

Growth Board response to recommendations of the Growth Board Scrutiny Panel Recommendations made on 21st October 2020

The Growth Board is requested to provide a response to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel, to be published as a supplement collectively with the Scrutiny Panel's report, for decision at its meeting on 30 October 2020.

Recommendation	Agree ?	Comment
<p>Recommendation 1. That the Growth Board acknowledges that the timescales in the final version of the Strategic Vision running from the year 2021 and its content may not necessarily align with existing forward-looking policies and plans of individual councils and partner organisations running up to the year 2030, and with this in mind, the Growth Board ensure that continuity between this Vision and other policies and plans is carefully considered.</p>	Yes	<p>The principle is understood, and the Growth Board agrees that the Vision needs to be clear about its own status, and the relationship it has with existing forward-looking plans and policies. The Draft Vision has been set with the aim of encompassing a collective view on what we want to achieve in Oxfordshire, and in this respect, it should provide continuity with existing ambitions of the local authorities.</p>
<p>Recommendation 2. That the Growth Board asks Council leaders to ensure there is clear visibility of the Strategic Vision public engagement exercise to the elected members of their respective councils and guarantee that they would be given the opportunity to read and comment on the text.</p>	Yes	<p>Officers supporting the development of the Strategic Vision will engage with the lead communications officers in each local authority to ensure that the Draft Vision is given appropriate visibility to local councillors and residents. As part of the public engagement exercise, each local authority will have the opportunity to consider the draft through their own democratic processes and respond accordingly. The process of developing submissions on behalf of local authorities or groups of councillors will be a matter for local decision. Whilst the Board has some resource to promote and manage this work, our officers would welcome a collective undertaking among Board members to encourage engagement through their own organisations and networks. The Board would welcome the support from members of the Scrutiny Panel in this respect too.</p>

Appendix 1

Recommendation 3. That the Growth Board asks Council Leaders to encourage their wider networks and the public to engage with the Strategic Vision engagement exercise.	Yes	
Recommendation 4. That the Growth Board ensures that the public engagement exercise actively targets engagement with younger people (who are traditionally underrepresented in local government consultations) as part of a wider effort to ensure that views are sought across Oxfordshire's demographic.	Yes	The Growth Board agrees that it is important to secure the input of young people through the Strategic Vision engagement process. We will ask officers to ensure there are suitable opportunities for young people to have their say through the engagement process, and that there are specific actions taken to promote responses from young people, whilst acknowledging that we want to secure a wide range of views across different age ranges. It is important to be clear that whilst the Strategic Vision runs up until 2050, partners will be working towards its aims from its adoption in 2021 and it will therefore impact on existing residents as well as future generations.
Recommendation 5. That the Growth Board ensures the policies and plans within the final version of the Strategic Vision for Oxfordshire are not undermined by the endorsement of the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Economic Prospectus.	Yes	The Growth Board agrees that Oxfordshire's collective Strategic Vision should not be undermined by other regional collaborations. In its submitted form, the Board does not believe that any elements of the Arc Prospectus undermine the broad principles set out in the Draft Strategic Vision. The establishment of a Strategic Vision for the county will help us to be clear with our partners across the Arc and in HM Government what it is we want to achieve.