

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMISSION

23 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Mr MR Lay - Chairman  
Mrs R Camamile and Mr KWP Lynch – Vice-Chairman  
Mr SL Bray, Mr DS Cope (for Mr DC Bill MBE), Mr WJ Crooks, Mr DW MacDonald,  
Mr RB Roberts, Mr BE Sutton, Mr R Ward and Mr HG Williams

Also in attendance: Councillor MA Cook, Councillor M Hall, Councillor K Morrell and  
Councillor MJ Surtees

Officers in attendance: Bill Cullen, Nadeem Din, Paul Grundy, Simon D Jones, Julie  
Kenny, Rob Parkinson, Aftab Razzaq, Kirstie Rea and Ashley Wilson

213 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Bill, with the substitution of  
Councillor D Cope authorised in accordance with council procedure rule 10.

215 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared at this stage.

218 STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN

The Scrutiny Commission received a report which outlined the countywide partnership  
work undertaken in preparation of the strategic growth plan for Leicester and  
Leicestershire. It was noted that all of the Leicestershire authorities were taking the  
report through the same governance process with the same recommendations.

A member expressed concern that there were confused messages about whether the  
document was public or private and clarity over the capacity for dwellings in the A46  
growth corridor. Questions were raised as to whether it would be feasible due to the  
infrastructure.

In relation to development of the A46 corridor, it was acknowledged that this had been  
needed for some time and was also being requested via the Midland Connect strategy  
along with an A4 expressway. A member raised the concern that the A5 had been  
highlighted as an issue twenty years earlier but had still not been resolved, and the A46  
corridor could follow a similar pattern. It was highlighted that the report stated the  
strategy was predicated on being infrastructure-led and was a requirement in order to  
deliver the growth. Furthermore, the local MP had agreed to host a meeting of all A5  
corridor MPs with transport ministers to secure support for investment in the A5.

Concern was expressed about the documents that would be presented to the public as  
part of the consultation. In response it was explained that there would be a suite of  
documents, including a quick and easy explanation of the plan, and that public  
exhibitions were still being considered as part of the consultation on the local plan  
review. Members felt that an exhibition or public events were necessary.

Further concern was expressed in relation to the A47, particularly due to developments coming forward and the increased traffic causing bottlenecks, which would become more problematic over the ensuing five to ten years.

Whilst not feeling comfortable endorsing the report, the Scrutiny Commission agreed to note the report and that it would be presented to Council. It was also proposed that the consultation process and timetable be enhanced.

RESOLVED –

- (i) The report and intention to present it to Council be noted;
- (ii) It be RECOMMENDED that the consultation process and timetable be enhanced.