

February 2024 - Economy Team

20-Feb-24	Winchester District Cultural Strategy	Presentation	1. That the strategy fully reflects activities across the entire district and ensures that the scope and scale of various activities were compatible with each other.	1. The evaluation of current activities against identified themes and their geographic distribution across the district, especially considering perceptions of a "Winchester-centric" cultural offer.	Y	A full mapping across the district has taken place and is included in the strategy evidence base.	
				2. Clarification regarding the breadth of organisations consulted to ensure the inclusion and diversity theme was thoroughly enabled and whether educational sector inputs beyond tertiary institutions had been sought to support the overall strategy.	Y	Details of all those consulted is included in the strategy and supporting evidence base file:///C:/Users/srobbins/Downloads/Winchester%20District%20Cultural%20Strategy%20Evidence%20Base%20v3.pdf	
				3. Clarification on the approach to scaling cultural activities, questioning whether there was support for significant events and initiatives to grow, including potential strategies for attracting major creative industries to the district.	Y	UK Shared Prosperity Funded Creative Growth Programme initiated to deliver support to creative sector to develop and scale up. An Events and Festivals priority group of stakeholders formed, supporting the development of the Cultural strategy who will also tackle this subject	
				4. Some concern was raised that the current number of events and festivals might undervalue the district's cultural offerings and that a broader acknowledgement of community events and activities was	Y	Noted. A clarification term was added to the strategy confirming mid to large scale events were highlighted and acknowledged the higher volume of smaller events across the district	
				7. Whether officers could recirculate the "request for events" document.		Not actioned	
				2. The need for clear governance mechanisms for the overseeing forum, particularly a transparent process that ensured the strategy's objectives were progressively	5. Discussion on the formation and governance of a forum ensuring a diverse stakeholder mix to achieve the strategy's objectives.	Y	Noted and underway. Partnership group formed considering Terms of Reference.
				3. That an ongoing review process be established to monitor the strategy's effectiveness and adapt as necessary to meet the evolving cultural needs of the district.	8. Consideration of creating a formal constitution for the forum to address governance and the equitable distribution of potential funding, recognising the varied needs of Winchester's city and rural areas.	Y	Noted and the forum / partnership is emerging and will consider the appropriate form and function, and decision making powers
				4. That the cabinet member considers the committee's comments raised during the discussion of the item.	6. Suggestions for establishing clear success indicators for the forum, emphasising the importance of strategic mobility, joint funding bids, and broader PR activities to showcase the district's cultural and creative sector.	Y	Noted - will be considered as the forum is developed and convened
20-Feb-24	Green Economic Development Strategy Action Plan 2024/27	Report (Ref EHP50)	1. Noted the effort in amalgamating a wide array of underlying policies and documentation that influenced the green economic development of the district.	3. Resolving the tension between biodiversity and food security, particularly considering the current emphasis on "Regeneration" and Linking Environment And Farming (LEAF) exemplar Farms and querying how these practices could be expanded across the food production sector in the district. 6. That the local plan should be linked to the GEDS to ensure job provision aligns with housing developments, especially in rural areas, to minimise carbon emissions associated with commuting.		Answered at the meeting that the two issues need not be in conflict and that regenerative farming practices can lead to greater crop resilience and productivity. Soil health is vital to food security. Agriculture is a key sector to us to develop support and projects working with land owners and producers. The Local Plan does make significant reference to GEDS.	
				4. The challenges posed by a lack of infrastructure, such as electricity and wastewater services, and questioning the feasibility of incorporating ambitious objectives within the strategy given the practical constraints.	Y	It is important to include the projects that require this sort of infrastructure so that we can demonstrate a need for investment and make a case for funding. It enables us to articulate what is required through our levers of influencing others and collaboration.	
			2. Noted the complexity of the GEDS, considering the multitude of partners involved and the various external factors affecting its implementation, underscoring the need for a balanced and nuanced approach to measuring success and progress.	5. Clarification was sought on the governance structure presented on page 73, regarding the Economy and Housing Policy Committee's oversight of two forums without apparent representation from Winchester City Council.	N	Winchester city council is represented on both groups. The governance diagram reflects a path for reporting and sharing information - it was not intended that the policy committee have an oversight role.	
				7. Whether other parishes undertook similar work to identify employment opportunities in conjunction with housing developments as part of the local plan.		One for the Local Plan team	
			8. The absence of certain business organisations, such as the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce, from the "partnership wheel" and the potential for broader councillor involvement as raised by Councillor Wallace.		Y	As explained and apologised at the meeting the wheel had not reproduced correctly and that the Chamber of Commerce was included. A new diagram has been produced that better shows the organisations. The matter of wider councillor involvement is a matter for the Cabinet Member to consider and agree.	
3. Emphasised the importance of including indicators that reflected the general direction of the policy but also narrowed down to specific areas	1. Clarification was sought regarding the graph on page 90 depicting the percentage of energy-efficient houses in the district and how this percentage was determined for houses that had not been sold for some time.	Y	See data source explanation below. It does only apply to new property and any that has had a certificate rating since 2007.				

		where the Council had a direct impact, ensuring the ability to track Winchester City Council's contributions effectively.	2. The necessity for indicators within the documents to quantify the delivery mechanisms, often beyond the Council's direct control, and suggesting the inclusion of useful indicators from the report to observe changes over time.	Y	The Action Plan has been redrafted to align project / activities under our roles and available delivery mechanisms: delivery, enabling, influencing etc.
		4. That the cabinet member considers the committee's comments raised during the discussion of the item.			