

**Committee and Date**

Cabinet

12 February 2025

Item

Public



Recommendations – Economy and Environment OSC, 14 November 2024

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| Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder): | Ian Nellins, Dan Morris, Chris Schofield | | |
| Scrutiny Chair: | Joyce Barrow | | |

1. Synopsis

Recommendations of Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) 14 November 2024, on strategic developments relating to water management and water quality, for consideration by Cabinet.

2. Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to notify the Cabinet of the recommendations from the Economy and Environment OSC, made at its meeting on the 14 November 2025, and to request a response from the executive.

It is a statutory requirement for the Cabinet to be notified and consider reports and recommendations made by a scrutiny committee.

3. Recommendations

- a) That the recommendations on the strategic developments relating to water management and River Water Quality follow-up agenda item made by the Economy and Environment OSC at its meeting on 14 November 2024, be noted.

- b) That a response from Cabinet to the scrutiny recommendations be prepared using the template in appendix 1, for sharing with the Economy and Environment OSC at their next meeting.

Report

4 Background

- 4.1 Overview and scrutiny committees have statutory powers to make recommendations to the executive, and the executive (Cabinet) has a statutory duty to respond. Committees may also make reports and recommendations to external decision-making bodies such as NHS Trust Boards for Health Overview and Scrutiny.
- 4.2 Where an investigation has been carried out by a committee or on behalf of a committee, e.g. by a task and finish group, the report of this work will provide a record of the work done, the evidence collected, the conclusions and recommendations, alongside the minutes of the committee meeting where the report was considered.
- 4.3 Where a topic has been looked into in an overview and scrutiny committee meeting, the minutes of the meeting provide the record of the scrutiny committee's consideration of the issue and their recommendations made during the meeting.
- 4.4 The relevant overview and scrutiny committee will receive the executive response made in respect to their recommendations. Good practice is that the progress and impact in implementing agreed recommendations is followed up by the relevant overview and scrutiny committee.

Agenda item/topic recommendations have been made against

- 4.5 At their meeting on the 14 November 2024 the Economy and Environment OSC considered two related items:
- i. Strategic developments on water management and water quality, which included the River Severn Partnership and the Severn Valley Water Management Scheme and covered integrated water management, flood management and development, water quality and nutrient neutrality, and national thought leadership and innovation, and
 - ii. the follow-up on progress and impact in the delivery of the committee's recommendations on River Water Quality.
- 4.6 In carrying out this work in their meeting the committee heard from a range of witnesses including the Executive Director of Place, the Strategic Partnerships Manager, the Drainage and Flood Risk Manager, and the River Severn Partnership Advanced Wireless Innovation Region Programme Manager.

Overview and Scrutiny recommendations

- 4.7 Following their consideration of these topics the committee made nine recommendations, of which 5 recommendations are being presented to Cabinet for a decision and one is for their awareness. These are set out in the template in appendix 1.

Responding to recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Committees

- 4.8 This template, attached at appendix 1, provides a single point to record the response to the recommendations and the actions and will be the base documents for all follow-up and tracking of progress and impact of the delivery of the agreed recommendations.
- 4.9 The template will be completed and maintained by the relevant lead officer from the service area(s) responsible for the delivery of the actions related to the agreed recommendation.
- 4.10 Follow-up on progress and impact against the delivery of the agreed recommendations by an overview and scrutiny committee will take place at the appropriate time based on when actions will be completed, set out in the plan.

5. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal related to the overview and scrutiny recommendations

- 5.1 This section of the report should provide a summary narrative of any relevant risks or opportunities associated with the recommendations being made by the overview and scrutiny committee.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications directly related. However, if the recommendations are accepted and implemented there will be finance related decisions to be made, i.e. recommendation 1 relates to the use of developer contributions to be invested in initiatives to help mitigate and reduce flooding and water quality risks arising from developments.

Climate Change Appraisal

Overview and scrutiny committee work programmes are directly linked to the Shropshire Plan priorities, including Healthy Environment which is built around climate change and carbon reduction, and the natural and historic environment.

The recommendations of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee presented in this report cover issues related to climate change, increased risk of flooding and water quality.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Strategic Developments relating to water management and water quality - [Slides presented to the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#), 14 November 2024,

[Update on progress made against the recommendations from the River Water Quality task and Finish group](#)

Minutes of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 14 November 2024

Local Member: All

Appendices [Please list the titles of Appendices]

Appendix 1 – Summary of recommendations from the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet and their response