

## **Report to Oxfordshire Growth Board Scrutiny Panel**

### **Growth Deal Infrastructure Programme**

#### **Report Purpose**

- 1) To introduce the Scrutiny Panel to the Growth Deal Infrastructure Workstream and consider how to address some of the key issues in building a successful programme.

#### **Background**

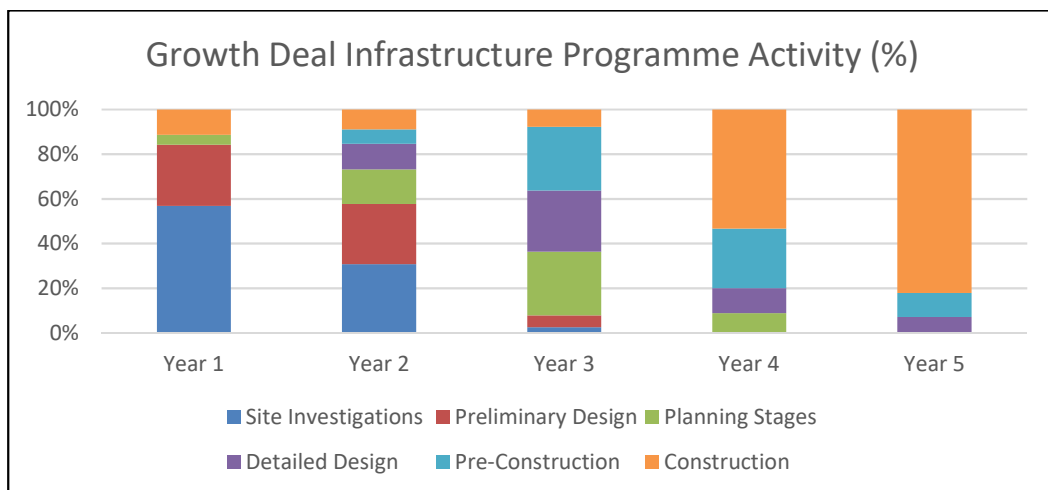
- 2) Since the recession of the last decade, Oxfordshire's cumulative growth has been higher than any other local area. Our total economic output is around £22bn a year, meaning economic output per capita is among the highest in the UK, and we make a significant net contribution to the exchequer.
- 3) This success brings with it challenges – not least housing affordability with Oxfordshire the 5th least affordable housing market in the country relative to earnings, with median prices to median earnings ratio of over 10, but also recruitment, transport congestion, and pressure on other physical and social infrastructure.
- 4) Oxfordshire's six local authorities, together with OxLEP, are working together on an ambitious, comprehensive and integrated approach to addressing our housing, infrastructure and economic challenges to deliver the potential of our world class knowledge economy and high quality sustainable development across the County.
- 5) Oxfordshire has engaged actively with opportunities to secure local and national funding to rise to this challenge, through the 2013 City Deal process, Local Growth Fund, developer contributions, current bids to the Housing Infrastructure Fund and through the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal.
- 6) The Chancellor and Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government announced on 22 November 2017 that Oxfordshire would receive £215m of new funding to support Oxfordshire's ambition to plan for and support the delivery of 100,000 homes by 2031. £150m of this funding focuses on infrastructure delivery.
- 7) The focus of the Infrastructure workstream is to set out how the infrastructure funding provided by the Deal will support a programme of transport and related infrastructure schemes to support planned housing development in Oxfordshire over a five-year period from 2018/19 to 2022/23.
- 8) Although the £150m does not meet the full funding gap to deliver the infrastructure required to plan for and support the delivery of all 100,000

homes, it will help accelerate the delivery of approximately 6,549 houses during the period of the Deal, and a total of 14,000 by 2031.

- 9) Using evidence from Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (that has been informed by Oxfordshire’s 5 Local Plan Infrastructure Delivery Plans) the Infrastructure Delivery Programme will focus on unlocking the housing planned for in current and emerging Local Plans.

**The Infrastructure Programme**

- 10) In year one 17 schemes were commenced as planned and are currently on target for successful delivery (see Annex 1).
- 11) All schemes are still currently set to deliver against their accelerated housing trajectory targets as discussed with the Growth Board and Homes England.
- 12) Spend for Year 1 was £30m as planned. A full year reconciliation took place immediately after financial year end and the current forecast is below.
- 13) The infrastructure activity profile below shows that the majority of work in year one and two of the Growth Deal Infrastructure Programme is related to the earlier stages in a typical infrastructure scheme, year three sees most activity associated with design and planning, and year four and five sees the move into the construction phase.



- 14) The following Growth Deal milestones for Quarter 4 were achieved / commenced: -
  - Commencement of Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy review and updating exercise – drafting of scoping document for procurement exercise.
  - Agreement of Year 2 to 5 infrastructure programme and associated housing delivery programme.

15) Following endorsement of the proposed 2-5 Year Infrastructure Programme by the Infrastructure Sub-Group and subsequently endorsed by the Growth Board the following works have been undertaken in readiness for the start of Y2-5 delivery in April 2019: -

- Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) surveyors and land referencing consultant's procurement exercise has commenced to support recently appointed CPO legal support in preparation of land acquisition strategy, discussions and preparation for potential CPOs required.
- Cash flow and master programmes are currently being reviewed in light of land acquisition discussions, initial design and feasibility work.
- Feasibility consultants and traffic modelling work currently being procured for Year 2 schemes.
- Year 2 schemes documentation and programme management tools have been drafted and schemes have commenced early stages of feasibility and design / costs.
- End of Y1 discussions with Ministry of Homes Communities and Local Government have taken place to review Y1 progress and plans for Y2-5.

## **Risks & Issues**

16) The following risks have been identified as the key risks to the infrastructure programme:

- Managing the impact on the Oxfordshire road network due to the large numbers of schemes being delivered within a very tight period of time and ensuring that the network still manages to operate without too much difficulty.
- Procurement and market readiness due to the large number of schemes that needs to be delivered in a short period of time with a limited number of resources available in the market place we need to make sure that the ability of the market is ready for the huge demands for materials and personnel.
- Potential delays associated with CPO and the acquisition of land. Due to the lengthy period of time required to prepare and undertake a CPO Inquiry OCC are preparing the background work required in preparation to maintain timescales.
- Reliance on third parties (developers / network rail etc) for delivery as they won't be working on the same tight timescales as OCC and will need encouraging and reminding of priorities agreed with Government.
- Reliance on third parties (developers / network rail etc) for delivery of infrastructure and resolution of planning issues needed to unblock sites
- External market factors such as Brexit may be having an impact. We have seen material process increase and this will impact on budgets and ultimately the scopes we are able to deliver.

17) Mitigation strategies are in place to address those risks highlighted above.

## **Conclusions**

- 18) Year one commitments were achieved, and in the first year we have been able to forward fund the schemes that are having a direct benefit to the acceleration of housing sites.
- 19) Development of the year two to five infrastructure scheme programme will ensure this continues over the five year programme.
- 20) External market factors such as Brexit may be having an impact, this requires further analysis and understanding to inform what future impact could be and what interventions could assist.

**ANNEX 1 – INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY CONFIDENCE**

<b>GROWTH DEAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKSTREAM REPORT PACK – MARCH '19</b>						
<b>YEAR 1 MILESTONE DELIVERY CONFIDENCE: GO GREEN ACTIONS BY PROJECT</b>						
	Area	Project Title	Delivery Confidence (DC)		GO GREEN Delivery Confidence ACTION <i>(who/when?)</i>	Notes
			04/05/18 RAG	MAR'19 RAG		
2	West	Access to Carterton (B4447 & Slips)	RED	AMBER	Scheme only partially delivering scope in Year 1 – remainder of feasibility for scheme will be delivered in Year 2. Project Lead	To go Green in Y2
3	City	Access to Headington	GREEN	GREEN	N/A	
5	City	Oxford Citywide cycle and pedestrian routes	AMB	AMBER	Schemes have been identified and progress is starting – to 'go green' the projects will need to be all on site and construction started. Project Lead	To go Green in Y2
6	City	A4260 and A44 Corridor Improvements	AMB	GREEN	N/A	
7	City	Botley Road Rail Bridge	AMB	GREEN	N/A	
9	City	SE Corridor Study	AMB	AMBER	'Go-green' achievable when design option settled upon. Skansa	To go Green in Y2
10	City	Botley Road Corridor	AMB	GREEN	N/A	
11	Cherwell	Tramway Road Banbury	AMB	AMBER	'Go-green' achievable when design solution decided upon and land requirements are settled upon. Project lead	To go Green in Y2
12	Cherwell	Former RAF Upper Heyford Mitigation Package	AMB	AMBER	Modelling work to be completed shortly and then design work can be commissioned by OCC and third party developer. Project Lead / Developer	To go Green in Y2
14	South	Benson Relief Road	AMB	GREEN	N/A	

15	Vale	Featherbed Lane capacity improvements and junction widening at A4130 / B4017	RED	AMBER	Appointment of consultants for optioneering work. Project lead	To go Green in Y2
16	Vale	Milton Enterprise Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge	AMB	GREEN	N/A	
17	South	Watlington Edge Road	AMB	AMBER	Only a portion of the Y1 scope will be delivered in Y1, not planning to undertake whole scope.	To go Green in Y2
18	County	Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme	GREEN	GREEN	N/A	
19	West	Rapid Transit Lane 2	GREEN	GREEN	N/A	
20	West	Witney A40 Downs Road Junction	GREEN	GREEN	N/A	
21	County	Schools Capital Contribution	GREEN	GREEN	N/A	

**ANNEX 2 – YEAR 1-5 INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEMES**

District	Year	Project
City	1	Y01-03 Access to Headington (penultimate and final phase)
City	1	Y01-05 Oxford city wide cycle and pedestrian schemes
City	1	Y01-07 Oxford Station Redevelopment Phase 3 - Infrastructure to include new station building and Botley Road Bridge
City	1	Y01-10 Botley Road Corridor
City	1	Y01-18 Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme (OFAS) - OCC contribution
City	1	Y01-21 Oxford - Barton West - Primary
City	1	Y01-22 Cowley Branch Line
City	2	Y02-01 SE Corridors Study Component - Barns Road corridor
City	2	Y02-03 SE Corridors Study Component - Eastern Bypass corridor
City	2	Y02-04 SE Corridors Study Component - Cowley Road/Garsington Road/Watlington Road corridor
City	2	Y02-05 SE Corridors Study Component - A4074 corridor
City	2	Y02-06 SE Corridors Study Component - B4495 corridor
City	2	Y02-07 SE Corridors Study Component - Abingdon Road corridor
City	2	Y02-08 SE Corridors Study Component - Iffley Road corridor
City	2	Y02-11 Oxpens to Osney Mead bridge
City	2	Y02-12 Becket Street extension
City	2	Y02-18 Banbury Road improvement (Banbury Road Corridor)
City	2	Y02-19 Woodstock Road improvements (Woodstock Road Corridor)
<b>West</b>		
West	1	Y01-02 A40/Minster Lovell West Facing Slips/ Access to Carterton (B4477 Upgrade and Witney to Carterton Premium Cycle Route)
West	1	Y01-20 Witney A40 Downs Road junction
West	1	Y01-19 Rapid Transit Line 2 - contribution
West	3	Y03-05 Access to Witney at Shores Green
<b>Cherwell</b>		
Cherwell	1	Y01-06 North Oxford All Modes Transport Strategy Study
Cherwell	1	Y01-11 Tramway Road accessibility improvements
Cherwell	1	Y01-12 Former RAF Upper Heyford Mitigation package phase 1
Cherwell	1	Y01-13 North West Bicester Realignment of the A4095
Cherwell	1	Y01-21 Banbury, Southam Road - Primary
Cherwell	1	Y01-21 Bicester, South West - Secondary
Cherwell	1	Y01-21 Bloxham, Warriner - Secondary
Cherwell	2	Y02-14 Howes Lane/Lords Lane Realignment
Cherwell	2	Y02-16 A44 corridor improvements from Langford Lane to Peartree roundabout (Woodstock Road Corridor)
Cherwell	2	Y02-17 Former RAF Upper Heyford Mitigation package phase 2 - Option 1 - Junction 10 and surrounding junctions
Cherwell	3	Y03-06 Ploughley Road / A41 Bicester - signalisation of junction
Cherwell	3	Y03-07 A361 Bloxham Road to A4260 Oxford Road link road, Banbury - new spine road through development sites
Cherwell	2	Y02-20 A422 Hennef Way, Banbury - Relief to severe congestion

South	1	Y01-14 Benson Relief Road
South	2	Y02-15 Golden Balls Roundabout junction improvements (A4074/B4015)
South	3	Y03-01 Thame to Haddenham cycle route
South	1	Y01-17 Watlington Relief Road
South	3	Y03-04 Jubilee Way Roundabout
Vale	1	Y01-21 East Hanney St James
Vale	1	Y01-21 Faringdon Community College
Vale	1	Y01-21 John Blandy, Southmoor Primary
Vale	2	Y02-02 SE Corridors Study Component - A34 corridor
Vale	2	Y02-09 Wantage Eastern Link road
Vale	2	Y02-10 Shrivenham New School - cover shortfall in funding for new school
Vale	2	Y02-13 Frilford junction
Vale	3	Y03-03 Marcham Bypass
Vale	1	Fitzwaryn School Expansion
Vale	1	Y01-15 Featherbed Lane and Steventon Lights
Vale	1	Y01-16 Milton Enterprise Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge
South & Vale	1	Y01-21 Didcot Great Western Park - Primary #2
South & Vale	3	Y03-02 Didcot Garden Town Project: Central Didcot Transport Corridor improvements
South & Vale		Summer DataCapture: Frilford junction and Marcham Bypass