

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL'S SELECT COMMITTEES

SCRUTINY OF:

- Economy and Growth: Programme for Growth (including Levelling Up White Paper and County Deals)

Date Considered: 15 December 2021

Select Committee: Communities, Environment and Highways

Economy and Growth: Programme for Growth (including Levelling Up White Paper and County Deals)

Community, Environment and Highways Select Committee scrutinised Economy and Growth: Programme for Growth (including Levelling Up White Paper and County Deals) progress report presented by the Leader of the Council and Executive Director Partnerships, Prosperity and Growth. This report provides the Select Committee's recommendations for the Cabinet.

Recommendations:

In welcoming the report, Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee recommended:

1. Enhancement and alignment of the publicly available Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) by the service to better support the Surrey County Council's strategic priority outcome of 'Growing a sustainable economy from which everyone can benefit' – some of the KPIs should have a shorter timescale to assess and monitor progress with a definition of what is meant by 'sustainable growth';
2. A timely assessment of the implication for the economic growth and greener futures agendas should Surrey not be chosen for a pilot County Deal;
3. A more explicit focus on how the County's ambitious Economic Growth Strategy is an integral component of its equally ambitious Climate Change ambitions (the economic growth is consistent with climate change, greener futures and net zero ambitions of the Council);
4. Identification, awareness and reporting of who is responsible for delivery and monitoring (Paragraph 29 of the report presented to the Select Committee) the impact of the performance;
5. A further report to the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee to include updates on:

- a. Detailed information following the publication of the Levelling Up White Paper;
- b. LEP review and future course of action;
- c. Specific information and clarity about the delivery and monitoring aspects, including publicly available key performance indicators to assess and monitor progress;
- d. How the Council holds economic ambitions and priority objectives and climate change ambitions and priority objectives in balance, to ensure a sustainable economy for Surrey;
- e. Feedback and lessons about the highways/regeneration pilots (e.g. Horley, Staines, Farnham etc.);
- f. 5G roll-out and communication with local stakeholders including Members and small businesses;
- g. Progress on discussion with Hampshire County Council and on Economic Prosperity Board;
- h. Any other relevant update relating to County Deal, LEP review, economy and growth, including response to aforementioned points 1-4.

Request for information/action:

- i. Request for the Cabinet to share reports presented to The Growth Board to the Select Committee.
- ii. Officers to share details of the Innovation Loan Fund when they are ready.

John O'Reilly
Chairman of the Community, Environment & Highways Select
Committee