

**Committee and Date**

Cabinet

3rd December 2025

Item

Public



Report of the Station Gyrotory Task and Finish Group

Responsible Officer:		Claire Braddock, Overview and Scrutiny Officer	
email:	claire.braddock@shropshire.gov.uk	Tel:	01743 258913
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder):		Councillor Rob Wilson	
Scrutiny Chair:		Councillor Ed Potter	

1. Synopsis

This report sets out the recommendations and findings of the Station Gyrotory rapid Task and Finish Group which was formed further to recommendations of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on the 13 November 2025 and agreed by Cabinet on the 19th November 2025.

2. Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to notify Cabinet of the actions undertaken, findings obtained, and recommendations proposed by the Station Gyrotory rapid Task and Finish Group, further to their meeting on the 24th November 2025.

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

3. Recommendations

The Task and Finish Groups' 10 recommendations are contained within Appendix One of this report in detail, and are grouped into a number of key themes as follows –

- Safety and Accessibility
- Safety and Emergency Services
- Wider Impacts
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Governance and Oversight

- Financial Management
- Active Travel and Connectivity
- Data Monitoring
- Learning and Culture
- Strategic Partnership Arrangements

Report

4. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 4.1 Effective Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) is a feature of the Council's governance arrangements, particularly where the Council is operating executive arrangements. There are a range of factors that could result in risks to Council of not doing O&S effectively.
- Failure to challenge and hold decision makers to account.
 - Failure to link O&S work to the delivery of the council's priorities and risk management – failure to demonstrate added value
 - Failure to carry out thorough and appropriate research to make evidence-based recommendations.
 - Failure to engage partners and providers.
 - Failure to ensure that structures and models of operation are fit for purpose and match ambition and available resources.
 - Failure to ensure that O&S can operate as the voice of communities.
 - Failure to draw on member knowledge and experience to inform policy development.
- 4.2 To mitigate, tolerate or eradicate these risks, enablers for effective scrutiny include:
- Operating in an apolitical manner.
 - Clarity of vision and purpose
 - Overview and Scrutiny support availability, capability and capacity
 - Effective engagement and commitment by Members and officers at all levels, including Cabinet, Opposition Leaders, Scrutiny Chairs and Senior Officers who play a central role in setting the tone and direction
 - Robust work programming and prioritisation of topics with clear objectives and expected impacts
 - Access to and availability of robust data and intelligence
 - Good relationships with partners and providers
- 4.3 Overview and Scrutiny Committees have remits that cover the breadth of the work of the Council, as well as looking externally including Health Services and provision through Health Overview and Scrutiny requirements.
- 4.4 Topics for Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programmes are identified based on a number of different considerations including an understanding of risks to the Council, employees, people who use services, to the services themselves, and to communities. These may be identified through reviewing performance information and comparing with others, changes to national and local policies, budget information, feedback from communities and customers/service users, feedback from partners/providers, and reports from regulators.

- 4.5 During Overview and Scrutiny work evidence will be gathered that builds on this understanding to inform the development of conclusions and evidence-based recommendations.
- 4.6 The use of external peer challenge such as that offered by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny provides objective review and feedback about opportunities to develop the effectiveness and impact of Overview and Scrutiny. The Council carries out a regular review of Overview and Scrutiny to collect feedback from Members and Officers on what is going well and where there are opportunities for continuous improvement.

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

6 Climate Change Appraisal

- 6.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programmes directly link to the Shropshire Plan priorities, including Healthy Environment which is built around climate change and carbon reduction, and the natural and historic environment.

7 Background

- 7.1 In response to public concern - including a live petition that has already collected over 6,000 signatures - and following discussions with the Leader and Deputy Leader, the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Economic Growth requested that the Chair of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee include the Station Gyratory project on their agenda for 13th November.
- 7.2 On 13 November, the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee employed a select committee style approach to examine the Station Gyratory - Levelling Up Fund Round 2 (LUF2): Project 2 in Shrewsbury.
- 7.3 Following this meeting, a number of recommendations were taken to Cabinet on the 19th November, these were as follows -

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Economy and Environment Scrutiny Committee consider this report and identifies specific areas of focus that it may want to explore in more detail; the outcomes of which will be included in a future report. The Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee will establish a rapid Task and Finish Group before the end of November in order to report to Cabinet on 3rd December 2025.
- 2. The Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends that the Service Director Infrastructure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Economic Growth considers the commissioning of an independent safety audit review of the current proposals to provide assurance that associated risks, such as congestion and emergency access are robustly addressed.

3. That Cabinet be asked to review the Council's Strategic Partnerships.
 4. That the lessons learned from this process are applied not only to future initiatives but also to existing schemes currently in operation, to ensure robust governance and prevent similar issues from arising. This approach will help to strengthen oversight and promote best practice across all ongoing programmes.
- 7.5 The Station Gyrotory rapid Task and Finish Group was set up in line with recommendation one above, with Committee Members confirming it as a priority, in order to report back to Cabinet at the earliest opportunity and alleviate public concern. As part of this process, witnesses such as emergency services, local businesses, and key stakeholders would be invited to participate as part of this investigation.
- 7.6 Members of the cross party Task and Finish Group met for a full day on Monday 24th November to explore this topic in detail and meet with number of key witnesses throughout the day who were able to share their experiences and knowledge of the Station Gyrotory scheme. Additional evidence was received by the Task and Finish Group in the form of written evidence such as reports, letters, and emails. This was all taken into consideration alongside the verbal feedback.
- 7.7 Further to their investigations, Task and Finish Group Members determined that a breakdown in communication had occurred between the various stakeholder groups involved. This led to insufficient information being shared, resulting in a scheme that was different to the initial aspiration.
- 7.8 The commitments regarding outcomes and timelines were highly specific and deeply embedded in the bid itself. Consequently, opportunities for pausing, reflecting, and reviewing the project were not taken.
- 7.9 Task and Finish Group recommendations as set out in Appendix One include immediate focus upon undertaking a safety audit of this site, to understand next steps, as well as wider learning from this project in order to inform both future and ongoing projects.

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

Levelling Up Fund Round 2 (LUF2): Project 2 - Transforming Movement and Public Spaces in Shrewsbury - [\(Public Pack\)To Follow Report - Levelling Up Fund Round 2 \(LUF2\): Project 2 - Transforming Movement and Public Spaces in Shrewsbury Agenda Supplement for Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 13/11/2025 14:00](#)

Local Member: Councillor Alan Mosley

Appendices [Please list the titles of Appendices]

Appendix One: Report of the Station Gyrotory Task and Finish Group