

Economic Development, Transport and Climate Emergency (EDTCE) Scrutiny Commission

Work Programme 2022-23

Date	Meeting Items	Actions / Recommendations
23 Jun 22	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TROs – standing item (Beauville Drive) 2. Construction Skills Hub update and Employment Hub Update 3. Verbal update re: Workplace Parking Levy Consultation 	<p>Items 2 deferred from the previous civic year.</p> <p>Question from ‘Climate Action Leicester’ re: <i>will the new Beaumont Leys Park and Ride site include installation of solar panels for renewable energy generation?</i></p> <p>In response by officers: <i>the department was currently at the design stage and were looking at the inclusion of solar panels as part of the scheme.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TRO re Beauville Drive– members comments to be taken into account by officers. 2. Construction Skills and Employment Hub item: Members welcomed the report, requested further updates on outcomes in the future and any information on obstacles for ethnic minority groups. 3. Workplace Parking Levy item verbal update: summary of progress provided, still working on processing the results of the consultation, once available will report back to the commission.
31 Aug 22	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TROs – standing item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A50 FiveWays 2. Leicester Enhanced Bus Partnership (from 23rd June) presentation 3. Carbon Neutral Road Map report 4. Levelling Up Fund Round 2 – Connecting St. Margaret’s submission presentation. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TRO Five Ways item: Officers to take into account the points raised by Cllrs Bhatia and Waddington e.g. impacts to increased traffic and pollution on narrow side streets like Duncan and Bonchurch Streets. 2. Bus Partnership item: Members praised and welcomed the report, esp the new green line hop free service. Comm to receive report back in 6 months. 3. Carbon Neutral Road Map item: Members praised the detailed report. Comm to receive report back in 6 months. 4. Levelling Up Fund item: The report bid proposal to remove the underpass agreed by members.

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22 Sept 22	<p>Additional Special meeting: Draft Local Plan item</p> <p>EDTCE comm members invited to the Housing Scrutiny Comm meeting for JOINT scrutiny of the local plan.</p>	<p>Key points raised by members on Draft Local Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A key factor in the Plan was the need to provide enough development land to meet the social housing needs of the community over the coming decades. b) A more general point made related to the relationship between housing and employment. It was felt those provisions should be near each other to reduce travel time and costs and to curtail air pollution impacts. c) Members were also concerned that space standards for new buildings be clearly set out in the Local Plan. d) Another concern that had been raised was the planning for high-rise buildings. Members were concerned that isolated high-rise blocks were a worse option than high-rise development near existing similar schemes. e) Finally, there was discussion about brownfield sites. It was felt some could be developed, though members were warned that the Environment Agency had stopped the development of several sites because of the risk of flooding. Members had asked for a summary report on brownfield sites across the city and their status in terms of what obstacles there were in developing them.

<p style="text-align: center;">12 Oct 22</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TROs – standing item (if any) 2. TCF Schemes: tbc (if any) 3. Questions, Representation etc..(a question has come in - to be added to agenda) 4. Workplace Parking Levy – verbal update 5. Leicester Labour Market Annual Report and Textiles CRF project 6. Inward Investment & Place Marketing Update 	<p>Questions from Nicola Royle submitted as a representation of Climate Action Leicester and Leicestershire.</p> <p>1) Does the Council have plans to ensure the electricity grid is upgraded so there is more capacity for increased electricity demand, for example to heat homes and power cars? <i>Answer: Leicester City Council were working with others who share the responsibility particularly the government to try and ensure that the efforts were made to support the City Council to meet the ambitions set out. The responsibility of the forecasting and the development of the infrastructure was with Western Power and National grid and engagement with both companies were ongoing over the local plan process. The Deputy City mayor further noted that although the local authority did not have full control of the organisations, whenever the authority came into contact with the organisations, the Carbon Neutral Road Map was part of the conversation and that the organisations worked with the authority to meet its ambitions. In the response to the follow up question on capacity, it was noted that the capacity was available to support the on-going projects and data was available to indicate this.</i></p> <p>2) Is the Council developing an action plan, with the County, to reduce and/or consolidate use of HGVs and shift freight onto trains? If so, what is the plan? <i>Answer: It was noted that there was a joint rail strategy with the County Council which includes a number of actions to reduce and consolidate the use of HGVs. The strategy can be found on the City Council website and that most of the developments outlined in the strategy require both authorities to facilitate and lobby rather than any direct relationship in terms of the authority funding or promoting particular schemes. Freight movements moved through many council areas. The Local Authority worked with the regional body Midlands Connect to have an over-arching strategy for the region, and they were developing a freight study working with all the other authorities within the Midlands Connect area and that this study should be published next year. Additionally, a further study was being commissioned as part of the Air Quality Action Plan to reduce nitrogen dioxide through various initiatives as part of the local plan and the adoption of the Eco-Stars Scheme. In response to the follow up question with moving freight onto trains, the Deputy City Mayor for Transport, Clean Air and Climate Emergency noted that the governments approach was building more roads which he did not agree with.</i></p> <p>Workplace Parking Levy – verbal update Members noted that as a result of the team working on a government initiative the consultation report had been delayed. however, the report was set to be published in the first week in November 2022</p> <p>Leicester Labour Market AR item The Chair thanked those involved in the extensive work carried out and report be noted, and a follow up report to come to the Commission for a future update.</p>
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		<p>Inward Investment & Place Marketing item Members noted the report, and thanked the team for the comprehensive report, and they be congratulated on the recognition and major award.</p>
7 Dec 22	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TROs – one item: Lutterworth bus lane extension 2. TCF Schemes: tbc (if any) 3. LLEP Annual Report 4. Levelling Up 1/2 Update 5. Findings and Analysis of Workplace Parking Levy Consultation 	<p>TRO - Lutterworth bus lane extension report Members raised concerns re: that if the scheme would not add value to the existing scheme, then the proposal should be reconsidered or an alternative option be considered. Conversations with local Ward Councillors and the objectors should also be carried out as permanent fixtures would be difficult to reverse.</p> <p>LLEP Annual Report item Members thanked the Interim Director for the report. The chair queried what information was available on the demographic breakdown of who was benefiting. It was noted that although it was difficult to get the breakdown of demographic data, this had now been commissioned through DMU. Furthermore, as a growth hub, work was ongoing to increase the reach into a diverse background.</p> <p>Levelling Up 1/2 update report Members requested that when infilling the underpass at St Margaret’s Bus Station as part of the reconstruction of that junction, provision for emergency services be considered. In recent events the fire service used the underpass to feed the hose to allow for traffic to flow on the road above. Additionally, it was suggested that the removal of the traffic lights at the junction on Grafton Street with Burleys Way would allow for a better flow of traffic.</p> <p>Workplace Parking Levy consultation report Members noted the report.</p>

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26 Jan 23	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft General Fund Revenue Budget and Draft Capital Programme 2023-24 2. Update on the Waterside Project 3. Report on the Community Renewal Fund Programme 4. Learning and Skills for Economic Recovery, Social Cohesion and a more equal Britain (Council of Skills Advisors Report) 	<p>Budget reports – revenue and capital That the comments raised by the Commission be considered, and that the Commission await the decision at Budget Council in February 2023.</p> <p>Waterside report That the service director considers the potential development of derelict sites and take steps to deliver more affordable housing to meet the pressing needs of the city. That the Officers be congratulated for the impressive development of once a derelict area and that the report be noted.</p> <p>Community Renewal Fund report That the report and presentations be noted, and that the request for the data on what businesses were supported be circulated to Members plus Members of the Commission look forward to the invite to the celebration event.</p> <p>Learning and Skills report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the City Mayor be requested to write to the Leader of the Opposition and the author of the paper (Lord Blunkett) to pledge support to all of the recommendations and to suggest that work in response to them starts sooner than anticipated. • That the Assistant City Mayor for Policy, Delivery, Communications and Levelling Up look at how the council can respond to the recommendation relating to procurement practice. • That the Director for Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment be requested to provide detail of devolution pilot programmes from elsewhere with a view to bringing something to the commission at a later point in time.
22 Mar 23	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unemployment data 2. Adult Education and Multiply Service – Update 3. Connecting Leicester/TCF Programme Update 4. UK Shared Prosperity fund project report 	

Draft Forward Plan / Suggested Items for 2022-23

Topic	Details	Proposed Date
ONGOING City Mayor & Executive Plan of Key Decisions	Commission to keep a watching brief and receive regular reports / updates on executive key decisions planned to relate to this portfolio.	Ongoing
Leicester Smart City Strategy – Richard Sword	Adoption of a strategy that combines Leicester’s digital, physical, and social environment to deliver an inclusive, thriving, and sustainable city for all.	tbc
ONGOING Spending Review Programmes linked to: a) Revenue Budget Report b) Capital Programme Projects	Commission to keep a watching brief and receive regular updates on issues related to budgets with this portfolio. Decisions consequential to the monitoring of expenditure in 2023-24 (if any) – General Fund Budget Report, prior to OSC in Feb 2023	Ongoing January 2023
CONSULTATIONS	Members to consider relevant items to this commission from planned or live consultations to provide scrutiny comments and views	Ongoing
Connecting Leicester Projects	Commission agreed to be involved at the early stages of development of plans	Ongoing updates
Smart Cities	Information on proposed strategy	2023/24
Healthier Air for Leicester – Air Quality Action Plan 2015 – 2026	Progress update on actions (joint with health & wellbeing scrutiny)	Tbc
Cultural Quarter	Update	Tbc
Major Transport Projects (including NPIF projects)	Report on progress	Ongoing
N/hood Highway Safety schemes	Report on progress	Tbc
Emergency Active Travel Fund (EATF) Overview	Report on government scheme to encourage walking or cycling. Informal sessions would be planned before this.	TBC where updates are available.
Devolution Pilot Programmes	As suggested at the meeting on 26 January 2023 when looking at the implications of the ‘Learning and Skills for Economic Recovery, Social Cohesion and a more Equal Britain’ report.	2024
Cycle Action Plan		2023/24