. 5890 Executive Member: Councillor C Boothby



A Borough to be proud of

#### FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND DECISION MAKING

SCRUTINY EXECUTIVE

6 OCTOBER 2016 19 OCTOBER 2016

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

#### **CARBON MANAGEMENT 2008-2016**

#### **Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Community Direction)**

- PURPOSE OF REPORT
- 1.1 To report on reductions in carbon emissions arising from the H&BBC Carbon Management Plan from 2008 to March 2016 and the successful achievement of the reduction target. To report on Greenhouse Gas emissions from 2009 to March 2016 and to set future reduction targets.
- 2. RECOMMENDATION
- 2.1 Executive notes the achievement in reducing council CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 25.5% compared with 2008-09 exceeding the target of a 20% reduction by March 2016.
- 2.2 Executive agrees a new target of a 35% reduction in net Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the 2009-10 baseline by March 2020 as part of the council's commitment to reducing Climate Change.
- 3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT
- 3.1 HBBC developed a Carbon Management Plan (CMP) in 2009 as part of the Carbon Trust Local Authority Carbon Management Programme. The CMP outlined the Council's approach to reducing its emissions and set a target of reducing carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions by 20% by 2013/14, relative to the baseline year 2008/09. These emissions were calculated using the Government's NI 185 spreadsheet and measure only CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. With the abolition of the Local Area Agreements and national performance indicators in 2010, this council continued this target as part of its Climate Change Action Plan. The target was revised in March 2012 to achieve the 20% reduction target by March 2016.
- 3.2 In 2010 Local authorities were required to report Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from their premises and transport activities. Whilst similar to the  $CO_2$  emissions the GHG emissions also included methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) equivalents, as set out by DECC/DEFRA guidelines. Units are represented as tonnes of  $CO_2$

- equivalents ( $TCO_{2e}$ ). Each year since the council has reported its emissions against the 2009-10 baseline and posted the report on its website. This has then been reported in national figures by DECC.
- 3.3 Over the intervening years the emission reductions were discussed and reported through the Scrutiny Environment Group and progress noted along with presentations of new and emerging technologies for energy efficiency both for the councils own stock and work undertaken by the Private Sector Housing team in encouraging energy efficiency and reduction across the borough.
- 3.4 Since 2009 the council has implemented the following measures which have contributed to the Carbon Management Plan and Climate Change Action Plan.
  - Closure of Middlefield Depot and relocation to more energy efficient buildings at Jubillee Buildings.
  - Closure of Argents Mead main offices, Florence House and relocation to the Hinckley Hub, a BREEAM Excellent building.
  - Installation of Photovoltaic panels on Hinckley Hub
  - Energy efficiency measures at the former Hinckley Leisure Centre including LED lighting, pool covers, improved energy management controls.
  - Renewal of fleet vehicles to more efficient modern vehicles with reduced emissions
  - Reduction in total business miles travelled by staff and change in ownership to less polluting vehicles
  - Upgrading of lighting in sheltered housing schemes
  - Upgrading of boilers and controls at Castle Court with solar preheating of water
  - Staff training and awareness with regular monitoring of usage of electricity and gas.
- 3.5 The results of these activities is that CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as reported under the NI185 format for 2015-16 have reduced by 25.5% against the 2008-09 baseline thereby exceeding the target of 20% by March 2016.
- 3.6 Net Greenhouse Gas emissions have reduced by 21.9% to 2,420  $TCO_{2e}$  from the 2009-10 baseline. The latest report on Green house Emmissions for 2015-16 is available at Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report 2015-16
- 3.7 Since 2008-09 HBBC has achieved:
  - 46% reduction in electricity consumption
  - o 32% reduction in gas consumption
  - o 17% reduction in total consumption of fleet fuel
  - o 27% reduction in business miles carried out by staff
  - 8% reduction in total energy cost against increasing prices
- 3.8 The old Hinckley Leisure Centre contributed over 50% of the total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for council premises and its closure and replacement with the new HLC should dramatically reduce emissions. The premises now has many energy efficiency measures such as combined heat and power boilers, the first fully LED lighting throughout leisure centre in the country, PIR lighting controls, a swimming pool air handling system to achieve ideal relative humidity, and installation of variable speed pump drives with web-based remote monitoring. Early indications are that the new HLC has generated 21% less CO<sub>2</sub> than the old HLC over the same four month period last year. Its BREEAM rating has been awarded as "Very Good".

- 3.9 The council through its management of sheltered housing and other community buildings will seek to implement further energy efficiency measures as part of ongoing maintenance and improvement. When replacing the vehicle fleet in 2018 it will consider emerging technologies for commercial vehicles and seek to reduce further fuel consumption and emissions of GHG. The continued purchase of "green electricity" with the resultant zero contribution to emissions remains an important feature of our energy procurement.
- 3.10 To encourage these further reductions it is suggested that the new target reflects the net GHG emissions from premises and transport and it is recommended that a target of a 35% reduction from the 2009-10 baseline is set to be achieved by March 2020.
- 4. <u>EXEMPTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION PROCEDURE RULES</u>
- 4.1 No exemptions.
- 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [IB]
- 5.1 None arising directly from the report. However future emission improvements will be met from existing budgets.
- 6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [AR]
- 6.1 None
- 7. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS
- 7.1 Cleaner and Greener communities
- 8. CONSULTATION
- 8.1 None external
- 9. RISK IMPLICATIONS
- 9.1 It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.
- 9.2 It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.
- 9.3 The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (Net Red) Risks			
Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner	
Adverse reputational impact if targets	Action plan of improvements	Rob	
are not met.	to achieve targets	Parkinson	
	_		

#### 10. KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The reduction in greenhouse gas emissions benefits all and contributes to reduced energy costs for the authority's finances.

# 11. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:
  - Community Safety implications
  - Private Sector Housing
  - Environmental implications
  - ICT implications
  - Asset Management implications
  - Procurement implications
  - Human Resources implications
  - Planning implications
  - Data Protection implications

- Voluntary Sector

Background papers: Greenhouse Gas Report 2015-16

Contact Officer: Rob Parkinson, Chief Officer (Environmental Health) ext 5641

Executive Member: Cllr Kevin Morrell

#### HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### **SCRUTINY COMMISSION**

#### 6 OCTOBER 2016 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Mr MR Lay - Chairman

Mrs R Camamile and Mr KWP Lynch – Vice-Chairman

Mr WJ Crooks, Mr K Nichols (for Mr SL Bray), Mrs J Richards, Mr BE Sutton, Mr P Wallace, Mr R Ward, Mr HG Williams and Ms BM Witherford (for Mr DC Bill MBE)

Also in attendance: Councillor SL Rooney and Councillor MJ Surtees

Officers in attendance: Steve Atkinson, Julie Kenny, Rob Parkinson, Stephen Meynell, Caroline Roffey and Nic Thomas

#### 187 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Bill and Bray, with the following substitutions authorised in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4:

Councillor Witherford for Councillor Bill Councillor Nichols for Councillor Bray.

#### 189 <u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>

No interests were declared at this stage.

#### 191 CARBON MANAGEMENT

The Scrutiny Commission received a report which outlined progress on the reduction in carbon emissions as set out within the Carbon Management Plan. Members welcomed the report and congratulated officers for achieving more than the target set. It was noted that this also delivered significant financial savings which would be circulated to members, along with details of the contribution of the photovoltaic cells on Hinckley Hub, following the meeting.

A member enquired whether air quality in the borough was still measured and it was reported that it was and that a report on Air Quality Management could be brought to a future meeting.

# RESOLVED -

- (i) the achievement of a 25.5% reduction of council CO<sub>2</sub> emissions be welcomed and the Executive be RECOMMENDED to agree the new target of 35%;
- (ii) A report on Air Quality Management across the Borough be brought to a future meeting.

(The Meeting closed at 7.52 pm)

