



# 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/OFFICER REPORT

<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY</b>	Regeneration and Investment Board
<b>DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED</b>	28 September 2022

### BRIEF REPORT:

The last meeting of the Regeneration and Investment Board (RIB) took place on 28 September 2022 and the following items were discussed:

#### **Stroud District Prospectus**

The Board received an update from consultants One Voice Media on progress with the preparation of a prospectus for Stroud District, fulfilling a commitment in the Council Plan to:

***Attract investment by setting out the offer of Stroud District in a new 'Place Prospectus' to highlight the district's achievements and future priorities (Council Plan ER 3.1).***

One Voice colleagues explained that work to date had concentrated on reviewing key plans and strategies and meeting different local groups and organisations to get a clear picture of our district and its priorities.

The Prospectus, which would be mainly web based and encompass the whole district, would be completed during December 2022.

Board members were complimentary about progress to date and suggested a number of additional organisations for One Voice Media to talk to.

Further briefing sessions have now been arranged for **28 November**, where managers and elected members will be able to view and comment on a further developed version of the prospectus.

#### **Stroudwater Rail Station**

The Board considered a Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) that had been prepared to support the potential re-opening of the rail station at Stonehouse Bristol Road, known as Stroudwater Station.

The deadline for submission of the SOBC to the Department for Transport was Friday 30 Sept 2022 and the endorsement of RIB was given for the submission.

The Council had been working with Stonehouse Town Council and a Steering Group of other stakeholders (including GCC and GFirstLEP) to develop a high level SOBC. This has looked at other non-rail options for improving public transport connectivity between Stroud District and Bristol/Gloucester and at other potential rail station locations between Stonehouse and Haresfield. If the SOBC is successful, we will be asked to work with Department for Transport and Network Rail on a more detailed Outline Business Case during 2023.



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### Information Items

The Board noted a number of Project Highlight Reports that had been submitted for information, including Brimscombe Port, One Public Estate (Zero Carbon Project), May Lane (Dursley) and the Levelling Up Fund bid. An announcement on Levelling Up bids is now expected by the end of this calendar year, noting that SDC had submitted a bid for £16.7m.

It was noted that Tricorn House had been sold and that SDC's Development Management team had been in early contact to establish plans and advise, as necessary. SDC would continue to press for the early redevelopment of the site.

It was reported that the Severn Edge (Berkeley and Oldbury) bid to host the world's first prototype commercial fusion plant and science/R&D park had unfortunately not been successful. The Government had announced that the project would be hosted in Nottinghamshire. Work would continue with partners to promote the attributes of Severn Edge, and the Berkeley site in particular.

<b>FUTURE MEETINGS</b>	30 November 2022 (bi-monthly meetings in 2023 to be arranged)
<b>REPORT SUBMITTED BY</b>	Brendan Cleere
<b>DATE</b>	15 November 2022