

Project pipeline and mapping

Cover sheet	
Purpose	To confirm the focus and balance of the emerging project pipeline for Worcestershire
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Reviewer	Gary Woodman and Luke Willetts
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Decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To approve inclusion or removal of projects currently in pipeline• To identify any omissions for inclusion



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

Project pipeline and mapping

Top 10 priorities

Consider the following questions in regards to the pipeline of projects (outlined on slides 4-5):

1. Are these the correct priorities?
2. Is the balance right?

Project pipeline

‘Starter for 12’: - (in no particular order)

1. 5G Industry 4.0 rollout with SMEs
2. MHSP Expansion
3. Digital connectivity deployment including 5G and rural connectivity’
4. Redditch town centre regeneration
5. Redditch railway quarter
6. North Cotswold line infrastructure
7. Betaden Expansion
8. Grid Capacity Improvements
9. Worcester City Centre Masterplan including Shrub Hill station development’
10. Electric Vehicles infrastructure incl. clean logistics
11. SME Land / premises strategy
12. Bristol / Birmingham rail task force

Points discussed in plenary (1/2)

- It seems mostly like a **North / South divide** [JD]. Lack of projects in east / west e.g. Droitwich - however this was explained in part by fact employment sites not mapped due to Local Plan reviews underway but this would show a much wider spread [LW]
- Is it **future-facing enough**? Should land on future sectors, as it currently doesn't tell the stories about sectors (e.g. national centre of excellence for advanced manufacturing), is it even enough for 2040? [MS]
- Most of it feels like it's about solving current problems rather than being about **future aspirations** [SC]
- What's the aspiration in terms of jobs, homes, economy etc? Projects for this could be slightly different in mix compared to current work. Also, the A46 project feels like an enabler and so need to be clear what it's going to deliver in terms of the above [SG]
- Fibre necessary to enable **successful businesses in rural communities** which is captured as a project in the pipeline. A network of fibre across the County is needed for mobile coverage without it [MS]
- Is it **innovative** enough [FP]?
- We could work with the Dutch, for example, in manufacturing on EVs, but need to test this with the younger generation [SL]
- Where are the **partnerships / alliances**, for example, in terms of the corridors of growth? Have the Midlands Engine as part of our submission [SG]

Points discussed in plenary (2/2)

- Need to look at Bristol for Cyber Valley alliances [FP]
- Should we have something around setting up the Universities as **centres of excellence** – e.g.: AgriTech? Is there also a link for AgriTech with Lincoln? [SL]
- Need to have 1-2 national centres of excellence of something which would be highly attractive (e.g. English Cricket Board – created the world’s first disable centre, aligns with inclusive growth). Need to think about the 2nd and 3rd tiers of support to ensure that we have a clear position of competitive strength on the respective area of specialism that we can become famous for...[DG]
- In the next iteration, we want to inject **ambition**, places / geographies within the county and their respective strengths and challenges which will include some more ideas [LW]
- ‘Zoom in and out’ exercise that WLEP could do with the government teams – zoom-in specifically to look at the projects district-wide as some of the issues different across them. Then ‘zoom out’ beyond County borders to identify assets / opportunities in close proximity to Worcestershire; to bring it all together as a pipeline of project ideas for consultation with the Board [GW]
- Couldn’t see the **golden thread** between some of the current projects and the vision, some of the projects have been around for a long time. From the discussions on the key sectors, the skills related issues were prominent and so we need to think is central to thinking about our story as a whole. Many of the LEPs are primarily physically-focussed and so we need to push out further / beyond and look at the other areas. What do we want to Worcestershire to look like in 2040? We need to then get the story right [MS].



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END
