

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMISSION

25 MARCH 2021 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr MR Lay - Chairman  
Cllr C Ladkin and Cllr P Williams – Vice-Chairmen

Cllr JMT Collett, Cllr MJ Crooks, Cllr SM Gibbens, Cllr K Morrell, Cllr A Pendlebury,  
Cllr MC Sheppard-Bools and Cllr R Webber-Jones

Also in attendance: Councillor CM Allen, Councillor RG Allen, Councillor MB Cartwright,  
Councillor MA Cook and Councillor HG Williams

Officers in attendance: Matthew Bowers, Valerie Bunting, Bill Cullen, Malcolm Evans,  
Simon D Jones, Julie Kenny, Stephen Meynell, Rebecca Owen, Sharon Stacey and  
Ashley Wilson

679 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared at this stage.

681 ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY 2021 TO 2025

Consideration was given to the Economic Regeneration Strategy 2021-2025 which had  
been through a period of consultation. It was noted that the strategy followed on from the  
previous edition which expired in 2020. The following points were noted:

- Responses to the consultation from businesses were included in the document
- The document followed the themes of the corporate plan and visions associated  
with those themes
- The action plan for the final year of the previous strategy was included.

During discussion, the following points were raised:

- An action plan would be created from the strategy once the strategy had been  
adopted
- The reference to young people in relation to skills and economy was welcomed
- The pandemic had had an impact on residents and activities would take place to  
support people and also the subsequent impact on businesses in the borough
- The document needed to be updated to reflect the fact that the UK had left the  
single market
- Concern about the amount of logistics developments as communities were  
suffering but not necessarily benefitting from the jobs created.

A member expressed concern about the sustainability of the town centre and in  
response it was noted that over 80% of businesses in Hinckley were independent and it  
was evident from the banking crisis and more recently that these had fared better in  
difficult economic climates. It was also noted that the Heritage Action Zone had secured  
investment for the town centre.

It was suggested that representatives from the logistics sector be invited to a future meeting to provide evidence relating to employment.

RESOLVED – the report be endorsed.