



STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Leadership Gloucestershire
DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED	13 December 2022

BRIEF REPORT:

In addition to brief verbal updates on the Covid and Flu Vaccination Programme, the One Gloucestershire Integrated Care System and Western Gateway, the meeting considered written / verbal reports on the following:

Gloucestershire Strategic Migration Partnership

Siobhan Farmer, GCC's Director of Public Health, introduced a paper proposing the establishment of a Gloucestershire Strategic Migration Partnership. The Strategic Housing Partnership has been doing a good job of accommodating and supporting the waves of refugees from Afghanistan, Syria, Hong Kong and Ukraine and addressing the need to accommodate asylum seekers but it is clear that the international and national context around migration and resettlement is changing. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that the number of refugees who will require resettlement in 2023 will be 36% higher than in 2022 due to the emergence of new conflicts and displacement crises in addition to the protraction of existing ones. A paper set out the UK context and that a new approach needs to be taken to address it as existing structures and staffing arrangements in the county are insufficient.

A new partnership is proposed to coordinate support for the various resettlement schemes. The Gloucestershire Strategic Migration Partnership would use existing scheme funding from the various resettlement schemes to better coordinate the county's response and support. The Partnership would comprise key people from appropriate services, districts, public and voluntary sector partners and bodies who would support statutory and voluntary partners to meet the needs of those arriving and have clear oversight of needs and challenges of different groups. The Partnership would report periodically or by exception to the Gloucestershire Chief Executives (who in turn would report up through Leadership Gloucestershire) and work with the Regional Strategic Migration Partnership to maintain clear links with the regional and national context.

The paper set out the challenges that the new Partnership would face and Terms of Reference, including membership. In common with the other districts, SDC would have a senior officer on the partnership. The paper received full support from Leadership Gloucestershire.



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Levelling Up White Paper and County Deals

Pete Bungard, CE of GCC, advised that there was no further news on when we might hear more about Levelling Up Fund round 2.

It had been confirmed by the new Government that Investment Zones introduced by the Truss Government would not be continuing and therefore the work done on Expressions of Interest in the county would not be being taken forward.

In terms of county deals, it was GCC's intention to submit a letter of intent to the Secretary of State Michael Gove in January on a desire to reach a level 2 agreement (county deal without elected mayor, with access to a further 11 out of a potential 23 devolved powers from Central Government. GEGJC is already operating at level 1 and level 3, with elected mayor, could achieve access to all 23 powers so might be a future development). The proposition would be centred around the county's coterminous boundaries for GCC, the G First LEP, NHS and Police and based on the original devolution agreement worked on when Greg Clark was Secretary of State. The County Council hoped to share a draft with districts for comment just before Christmas and wanted to send the letter early in January.

Questions were asked about the continued inclusion of Investment Zone sites in any county deal bid going forward. GCC was giving that some consideration. There was also some discussion about the partnership role of district councils and the districts' desire to be more fully engaged.

Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee and City Region Board

Gareth Edmundson, CE of Cheltenham BC, gave a brief update. The outstanding issue to resolve is one of governance (specifically, who chairs the new City Region Board), and discussions with the County Council to attempt to reach a solution were ongoing.

FUTURE MEETINGS	Wednesday 1 March 2023, 2pm Tuesday 20 June, 10am Tuesday 26 September, 2pm Tuesday 5 December, 10am
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Cllr Catherine Braun, Leader Kathy O'Leary, Chief Executive
DATE	19 January 2023