

# **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

## **REPORT TO: Jobs Regeneration and Assets Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

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**Date of Meeting:** 24 November 2014  
**Report of:** Head of Corporate Resources and Stewardship  
**Subject/Title:** High Growth City Task and Finish Group Report – Cover Report  
**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Don Stockton

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### **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1 This report introduces the High Growth City Task and Finish Group's Report on its findings, conclusions and recommendations following its review. The Report with the Group's terms of reference for the review will follow as a supplement when completed.

### **2.0 Recommendation**

- 2.1 That the Committee consider the Task and Finish Group's report for approval.

### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 Any report from a Task and Finish Group of a Scrutiny Committee must be approved by the Scrutiny Committee before being submitted to the appropriate body.

### **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 Wards in the South of the Borough, particularly in and around Crewe will be affected by High Growth City however all Wards may be affected in some way as a consequence.

### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 All Ward Members in the South of the Borough, particularly in and around Crewe.

### **6.0 Background**

- 6.1 The Jobs Regeneration and Assets Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to set up the task and finish group at its meeting on 22 September 2014. The purpose was to assess the readiness of the Council to capture the full economic and social benefits that a potential superhub station at Crewe could bring for Crewe, Cheshire East and the wider sub-region.
- 6.2 Over the previous few weeks the task and finish group has met with Officers, the Leader of the Council and reviewed documentation to gain an understanding of the

implications for the Council of HS2 and what needs to be done to capitalise on the opportunities it will bring. The group focused its considerations on the following key questions:

1. What are the implications of HS2 for Cheshire East Council and the local economy?
2. If Crewe was the location of a Superhub station how do we ensure successful delivery of the projected 64,000 jobs that this investment would create?
3. What do we need to do to ensure the right infrastructure is in place to maximise the benefit of HS2 for the local area the boarder sub-region?
4. What are the key business sectors of the economy that would benefit from the Crewe Superhub?
5. How can we best ensure we can deliver the skilled residents needed to support these businesses?

6.3 The report documents the task and finish group's findings, conclusions and recommendations.

## **7.0 Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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