



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices • Ebley Mill • Ebley Wharf • Stroud • GL5 4UB

Telephone 01453 766321 • Facsimile 01453 750932

www.stroud.gov.uk

STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Leadership Gloucestershire
DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED	26 September 2023

BRIEF REPORT:

White Paper for Local Government

The Local Government Association attended to provide a short presentation on the work that they are currently doing around a potential White Paper for Local Government. They requested evidence and/or case studies which demonstrate how fully empowered Local Government can lead public service reform for better places and services. GCC are collating examples across Gloucestershire for submission to the LGA prior to Christmas. Recommendations for local government from the recent Net Zero Review report by Chris Skidmore were shared with the LGA team for inclusion in the White Paper.

County Deals

Pete Bungard, CE of GCC, advised that GCC are expecting to hear from Central Government regarding the Level 2 County deal in the very near future. It is anticipated that the County will be offer a 'template' deal, providing little or no opportunity to negotiate the terms.

Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee and City Region Board

Gareth Edmundson, CE of Cheltenham BC, gave a brief update. The GEGJC has now had its last meeting and work to amend the Inter Authority Agreement to reflect the new City Region Board is almost complete. Subject to all Councils ratifying the amended IAA in October/early November the first meeting of the new City Region Board will be held at the end of November.

Western Gateway

Pete Bungard, CE of GCC, advised that discussions around Severn Edge were still ongoing and that a brochure had now been produced to attract investment. The Hydrogen Working Group has been established. A reception on the Strategic Rail Vision for 2050 was recently held in the House of Lords. The Severn Estuary Steering Committee is now recruiting Commissioners but has not yet appointed a Chair. A major piece of work looking at tidal energy opportunities in the Severn Estuary by WSP is nearing completion, and in parallel the Welsh Government have launched a £750k Tidal Lagoon Challenge grant fund.

Local Plans



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Meetings had been scheduled between GCC and SDC to discuss infrastructure, particularly M5 junction capacity and the impact on the Local Plan process. The Chair proposed that a presentation on infrastructure projects will be presented to the next meeting.

One Gloucestershire ICS

A presentation was received from One Gloucestershire ICS on their current Exemplar Themes and Medium Term Financial Strategy, with challenges noted in the financial position.

FUTURE MEETINGS	5 December 2023
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Cllr Catherine Braun, Leader Claire Hughes, Corporate Director (Monitoring Officer)
DATE	26 September 2023