

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING
20TH JULY 2010

An Economic Strategy for Worcestershire: 2010-2020

OPEN	
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	Shared Prosperity
CORPORATE PLAN AIM:	Promoting Economic Prosperity
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor S J M Clee
DIRECTOR:	Director of Planning and Regulatory Services
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APPENDICES:	Appendix 1 – An Economic Strategy for Worcestershire 2010-2020 <i>The appendix to this report has been circulated electronically and a public inspection copy is available on request. (See front cover for details).</i>

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 For Cabinet to endorse a refreshed Economic Strategy for Worcestershire set out at Appendix 1.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to DECIDE that:

- 2.1 An Economic Strategy for Worcestershire 2010-2020 be endorsed.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The refreshed Worcestershire Economic Strategy has been informed by contributions from partners including District Council officers and developed by Worcestershire County Council on behalf of Worcestershire Partnership. The strategy provides a long term vision, focus and context for Economic Development and Regeneration in the County that takes account of changing economic circumstances. It looks to tackle the challenges and provided a framework to deliver the opportunities presented by Worcestershire.
- 3.2 The strategy provides an overarching framework for Worcestershire and a basis for more localised initiatives and programmes including the proposed North Worcestershire strategy and joint working proposals.

3.3 The refreshed strategy positions Kidderminster alongside Redditch as a priority under Worcester growth point and maintains the emphasis on market towns, including Bewdley and Stourport, as a focus for rural regeneration. The document helps to profile the economic context for Wyre Forest District.

3.4 Subject to the above caveats the refreshed document provides a strong basis for moving forward.

4. KEY ISSUES

4.1 See above.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no cost implications arising from this report and the strategy places no new obligations on the district council.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no legal or policy implications arising from this report.

7. EQUALITY IMPACT NEEDS ASSESSMENT

7.1 There would be no adverse impact in terms of Equality Impact.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

8.1 There are no direct risk management implications arising for the Council from this report and endorsing the document will demonstrate a commitment to the wider County agenda.

9. CONCLUSION

9.1 The refreshed Economic Strategy for Worcestershire 2010-2020 provides an appropriate context for taking forward Economic Development and Regeneration across Worcestershire and, as such, endorsement would helpfully illustrate the district council's support for the approach.

10. CONSULTEES

10.1 Chief Executive

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 None