



**Prosperous Communities  
Committee**

**Tuesday, 19 March 2024**

**Subject: Economic Growth Strategy Task and Finish Group**

Report by:

Director of Planning, Regeneration & Communities

Contact Officer:

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Purpose / Summary:

To set out the Council's approach to the establishment of a task and finish group to ensure a collaborative approach to the development of the new economic growth strategy.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

**That Prosperous Communities Committee agree:**

- (1) to establish a task and finish group (Economic Growth Strategy Task and Finish Group, EGSTFG) to support the collaborative development of the new economic growth strategy.
- (2) to adopt the draft terms of reference (appendix 1) for the Task and Finish Group, including the appointment of members to the EGSTFG.
- (3) that subject to agreeing (1) and (2), to propose five (5) members (that comprise of cross party and cross district member representation) to sit on the EGSTFG at the PCC meeting on the 19/03/24.

## IMPLICATIONS

### Legal:

There are **no** legal implications associated with the establishment of the EGSTFG.

### Financial : FIN/147/24

There are **no** financial implications arising from this report.

### Staffing :

There are **no** staffing implications associated with the establishment of the EGSTFG. A small cohort of WLDC officers will support EGSTFG activities as part of their 'day-job' – within existing capacity.

### Equality and Diversity including Human Rights :

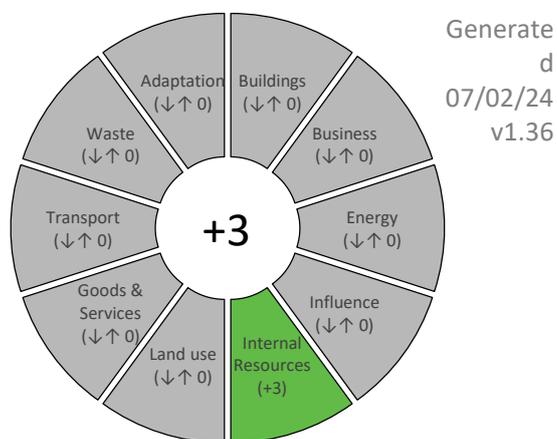
There are **no** EQIA implications associated with the establishment of the EGSTFG.

### Data Protection Implications :

There are **no** data protection implications associated with the establishment of the EGSTFG. No personal data will be used as part of EGSTFG activities.

### Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:

Given the discreet nature of the establishment and limited activity undertaken by the EGSTFG, there are no known measurable climate related risks and opportunities are solely linked to minimised travel requirements as a result of a digital first approach to EGSTFG meetings. The limited CESIA is as follows:



West Lindsey District Council will be net zero by

**Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations:**

There are **no** S17 crime and disorder considerations associated with the establishment of the EGSTFG.

**Health Implications:**

There are **no** health implications associated with the establishment of the EGSTFG.

**Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report :**

There are **no** background papers used in the preparation of this report.

The presentation delivered to Leaders Panel is available on request via the Growth Team.

The current Economic Growth Strategy 2014-2034 can be accessed at: <https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/growth-regeneration/economic-strategy>

The Economic Recovery Plan 2021-2024 can be accessed at: <https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/growth-regeneration/economic-recovery-plan>

**Risk Assessment :**

There are **no** significant risks to WLDC associated with establishing and operating the EGSTFG. The appended Terms of Reference consider the operational mechanics of the group.

**Call in and Urgency:**

**Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?**

*i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)*

Yes

No

**Key Decision:**

*A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications*

Yes

No

# 1 Background

- 1.1 Although WLDC has a live economic growth strategy (2014-2034), this was largely superseded by the Economic Recovery Plan (2021-2024) which formed WLDC's strategic approach to economic recovery following the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 1.2 The local economy continues to operate within an ever evolving, volatile, complex and often ambiguous macro and micro-environment and it is now appropriate to develop a new strategy to replace the 2014-2034 document which more closely reflects both the challenges and opportunities the local economy faces moving forwards.
- 1.3 Informal discussions around the development of the emerging economic growth strategy identified that a collaborative approach to strategy development and 'consensus direction' at key decision points (which informs and shapes the composition of the next element of the strategy) should be adopted.
- 1.4 To support this approach, officers seek permission from Prosperous Communities Committee (PCC) to form an informal and inclusive officer/member task and finish group to shape the strategy.
- 1.5 The purpose of the group, made up of WLDC officers and members, is to provide an informal steering/collaboration forum for the development of the emerging economic growth strategy – exploring and identifying direction at each 'collaboration point' (CP) to inform the composition of the next element of the strategy.
- 1.6 An example of a CP can be found below and the Economic Growth Strategy Task and Finish Group (EGSTFG) would discuss and determine the 'look and feel' of the strategy, identifying: (1) Audience; (2) Length; (3) Language; (4) Style; and; (5) Specificity:



- 1.7 The proposed CPs are identified below and the EGSTFG will provide strategy development steer to officers for CPs 01 to 06 (01 Look and Feel to 06 Performance Measurement):



- 1.8 The EGSTFG is intended as a discussion/steering forum only and will not approve elements of strategy as they are produced. PCC will retain responsibility for strategy approval.
- 1.9 It is proposed that the EGSTFG will comprise of five (5) members (at the discretion of PCC). This will be complimented by a mix of key WLDC officers in Growth, Policy and Strategy and Communications.
- 1.10 Membership will comprise of cross party and cross district member representation.
- 1.11 It is proposed that members of the group will be appointed by PCC but do not need to serve on that committee.
- 1.12 Given the specific and limited nature of the EGSTFG, it is proposed that the group will not be formally chaired – sessions will be facilitated by the senior officer in attendance.
- 1.13 It is likely that all EGSTFG work will be complete by Dec 2024 and a final draft strategy presented to PCC by Q1 2025.
- 1.14 Full draft terms of reference are attached to this report at appendix A.