



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee
DATE OF LAST MEETING	20 October 2021
ATTENDED	17 November 2021
BRIEF REPORT:	
<u>20 October 2021:</u>	
<p>The principal agenda item was a detailed review by Luisa Senft-Hayward, GCC Transport Planning Team Manager, of current work under the Local Transport Plan 2020-2041 (adopted March 2021) – this was a joint session with GCC Environment Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>Sustainable travel choices came very high on the list of public concerns in the consultation carried out for the Plan, and low carbon infrastructure is therefore reflected throughout the Plan's goals. However, large parts of Gloucestershire are rural, and as such represent the biggest emitters of transport-related CO2 emissions, with the longest trips and the journeys hardest to switch to other modes. Performance indicators for the Plan objectives for increasing cycling and bus usage show that these are not yet on track (as at March 2021).</p> <p>Luisa set out the opportunities in active travel, demand responsive travel and homeworking in rural areas, along with mass rapid transport for urban areas and the importance of transport hubs for integration with other services. There have been some successes in the improvement of rail services. Funding opportunities are being pursued wherever possible.</p> <p>Neil Hopwood from GFirstLEP presented a paper on the Getting Building Fund Programme and a case study on the Gloucestershire Renewable Energy, Energy & Nuclear Skills (GREEN) Centre at Berkeley. The LEP successfully bid for £11.3m under the GBF which has been allocated to five projects – all are on track for delivery by April 2022. The GREEN project has attracted £25m of further investment, and companies such as Active Building Centre, Green Fuels, Cavendish Nuclear, as well as the UoG and Gloucestershire Constabulary, are moving/have moved onto the site.</p>	
<u>17 November 2021:</u>	
<p>Presentations on Modern Methods of Construction were received from a number of industry operators – Bromford, Ilke Homes, Beattie Passive and Forest Homes. This was the second of three sessions (the first being an introduction to MMC, the final one being a future session with property developers). All of the speakers were focussed on delivering zero carbon homes by 2030, responding to upcoming changes in building regulations and (from 2025) a no-gas approach.</p> <p>There are challenges around cost, both in land value and materials, plus the huge development costs incurred in developing the new MMC approach, but ultimately there are savings available because the build is so much quicker with a modular approach.</p>	

Technology is moving fast, and new jobs are being created, pulling workers into the modular build market from factory-based industries. Test homes are costing around 80p per day to run and should be cheaper than traditionally built homes within three years. There are also health benefits to be had from living in warm homes with clean ventilation.

Pete Carr and Neil Hopwood from GFirstLEP presented on the Gloucestershire Infrastructure Investment Fund and on the Employment & Skills agenda.

Colin Chick, Executive Director of Economy, Environment & Infrastructure presented an update on economic growth issues in the county.

FUTURE MEETINGS	19 January 2022 16 March 2022 31 May 2022 22 September 2022
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Cllr Chloe Turner
DATE	17 November 2021