## SHROPSHIRE'S ECONOMIC **GROWTH STRATEGY**

GOVERNANCE, KPI DEVELOPMENT, **ACTION AND DELIVERY PLAN** 



















# ECQNQMIC TASKFORCE













#### **ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT**

As an appendix to the Shropshire Economic Growth Strategy **2022 - 2027**, the intention of this document is to provide the developed Governance structure, action plan framework and expand on the KPIs that will measure the success of the activities and programmes that will be undertaken now and developed over the five year timeframe.

The Action & Delivery Plan is complex and requires collaborative work to complete and is the next planned activity to ensure all partner and stakeholder activity is compiled into one working document. For the purpose of this document, it indicates the ambition under each of the three key themes - business support, strategic locations and employment and skills and demonstrates examples of current activity in delivery to provide the framework the Plan will take. It will be updated annually to reflect changes in delivery strategy and achievement and will capture the work being undertaken in real time.

An important takeaway from this document is that the Governance section shows the emergence of the Shropshire **Economic Partnership (SEP)**, that has been deemed the most appropriate vehicle to take forward our ambitious, collaborative and bold strategy. The business community intend to merge the Shropshire Business Board with the Shropshire Economic Taskforce and drive growth through the SEP, this new Partnership will take overall ownership of the Strategy.

The Key Performance Indicators (KPI) section within this document sets the intention of how we will measure success and will be the right mix of national key performance indicators alongside more localised measures.

We acknowledge that the national sources, primarily through the Office for National Statistics (ONS) are used by Government and are important, especially when considering our ranking against other Local Authority areas in considering competitive bid applications and subsequent allocations of funding. We recognise that localised measures better show the impact of activity 'on the ground' in real time and are key to ensuring our businesses and residents see that improvements, investments and progress are being made. In establishing our key values and associated measures we can ensure all activity and programmes are actively adding value to businesses and quality of life in the County and providing 'good growth in the right place'.

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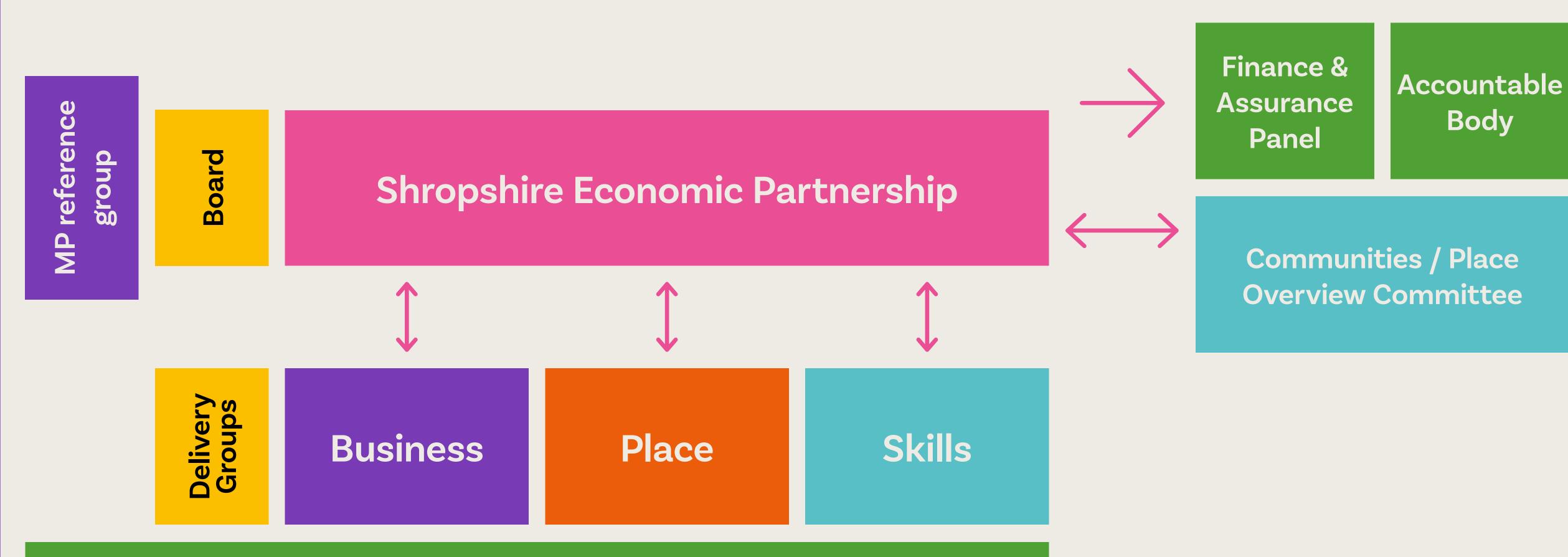
Examples of Current Projects in Delivery

**Glossary of Terms** 





#### **GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**



### SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL ECONOMIC **GROWTH SECRETARIAT**







#### **DEVELOPING THE KPI'S** - How we will measure success

Our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be a mixture of national and local measures with clearly defined impact, metric, source and targets, baselined at 2022 where possible.

The delivery of the Shropshire Plan - Healthy Economy priority by Shropshire Council will be led by the work of this strategy. Other strategies whose delivery will support the Economic Growth Strategy and its key values are also mapped.

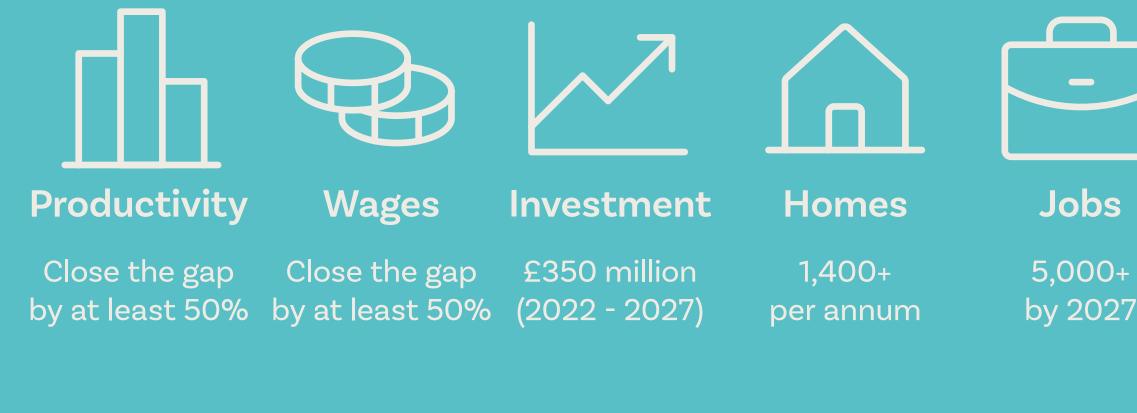
#### Supporting Local Business

- Increase in Business Start-Ups
- Sustained high levels of business survival
- Increase in inward investment
- Increase in the number of jobs, especially in higher skilled occupations
- Increase in business profitability / turnover / efficiency
- Levels of business confidence
- Businesses operating or diversifying into new sectors, specifically low carbon, agri-tech, cyber-security and defence

#### Strategic Locations

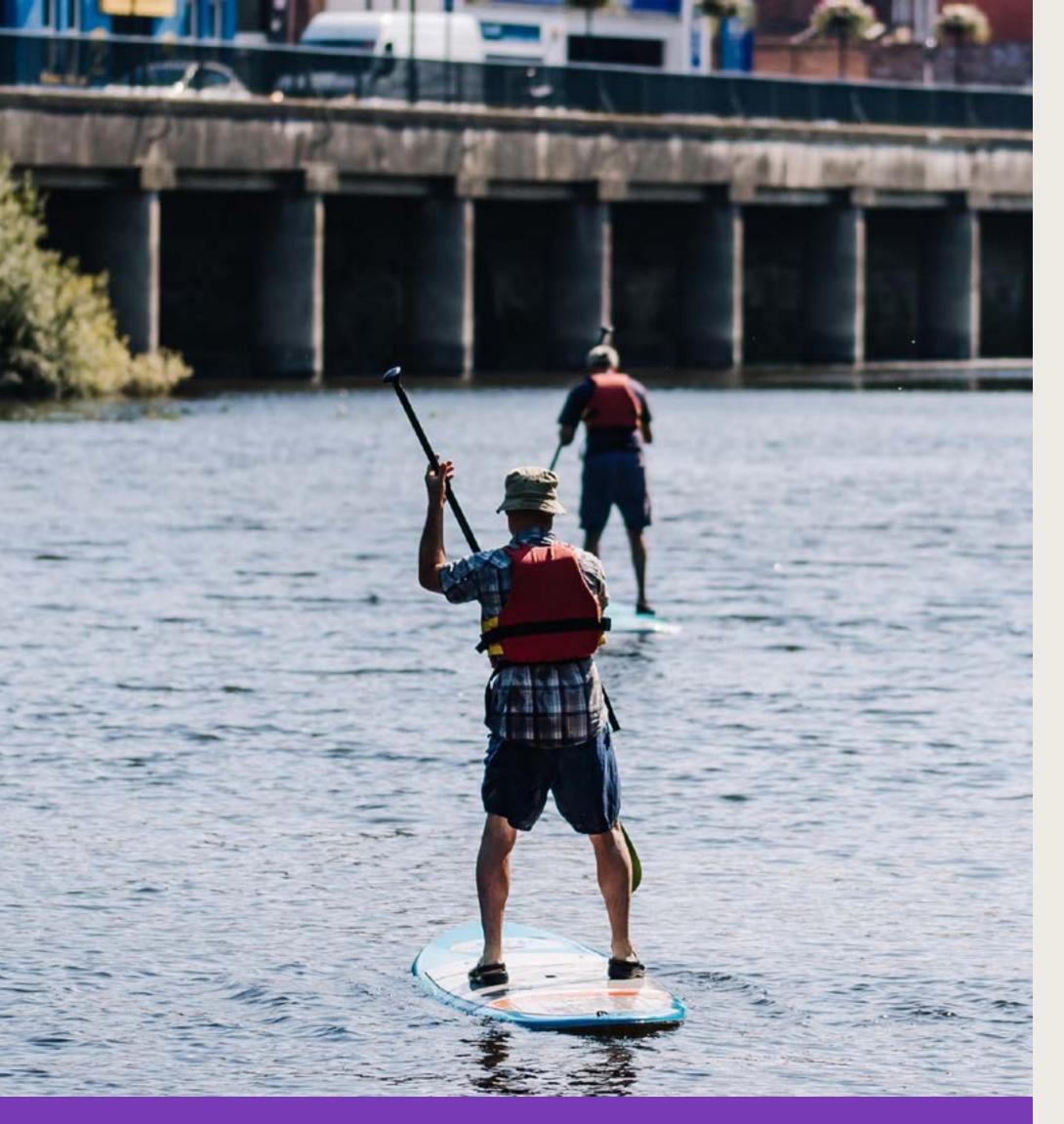
- Increase in number of households with access to ultrafast broadband and 4 and 5G mobile reception
- Net housing completions
- Investment in strategic infrastructure
- Employment land brought forward
- Town centre vacancy rates
- Town centre footfall

#### **MEASURING SUCCESS**



#### Employment and Skills

- Employment and unemployment rates
- Reduction in hard to fill vacancies
- Reduction in the proportion of businesses reporting skills gaps
- Increase in high value jobs across county
- Improved retention of working age population, especially in younger age brackets



Alongside the hybrid approach we will take, other Strategies shown here demonstrate the range of activities that contribute to the Shropshire economy. We have mapped these against our core values. Relevant targets will be captured and incorporated to support delivery of our Strategy.

#### **OUR KEY VALUES**

	Resilience	Sustainability	Inclusivity	Wellbeing & Health
Asset Management Plan				
Climate Strategy				
Digital Strategy				
Great Outdoors Strategy				
Health & Wellbeing Strategy				
Healthy Impact Assessment				
Housing Strategy				
Local Flood Risk Management Strategy				
Local Plan				



	Resilience	Sustainability	Inclusivity	Wellbeing & Health
.TP4 / Active Travel				
Place Plans				
Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy				
Rural / Community Strategy				
Shropshire Green Infrastructure Strategy				
Shropshire Plan				
Woodland & Trees Strategy				
Vibrant Economy Strategy				
Visitor Economy Strategy				

#### **ACTION & DELIVERY PLAN FRAMEWORK**



Supporting Local Business



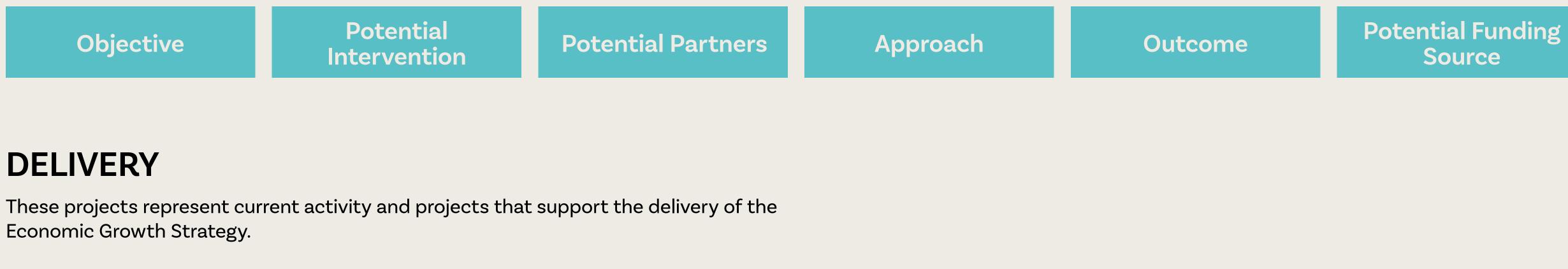
Strategic Locations



Employment and Skills

#### **AMBITION**

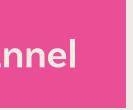
Alongside the themes overall ambition the objectives start to identify development programmes and activities that the SEP will champion through development and subsequent delivery.











#### AMBITION



#### Supporting Local Business

To continue to provide comprehensive business support to new and existing employment markets/sectors, growing and attracting high-value sectors that support the creation of high-value jobs. Enabling resilience planning in all areas and supporting businesses to enhance their workforce's wellbeing and their corporate responsibility.

Objective	Potential Intervention Partners		Approach	Outcome	Potential Funding Source
1. Build on established Business Support provision - to reflect business need.	Applying best practice from previous schemes and develop follow on.	Shropshire Chamber, FSB, LA partners, external providers.	Business support models and grant programmes.	Business growth and job creation. Increased Productivity	UKSPF Private sector match
2. Investment in open markets and improvements to town centre markets.	Develop grant schemes to support market hall traders.	Town Councils, BIDs.	Investment and grant programmes	New businesses. Job creation.	UKSPF Other public funding
3. Encourage investment in Research & Development.	Apply best practice from existing ERDF-funded innovation and knowledge schemes .	Harper Adams, Chester, Aston, Birmingham Unis.	Business support and grant schemes.	Increased productivity, new processes, new products .	UKSPF
4. Decarbonisation - supporting the natural environment.	Green economy sector support activity Resource efficiency Improving biodiversity.	Local authorities, Shropshire Chamber and other partners.	Business support and grant schemes.	CO2 reduction. Lower energy consumption. Increased energy production from renewable sources.	Marches Energy Fund UKSPF Private sector match
5. Support and strengthen Shropshire's 'key sectors'.	Best practice consortiums, peer to peer networking.	DIT, Shropshire Chamber and Shropshire Council.	Business support and networking opportunities.	Increased export. Development of sector supply chains and procurement opportunities	DIT UKSPF
6. Develop and promote the visitor economy and cultural offer.	Develop activities to strengthen resilience of the locality.	Cultural Consortium partners, Visit Shropshire, Shropshire Chamber.	Marketing and promotion, Data analysis, Capital grants.	Increased day and overnight visitors.	UKSPF Other public sector funding Private sector support through Visit Shropshire

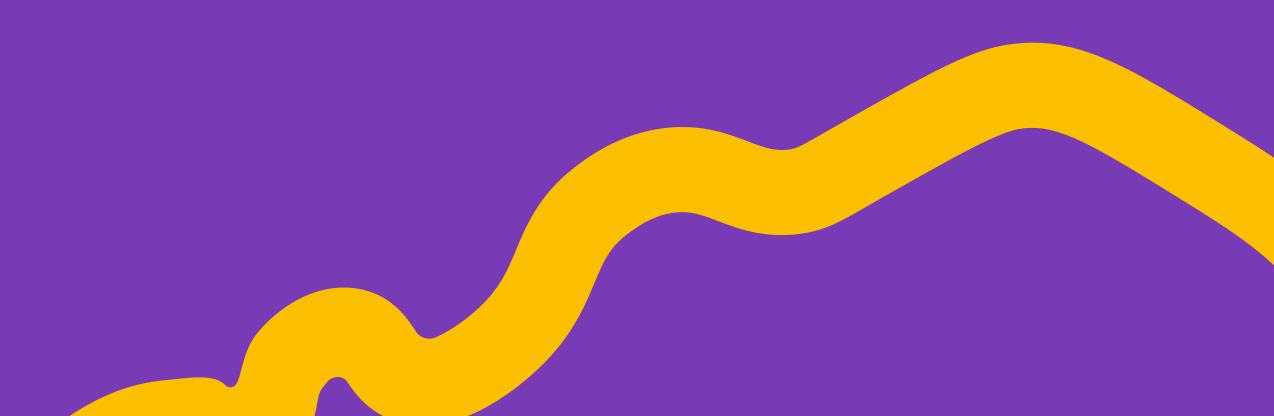
#### **CURRENT PROJECTS**



#### Supporting Local Business

What follows is only one example of current activity that is in delivery that will support delivery of the Shropshire Economic Growth Strategy, its purpose is to demonstrate the framework that will be used in delivery of the Action and Delivery Plan.

Example Business Support Project	Delivery Partners	Outputs	Outcomes	Timescale	Funding Channel
Continuation of Growth Hub model to deliver core offering of business support, 121 advice and support, access to funding and Finance, Support with Skills and Training, Webinars, workshops, Networking, Podcasts etc.	Marches Growth Hub, Suite of pre-approved Business Advisers and Trainers, Good2Great Ltd and DiT	Improved levels of business confidence. Improved/ sustained levels of business survival. Number of business receiving non financial support / 12 hours specialist support / Medium intensity support / Training etc.	Agile, frequently used, and responsive business support service. Increased provision of peer-to-peer business networks and connected clusters. Continued and increased availability and relevance of business support and access to finance opportunities	2022 onwards	UKSPF





#### AMBITION



#### Strategic Locations

To be active in identifying and delivering opportunities for targeted investment locations and a "place-based" approach within the market towns. Putting people's needs at the heart of housing, infrastructure, employment and local service provision to create sustainable, prosperous, growing communities.

Objective	PotentialPotentialInterventionPartners		Approach	Outcome	Potential Funding Source
1. Active involvement in place-making.	Investment plans .	Shropshire Council; Town and Parish Council; BID; Business Community.	A market town to be selected as pilot area.	To replicate the investment model across a number of market towns.	UKSPF
2. Working cross border on projects - utilising the strategic position.	Shared infrastructure; drive cross border business; supply chain development;	WMCA; Midlands Engine; LEP; Midlands Connect; Welsh Assembly; Neighbouring local authorities; Mersey-Dee Alliance .	Lobby, relationship building, working on joint approaches and funding op <mark>portunities</mark> .	Developed partnerships, joint projects, private and public investment, Government recognition .	WMCA, Partners.
3. Enabling clean, inclusive, sustainable, low carbon and good quality economic growth.	Strategic Infrastructure Investment Network.	ALL - Public, Private, Community.	National and Local policy - implement National targets; developing sustainable projects.	Reduce the impact of economic growth on the natural environment.	UKSPF, DEFRA.
4. Bring forward employment sites.	Appr <mark>opriate supply of servi</mark> ce and e <mark>mployment land</mark> ; Growth corridors focus - A5, A49, A483, M54.	Shropshire <mark>businesses</mark> and developers.	Respon <mark>ding t</mark> o n <mark>eed an</mark> d Local Plan allocations.	Retaining <mark>and e</mark> xpanding local business;	Shropshire Council, Private Sector, Government funding.
5. Town Centre renewal and resilience.	High Street development, active travel and connectivity, destination marketing.	Shropshire Council, Town and Parish Councils, BID, Business Community, Visit Shropshire.	Funding bids, Cultural Compact.	The Cultural Compact is to be established to deliver strategic ambitions.	

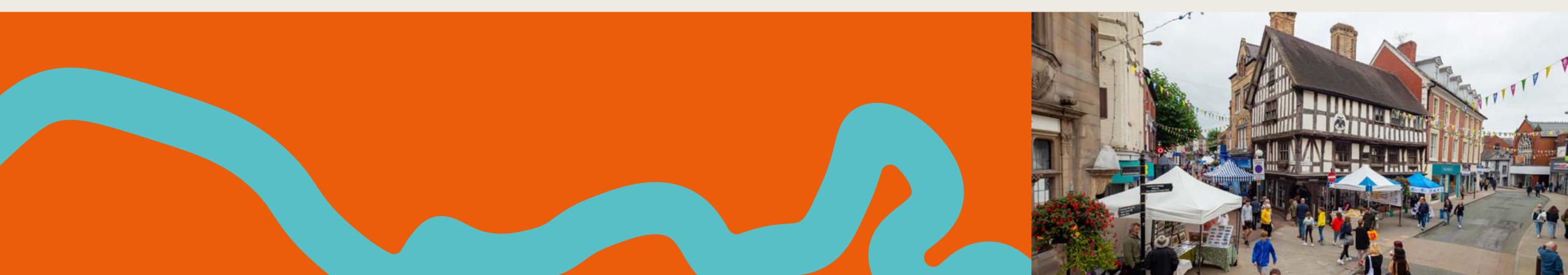
#### **CURRENT PROJECTS**



Locations

and Delivery Plan.

Example Strategic Locations Project	Delivery Partners	Outputs	Outcomes	Timescale	Funding Channel
Future Oswestry	Oswestry BID, Town Council, Shropshire Council	Delivery Plan in development bringing together priorities and proposals developed from the Masterplan Vision.	Making Oswestry a better place to live, do business and a healthier and more sustainable town.	Delivery Plan to identify short term projects (0-5 years) to long term aspirations (10-15 years).	LUF2, UKSPF, HSHAZ, partner resources, private leverage



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#### AMBITION



#### Employment and Skills

To retain and develop a skilled workforce where individuals have opportunities to progress in the labour market through up-skilling, re-skilling and developing transferable skills, through delivering higher level skills to meet the demands of businesses within the local economy.

Objective	Potential Intervention	Potential Partners	Approach	Outcome	Potential Funding Source
1. Continually map and address skills gaps by working with the community and voluntary sectors.	Local Skills Plans	ALL	Utilising VCS and business support; networking opportunities.	Support initiatives that empower VCS, SME's and employers to articulate and review skills gaps and plan for the future.	
2. Develop and deliver opportunities for retraining and upskilling the workforce including basic skill provision, reskilling and the development of transferable skills to improve employability.	'Local Skills Hub'	ALL	Build connection between Shropshire's Skills Offer to the wider business and economic community.	Enabling clear advice and support to SME's, businesses, VCS, and residents/community about the range of Shropshire's skills offer.	UKSPF
3. Work with training providers to meet the skill needs of the business community.	Opportunities for training providers to align to businesses to review and meet skills needs.	ALL education & training providers Shropshire Businesses	Business support and networking opportunities; promote funding opportunities and joint working approaches.	Aligning skills provision to current and future jobs growth and economic opportunities for emerging sectors	UKSPF DfE
4. Continue to work with schools, colleges and businesses to develop and retain young talent alongside increasing employer engagement and take up of apprenticeships in SME's.	A dedicated [young] people's 'one stop service'	Marches Careers Enterprise Centre All education & training providers Shropshire Businesses	Provide tailored information on local careers, work experience opportunities, apprenticeships, entrepreneurship, self- employment, skills development, and the availability of wider support.	Retain [young] talent within Shropshire, providing an emerging workforce who are ready to work and who have the right skills. Increase the number of apprenticeships through Shropshire's skills offer	DfE

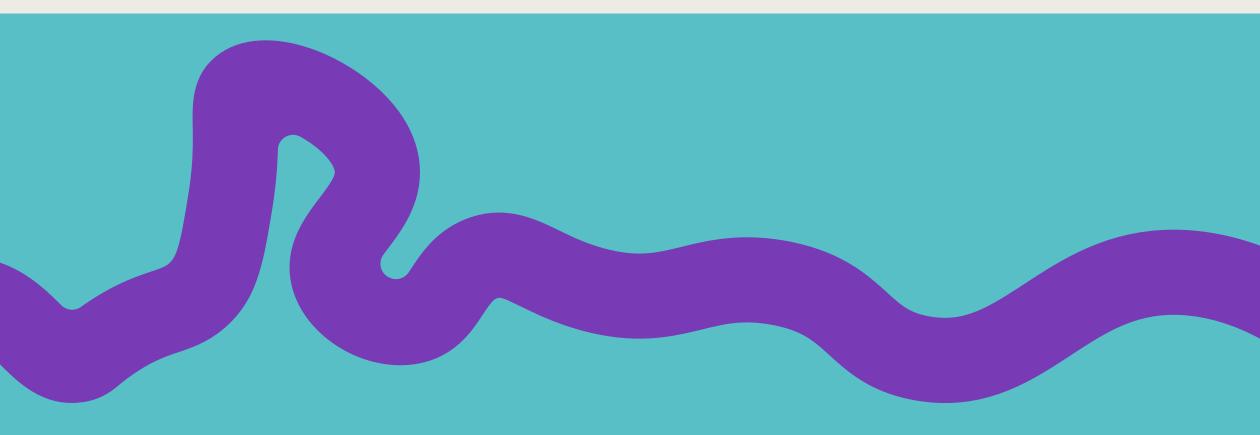
#### **CURRENT PROJECTS**



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Employment and Skills

Example Employment and Skills Project	Delivery Partners	Outputs	Outcomes	Timescale	Funding Channel
Marches Skills Advisory Panel	Marches LEP	The Local Skills Report [2022] aims to influence local partners and provides intelligence to central government.	Provide strong local leadership by increasing understanding of our labour market and skills issues, driving engagement with employers and liaison with training providers.	2022 onwards	DfE







#### UKSPF

#### Investment Plans

### Design Codes

#### Silverpreneurs®



## Coworking Hubs

Examples of Current Activities & Delivery Projects

#### **Growth Hub**

## SBLTV Knowledge



## Business Park Programme



## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

#### DfE

**Dept for Education**, responsible for children's services and education, including early years, schools, higher and further education policy

#### DIT

Dept for International Trade, responsible for business import and export activity

#### DLUHC

Dept of Levelling Up, Housing & Communities - a Government Department

#### **HSHAZ**

High Street Heritage Action Zone funding, an allocation from Historic England to preserve the heritage assets in key areas

#### **KPI's**

Key Performance Indicators are quantifiable measures that will be used to evaluate the success of the strategy

#### LUF2

Levelling Up Fund (round 2) provided by DLUHC

#### LTP4

Local Transport Plan, a document that details all highways and transport requirements over a set period of time

#### MARCHES CEC

The Careers and Enterprise Company - the national body for careers education in England, supporting schools and colleges to deliver modern, 21st century careers education

#### **PMO**

Programme Management Office, a new resource at Shropshire Council to better coordinate projects and activities

#### SEP

Shropshire Economic Partnership, who will take over ownership of the Strategy from the Economic Taskforce, will also include the Shropshire Business Board

#### **UKSPF**

UK Shared Prosperity Funding, a replacement fund for the ERDF and ESF Provided by DLUHC

#### **WMCA**

West Midlands Combined Authority, representing Local Authorities to make the region a better place. The government gives them money and power to make decisions for their region

