



Worcestershire
Local Enterprise Partnership

WLEP Annual Performance Review 2020/21

FAR Committee

18 May 2021

What is the purpose of APR?



- Annual Performance Review is the formal way by which the Government and each LEP meet to discuss:
 - the contribution the LEP has made towards driving forward local economic growth;
 - to review LEP governance and assurance processes;
 - to look at progress on delivery of key local growth programmes; and
 - to discuss the LEP's strategic impact, priorities and challenges for the year ahead.
- APR also acts as a key milestone in the process of confirming GBF payments for the following financial year.
- **WLEP Attendees for APR 2020/21 session on 3 Feb:**
 - **Mark Stansfeld** – WLEP Chair
 - **Gary Woodman** – WLEP Chief Executive
 - **Luke Willetts** – WLEP Director of Ops
 - **Steph Simcox** – S151 Nominee (WCC)

APR Guidance 2020/21



- CLGU ran a more streamlined APR process in 2020/21 – acknowledging additional demands on LEPs in response to COVID-19
- APR consisted of similar requests for information and evidence around three elements of:
 - Strategy
 - Delivery
 - Governance
- CLGU considered this alongside:
 - Feedback received from last year’s review; and
 - The significant work already undertaken to review LEP delivery through the Local Growth Fund review process in 2020/21
- As a result CLGU have moved away from a marking (Exceptional to Inadequate) to an outcomes-based approach with findings of “met” and “action needed” taking account of mitigating circumstances.

WLEP APR Outcome 20/21



- CLGU formally wrote to WLEP on 10 May 2021 to confirm our outcomes across the three themes as follows:
 - Strategy: **MET**
 - Delivery: **MET**
 - Governance: **MET**
- It was also confirmed that WLEP will receive the grant offer letter relating to our Getting Building Fund and core funding allocations for the 2021-22 year shortly.
- A number of action points resulting from the APR meeting were agreed – these are captured in the following slides along with a brief progress update
- Finally, one additional action was picked up through the APR moderation process re: local authority scrutiny of the LEP. It was noted that limited local scrutiny activity took place in 2020-21 due to the cancellation of scrutiny board meetings in person due to the ongoing pandemic.
- Therefore, the LEP have been asked to confirm in writing a realistic date for the LEP to attend a local authority scrutiny meeting during 2021/22.
- 30 September 2021 has been pencilled, awaiting confirmation post-local election due process

APR 2020/21 Action Tracker

2020/21 APR Actions



Action #	Action Point	Owner	Completion Target Date	Date Completed	Status
1	Business Board refresh - programme of thematic online events for SMEs to be rolled out in 21/22 by LEP	WLEP	During 21/22	-	A/G
Action #	Action Point	Owner	Completion Target Date	Date Completed	Status
2	Chair extension of term and succession planning	WLEP	March 2021	-	Green
Action #	Action Point	Owner	Completion Target Date	Date Completed	Status
3	Board recruitment – confirm x2 new NED appointments	WLEP	March 2021	March 2021	Complete

2020/21 APR Actions



Action #	Action Point	Owner	Completion Target Date	Date Completed	Status
4	Diversity improvements – initial ideas to be set out at Q2 Board meeting.	WLEP	Q2 2020/21	-	Green
Action #	Action Point	Owner	Completion Target Date	Date Completed	Status
5	Long-term economic strategy – LEP to publish by end of May	WLEP	End of May 2021	-	Green
Action #	Action Point	Owner	Completion Target Date	Date Completed	Status
6	GBF contracting – LEP to contract remaining GBF projects by end of February	WLEP	End of Feb 2021	End of Feb 2021	Complete

2020/21 APR Actions



Action #	Action Point	Owner	Completion Target Date	Date Completed	Status
7	GBF change control request - Rural Gigabit project	CLGU	End of Feb 2021	10 Feb 2021	Complete

NEXT STEPS:

- WLEP Exec Team to continue to monitor and progress agreed action points
- WLEP Exec Team to undertake a review and revision of WLEP Local Assurance Framework
- CLGU will work with the assurance and delivery teams and the LEP Network to review the wider requirements of LEPs in relation to the assurance and reporting processes for 2021/22



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**“To build a connected, creative, dynamic
economy for all.”**

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