



# 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

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY</b>     | Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee |
| <b>DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED</b> | 22 September 2022                                  |

#### BRIEF REPORT:

#### 1. Golden Valley Development Project Update

Paul Minnis of Cheltenham District Council shared with the Committee the plans for the Golden Valley Development <https://www.goldenvalleyuk.com/>, envisaged as a Garden Community integrating hi-tech business, residential and leisure uses. A proposed National Cyber Innovation Centre will be at the heart of the development, with the intention of boosting Cheltenham's international reputation for cyber and providing high quality jobs for the housing element of the site (1,100 homes across CBC land and the northern section of the site which will be developed by St Modwen) and the local area. The site, allocated as A7 in the Joint Core Strategy, is adjacent to GCHQ, and will be developed in partnership with HBD X Factory.

Members had questions on affordable homes (35% provision), renewable energy (detailed plans are work-in-progress but renewable energy and green infrastructure are fundamental principles in the master plan) and Building with Nature accreditation (the project has been designed to comply with these standards). There was also discussion on the impact of additional vehicle movements on existing high traffic volumes in this part of Cheltenham. Paul was urged by GCC's Simon Excell to make contact the relevant GCC officer lead for Health, Education, Transport, etc at an early stage (where this has not yet been done). CBC expect to apply for outline planning permission for the development in the spring.

#### 2. Gloucestershire Statement of Common Ground – update

Tracey Birkinshaw updated the committee on the approvals of the Gloucestershire SOCG (Tewkesbury BC are expected to approve soon, all other councils alongside GFirst LEP have already done so) and explained that an action plan will now be developed to deliver actions arising from the SOCG. This plan will have linkages to other key desired outcomes, such as those of Climate Leadership Gloucestershire. SEDF funding is to be sought to resource the action plan.

#### 3. GCC Economic Dashboard

GCC's Katherine Martin presented a wide-ranging report of key economic indicators for the county. Members found this interesting and helpful, and it was agreed that Katherine would return on a regular basis with updates to the data.



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### 4. Future workplan

Officers were keen that an item referred to the Committee by GEGJC (regarding bus services) should await the launch of the Bus Services task and finish group later in the year, but members with inboxes full of bus-related queries, myself included, felt that the matter was too urgent for any further delay – it was agreed that a short report would be brought to a joint meeting of JEGSC and the Environment Scrutiny Committee as soon as practicable, with a fuller report to follow.

I requested an update on each of the Gloucestershire Strategic Economic Plan (as referred to in the Committee's purpose statement - now the Local Industrial Strategy) and on the long term funding strategy for infrastructure delivery countywide – both added to workplan.

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|----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>FUTURE MEETINGS</b>     | 29 November 2022  |
| <b>REPORT SUBMITTED BY</b> | Cllr Chloe Turner |
| <b>DATE</b>                | 28 September 2022 |