

Scrutiny Overview Committee

Agenda
Item No.

DATE: 20 April, 2023

8.

We are Walsall 2040 Draft strategy consultation

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Cllr Perry & Cllr Murphy

Purpose

The purpose of this briefing note is to update on the We are Walsall 2040 draft strategy has been out for consultation with the public until 21 March and will be finalised and approved through Cabinet and Council June 2023

Report:

We are Walsall 2040 is a unique opportunity to engage in dialogue with residents, community groups, businesses, investors, and partners to understand their views on what matters most in the borough now and for the future. This conversation has led into development of a strategic borough 'plan' which sets out the long-term ambitions for Walsall to be achieved by 2040. Engagement activities have taken place with over 8k people consulted through the We are Walsall engagement programme in the summer and autumn of 2022. The insight has helped us consider the key priorities to inform the development of the 2040 draft borough plan.

The draft framework (can be found on CMIS [here](#)) has incorporated these many resident, partner, and business views in shaping the vision and four strategic ambitions. Each ambition consists of three themes of focus with high level outcomes to be achieved by 2040 for each theme. The framework articulates Our Walsall story, what partners will work together to achieve over the next 18 years and redefines our relationship with residents and communities. It outlines what we expect residents and communities to do to ensure we co-design and co-deliver a borough of which we are all proud.

The draft strategy framework was sent out for consultation to partners, community groups and the public in February 2023 for a short consultation that closed before the pre-election period. The public consultation feedback is currently being analysed with over 350 different respondents leaving over 533 comments or likes on the online consultation portal- Common place, or through sending us hard copy feedback. Officers are looking through the feedback and will be tweaking and finalising the strategy over coming weeks with the final full strategy approved at Council in June 2023.


Recommendations:

That:

- Members note and comment on the draft strategy framework.
- Members note the timescales for finalisation of the strategy in June 2023 (Cabinet and Council)


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