



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Forward timetable of consultation and decision making

Scrutiny Commission	25 March 2021
Council	20 April 2021

Wards affected: All Wards

Hinckley & Bosworth Economic Regeneration Strategy 2021 - 2025

Report of Director (Environment & Planning)

1. Purpose of report

1.1 This report concerns the new Economic Regeneration Strategy 2021 – 2025.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That members endorse the Economic Regeneration Strategy 2021 – 2025.

3. Background to the report

3.1 The overall aim of the Economic Regeneration Strategy 2021- 2025 is to promote economic well-being for all local businesses and residents across the whole of the borough. In particular it incorporates policies that will help both businesses and residents build economic resilience to combat the difficulties that many are facing due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3.2 The new strategy includes both policies that are being taken forward from the previous strategy covering the period 2016 to 2020 (some slightly adapted) because they have proved effective and are still relevant to the current economic climate, together with some new ones. It also includes policies that are COVID related and have been worked up through various recovery groups that have been set up as a direct result of the pandemic. It uses the Hinckley & Bosworth COVID-19 Recovery Strategy as a base document for these COVID related elements.

3.3 A business survey, widely publicised through our business database and social media, was carried out in September 2020 to help capture the impacts on businesses of COVID-19 and to ask what support they would like to be

provided with moving forward. One of the questions asked was what should be the top priority for the new Economic Regeneration Strategy over the next few years. Answers to this question have been incorporated into the COVID recovery related policies.

3.4 The draft strategy was subject to a four week consultation period that closed on Friday 18 December 2020 and six detailed responses were received. These have been incorporated and the strategy amended accordingly. The strategy is in Appendix A.

3.5 Appendix B gives an update on work undertaken from April 2019 to March 2020 including ongoing initiatives, in order to fulfil the aims of the Action Plan of the Economic Regeneration Strategy 2016–2020 and was an important reference in the new strategy's preparation.

4. Exemptions in accordance with the Access to Information procedure rules

4.1 This report will be taken in open session.

5. Financial implications [CS]

5.1 None arising directly from this report. Any future funding for projects will be requested in accordance with financial procedure rules.

6. Legal implications [MR]

6.1 None

7. Corporate Plan implications

7.1 The new Economic Regeneration Strategy has synergy with the Corporate Plan's vision as a 'Place of Opportunity'. Particularly under 'Prosperity' by 'Supporting the regeneration of our town centres and villages' and 'Boosting economic growth and regeneration by encouraging investment that will provide new jobs and places to live and work all over the borough'.

8. Consultation

8.1 The new Economic Regeneration Strategy was subject to public consultation via the council's website, our business database and through liaising with key partnerships.

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
None		

10. Knowing your community – equality and rural implications

10.1 Projects put forward in the Economic Regeneration Strategy generally have a good spread over the whole of the Borough to include both the urban and rural areas.

10.2 It is considered that this report will not have any effect on equality for any of the protected characteristics and therefore no further analysis or action is necessary.

11. Climate implications

11.1 A section of the strategy is devoted to climate change and relates to the council's declared climate emergency. Furthermore it considers climate implications in its policies generally e.g. the Hinckley Town Centre Public Realm Masterplan promotes improved walking and cycling routes.

12. Corporate implications

12.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications – none directly as a result of this report
- Environmental implications – various projects identified in this report will have a positive impact
- ICT implications - none directly as a result of this report
- Asset Management implications - none directly as a result of this report
- Procurement implications - none directly as a result of this report
- Human Resources implications - none directly as a result of this report
- Planning implications – planning matters will be dealt with, when appropriate, through the regeneration projects being brought forward
- Data Protection implications - none directly as a result of this report
- Voluntary Sector – the voluntary sector is supported through a number of initiatives identified in this report.

Background papers: None
 Contact officer: Judith Sturley, Tel 01455 255855
 Executive member: Councillor S Bray