

# REPORT TO CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

9 October 2017

## Terms of Reference - Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

At the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting on 23 February 2017, committee members expressed concern about the principles of engagement between the Economic Growth Joint Committee, (executive body), and the Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee.

At the subsequent meeting, on 15 March 2017, a series of proposals were put forward for the new Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee to consider at the first meeting of the committee on 21 June 2017, (post the county council elections on 4 May 2017).

One suggestion included a proposal for the new committee to review the committee terms of reference and, (subject to the agreement of the new committee), submit a report to the Gloucestershire County Council Constitution Committee to consider an amendment to the terms of reference of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee.

Several other suggestions suggested to improve the overall effectiveness of the scrutiny committee included: -

- i. Develop an improved awareness and understanding of the role and purpose of 'Leadership Gloucestershire'. A new arrangement has since been put in place to publish relevant information, (terms of reference; membership; responsibilities; working arrangements and links to meeting papers relating to Leadership Gloucestershire), via the council's weekly 'Members Matter' publication. The information to be shared with district councils.
- ii. Include a standing item on the Economic Growth Joint Committee agenda for the Chairman of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee to attend the meetings of the Joint Committee and report on the work of the Scrutiny Committee. This proposal was agreed by the Joint Committee on 6 September 2017.
- iii. Circulate the committee report presented at Gloucestershire Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and County Council meetings to district councils.
- iv. Arrange two 'stand alone' committee meetings at one of the 6 district council offices, (arranged on a rotational basis), with an invitation to the councillors and lead officers of that authority to attend the meeting and

ask questions on 'localised' issues and priorities. The first meeting will be held at Tewkesbury Council on 19 October 2017.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

That the Constitution Committee consider an amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee, as set out in Appendix A.