



Report For:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	21 October 2019
Part:	Part 1 - Open

SUMMARY

Title of Report:	REGENERATION STRATEGY
Cabinet Member: Officer Contact: Direct Dial: Email:	Councillor Steve Broadbent Peter Wright 01494 421841 peter.wright@wycombe.gov.uk
Wards affected:	All Wards
Reason for the Decision:	The strategy provides both principles and an outline programme showing how the main settlements within the district can contribute to stated growth aims for Buckinghamshire.
Proposed Decision:	That the Regeneration Strategy be approved and passed to the Shadow Executive so that it can be considered and, in whole or part, become incorporated in a wider strategy for the new Buckinghamshire Council in due course
Sustainable Community Strategy/Council Priorities - Implications	Risk: N/A Equalities: N/A Health & Safety: N/A
Monitoring Officer/ S.151 Officer Comments	Monitoring Officer: There are no apparent direct legal implications for the subject matter of this report S.151 Officer: There are no direct implications of approving this Strategy. Any financial implications will have to be considered as part of the annual budget setting process for the new Buckinghamshire Council.
Consultees:	As part of producing the strategy a wide variety of individuals were consulted that include: Council members; Marlow Town Council; Princes Risborough Town Council; Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership; Buckinghamshire Business First; the Business Improvement Districts (High Wycombe BIDCo and Globe Business Park BIDCo); Buckinghamshire New University; Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust; Council staff (Buckinghamshire County Council and Wycombe District Council), Red Kite Housing and local interest groups.

Options:	Not to pass the strategy to the shadow authority for adoption.
Next Steps:	If the Regeneration Strategy is approved by the Shadow Authority then a public version of the document will be made available for consultation prior to the development of a wider strategy for the new Buckinghamshire Council
Background Papers:	Regeneration Strategy.
Abbreviations:	N/A

Appendices to this report are as follows:

Appendix A - Regeneration Strategy.

Background

1. In September 2018 Inner Circle Consulting were commissioned to produce a Regeneration Strategy, working with officers in the WDC Regeneration and Investment Team. This work is now complete and the resulting strategy is appended to this report for approval. Work comprised:
 - The production of a regeneration vision
 - The production of a set of investment priorities and programme of projects
 - The establishment of an evidence base and appropriate metrics
 - The establishment of investment principles and assessment methodology
 - An analysis of potential delivery routes and investment partners.

Summary of outputs

Vision

2. “By 2050, through sustainable growth in High Wycombe, Princes Risborough and Marlow we aim to have doubled the size of the local economy, boosted productivity and cemented Buckinghamshire’s reputation as a world class location for business. The greater Wycombe area will be one of the best places in the UK to work and invest in with world leading business productivity and connectivity. Growth will be harnessed to enable businesses and communities to prosper, thrive and enjoy one of the highest qualities of life in the country. Complimenting all of this, the region will have outstanding sustainability credentials.”

Principles

3. The vision will be delivered by achieving 5 principles:
 - Better town centres
 - Innovative economy
 - Protect and preserve the natural environment
 - Sustainable homes for all
 - Enhancing connectivity

Growth Areas

4. The strategy divides proposed interventions into six growth areas:
 - High Wycombe town centre
 - Innovation Corridor
 - Gomm Valley
 - Princes Risborough
 - Marlow 'protect and preserve'
 - Network Interventions

Delivery

5. Within the above growth areas, a series of 'big moves' have been identified that comprise 178 projects - taken both from existing plans and new proposals which could be delivered over the next 30 years. For 31 sites, architectural and urban design input has generated specific outputs which have then been analysed using an economic growth tool. This tool uses established methodologies to derive the wider benefit to the economy of a given project; the tool will be available to the Council to use in future as projects and programmes develop.

Next steps

Strategic fit

6. As part of the work leading up to the establishment of the new Buckinghamshire Council approaches to regeneration and economic development are being considered. This report aims to ensure that the work done by Wycombe District Council forms part of the wider regeneration approach which will be developed by the new Council fitting, as it does, within county - and region-wide strategies such as the recently published Buckinghamshire Local Industrial Strategy and the joint central and local government ambitions for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc. The extent of any commitment to the strategy or any projects within it (outside of those already underway) will entirely be a matter for the new Buckinghamshire Council once it comes into being.
7. This strategy also compliments and contributes to the delivery of the Cultural Strategy for Buckinghamshire and the emerging Transport Strategy for High Wycombe Town and Urban Area.