



STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (GEGSC)
DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED	<u>18 Nov 2020</u> <u>21 Oct 2020</u>
BRIEF REPORT	
21 October 2020	
The main item for discussion was presentation the Golden Valley Cyber Central development, presentation can be found on Item 6 here	
Key points	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gloucestershire has the largest concentration of cyber businesses in the UK outside London. Gloucestershire had 6 times the normal rate as a county, and 11 times the normal rate in Cheltenham.• Headline impacts if the development were to be delivered, in terms of economic growth, there was a potential for 12,000+ jobs and a GVA upwards of £800m for the Golden Valley sit alone, with considerable further growth countywide.• In addition, our cyber growth plans had strong alignment with the Government's post Brexit ambition to be a Scientific Superpower and to become a global leader in this sector;• Gloucestershire's role within the Western Gateway was growing and the more we understood about cyber, the more that role could continue to grow and the more influence we could have.• The whole development is proposed to a be a carbon zero development	
The report from GFLEP including reporting on the project being funded by the latest round of Government funding	
The five projects that will be funded (subject to final approval by Government, due diligence, and LEP board approval) represent a diverse mix of projects:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The 'Minster Innovation Exchange' with Cheltenham Borough Council–this low carbon modular construction will deliver innovative co-working space in central Cheltenham. It will provide a purpose-built performance, event and community venue, and connect to the High Street through upgraded historic linkages from the Cheltenham Minster	



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grounds. It will also act as a pilot for developments at the Cyber Park –allocated £3.114 million.

- 'The Gloucestershire Applied Digital Skills Centre with Cirencester College–building a new landmark building, modelled on digital industries delivering the skills needed in the Cyber and Digital sectors –allocated £4.48 million.
- 'Cyber Incubation Units' with Gloucestershire College–creating a range of new office space, shared and dedicated laboratories, workshops and co-working facilities designed specifically for high-tech, cyber-based entrepreneurs and innovators, with access to educational facilities –allocated £950,000.'
- The Digital Innovation Farm with Hartpury University-creating new innovation and demonstration workspace for high growth SMEs in the growth phase already operating within the agri-tech sector to explore, test, research and develop products, or enhance existing ones –allocated £1.25 million.'
- A Construction Education Centre with the KW Bell Group Ltd in Cinderford - a brand new multipurpose conference and training facility to be based in the heart of the Forest of Dean. Thoughtfully designed to link the construction industry with education by providing a learning environment that is digitally advanced, safe, interactive and relevant. The Centre will be co-funded by a privately-owned family business, which has been in operation for over 50 years, founded in, and operating within, the Forest of Dean –allocated £1.956 million.

Meeting 18th November

- The main item on the agenda was presentation on Modern Methods of construction by Mike Craggs from Bromford Housing, presentation can be found on Item 7 [here](#)
- Report on the state of economy in Gloucestershire from Gfirst LEP

REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Councillor Simon Pickering
DATE	2 December 2020