

DELIVERY PLAN 2023/24

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE:
FUTURE-PROOFED**



10-POINT DELIVERY PLAN FOR APRIL 2023 TO MARCH 2024



Ruth Dooley
Chair of GFirst LEP

"The next 12 months will be a pivotal time for GFirst LEP as we continue to lead the local economy through turbulent and challenging times. We will be working to ensure the voice of business is still as strong as ever for decision making in Gloucestershire. Thank you for your continued support of GFirst LEP."



David Owen
GFirst LEP's Chief Executive

"We have so much vital work to do over the next year. While continuing with our projects and representing the voice of business, our leadership team will focus on delivering a smooth transition over to Gloucestershire County Council and ensuring that our great assets and functions are retained."

Our 10-point plan sets out how GFirst LEP will continue to deliver against known economic priorities and contractual requirements for the next 12 months, beginning April 2023. Our delivery plan will ensure the organisation maintains its leadership role within the county and retains staff, services and functions most likely to provide options for the future of the business - be that integration of certain activities or securing of further funding for others.



Gloucestershire Economic Strategy

In partnership with Gloucestershire County Council and our district authorities, we will produce a Gloucestershire Economic Strategy. This will consist of a clear narrative looking at the next 5 years, with a long-term perspective up to 2050. It will include a set of countywide economic priorities and actions along with an action plan outlining delivery priorities which will aid monitoring progress. The strategy will be completed by December 2023. This strategy will be helpful to local authority partners, as well as the private sector, to support future bidding documents.

This strategy will seek to drive productivity and prosperity in our county and support an inclusive economy. This strategy will factor in the effects of the Covid pandemic and focus on the change in strategic direction from the government, moving from an Industrial Strategy agenda to a Levelling up agenda.





Anchor Organisations

Our private sector Anchor Organisations pilot is progressing well and alongside our other engagement activity providing valuable intelligence and insights into the opportunities and challenges facing larger businesses. Conversations focus around social values activities in the areas of sustainability, local community engagement, partnering in place, buildings and assets alongside employment and skills, procurement and other key business activities.



Growth Hub Network

Over the next 12 months, working with our local authority and Growth Hub partners we will take a lead role in the delivery of the Growth Hub Network.

Businesses will be able to access free business support advice and guidance, alongside a range of subsidised programmes right across the county. Our plan is to continue to develop and strengthen the services offered ready for the 2024/2025 delivery under UKSPF funding.



Business Groups

Continue to convene our nine sector specific Business Groups ensuring the voice of business is heard, informing local and national strategies as well as using their expertise to identify the skills and employment opportunities needed to future-proof Gloucestershire's business workforce.



Education and Skills Team + Careers Hub

Our Education and Skills team and Careers Hub will continue to work with the Careers and Enterprise Company and partners to inspire and prepare young people for the fast-changing world of work to enable them to make informed decisions about their next steps.



Local Growth Deal + Getting Building Fund

To ensure the successful completion of the last remaining Local Growth Deal and Getting Building Fund projects, namely; Gloucester Railway Station, the South West Bypass and The Minster Exchange. The team, working with project partners, will ensure these projects are successfully completed and achieve all their agreed outputs.



Gloucester Station Improvements



Minster Exchange, Cheltenham



Invest in Gloucestershire

We will continue to oversee and project manage the Invest in Gloucestershire initiative. Leading and co-ordinating new inward investment activity for the county against agreed priority sectors/initiatives.



Invest in Gloucestershire hosts Turkish Cyber Security business TR7



Canadian Inward Mission visit to Gloucestershire



Made in Gloucestershire

Oversee and project manage the Made in Gloucestershire initiative. To increase the number of Members and Affiliates and maximise benefits for participants. To continue to develop the model and explore options for a self-financing project.



Hub Mentors

We will support the recruitment and development of a team of mentors that will work with the Growth Hub Network to provide a countywide offer to businesses and entrepreneurs.



Net Zero and Climate Change

We will continue to deliver our Net Zero support programme to businesses. This will include one to one support and a series of events and be available across Gloucestershire. The project will continue to signpost businesses to other support available in the county and beyond.

We will continue to support the work of Climate Leadership Gloucestershire, championing the Economy theme – business and skills.

South West Net Zero Hub will continue to work with us to ensure that Gloucestershire is maximising the opportunities from any funding available from government initiatives via the Hub.

Gloucestershire Nature + Climate Fund project is going from strength to strength - it is an independent, not-for-profit broker of biodiversity units and carbon credits, backed by the GFirst LEP and the Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership.





Deborah Potts
BOARD MEMBER



Emma Hanby
BOARD MEMBER



Ian Mean
BOARD MEMBER & VC



Jackie Labbe
BOARD MEMBER



Jenny Raymond
BOARD MEMBER



Jim Grant
BOARD MEMBER



Joe Roberts
BOARD MEMBER



Lucy Ackland
BOARD MEMBER



Cllr Mark Hawthorne
BOARD MEMBER



Matt Charman
BOARD MEMBER



Matt Lennard
BOARD MEMBER



Nicola Bird
BOARD MEMBER



Richard Cook
BOARD MEMBER



Tyler Attwood
BOARD MEMBER



Rowena Hay
BOARD OBSERVER



Dev Chakraborty
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Sarah Danson
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC GROWTH



Patrick Forde
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE



Anjie Winter
ENTERPRISE COORDINATOR



Becky Boxwell
MARKETING MANAGER (MC)



Becky Tomkins
CAREERS HUB LEAD



Charlotte Smith
CYBER SKILLS GROWTH LEAD



Elizabeth Weaver
PM ANCHOR ORGANISATIONS



Jessica Gray
MARKETING MANAGER



Jute Blackmon
SENIOR RESEARCH MANAGER



Karen Campbell
BUSINESS GROUP EXECUTIVE



Lauren Greening
SEND EC & TEAM LEADER



Neil Hopwood
PROJECTS MANAGER



Paul Woodhouse
BUSINESS GROUP MANAGER



Phil Clement
HEAD OF INWARD INVESTMENT



Rachel Lenane
PROJECT MANAGER GNCF



Rob Shott
FINANCE OFFICER



Sam Hoad
GH DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



Suzie Lew
INWARD INVESTMENT



GFirst LEP
The Growth Hub
Oxstalls Campus
Oxstalls Lane
Gloucester
GL2 9HW

info@gfirstlep.com
www.gfirstlep.com