

# Implementation of HPPB priority workstreams – overview

Hampshire Prosperity Partnership Board

24 November 2025

Agenda item 8

# SUMMARY – PLAN AS AT APRIL 2025

ECONOMY AND GROWTH PLAN AREAS	HPPB PRIORITY WORKSTREAMS	Q1 24/25			Q2 24/25			Q3 24/25			Q4 24/25			Q1 25/26		
HIGH POTENTIAL SECTORS AND CLUSTERS	Creative cluster	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
	Digital cluster				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Life sciences cluster	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
	HPP Business Forum (the “Super Cluster”)	■	■	■												
BUSINESS SUPPORT	Joining up the business support system	■	■	■	■	■	■									
	Online business support hub (TBC)				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
	Making the system work for rural businesses				■	■	■	■	■	■						
ENERGY	Grid capacity review				■	■	■	■	■	■						
INFRASTRUCTURE	Infrastructure gap and opportunity analysis				■	■	■	■	■	■						
SKILL, EMPLOYMENT AND CAREERS	Engaging employers with Connect to Work				■	■	■									
	Get Britain Working Plan	■	■	■	■	■	■									

# PROGRESS UPDATE

HPPB PRIORITY WORKSTREAMS	PROGRESS UPDATE AS AT NOVEMBER 2025
Creative, digital and life sciences clusters and “Super Cluster”	<i>An in-depth update is being presented to HPPB meeting on 24 November. See slides for agenda item 7.</i>
Joining up the business support system	Review of the system completed. Final draft report was discussed by HPPB on 6 October. The team will be exploring further the potential for a practitioner/delivery network.
Online business support hub	Following decision by HPPB on 9 June to narrow the initial scope to key website improvements, a specification has been developed, and procurement of a supplier is expected to take place imminently.
Making the system work for rural businesses	Work was sequenced to come after the review of the business support system and has now commenced. Update will be presented to HPPB meeting on 19 January.
Grid capacity review	Consultant has been commissioned and work is underway. Provisional findings will be presented to HPPB meeting on 19 January.
Infrastructure gap and opportunity analysis	Consultant has been commissioned and work is underway. Provisional findings will be presented to HPPB meeting on 19 January.
Engaging employers with Connect to Work	Invitation to tender released via open skills procurement framework and closed on 12 November. We are looking to award contracts in early December, with delivery anticipated to start in early January. The team has been undertaking initial employer engagement; we will provide HPPB with a detailed update regarding employer engagement in March.
Get Britain Working Plan	Completed. Get Hampshire Working Plan was reviewed by HPPB on 9 September prior to formal approval by Hampshire County Council. We will continue to support implementation.

# KEY RISKS

	<b>RISK</b>	<b>MITIGATION</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Insufficient staff resource, or recruitment delays, or diversion of staff resource into new priorities, resulting in risk to successful delivery and impact on staff wellbeing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recruitment to additional, fixed term Prosperity Officer role, and to Connect to Work roles</b></li> <li>• <b>Reprioritisation where resources are diverted into new priorities, including devolution and LGR</b></li> <li>• <b>Team discussions about wellbeing and resilience during change</b></li> <li>• <b>Hampshire County Council wellbeing support</b></li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>Uncertainty relating to devolution and local government reorganisation impacts on ability to deliver, due to slower decision-making and/or weaker stakeholder commitment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Futureproofing current work against devolution and LGR as far as possible e.g. by extending the scope to cover the whole of Hampshire and the Solent, and completing deliverables before May 2026</b></li> <li>• <b>Close links into the economic development and regeneration, and skills and employment, workstreams of the devolution programme</b></li> <li>• <b>Develop and communicate a strong business-as-usual narrative for internal and external stakeholders</b></li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>Loss of major current funding streams from 26/27, either due to policy change, or due to transfer of funding streams to the Mayoral Combined County Authority (MCCA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regularly gather intelligence about future plans of DBT, DfE, DWP and other relevant Government departments</b></li> <li>• <b>Engage closely with planning for devolution, including transfer of responsibility for funding streams to the MCCA</b></li> </ul>

