

Scrutiny Report



13 January 2021

MILTON KEYNES STRATEGY FOR 2050

Name of Scrutiny Committee **Strategic Placemaking Scrutiny Committee**

Report sponsor **Geoff Snelson**
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Exempt / confidential / not for publication	No
Council Plan reference	Actions 23 and 33
Wards affected	All wards

Executive summary

The Strategy for 2050 sets the way forward for the next era of making our great city greater. Public and stakeholder engagement has been extensive and included a draft strategy published for comment in January 2020 for 18-weeks and a subsequent 5-week long review of the impacts of COVID-19. The Strategy sets out a long-term approach to spatial development. It aims for a steady population increase to around 410,000 people in the borough by 2050 as the best means of achieving Seven Big Ambitions.

The Strategy includes a commitment to provide essential infrastructure and services, including a Mass Rapid Transit System. It also commits to keep and strengthen those things that make Milton Keynes special – green spaces and trees, being able to move around easily using grid roads and redways, a vibrant economy and diverse communities and a strong community spirit. It includes proposals to help achieve the council’s ambition to be carbon neutral by 2030 and to support the mental and physical health of the community. The Strategy has been prepared to provide ambition and

focus at a time of great uncertainty but to be flexible to adapt to changing circumstances.

Key Issues

The Milton Keynes Strategy for 2050 has been adopted by [Cabinet](#) on 15th December 2020 and Council on 20 January 2021 is recommended to approve the Strategy as an Annex to the Council Plan. The Strategy has been prepared in response to the recommendations of the MK Futures 2050 Commission in their report “Making a Great City Greater” (July 2016) and developed using a range of evidence studies and input from a programme of stakeholder and public engagement.

Strategy for 2050 development process

As part of the publication of the Strategy for 2050 for decision by Cabinet, a Supporting Statement was prepared which summarised the process undertaken to develop the Strategy including the development of a comprehensive evidence base and opportunities for engagement, which included a specific opportunity for people to comment on the potential impact of COVID-19 on the long term development of the city. The Supporting Statement also includes a high-level summary of the comments received and the changes that are reflected in the final Strategy to respond to those comments. This Supporting Statement and a longer summary of the comments received are available at <https://www.mkfutures2050.com/strategy-for-2050-engagement-page>.

List of background papers

Milton Keynes Strategy for 2050, November 2020 at <https://www.mkfutures2050.com/>

Strategy for 2050 – Supporting Statement, November 2020 at <https://www.mkfutures2050.com/strategy-for-2050-engagement-page>