

ECONOMIC & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

INFRASTRUCTURE SUB-GROUP

WORK STREAM – UPDATE OCTOBER 2017



Economic & Skills Development Partnership

Programme 1:	Lead:
Provide direction and input to the Local Plan and associated policy documents on the Bracknell Forest business community's infrastructure needs.	GH
Update:	Date:
Key dates for ESDP involvement will become clear when the local plan timetable for external consultations is produced around the new year. To date we have received no feedback on the ESDP's response to the government's Industrial Strategy Consultation, nor is there any feedback on its response to the Heathrow Expansion Consultation.	26/10/17
Programme 2:	Lead:
Explore the viability of creating a Business Improvement District (BID) within Bracknell Forest, forming a Steering Group to assess and report on potential options.	JS
Update:	Date:
A BID Steering Group meeting was held at Fujitsu on 10 October to discuss project management arrangements for taking the BID forward. Methods of raising contributions to fund a professional BID management company were explored, and the Group is now assessing the benefits of such an approach.	26/10/17
Programme 3:	
Working with the LEP, provide business-led advice to Train Operating Companies and Network Rail on delivering improved rail services to and from Bracknell.	SJ
Update:	Date:
BFC officers continue to update the Sub-Group on rail improvement issues.	26/10/17
Programme 4:	Lead
Provide business-led advice on future development needs for Superfast Broadband in Bracknell.	TB
Update:	Date:
At the last Sub-Group meeting BTLC set out the position with the development of broadband technology, including 'Full Fibre'. The ESDP's role could be to lobby the government and providers to accelerate delivery of Full Fibre, and also make local agents and landlords more aware of the benefits.	26/10/17
Programme 5:	Lead:
Provide support to the LEP and local authority in seeking funds to improve Bracknell's Strategic road corridors to increase capacity and provide reliable journey times	SJ
Update:	Date:
Bracknell has been the only Berkshire local authority to be successful in securing government funding from the National Productivity Investment fund. This was for the completion of the dualling of the A322 Downshire Way. The ESDP's letter of support, included in the bid, helped demonstrate the importance of the scheme.	26/10/17

Programme 6	Lead:
Continue to improve and promote the sustainable transport network that provides a high level of accessibility to key services including employment, education, healthcare, shopping and leisure.	SJ

Update:	Date:
Together with BFC officers the Sub-Group will start to work-up ways of supporting initiatives such as flexi-working styles to reduce the pressure on the road network at peak hours, as well as improving the quality of cycling and walking links.	26/10/17
Programme 7	Lead:
Provide advice and direction on improving the availability of rented and graduate accommodation to meet increasing demand from Bracknell's business employers.	JT ML
Update:	Date:
Bracknell Forest Homes briefed the Sub-Group on the local supply and demand for affordable homes and rented accommodation for graduates. BFH are to talk to HR managers of some of Bracknell Forest's larger employers about their graduate accommodation needs. The Sub-Group would continue to explore this topic.	26/10/17

BC/26/10/17 (1)