

DRAFT MINUTES

STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

24 JUNE 2021 10:00 am – 12.00 pm

MS Teams Video Conference

Attendees:

- Brett Spiller (BS), Chapman Lily Planning
- David Lewis (DL), South West Energy Hub
- Marc Griffin (MG), WSP Global (transport)
- Greg Stone (GS), Highways England
- Jim Andrews (JA), Dorset LEP Board member
- John Sellgren (JS), Dorset Council
- John Sutcliffe (JSu), Chair
- Mark Wray (MW), Knowledge Transfer Network
- Nick Gaines (NG), Dorset LEP Board member
- Nigel Martin (NM), Wessex Water
- Paul Richmond (PR), Network Rail
- Sara Uzzell (SU), Dorset LEP Board member

Also present:

- Corrina Osborne (CO), Dorset LEP
- Rosie Macnamara (RM), Dorset LEP
- Mike Garrity (MGa), Dorset Council

Apologies:

- Andrew Wickham (AW), Dorset LEP Board Member
- Paul Read (PR), Dorset LEP Board member
- Jim Stewart (JS), Dorset LEP Board member
- Julian McLaughlin (JM), BCP Council
- Liz Williams (LW), Governance & Performance Manager in Higher Education
- Lorna Carver (LC), Dorset LEP
- Nick Perrins, BCP Council

Item	Subject/ Title	Action owner
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest Apologies noted.	
2.	Agree draft minutes The draft minutes from the last meeting were approved.	

<p>3.</p>	<p>Connected Dorset update</p> <p>Julian McLaughlin was not able to attend.</p> <p>Action: RM will invite him to present at the next meeting.</p>	<p>RM</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Housing across Dorset and update on local plans</p> <p>Mike Garrity presented slides on Housing across Dorset and update on the Dorset Council (DC) Local Plan.</p> <p>The plan is proposing up to 35,000 dwellings between now and 2038, which is about 1800 per annum. There would also be around 130 HAs of employment land brought forward. There are four broad housing and economic areas that the council is trying to address across the Dorset area. The Councils are coordinating their local plans and working jointly on the evidence base.</p> <p>The 130-135 HAs of new employment land is equivalent to 21,000 new jobs.</p> <p>The local plan looks at potential new sites for development. Challenges also need consider changes due to Covid, such as more people working from home.</p> <p>Local Plan timelines:</p> <p>The Council is looking to get their publication plan Spring next year, then consult on their pre-submission consultation in May time, before they submit their Local Plan in October 2022. When it is submitted to the Secretary of State, there would be an examination by the Inspectorate to test its soundness, and the aim is to get the plan adopted by 2023.</p> <p>Parallel to this work, they are looking at the prospects of new settlements with at least 8,000 new dwellings, beyond the deadlines of the local plan, looking at the longer term vision for Dorset. It is a real aspiration to be able to look at how to plan sustainably. They have started the process of doing some background work, and have started engaging with land owners and developers.</p> <p>Consultation:</p> <p>As the Council has not been able to go down the traditional forms of consultation due to Covid restrictions, they have had</p>	

	<p>to explore more virtual means of consultation with the public, via webinars, live-stream events, adverts on Spotify, social media, podcasts, etc. and as a result have been able to reach more people and a wider cross-section of age groups.</p> <p>DL indicated that the South West Energy Hub have a project with Cornwall and Bath & North East Somerset looking at new build developments and how we get development planning and policy in place for new build. They have been helping them how to develop their plans, and would be happy to share these documents with DC.</p> <p>Action: DL to discuss this with DC.</p> <p>Action: Nick Perrins from BCP Council was not able to attend, RM will invite him to present at the next meeting.</p>	<p>DL/ MG</p> <p>RM</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Dorset Low Carbon Energy Investment Plan</p> <p>CO gave a brief update on the Energy Investment Plan.</p> <p>Dorset LEP has commissioned a study to do a baseline assessment to map out future opportunities around low carbon. The new Investment Plan should be ready in the next couple of months, and is a full evidence base of the assessment of the baseline data for low carbon energy generation, carbon emissions and the resource potential that we have in Dorset.</p> <p>It will also be an assessment of our energy infrastructure, and will map out net-zero scenarios taking into account existing local authority plans to meet the Government's targets around net zero, as well as an Economic Benefits assessment.</p> <p>The finishing touches are currently being put to the plan at the moment. Also, the Government has recently announced the creation of a new UK Infrastructure Bank looking at tackling climate change and local and regional economic growth so the release of this new Low Carbon Energy Investment Plan is timely.</p> <p>MW offered to help with an independent review if appropriate and stated there could be an opportunity to be interviewed as part of the comms around the UK Infrastructure Bank.</p> <p>PR offered to provide a Network Rail perspective if this had not been given through the stakeholder engagement</p>	

	<p>already.</p> <p>The Committee noted the on-going work and its importance to Dorset.</p> <p>Action: CO to liaise with PR regarding if Network Rail had been contacted.</p>	<p>CO</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Dorset Infrastructure Prospectus</p> <p>CO presented slides to establish if the group see value in commissioning work to bring together the various infrastructure strands in a single 'living document'. This would provide visibility for investors, to reassure there is a joined up approach to place in Dorset.</p> <p>This would be regularly updated and would give visibility to investors and would reassure that there is a joined up approach. It would only include documents already in the public domain.</p> <p>The group agreed that creating a living document in this area would be an important piece of work to do, and we need to ensure that it is brought to life in order to lead to further investment in the area. It is important to also link with other work going on such as the Sub National Transport Body.</p> <p>The Committee however felt before undertaking such a piece of work, moving action towards addressing the energy issue was a priority.</p> <p>They also agreed that as Strategic Infrastructure is a wide-ranging concept, the Committee should select two to three priorities for this group and work on these rather than trying to cover all basis. This would then go to the Board for approval and the Terms of Reference would be updated.</p> <p>Action: RM will add a discussion item to the next agenda where the Committee can recommend the priority areas of focus.</p>	<p>RM</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Any other business (AOB):</p> <p>Route Strategies/ Highways England</p> <p>GS highlighted that Highways England have just started their engagement on the next round of Route Strategies, which are due for publication in 2022, and will cover strategic</p>	

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	<p>routes, census population, industry and international gateways. They form part of the evidence base for future investment in the strategic road network.</p> <p>Timelines: all ideas that are selected as a result of this round of Route Strategies will become studies from about 2026 onwards with a view to then constructing from 2030 onwards.</p> <p>Action: GS to update in future meetings how stakeholders can feed into these.</p>	<p>GS</p>
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Date of next meeting: 28 October 2021 10:00-12:00

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