

Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (GEGSC) Report to O&S

The meeting took place on Wednesday 20th October at 13:30. You can find a recording of the meeting here:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/online-meetings/gloucestershire-economic-growth-scrutiny-committee-wednesday-20-october-2021-130-pm/>

This was a special joint meeting with the Environment Scrutiny Meeting as Transport impinges on both the Economy and the Environment (not to mention the daily lives of our residents).

The Local Transport Presentation by Luisa Senft-Hayward starts about two minutes in. It is an excellent summary of a 300-page document. The link above includes a link to the Committee Agenda and papers. You really need to listen to the presentation whilst viewing the presentation full screen. The resolution of the video is hopeless for reading the detail.

Link to the LTP presentation slides:

<https://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/documents/s75654/LTP%20Post%20Adoption%20Update%20-%20Env%20Scrutiny%20201021%20v3%20without%20notes.pdf>

The presentation is about 30 minutes followed by Q&A. During the Q&A, there is mention of the LTP Annual Progress Reports. These come out each year, and demonstrate progress with plans, and in particular show measurements so that year on year progress can be seen. This is still a work in progress, as more monitoring is needed. For instance, it's not just about whether or not the Gloucester to Cheltenham cycle link is completed, it is about how many people are using the cycle route, how many car journeys are 'saved', and how much bus times improve (if indeed they do!). Link here:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/transport/gloucestershires-local-transport-plan-2020-2041/ltm-monitoring/>

The second item is the report from the GFirst LEP. There is a report in the Agenda pack, but the slides used in the presentation are here:

<https://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/documents/s75964/Scrutiny%20Committee%20Slides%2020-10-21%20v1.pdf>

The Minster Innovation Exchange in Cheltenham features significantly, and there is a fascinating overview of the five projects happening around Gloucestershire, all focusing on innovation and providing people with the skills they will need for our green/cyber future. The five projects featured were all 'shovel-ready' when the Govt made its urgent call for projects that were ready to go and so could help kickstart the economy after COVID. It is a good insight into the work of the GFirstLEP.

There are revised dates for future meetings of the Scrutiny Committee (plus workplan), so that the committee will not be taking place the afternoon of the same day that the GEG Joint Committee meets, which used to happen. This should give the scrutiny committee a better opportunity to properly scrutinise what is taking place in the Joint Committee (a county-wide committee, including the six Leaders to enable decisions to be made on County-wide priorities affecting more than one District.)

Paul McCloskey
21 October 2021