

THE SHROPSHIRE REGENERATION PROSPECTUS

PLACE SHAPING THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WORKING

*Consultation Statement outlining the collaborative
approach to developing Shropshire's Regeneration
Prospectus*

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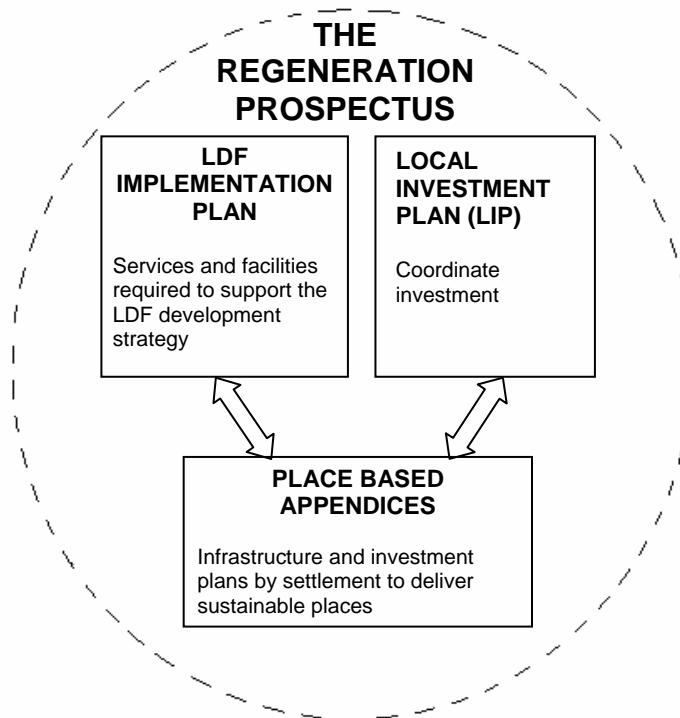
1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This statement emphasises the important role partnership working plays in delivering Shropshire's vision.
- 1.2 It provides a record of the collaborative working that has been undertaken to develop Shropshire's Regeneration Prospectus and identifies the ongoing partnership processes that are in place to ensure continued engagement and joint working with partners to coordinate actions around the delivery of sustainable places.

2.0 PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE OF THE REGENERATION PROSPECTUS

- 2.1 The Regeneration Prospectus is the umbrella framework under which sits separate delivery frameworks for creating and maintaining sustainable places and communities throughout Shropshire.

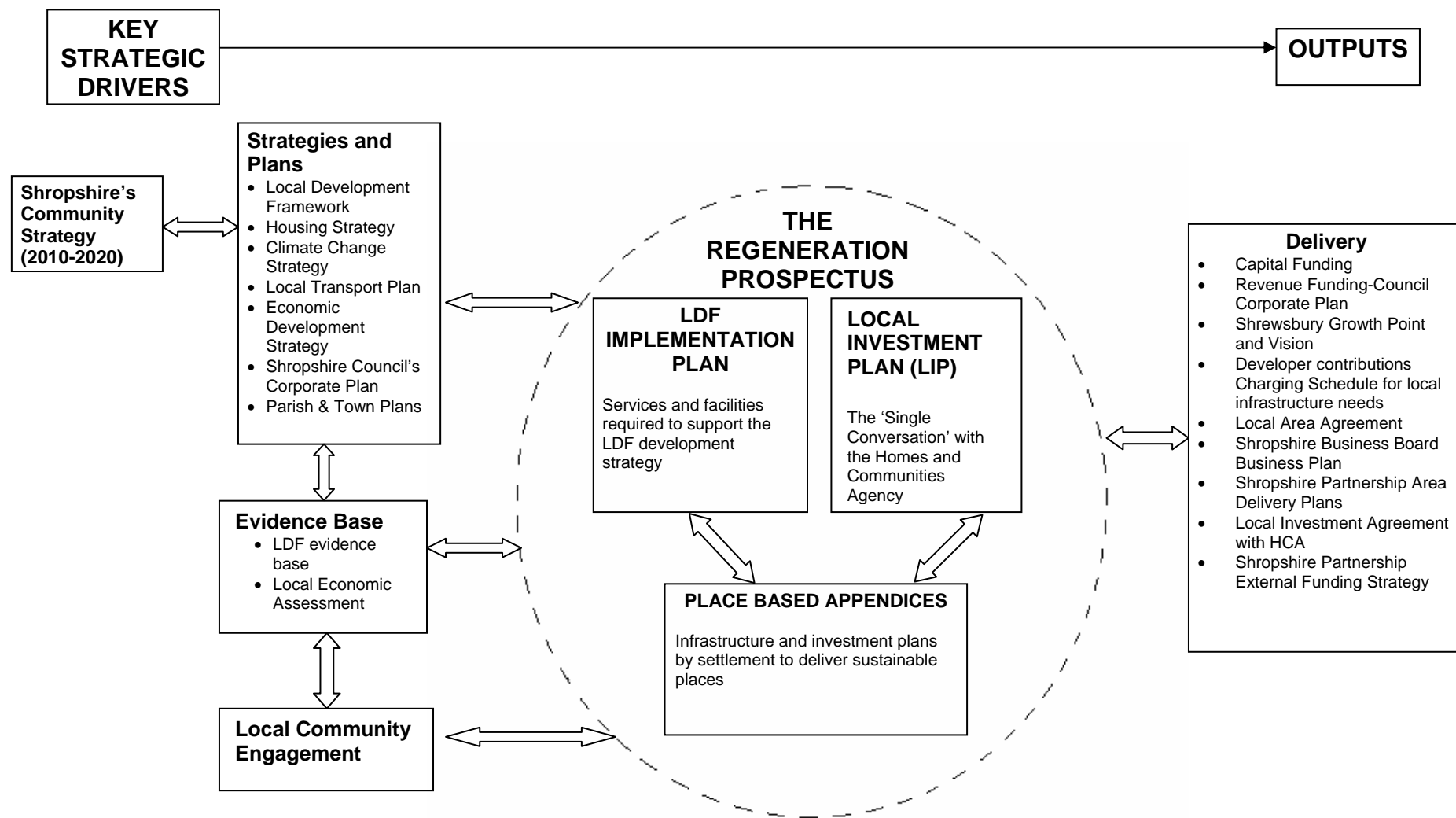
It brings together the Local Development Framework (LDF) Implementation Plan, which identifies the infrastructure requirements needed to support the development strategy for Shropshire, and the Local Investment Plan, arising from the Single Conversation with the Homes and Communities Agency. Both documents share a set of place based appendices, which detail investment and infrastructure programmes place by place.



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- 2.2 The LDF Implementation Plan supports the LDF by identifying the infrastructure required to deliver the development strategy for Shropshire. In line with national guidance, the plan outlines the infrastructure required, the cost and timescales for provision, funding sources and the impact on the phasing of development. It sets out the infrastructure requirements according to whether they are physical infrastructure, social infrastructure or green infrastructure.

- 2.3 The Local Investment Plan (LIP) forms an important part of the ‘Single Conversation’ with the Homes and Communities Agency, aimed at agreeing priorities for funding with local authorities and their partners. The LIP will link various funding streams and coordinate investment, including housing, regeneration and infrastructure, around a shared local vision and priorities for delivering better places.
- 2.4 Both documents share a set of place based appendices, which detail all the infrastructure and investment requirements within a particular locality. This place based focus supports both the bottom up approach taken nationally, in terms of encouraging local leadership, and the area approach within the LDF aimed at delivering local services tailored to community need. The appendices therefore reflect a mixture of schemes based on community aspirations, as well as identified needs from large organisations such as Shropshire Council and its public sector partners. The plans will assist in prioritising which are the most important schemes within a particular place, given limited resources.
- 2.5 Given that the current focus within the LDF is on the preparation of a Core Strategy, the existing place based appendices are based around the main centres for development, namely Shrewsbury, the Market Towns and key centres. However, as more is known about the aspirations for smaller settlements and the rural hinterland, through the preparation of the Site Allocations and Management of Development DPD, the appendices will be expanded to include infrastructure and investment requirements for places throughout Shropshire, as a whole.
- 2.6 The Regeneration Prospectus is set within the context of a wide range of partner plans and strategies which set out key objectives and priorities for Shropshire. Combined with the findings of evidence base studies and the results of local community engagement, these partner plans and strategies have been key to informing the Regeneration Prospectus, as illustrated by figure 1.

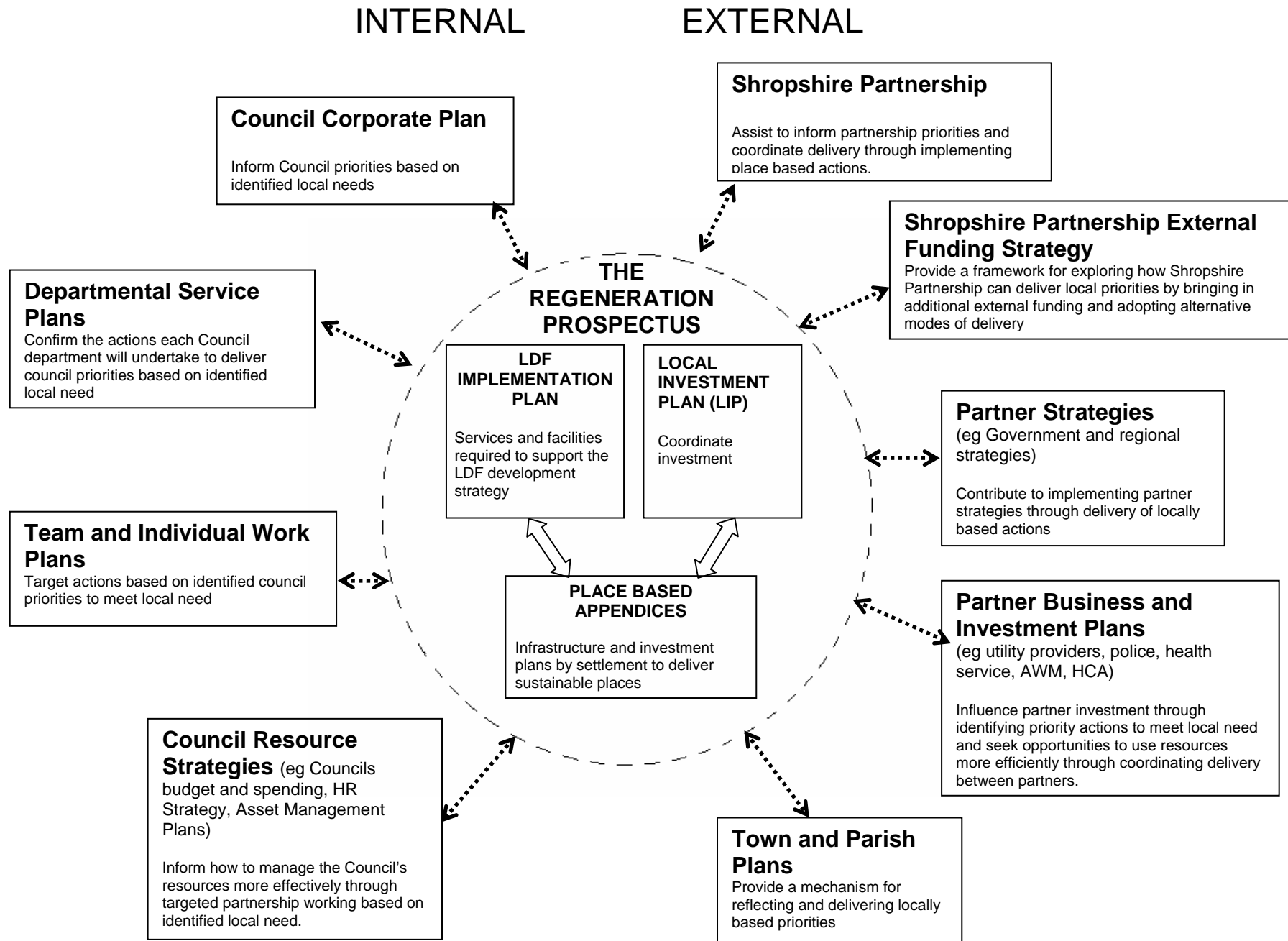
Figure 1: Overview of the Shropshire Regeneration Prospectus



3.0 IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIP WORKING

- 3.1 The successful delivery of Shropshire's vision depends upon effective partnership working and strong governance.
- 3.2 Through its role in providing local leadership, the Council recognises that it is key to identifying local priorities and plays an important role in creating and being involved in a wide range of partnerships that unlock investment.
- 3.3 In preparing the Regeneration Prospectus, the Council is seeking to provide a coordinated approach to the identification of local priorities and delivery of actions to meet local need. The Prospectus identifies the contribution that each partner will make to delivering sustainable places within Shropshire and coordinates resources, ensuring that they are used efficiently, by providing a targeted and joined up way or working between a wide range of service providers.
- 3.4 The Regeneration Prospectus is not intended to duplicate existing infrastructure or investment plans that are developed by individual partners. Instead, it is intended to ensure that collectively we are planning actions and tailoring funding according to local needs and taking account of future development requirements. It also provides a means by which to establish good working relationships to ensure ongoing and effective engagement with partners.
- 3.5 It is hoped that the Regeneration Prospectus provides an opportunity for long term partnership working across Shropshire, by providing a focus for:
- delivering new and innovative approaches to service provision
 - seeking economies of scale, as service providers pool not only resources, but skills, effort and time
 - exploring external funding opportunities and allowing greater access to a range of funding sources
 - establishing ongoing processes for collaborative working through relationship building and establishing a shared vision for Shropshire, what needs to be done and how it will be achieved.
- 3.6 As such, the Regeneration Prospectus has the scope to provide a range of benefits, as illustrated by figure 2, both internally to Shropshire Council and externally, through more efficient service delivery which is targeted at meeting local needs.

Figure 2: Coordinating Service Delivery- Regeneration Prospectus Opportunities



4.0 SHROPSHIRE'S PLACE SHAPING PROCESSES

Early Engagement Work

- 4.1 Prior to Shropshire Council becoming a unitary authority in April 2009, initial infrastructure planning and evidence gathering was undertaken by the district authorities. Consultants Scott Wilson were engaged by Bridgnorth District Council, Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council and Shropshire County Council in 2007/8 to advise on developer contributions for infrastructure. As part of this work, a workshop for stakeholders was held on 18th February 2008, involving Severn Trent Water, the Environment Agency, Natural England, the West Midlands Regional Assembly, and the House Builders Federation, amongst others.
- 4.2 Further consultation on infrastructure needs was undertaken in 2008/9 to inform a proposed Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on infrastructure contributions. This focused on contributions towards public open space, education and transport, and correspondingly involved engagement with officers from Shropshire County Council's Education and Strategic Highways directorates, and officers from the Districts Councils' Parks and Recreation departments, along with those Town Councils with a responsibility for parks and open space. Although the SPD was abandoned, in light of declining viability in the face of the emerging 'credit crunch', the results of this early engagement work were used to inform the development of a Shropshire Regeneration Prospectus by the new unitary authority.

Initial draft Regeneration Prospectus

- 4.3 An initial draft Regeneration Prospectus for Shropshire was prepared in November 2009. It was aimed at identifying key issues and opportunities where investment would have the greatest impact and contribute to regional and local regeneration. As such, it was envisaged that this would form the basis of the 'Single Conversation' with the Homes and Communities Agency and Advantage West Midlands and become the 'Local Investment Plan' for the Shropshire sub-region.
- 4.4 A revised version of a Shropshire Regeneration Prospectus was then published alongside the Core Strategy Final Plan in February 2010 and made available at principal and area Council offices, on the Council website, within local libraries and Community Information Points across Shropshire from 15th February 2010 until 29th March 2010. Specific comments were received from Albrighton Parish Council whilst Other Town and Parish Councils made more general comments. All these have been included in the place making appendices.
- 4.5 The scope of the February 2010 Prospectus was extended to cover infrastructure requirements as well as investment programmes. It therefore became a single document, with two main roles:
- Providing the Local Investment Plan- as part of the Single Conversation with the Homes and Communities Agency
 - Acting as the Local Development Framework Implementation Plan- outlining the key infrastructure requirements needed to

support local regeneration and the scale of growth outlined in the Core Strategy.

- 4.6 Within this draft Regeneration Prospectus, infrastructure and investment requirements for Shropshire were structured, around Shrewsbury, the Market Towns and the Rural Areas and according to whether they were considered to be critical, priority or key to supporting local regeneration and meeting the needs of future development. A traffic light system was used to reflect progress in terms of the delivery of each infrastructure and investment scheme.
- 4.7 This draft Regeneration Prospectus was informed by a wide range of evidence gathering and consultation with partner organisations.
- 4.8 A good deal of information on infrastructure requirements had been gathered by the former district authorities, prior to Shropshire Council becoming a unitary authority (see early engagement work above). In addition, some of the Local Development Framework evidence base studies, such as the draft Water Cycle Study report, provided important information on the infrastructure needed to support the proposed level of development within the Core Strategy.
- 4.9 A number of comments on infrastructure requirements were also submitted to the Council as part of the consultation on the Core Strategy Policy Directions document in August 2009, from organisations below, and were used to inform the draft Regeneration Prospectus.
- Scottish Power Manweb
 - United Utilities
 - Severn Trent Water
 - Welsh Water
 - National Grid
 - Highways Agency
 - The Coal Authority
 - West Mercia Police
- 4.10 Whilst this internal evidence gathering provided a useful baseline, it was recognised that further targeted consultation was required with service and infrastructure providers across Shropshire, to gain an up to date picture of infrastructure and investment needs. In November 2009, each of the organisations listed in Appendix 1 were consulted to outline the purpose of the Regeneration Prospectus and to seek input into identifying Shropshire's infrastructure and investment requirements. An additional reminder was sent to these contacts in December 2009 which emphasised the importance of reflecting partner infrastructure and investment requirements within the Regeneration Prospectus.
- 4.11 Through this consultation exercise, written responses were received from the following partners:

- Shropshire Council- with involvement of officers from Education, Strategic Highways and Traffic, Passenger Transport, Transportation, Housing, Economic Development, Leisure and Outdoor Recreation, External Funding
- PCT Estates
- Shropshire Council and Shropshire County PCT
- West Mercia Police
- National Grid
- Shropshire Fire Service
- Environment Agency
- Welsh Water
- United Utilities
- BT

4.12 In addition, a meeting was held with Scottish Power Manweb on the 15 December 2009, to discuss future infrastructure requirements in relation to energy provision. They were asked to identify whether there were likely to be any capacity issues in relation to the level of development outlined in the Core Strategy, which would result in a requirement for infrastructure upgrades or additional infrastructure provision.

4.13 Ongoing discussions also took place with Severn Trent Water as part of work on the Shropshire Water Cycle Study, which was a partnership project overseen by a steering group comprising the Environment Agency, Severn Trent Water, Welsh Water, Natural England and Shropshire Council. As part of this work, Severn Trent Water has been provided with different drafts of the Regeneration Prospectus as it has evolved and been asked to provide information on future infrastructure upgrades and provision to address the water treatment and network capacity constraints identified by the Water Cycle Study. Ongoing correspondence between Severn Trent Water and Shropshire Council, as part of the Water Cycle Study, has sought to confirm that the necessary infrastructure will be put in place in a timely manner to meet the development needs outlined in the Core Strategy. Given the strategic nature of the Core Strategy, Severn Trent Water consider it is too early in the development process to have certainty about development locations and therefore it has not been possible at this stage to gain detailed information on specific infrastructure schemes. However, Severn Trent Water has provided the Council with a statement of support, confirming that in terms of water infrastructure provision the level and location of development proposed in the Core Strategy is deliverable within the timescales proposed. A copy of this statement of support is provided in Appendix 2. In addition, the Council has undertaken some initial masterplanning work with the agents and landowners of the sites likely to form sustainable urban extensions to Shrewsbury and Oswestry. As this masterplanning work provides greater certainty about future strategic development locations, the agents have been able to gain confirmation that the identified water infrastructure constraint in Oswestry will be addressed through a capital investment programme within the Severn Trent AMP5 period (2010-2015).

- 4.14 Ongoing discussions have also taken place between the Highways Agency and Shropshire Council. Since the publication of the Core Strategy Final Plan, there has been further progress with regard to transport infrastructure requirements, relating to the A5 at Oswestry and Shrewsbury. The Council and the Highways Agency have explored potential transport interventions to ensure that the strategic road network can accommodate the development planned up to 2026. For Shrewsbury, potential junction improvements have been identified and costed, while for Oswestry options are under investigation. In both cases, further work is to be carried out, linked to the preparation of the Site Allocations and Management of Development DPD. The Council and the Highways Agency have therefore signed a Memorandum of Understanding to show commitment to the completion of this work and longer term collaborative working to ensure delivery. A draft copy of this MOU is provided in Appendix 3.
- 4.15 Further targeted consultation was undertaken with Registered Social Landlords (RSL) in February 2010. Those RSLs that are active within Shropshire were asked for their input into the Regeneration Prospectus, with Housing Plus and Bromford Group returning comments.
- 4.16 Given that the Regeneration Prospectus is, in part, intended to form the Local Investment Plan for Shropshire, the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) has naturally been involved in its preparation. Meetings with the HCA to discuss the Prospectus were held on 10th February and 5th March 2010, and contributed to the restructuring of the draft Regeneration Prospectus, as outlined below.

Review of draft Regeneration Prospectus and Development of a Place Based Approach

- 4.17 An internal review of the Regeneration Prospectus was undertaken following consultation on the Core Strategy Final Plan, at the end of March 2010. Whilst it was felt that the principle of linking the Local Investment Plan and Local Infrastructure Plan provided a joined up approach to service delivery within Shropshire, a clearer distinction needed to be made between:
- i) the infrastructure required to support the Local Development Framework,
 - ii) the investment opportunities for Shropshire through partnership working with the HCA
 - iii) the local community needs and aspirations identified within community documents such as Parish Plans.
- 4.18 The draft Regeneration Prospectus was therefore restructured into its current form, with separate LDF Implementation Plan and Local Investment Plan, and a set of place based appendices which both documents share, as outlined in the introduction in paragraph 2.
- 4.19 To ensure the Core Strategy infrastructure requirements are fully identified and planned for, the LDF Implementation Plan and supporting place based appendices were circulated for further consultation with infrastructure and service providers between April and May 2010. Key contacts within each of the organisations listed in Appendix 1, were reintroduced to the Shropshire

Regeneration Prospectus, and provided with an overview of how the document has been restructured and invited to provide updates on infrastructure requirements or proposed infrastructure schemes.

4.20 Through this consultation, responses have been received from:

- Shropshire Council- within involvement of officers from Highways and Transportation, Rail Transport, IT, Culture and Leisure, Leisure and Outdoor Recreation, Drainage, Housing Services, Housing Enabling and Implementation, Arts and Heritage, Economic Development, Community Working, Education
- West Mercia Police
- Sport England
- National Grid
- Welsh Water
- Shropshire Wildlife Trust
- CTC
- Shropshire County PCT Trust
- Scottish Power Manweb
- Central Networks

4.21 Following this written consultation, a number of subsequent meetings were requested from partners, to discuss specific infrastructure requirements.

4.22 On 26 April 2010, the Council met with Shropshire Wildlife Trust to discuss green infrastructure needs within Shropshire. Following the meeting, Shropshire Wildlife Trust was provided with a complete set of the place based appendices to circulate amongst the local wildlife officers, throughout Shropshire, for their input on green infrastructure needs in particular locations.

4.23 On 4 May 2010, the Council met with BT to discuss future broadband in terms of next generation access and requirements within Shropshire.

4.24 On 18 May 2010, the Council met with the PCT to identify future health service needs across Shropshire and to discuss ongoing work on assessing how existing assets may be used more efficiently.

4.25 On 19 May 2010, the Council met with the Recreation Officer from the Environment Agency to discuss recreation and green infrastructure requirements within Shropshire. Through this meeting, other relevant officers within the Environment Agency were identified and consulted.

4.26 On 27th May 2010, the Council met with Arriva to identify public transport needs both within Shrewsbury and in relation to bus services from the town to surrounding settlements.

4.27 On 21st June, the Council met with representatives from West Mercia Police, to discuss the requirement for a new divisional headquarters in Shrewsbury and the additional police infrastructure requirements for the market towns and key centres.

- 4.28 On 22nd June, the Council met with representatives from the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, the Department of Health and the planning consultant representing the Secretary of State for Health regarding land at Shrewsbury Hospital. This meeting explored what surplus health and care facilities there currently are and whether there are any health and care infrastructure requirements for the future.
- 4.29 On 5th July, the Council met with representatives from the Highways Agency to discuss the ongoing evidence base work and the specific highway infrastructure schemes that would be required to support the development strategy proposed. Following the meeting, the Highways Agency was provided with up to date copies of the LDF Implementation Plan and the place based appendices to provide information on the specific infrastructure requirements, including the necessary timing for provision.
- 4.30 On 15th July, an internal meeting was held with officers from Development Services to identify funds that are currently available from developer contributions (Section 106 Agreements). Funds that have either been received and are awaiting spend on particular infrastructure schemes or which are committed for particular infrastructure schemes and are awaited from the developer have subsequently been added to the place based appendices.
- 4.31 On 20th July, the Council met with Central Networks, to discuss energy infrastructure requirements. Prior to the meeting, Central Networks were provided with indicative levels of housing and employment land to assist with modelling and identifying whether there are likely to be any future capacity constraints in light of future growth. At the meeting Central Networks were able to confirm that investment will be targeted to improve energy infrastructure within Shropshire as part of the 2010-2015 business planning cycle. Central Networks have been asked to provide additional information on these schemes and any future requirements.
- 4.32 In addition to this written consultation and subsequent one to one meetings, an overview of the Regeneration Prospectus was presented to the Shropshire Registered Social Landlord (RSL) Forum, comprising Chief Executives of all the RSLs active in Shropshire, on 12th April. The RSL Development Sub-Group, comprising development officers for RSLs active in Shropshire, was also briefed at their meeting on 23rd April. These meetings paved the way for more detailed consultation with RSLs on the inclusion of specific housing schemes within the place based appendices. To provide encouragement and assistance to RSLs in contributing to the place based appendices, a drop-in workshop session for RSLs took place on the 8th June.
- 4.33 Furthermore, a Local Infrastructure and Investment Workshop was held on 27th July at Shrewsbury Town Football Club. Over 80 representatives from partner organisations, including utility providers, emergency services, local businesses and community and voluntary groups were invited. The event provided an introduction to the Shropshire Regeneration Prospectus, with a workshop session focused on identifying any infrastructure or investment requirements within the areas covered by the place based appendices and

any partner assets or investment opportunities that may be of interest for future partnership working.

Proactive community engagement – links to Parish Plans and the Rural Toolkit approach

- 4.34 It is recognised that the place based appendices should reflect the needs and aspirations of the local community. A meeting was therefore held with the Community Council of Shropshire on 22nd March 2010 to discuss how to draw both existing and future Community, Town and Parish Plans into the process.
- 4.35 In addition, an internal meeting was held with the Community Working Team on 9th June, to introduce the Regeneration Prospectus to the Community Regeneration Officers. Each Community Regeneration Officer was asked to contribute to the place based appendix for the geographical area that they cover, by adding in information on local needs and priorities as identified in community, town and parish plans or through Local Joint Committee meetings.
- 4.36 As part of work on the Local Development Framework, the Council has been proactively engaging with communities through a “rural toolkit” approach. This has involved pulling together everything the Council has been able to find out about a community, and then asking a range of people from the community to reality check the evidence through a Community Testing Event. The result is a snapshot of the community, enabling local people to consider how their community functions as a sustainable place and to identify and rank potential community benefits in order of importance. Part of the community testing event includes exploring with communities their priorities for infrastructure and investment, and the opportunities to improve sustainability. Fifteen community testing events have been undertaken between March and July 2010, the outcomes of which have been fed into ongoing work on preparing the place based appendices.
- 4.37 Further community testing events are planned for the market towns and key centres in Autumn 2010 as an integral part of the Market Towns Revitalisation Programme. Evidence acquired using the toolkit will accordingly feed into the place-based appendices, as the mechanism for linking public expenditure to place and for recording community aspirations for an area.

Sub regional role and cross border working

- 4.38 It is recognised that the Regeneration Prospectus has an important role in encouraging sub regional and cross boundary collaboration on infrastructure planning and delivery. Neighbouring local authorities were therefore consulted in May 2010, outlining the purpose of the Regeneration Prospectus and seeking input into identifying cross border issues and infrastructure and investment needs and opportunities. The neighbouring authorities that were contacted are as follows:
- Cheshire East Council
 - Cheshire West and Chester Council
 - Staffordshire County Council
 - Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council
 - Stafford Borough Council

- South Staffordshire Council
- Telford and Wrekin Council
- Worcester City Council
- Worcestershire County Council
- Wyre Forest District Council
- Herefordshire Council
- Powys County Council
- Wrexham Council

4.39 Through this cross border working, responses have been received from:

- Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council
- Powys County Council
- Wyre Forest District Council
- South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy
- Malvern Hills District Council
- Stafford Borough Council
- Wrexham Council
- Cheshire West and Chester Council
- Cheshire East Council
- South Staffordshire Council
- Welsh Assembly Government

4.40 In terms of Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council, there is no identified requirement for shared infrastructure provision, since the main focus for growth will be within Newcastle and therefore away from the Shropshire border.

4.41 In relation to Powys County Council the need for new waste infrastructure has been identified, both in terms of organic treatment (Anaerobic Digestion) and residual waste technology. However, there is no indication at this stage of where these will be and what sort of capacity such infrastructure will have. Powys County Council is currently working with Ceredigion which means that the infrastructure could be located in the Mid Wales region, which would limit the opportunity to work with Shropshire. In addition, the issue of electricity infrastructure was raised in relation to the development of a 440kv power line to take windfarm electricity from mid-Wales to the national grid from 2015 onwards. This electricity line will cross Shropshire. The need for highway improvements, particularly the A458 and A483, was also raised as an important issue.

4.42 Wyre Forest District Council highlighted cross boundary issues in relation to schemes already identified in the Regeneration Prospectus; namely the Severn Valley Railway and the Severn Way. In addition, additional cross boundary issues were raised in terms of increased traffic flows in Bewdley as a result of any development along the South Shropshire border and the impact on the Air Quality Monitoring Area, the Wyre Forest as a tourist attraction and sustainable tourism in general, particularly in respect of the growing number of caravan parks along the South Shropshire and Wyre Forest border.

- 4.43 The South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy response and Malvern Hills District Council response raised cross border issues in relation to the towns of Tenbury and Burford which are separated by the River Severn.
- 4.44 Stafford Borough Council stated that they had no comments in relation to the Regeneration Prospectus, but that they would welcome further discussions on the aspirational scheme to investigate the potential to reopen the railway line between Wellington and Stafford.
- 4.45 Wrexham Council provided an overview of the content and structure of their Local Development Plan and highlighted that there is no requirement under Welsh legislation for a separate delivery plan. Infrastructure capacity constraints are however referenced throughout the deposit plan document. The infrastructure issues which could affect the Shropshire/Wrexham interface were identified as follows; protection of the River Dee, the capacity constraints of the A438, the railway link between Wrexham and Shrewsbury, the strategic location and size of Wrexham Industrial Estate, Kronospan and Penley Industrial Estate and the implications of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site.
- 4.46 Cheshire East Council indicated that they have only recently embarked on the process of infrastructure planning and are currently collecting baseline data and engaging with stakeholders about existing infrastructure capacity in the Borough. However, this initial consultation has not resulted in the identification of any cross border issues with Shropshire.
- 4.47 South Staffordshire Council provided a copy of their draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan, but did not highlight any cross boundary infrastructure requirements between Shropshire and South Staffordshire.
- 4.48 The Welsh Assembly Government provided details on a range of existing cross border schemes and future requirements, including improvements to the Cambrian and Heart of Wales rail lines, the A483 and A458, tourism, leisure and transport opportunities with the Montgomeryshire Canal and additional grid connections to link windfarms with the national grid.

5.0 NEXT STEPS

Ongoing engagement through preparation of the Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) DPD

- 5.1 As needs and priorities change over time, it is important to respond to changing circumstances. The place based appendices within the Regeneration Prospectus are therefore 'living' documents which will take account of these changes as they come forward. As such, the Prospectus provides an ongoing process by which to align the priorities, programmes and investment streams of many partner organisations.
- 5.2 As the current version of the Regeneration Prospectus focuses on the infrastructure requirements to support the Core Strategy, the LDF Implementation Plan outlines the strategic infrastructure requirements for Shrewsbury, the Market Towns and Rural Areas, whilst the place based

appendices provide detail for Shrewsbury, the Market Towns and key centres (Oswestry, Whitchurch, Wem, Ellesmere, Market Drayton, Minsterley/Pontebury, Ludlow, Bishops Castle, Church Stretton, Cleobury Mortimer, Craven Arms, Bridgnorth, Albrighton, Broseley, Highley, Much Wenlock and Shifnal)

- 5.3 It is, however, recognised that the Regeneration Prospectus will need to be reviewed and updated to reflect additional infrastructure requirements and investment opportunities for sites allocated for particular uses in the SAMDev DPD. Taking into account the infrastructure and investment opportunities identified through consultation as part of preparing the SAMDev DPD and through further targeted consultation with service and infrastructure providers, the LDF Implementation Plan will be updated and the place based appendices expanded to include the infrastructure requirements and investment needs of community hubs, clusters and the rural hinterland.
- 5.4 Information on community benefits ie around activities, facilities, services and infrastructure, drawn from rural toolkit events, Local Joint Committee meetings and Parish and Town Council Plans and meetings, will form part of these place based appendices and in so doing will be the formal record of the priorities and needs of local communities. It is anticipated that this information will be added to over time as part of a community led planning approach.

6.0 MONITORING OF PROGRESS

- 6.1 Monitoring is key to the Regeneration Prospectus. It provides a means of ensuring that existing needs are met and that changing needs and priorities are reflected within the relevant place based appendix for future delivery.

Links to the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)

- 6.2 The principal monitoring mechanism for the LDF is the Annual Monitoring Report, which assesses the extent to which the objectives of planning policies are being met.
- 6.3 To assist, the infrastructure requirements outlined within the LDF Implementation Plan have been cross referenced with the relevant policies in the Core Strategy. Future AMRs will therefore be able to assess how the delivery of infrastructure is helping to meet particular policy objectives and ultimately deliver the vision and strategic objectives for Shropshire as set out in the Core Strategy.

Links to the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)

- 6.4 It is recognised that the Shropshire Partnership should be at the centre of the Regeneration Prospectus, as it is the local body in which the majority of infrastructure providers and investors in Shropshire are represented.
- 6.5 The Regeneration Prospectus has already been introduced to the LSP, via the Sustainable Communities Board meeting on the 10th May 2010 (see Appendix 4) and the LSP Executive Board meeting on the 11th June 2010.

- 6.6 Future delivery of the priorities and actions within the Regeneration Prospectus will be reported to the Shropshire Partnership and other partners through:
- LAA Performance Reports
 - Capital programme monitoring reports
 - Periodic evaluations of programmes and projects
 - Annual review of the LDF Implementation Plan via the AMR
- 6.7 The Partnership will also have responsibility for agreeing and reviewing the level of priority that is given to each infrastructure scheme and investment opportunity within the Regeneration Prospectus, so that partners can agree where to pool resources, and can coordinate skills and effort at a particular point in time.

Consultation on the Shropshire Regeneration Prospectus- November 2009

- Shropshire Council- with the involvement of Education, Strategic Highways and Traffic, Passenger Transport, Transportation, Environmental Maintenance, Housing Services, Community Working, Economic Development, Arts and Heritage, Leisure and Outdoor Recreation, Strategy and Development and Social Care departments.
- Severn Trent Water
- Welsh Water
- United Utilities
- National Grid
- EON/Central Networks
- Scottish Power Manweb
- Highways Agency
- Arriva Midlands
- Arriva Trains
- Network Rail
- Sustrans
- CTC
- West Mercia Police
- Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service
- West Midlands Ambulance Service
- Shropshire County PCT
- Environment Agency
- Sport England
- National Playing Fields Association
- Royal Mail
- BT
- Mono Consultants Ltd
- Defence Estates

Core Strategy Final Plan Consultation- February- March 2010

A copy of the Shropshire Regeneration Prospectus was made available at the Council's principal and area offices, on the Shropshire Council website, within local libraries and Community Information Points across Shropshire from 15th February to 29th March 2010, as part of the consultation on the Core Strategy Final Plan.

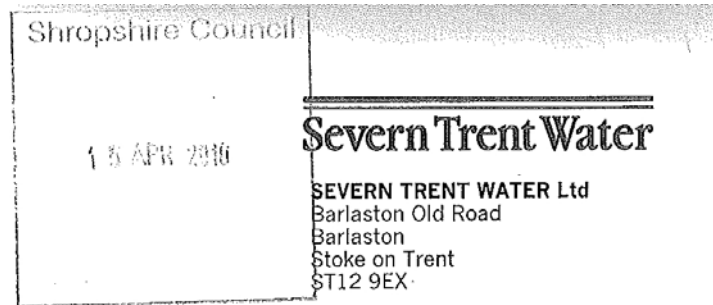
Consultation on the LDF Implementation Plan and Place Based Appendices- April-May 2010

- Shropshire Council- with the involvement of Education, Strategic Highways and Traffic, Passenger Transport, Transportation, Environmental Maintenance, Environment, Housing Services, Community Working, Economic Development, Arts and Heritage, Leisure and Outdoor Recreation, Strategy and Development, Property Services, IT, Drainage and Social Care departments.
- National Grid

- Scottish Power Manweb
- EON/Central Networks
- West Mercia Suppliers
- Severn Trent Water (via Shropshire Water Cycle Study)
- Welsh Water
- Environment Agency
- BT
- Shropshire Primary Care Trust
- Shropshire and Telford Hospital NHS Trust
- West Mercia Police
- Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service
- West Midlands Ambulance Service
- Royal Mail
- Natural England
- Shropshire Wildlife Trust
- Sport England
- Arriva Midlands
- Arriva Trains
- Network Rail
- Sustrans
- CTC
- Highways Agency
- East Cheshire Council
- Cheshire West and Chester Council
- Staffordshire County Council
- Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council
- Stafford Borough Council
- South Staffordshire Council
- Telford and Wrekin Council
- Worcester City Council
- Worcestershire County Council
- Wyre Forest District Council
- Herefordshire Council
- Powys County Council
- Wrexham Council

Severn Trent Water Statement of Support13th April 2010

Andy Mortimer
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Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND



Tel 0121 722 4000
Fax 01782 654249

Direct Line 01782 654256

Contact Steve Southern
Your Ref
Our Ref

Dear Andy,

Local Development Framework – Core Strategy

I refer to your letter of the 10th March 2010 and take this opportunity to elaborate further on our position regarding provision of sewage treatment.

Firstly, I would like to state that Severn Trent Water agree with your approach and support your Core Strategy and look forward in working in close relationship with your department to ensure the necessary infrastructure can be in place to support the level, location and timing of your proposed development. I offer this undertaking provided we are kept involved in all the key stages in the Core Strategy process.

Sewage Treatment.

Whilst our sewage works performance is continually monitored its comparison against the relevant discharge consent criteria does not always reflect the amount of spare headroom at a treatment works. Due to efficiency reasons we will often operate our treatment works close to our discharge consent limits to optimise operational resources. Consequently where current performance is very close to its consent thresholds it does not always indicate that there is no spare capacity for future development. Again, once we are more confident of development proposals we will then investigate in greater detail the sewage treatment works serving the Shrewsbury and Oswestry areas and form detailed proposals to provide additional capacity (if required) to enable your growth proposals.

A member of the Severn Trent Group

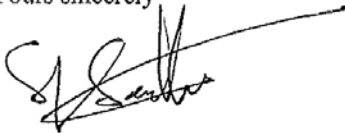


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As well as providing additional capacity for future development we also have to manage asset deterioration and improve treatment quality to meet ongoing European river quality directives. Over the next 3-5 years we will be investing in our sewage treatment works and so as the cost of providing additional treatment capacity for future growth is often marginal, we would usually welcome development at these works which may at present have little or no capacity. Therefore, as part of our five year business planning cycle (AMP) agreed with our water regulator (Ofwat) funding is available to provide additional sewage treatment capacity as and when required.

In summary we have an obligation to provide sewage treatment capacity for future development and to ensure that the performance of the sewerage system is not unduly affected. We therefore welcome the opportunity to contribute to the Core Strategy process, yet for most developments proposals we would not foresee any particular issues to provide additional capacity as and when required.

Yours sincerely



Steve Southern
Business Support Manager
Water Strategy

Draft Highways Agency and Shropshire Council Memorandum of Understanding

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

An agreement between Shropshire Council and the Highways Agency in respect of the planning and delivery of strategic highway infrastructure in Shropshire

The agreement relates to joint working to:

- complete the transport evidence base in support of the Shropshire LDF Core Strategy and Implementation Plan;**
- confirm the interventions required for the A5/A49 Shrewsbury Bypass and the A5/A483 Oswestry Bypass to support Shropshire's sustainable growth; and**
- develop a Delivery Partnership to deliver the identified interventions.**

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1. Parties
2. Purpose
3. Objectives
4. Responsibilities
5. Status
6. Confidentiality Provisions
7. Review

1 Parties

Highways Agency (HA)

and

Shropshire Council (SC)

(Together the 'Parties')

2 Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this Memorandum is to set out an agreement between the Parties as a basis for mutual understanding and practical co-operation. In the immediate term, this is required to complete a robust Core Strategy transport evidence base in order to identify the transport interventions necessary to support the planned growth for Shrewsbury and Oswestry over the plan period. Implementation of the agreement is intended to satisfy the Highways Agency that it should not pursue any objection in respect of Core Strategy evidence through to the Examination in Public.

2.2 In the longer term, collaborative working between the Parties is also required to ensure the delivery of sustainable development and strategic transport infrastructure,

as identified in the LDF Implementation Plan and Local Investment Plan, having regard to the objectives of PPS12. This could be achieved through the Parties developing a formal relationship within a Delivery Partnership.

3 Objectives

3.1 The objectives of this partnership agreement are to:

1. Address the areas of concern with regard to the technical evidence base highlighted in the Highways Agency's response to the Core Strategy consultation, to enable:
 - planning of junction improvements on A5/A49 Shrewsbury Bypass and the A5/A483 Oswestry Bypass where required;
 - integration of junction improvements on the A5/A49 Shrewsbury Bypass with planning of the proposed Shrewsbury North West Relief Road (NWRR) (albeit recognising recent announcements regarding the scrapping of the Regional Funding Allocation);
 - phasing and prioritisation of improvements to support the delivery of the development planned for Shrewsbury and Oswestry;
 - identification of funding and delivery mechanisms required to secure implementation;
 - input to Smarter Choices transport assessment work for the proposed sustainable urban extensions and other major development sites.
2. Provide the necessary information for the LDF Implementation Plan and Local Investment Plan and its associated Place Based Appendices by the first week of July 2010 for submission with the Core Strategy for Examination.
3. Develop a long-term partnership, with aim of securing the delivery of the strategic highway infrastructure and transport interventions required to manage traffic flows and support Shropshire's sustainable development. The Delivery Partnership will be based on a protocol (to be agreed after the Core Strategy examination) for managing issues of joint concern, and sharing best practice and information.

4 Responsibilities

4.1 The respective responsibilities of the parties are as set out:

Shropshire Council (for Shrewsbury growth)

- 4.2 Provide the Highways Agency with base SATURN modelled flows and LMVR report (received on 4th June 2010). Final future year SATURN flows, incorporating any reduction for Smarter Choices to be provided to the Highways Agency by 24th May 2010.
- 4.3 Provide the Highways Agency with figures on the reduction to be applied to traffic flows as a result of sustainable measure improvements. This will be supported by an outline of the methodology, measures and deliverability. (received on 28th May 2010)

- 4.4 Provide indicative build out rate of proposed growth to enable various scenarios to be tested throughout the plan period.

Shropshire Council (for Oswestry growth)

- 4.5 Provide modelling and complete design of the proposed mitigation measures for A5 Whittington Road Junction , A5/A483 Mile End Roundabout and A483 Maesbury Road Junction. Received by the HA on 23rd June 2010.

- 4.6 This will include phasing, reductions for smarter choices/sustainable transport measures and scheme costings.

Highways Agency

- 4.7 Code the design mitigation measures agreed at the workshop held in Birmingham on 11th May 2010.

- 4.8 Subject to receiving the required information from the Council as set out above (and within agreed timescales), complete the design of the mitigation measures, test the development flows from the preferred growth options with flow reductions for smarter measures/sustainable transport interventions, and provide individual broad scheme costs by week end 2nd July 2010.

Joint Responsibilities

- 4.9 Both Parties agree to give positive consideration to the potential of entering a formal Delivery Partnership related to interventions to be undertaken on the A5, including the implications of resources and the appropriate timeframe, and to ensuring that the protocol between the authorities is in place prior to formal adoption of the Core Strategy and revising this Memorandum as appropriate.

Status

- 4.10 Nothing in the Memorandum shall affect the statutory or regulatory duties or responsibilities of either Party and its existence does not preclude the taking of independent actions by Parties where either Party considers it appropriate to do so.
- 4.11 This Memorandum does not commit either Party to the allocation of funds or other resources although the parties agree in good faith to deliver against the agreed co-operation areas covered in the Memorandum subject to their other duties and the corporate framework within which they operate.
- 4.12 Shropshire Council will reflect the schemes agreed under this Memorandum within its LDF Implementation Plan and the supporting Place Based Appendices, and may wish to undertake an independent appraisal on the likely scheme costs.

5 Confidentiality Provisions

- 5.1 Subject to any statutory and regulatory requirements, either of the Parties may request that commercially confidential information provided in connection with this Memorandum should not be disclosed. Any information regarded by a Party as commercially confidential may be provided separately, so as not to inhibit the disclosure of other information.
- 5.2 If either Party receives a request for information under the Freedom on Information Act 2000 relating to activities undertaken under this Memorandum, it shall inform the other Party as soon as possible and discuss as to the potential application of any exemption. For the purposes of section 43(2) of the Act, the Parties acknowledge and agree that the disclosure of any commercially sensitive information relating to the activities undertaken under this Memorandum is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Parties.

6 Review

- 6.1 This Memorandum shall remain extant initially for a period of two years from the date of the signed agreement. Thereafter, the terms of it may be reviewed annually by the Parties.

FOR THE HIGHWAYS AGENCY

FOR SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

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Jenny Moten

Tom McCabe

Regional Planning Manager

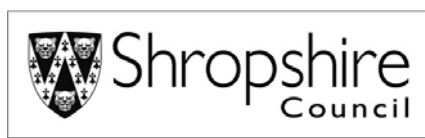
Director of Development Services

Highways Agency

Shropshire Council

Date

Date



<u>Committee and Date</u> Sustainable Communities Board 10 May 2010	<u>Item</u> Public	<u>Paper</u>
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STRATEGIC OVERVIEW TO THE LOCAL INVESTMENT PLAN

Responsible Officer Nick Taylor
 e-mail: nick.Taylor@shropshire-cc.gov.uk Tel: 01743 252502 Fax 01743 255472

Summary

Funding to enable delivery is critical to delivering Shropshire's vision. The Local Investment Plan (LIP), as part of the Regeneration Prospectus and in combination with the Shropshire Partnership External Funding Strategy, will play a key role in bidding for and co-ordinating funding from many organisations, including the Homes and Communities Agency.

It is important that the Shropshire Partnership is at the centre of the Local Investment Plan (LIP), as the local body on which the majority of investors in Shropshire are represented. Within the Shropshire Partnership, the Sustainable Communities Board (SCB) is the board that is most appropriately placed to consider the LIP in detail.

To meet the requirements of the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), the approval of the Shropshire Local Investment Plan is through a two-stage process. The first stage is for the Shropshire Partnership, the Council and the Homes and Communities Agency to approve a Strategic Overview to the LIP. There will then follow a period of consultation on the detailed LIP before being signed-off by the Shropshire Partnership, the Council and the Homes and Communities Agency in September 2010.

Recommendations

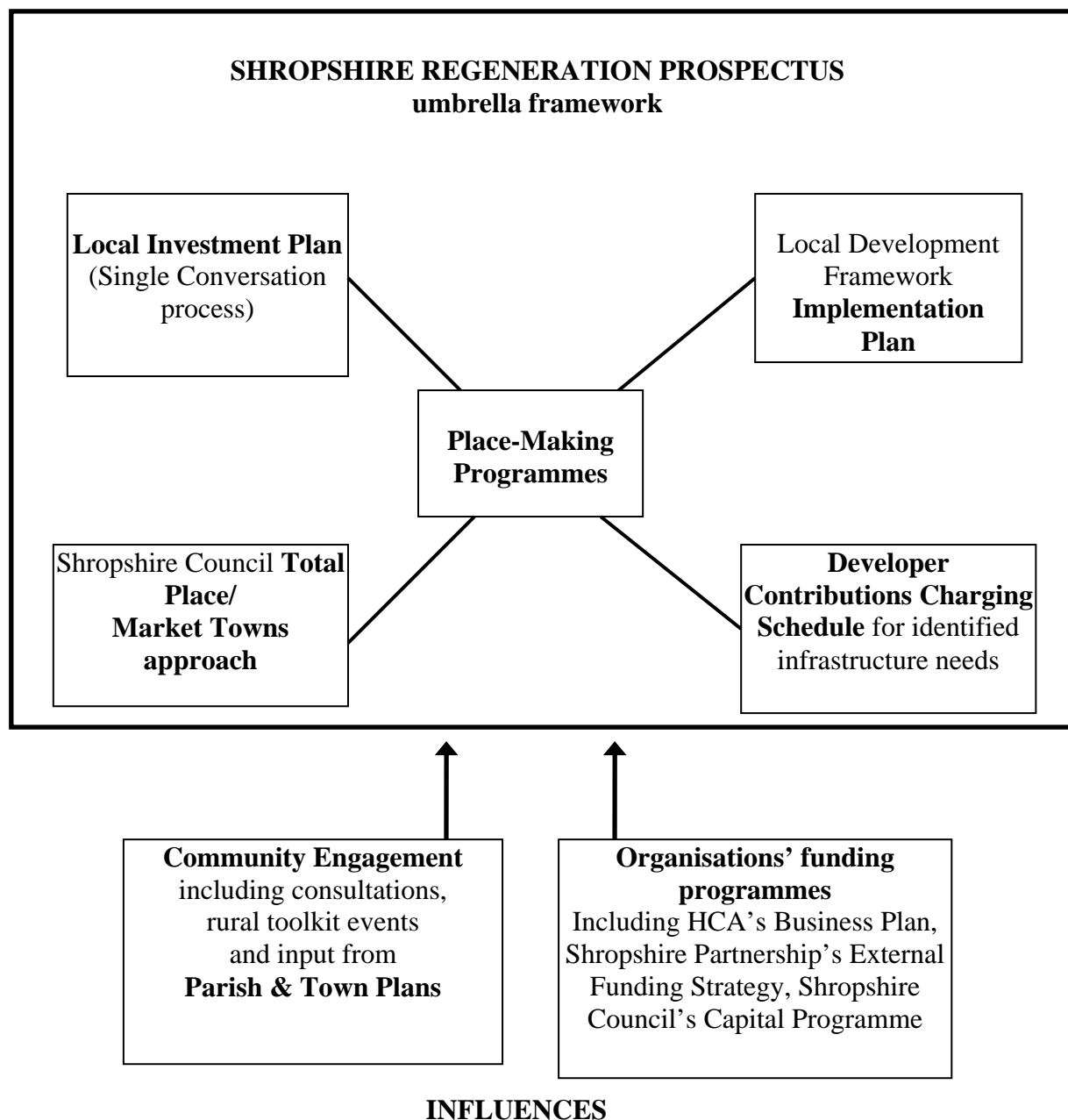
- A. That the Sustainable Communities Board endorses:
- a) The Strategic Overview to the Local Investment Plan;
 - b) The role of the Sustainable Communities Board and the Shropshire Partnership in the governance of the Local Investment Plan.

REPORT

Background

1. Investment and infrastructure are key to implementing the Community Strategy and delivering sustainable places. The Government's "Total Place" initiative, the statutory planning process and the Homes and Communities' Agency's "Single Conversation" business model, each have a slightly different emphasis, but all point to the need for local authorities to set out "delivery", "investment" or "implementation" plans. Shropshire Council sought to combine these into a unified Regeneration Prospectus (published February 2010) which brought a wide range of investment and infrastructure programmes together in a single document.
2. The Homes and Communities Agency subsequently asked the Council to undertake a two stage process, beginning with a Strategic Overview to the Local Investment Plan, to be followed by the more detailed Local Investment Plan (LIP) proper, in the autumn. It is important to be able to sign-off the LIP in order to access HCA funding. The HCA's request has prompted a reconsideration of how we should structure the Regeneration Prospectus to meet this role.
3. It is now proposed to keep the unified approach through Place-Based Appendices that detail investment and infrastructure programmes town by town. As Shropshire has eighteen market towns and other key centres, this will result in at least eighteen place-based programmes and possibly more if the approach is extended to smaller settlements. These unified Place-Making Programmes will be shared appendices to both the Local Investment Plan and the Local Development Framework Implementation Plan. The suite of documents will together form the Shropshire Regeneration Prospectus (figure 1 overleaf).
4. The place-making programmes will be a focus for the local community to express their aspirations and also a means of expressing how wider investment streams will affect each place. The "bottom-up" aspirations of the community and "top-down" investment decisions originating from large organisations are brought together in these place-making programmes. They will list all the infrastructure and capital investment requirements for a particular locality, that are needed to deliver the vision for that place and will assist in creating and maintaining it as a sustainable community.
5. This provides an exciting opportunity for partnership working, with the Place-Making Programmes providing a focus for communities, the Council and external investors to work together around creating sustainable places. The Sustainable Communities Board is ideally placed to play a central role in this approach.

Figure 1: Shared Place-Making Programmes for integrated delivery



Role of the Sustainable Communities Board

6. The “Single Conversation” process between the Homes and Communities’ Agency and Shropshire Council requires a Local Investment Plan that is centred on the local vision and partnership working. It is therefore important that the Shropshire Partnership is at the centre of the Local Investment Plan. Within the Shropshire Partnership, the Sustainable Communities Board (SCB) has been identified as the appropriate Board to take on the role of considering the LIP in detail and making recommendations, if required, to the Leadership Board.
7. Endorsement by the Sustainable Communities Board will meet the timescales and requirements set by the Homes and Communities Agency for the “Single

Conversation” process, and keep progress towards a Local Investment Plan on track. The timescales for the process are set out in appendix 1.

Shropshire Council/HCA Local Investment Plan Priorities

8. Investment by the HCA between 2008-11 totals over £33 million for the West sub-region (Telford, Shropshire and Herefordshire). The LIP will provide the framework for investment decisions for 2010/11-2013/14 and beyond.
9. The Strategic Overview to the LIP sets four locally-determined thematic priorities, to guide future investment by the HCA. They are:
 - **Priority 1. Market Towns and Rural Renaissance Programme**
 - **Priority 2. Shrewsbury Growth Point**
 - **Priority 3. Lowering our Carbon Footprint by improving the existing housing stock**
 - **Priority 4. Stronger Communities**
10. These four priorities are based on the Community Strategy, and tailored to the requirements of the Local Investment Plan as a bidding document. Further details are contained in Appendix 1 (Executive Summary) and Appendix 2 (Strategic Overview to the Local Investment Plan).

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)R	
Human Rights Act Appraisal	
Human Rights Act implications arising from this report are centred on a person’s right to a home.	
Environmental	Appraisal
The LIP strategic priorities embody strong environmental and sustainable development principles.	
Risk Management Appraisal	
A formal appraisal has not been carried out. The key risk is that without an agreed LIP, access to HCA funding for housing and regeneration would be very restricted.	
Community / Consultations Appraisal	
The following have been consulted on the Strategic Overview: the Homes and Communities Agency; Advantage West Midlands; Shropshire Council Adult social care; Shropshire Council Business Strategy; Shropshire Council’s Housing teams.	
Cabinet Member	
Malcolm Price, Portfolio Holder for Housing Martin Taylor-Smith, Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning & Transport	
Local Member	
All	
Appendices	
1. Executive Summary 2. Strategic Overview to the Local Investment Plan	

Appendix 1

Local Investment Plan Strategic Overview: Executive Summary

INTRODUCTION

The Local Investment Plan will help to co-ordinate investment around the local vision for delivering better places. Its driver is the Homes and Communities Agency's "Single Conversation" process for agreeing priorities for funding with local authorities and their partners.

The Local Investment Plan (LIP) will link various investment streams, including housing, regeneration and infrastructure, to the locally determined place-centred vision and priorities.

Community priorities have already been established through work by the Shropshire Partnership, culminating in the Shropshire Community Strategy, and expressed spatially through the Shropshire Core Strategy. These form the basis for the priorities that are identified in this Strategic Overview to the LIP.

Shared place-making appendices

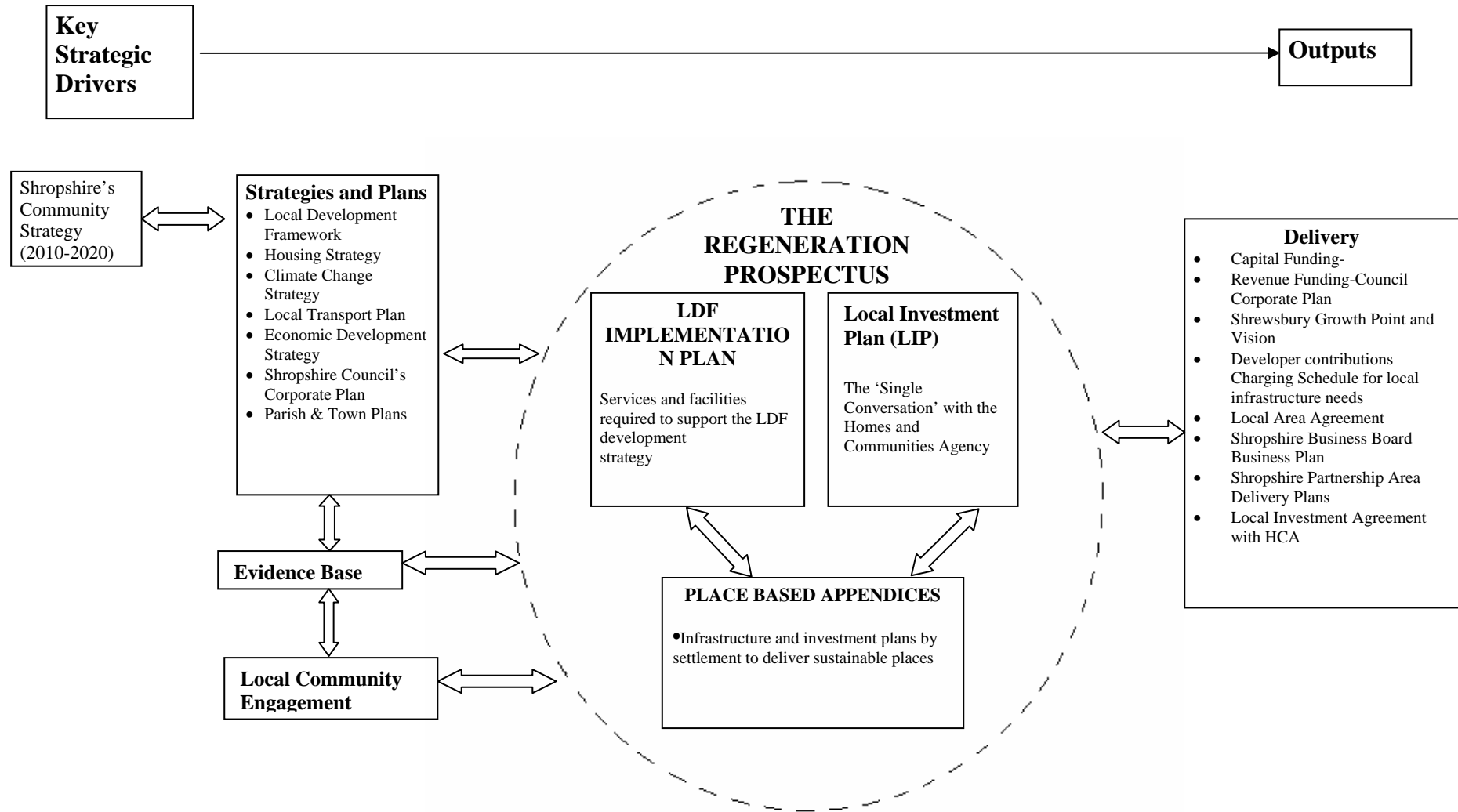
While the LIP helps implement these strategies, its remit is not as extensive as the Local Development Framework (LDF) Implementation Plan. The LDF Implementation Plan has a place-based focus, which is similar to the place-making aspirations of the Local Investment Plan. To reflect the major overlap between the two documents, it is proposed that they will share common appendices, which will be programmes detailing the investment programmes and infrastructure requirements for each settlement in Shropshire.

The place-making programmes will summarise community aspirations for local investment. Community engagement will provide continuous input into the appendices and their annual updates.

Delivery

Many partners will help deliver the LIP, with some of the key delivery mechanisms shown in figure 1. Investment by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) will be channelled through a local Investment Agreement, to deliver the aspects of the LIP which fall within the HCA's remit.

Figure 1: Role of the Local Investment Plan (LIP)



THEMATIC PRIORITIES

The “Single Conversation” is the process by which the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) co-ordinates its own investment priorities with local priorities. Common themes between the Shropshire Community Strategy, the Core Strategy, the Housing Strategy and the HCA’s key priorities are:

- a place-making approach, encompassing regeneration, accessibility and economic well being
- improving the existing housing stock and local environment, lowering our carbon footprint and adapting to climate change in the process
- creating strong communities and delivering sufficient homes for all, including the more vulnerable in society

These themes have led to the following shared priorities:

- **Priority 1. Market Towns and Rural Renaissance Programme**

Encompasses the market town regeneration programme, the rural affordable housing programme and rural regeneration.

- **Priority 2. Shrewsbury Growth Point**

Encompasses the Growth Point Programme of Development, the “Shrewsbury Vision”, Town Centre Regeneration and Northern Corridor Regeneration.

- **Priority 3. Lowering our carbon footprint by improving the existing housing stock**

Encompasses improving the energy efficiency of existing homes in both the private and social housing sectors, bringing empty homes into use, and improving stock condition.

- **Priority 4. Stronger Communities**

Encompasses responding to an ageing population, making provision for the elderly and infirm, and provision for vulnerable groups such as those with mental and physical health needs, learning difficulties, substance misuse issues and those with complex needs. Tackling homelessness, worklessness and making provision for gypsies and travellers are part of this priority.

GOVERNANCE AND DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS

It is important that the Shropshire Partnership is at the centre of the Local Investment Plan (LIP), as the local body on which the majority of investors in Shropshire are represented.

Within the Shropshire Partnership, the Sustainable Communities Board (SCB) is the board that is most appropriately placed to consider the LIP in detail.

Input from partners is complemented by input from the community, particularly input into the place-based appendices. The LIP's place-specific programme appendices will identify the contribution that each partner can make to delivering the Vision in Shropshire together with the community's aspirations for infrastructure and investment.

Funding to enable delivery is critical to delivering Shropshire's vision. The Local Investment Plan (LIP), in combination with the emerging Community Strategy 'External Funding Strategy', will be central in co-ordinating funding from many organisations, as well as bidding to various agencies for funds for programmes and individual projects.

7. TIMESCALE

Evidence Base

Scoping of existing, planned and aspirational investment programmes and infrastructure requirements	September – October 2009
Consultation with infrastructure providers, housing associations and other partners	November 2009 – January 2010

Strategic Overview

Endorsed by Shropshire Council's Corporate Management Team	12 April 2010
The HCA's Regional Management Board	30 April 2010
Sustainable Communities Board	10 May 2010
Shropshire Council's Cabinet	12 May 2010

Engagement

RSL Forum (RSL chief executives)	12 April 2010
Shropshire Development Sub-Group	May 2010
Engagement of RSLs, developers and agents at LIP consultation event	June 2010
Engagement with other partners	May – June 2010
Community engagement through the "rural toolkit" and Site Allocations and Management of Development DPD consultations	2 April – 25 June
Drafting of LIP throughout engagement programme	May – June 2010

Local Investment Plan

Approval of LIP by Sustainable Communities Board	3 September 2010
Approval of LIP by the HCA's Regional Management Board	TBC
Approval of LIP by Shropshire Council's Cabinet	15 September 10
LIP published and shared with partners	October 2010