

Suggested City Executive Board response to the recommendation of the Scrutiny Committee on the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) Strategic Economic Plan Refresh

Provided by the Leader of the Council and Board Member for Corporate strategy and Economic Development

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<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agreed?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
<p>That the City Executive Board agrees to relay the following feedback from the Scrutiny Committee to Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership:</p> <p>1. The report sets a clear goal on page 19 to deliver sustainable growth in line with the Brundtland Commission definition. The SWOT analysis (p29) identifies the risk that, as it stands, this will not be achieved with regard to climate change targets - a key indicator of sustainable development. Nowhere are the conclusions of this aspect of the SWOT analysis addressed. The document should include details of how the climate change targets are to be met.</p>	Yes	The aspiration of the LEP should clearly be that the internationally agreed targets for carbon reduction should be achieved as an integral component of the growth pattern of the local economy.
<p>2. The report and framework should make it clear that whilst the formal response from the business community was low this does not mean that views were not given and captured as part of this exercise. Businesses engaged through workshops and other informal channels with representatives of OxLEP</p>	Yes	This matter was raised and extensively discussed at the most recent OxLEP Board meeting and will be captured in the final draft.
<p>3. The poor connectivity of buses across the City is identified as a threat but not closed off. This position has been made worse by the reduction in subsidised bus services. The document should include actions and solutions in this area including better use of trips around the ring road and additional stops along established routes.</p>	Yes	The contribution of high quality and priority bus services to the connectivity between the key residential and employment centres across the county has been recognised in the County Council's Transport Strategy and features strongly in the LEP's vision for the future development of the Oxford Science Transit Corridor.

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