

# Briefing Note

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

**Title:** **Wolverhampton Strategic Economic Plan Consultation Draft**

**Prepared by:** **Heather Clark**

**Date:** **12 February 2019**

**Intended Audience:** Internal  Partner organisation  Public  Confidential

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## **Purpose or recommendation**

To comment on the draft Wolverhampton Strategic Economic Plan.

## **Overview**

To provide an overview of the background to the development of the Wolverhampton Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) and invite feedback on the consultation draft.

## **Background and context**

The City Strategy, Prosperity for All, was published in 2011 and provides the overarching Economic Strategic Framework for the City. It was ratified by full Council and developed in collaboration with a wide range of partners across the city. The City Strategy formed the basis of much of the Council's Corporate Plan, particularly in helping to shape the Council's economic policies, priorities and actions.

Its revision reflects significant changes in context in which the City operates including creation of the West Midlands Combined Authority, changes to local government finance, growing confidence in Wolverhampton and the new City Vision 2030.

Wolverhampton Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) complements a series of national, regional and sub-regional plans, including the Government's Industrial Strategy, West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy, Growth Company Business Plan and Black Country SEP, as outlined in the consultation draft. It aims to support delivery of these strategies locally and contribute to their outcomes including boosting productivity, supporting economic growth, generating jobs, supporting regeneration and job creation.

Stronger City Economy Scrutiny Panel fed into the design of the SEP at its meeting in April 2018. We are now inviting comments on the consultation draft of the Strategic Economic Plan in advance of the final version being taken to Cabinet for signoff in March 2019.

## **Wolverhampton Strategic Economic Plan**

Wolverhampton's consultation draft Strategic Economic plan: Delivering Prosperity for All aims to deliver inclusive growth (business, innovators, entrepreneurs and a skilled workforce) and create the conditions for growth (infrastructure and planning for the future) through four main themes:

- An enterprising city
- A working and inclusive city
- A vibrant city
- A future city

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The Plan highlights key achievements for the city since the City Strategy was developed and ongoing challenges. The Plan aims to support economic growth by addressing the key components of productivity: jobs, skills and economy as well as supporting a vibrant city and city for the future. The Action Plan identifies priority actions against each theme.

Formal consultation is taking place during January and February 2019 for a condensed period given the extensive consultation with partners during its development. This allows the final SEP to be considered at Cabinet on 20 March 2019 in advance of full council approval in April 2019 in line with the Corporate Plan timescale. Comments are invited to [Service.Development@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:Service.Development@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

Consultees to date informing the plans development have included Wolverhampton City Board, Economic Growth Board and Employment and Skills Board including organisations set out in Appendix 1.

## **Appendix 1: SEP Consultees**

City Board  
Economic Growth Board  
Skills and Employment Board  
Stronger City Economy Scrutiny Panel  
CWC Leadership Teams and Portfolio boards  
City of Wolverhampton Council Councillors  
City of Wolverhampton College  
University of Wolverhampton  
Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council  
Local businesses  
The Royal Wolverhampton NHS  
West Midlands Police  
NHS Wolverhampton CCG  
Department of Work and Pensions  
Wolverhampton Homes  
Bilston Resources Centre  
School representatives  
Business Improvement District  
Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club