# The State of Herefordshire Report

September 2017

**BRIGHTSPACE**

in partnership with ODI Cardiff

# Why Herefordshire Matters

*"I am linked to this county by ties deeper than I can explain. They are ties of beauty. Whenever I think of Paradise I think of parts of this county. Whenever I think of any perfect human sight I think of things which I have seen in this county and whenever I think of the beauty and the bounty of God I think of parts of this shire."* These words, written by the Herefordshire-born poet John Masefield to commemorate his being granted the Freedom of Hereford in 1930, denote a county that is worth caring for.

Herefordshire has had an active and often troubled past. The name Hereford in Anglo-Saxon denotes an army crossing a ford through the river. Originally part of Wales, the area was fought over between the Saxons and the Welsh. By the beginning of the eighth century the city was the Saxon capital of West Mercia, but large regions such as Archenfield, to the south and west, remained Welsh in culture and language and not until the Laws of Wales Acts of 1535 and 1542 was Archenfield brought into the "English" administrative system of "Hundreds". Welsh continued to be spoken here until the middle of the nineteenth century. Political turbulence continued throughout the Medieval period, the English Civil War and right up to the present time. In 1974 Herefordshire was merged with Worcestershire to form a combined county, in 1998 divorce took place and Herefordshire was restored to a unitary status!

Alongside turbulence was enterprise. The Diocese of Hereford was established in 676 and the Cathedral dates from 696. A school probably existed by the Cathedral from the eighth century onwards but the modern Hereford Cathedral School dates from at least 1384. Industry and trade flourished along the River Wye, the transport corridor of the region which inspired its own type of shallow-draft barge called a Trow. The earliest record of Wye navigation is a reference to Edward the Confessor (d 1066) demanding from Gloucester *"36 dicres of iron and 100 rods"* for the King's ships, which were thought to be transported via the river. In 1171 the Pipe Rolls indicate that horseshoes and nails from the region supplied Henry II's army for his invasion of Ireland and a common right of navigation was recorded by the time of Edward I (1271-1307).

However, mills and weirs began to appear (rivers have always needed to balance competing demands) and navigation became difficult until 1662 when Sir William Sandys of Ombersley Court was granted permission to make the river navigable as far as Hereford. The notes of the Committee for Improving the Navigation of the River Wye record the scale of commerce as cheese, coal, ironmongery, tea, pottery, hemp, tiles, glass, bottles, wines and spirits totalling 15,700 tons a year were taken to Hereford. From Hereford, 27,500 tons of products (corn, meal, cider, timber and bark) were shipped to Gloucester and 9,000 tons of corn and meal and 2,000 tons of cider to Bristol. More than 500 men were employed to haul barges, and a horse towing path was only added in 1808.

The railways replaced the river as the principal transport corridor in the 1850s, but the river remains as an essential corridor for both recreational purposes and wildlife. In 1782 the artist the Rev'd William Gilpin published *"Observations on the River Wye".* The book had passed through five editions before the end of the century and was translated into French, inspiring travellers from all over Europe to visit. The Wye may claim to have inspired the modern "package tour" after the Rev'd John Egerton, Rector of Ross-on-Wye, began to take his guests down the river on guided tours in the 1740s. The idea was developed into a commercial business by James Evans and by 1808 eight pleasure boats were recorded on the river. Notable visitors have included George IV, Thomas Gray, Wordsworth and Admiral Lord Nelson.

Along the 134 miles of this remarkable river, which rises in the Plynlimon Hills and exits into the Bristol Channel, are some of the most important wildlife habitats in northern Europe. Internationally designated as a "Special Area of Conservation" it includes more than 30 species of fish including salmon; rare birds, mammals and bats. The river makes a significant contribution to the landscape, and several miles lie within the Wye Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Its Welsh name *Afon Gwy (*gwy means a flow or a flood) may derive from the crooked meandering hills that it has helped to carve out of the rock.
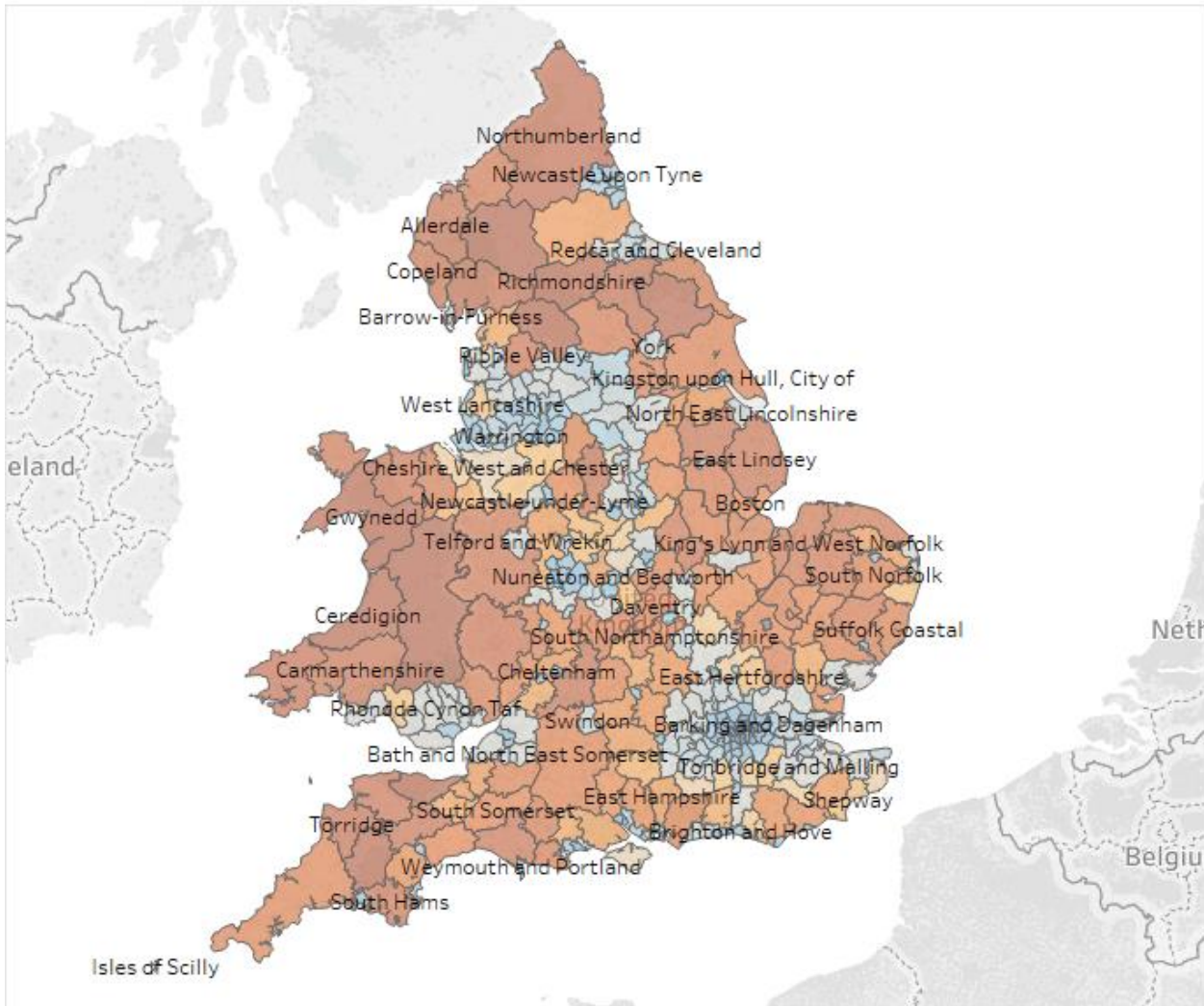
## Herefordshire Today

Herefordshire has been constantly changing; politically, economically, culturally and this continues. The county has significant aspirations for the future including the further development of the Edgar Street Grid, an area of 100 acres just north of the old city walls; refurbishment of the Butter Market; a new bypass; the growth of the Rotherwas Industrial Estate which has national "Enterprise Zone" status; plans for a new university (NMITE - New Model in Technology and Engineering); a county-wide "Economic Master Plan" and plans for at least 15,000 new homes. All of this is to be achieved at a time of acute austerity in public financing and continuing political uncertainty after Brexit.

The challenge facing us will be to develop the county in ways that recognise and value the assets that we already possess, which are considerable, but which also enable these assets to be protected and enhanced for future generations. This understanding lies at the heart of sustainable development:

*"Development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"* (The Brundtland Report, 1987).

We begin our journey by understanding the present. To set the scene, we have attempted to capture Herefordshire through a series of headlines which reflect the state of the county in 2017. All of the data that lies behind these statements is referenced on our website.

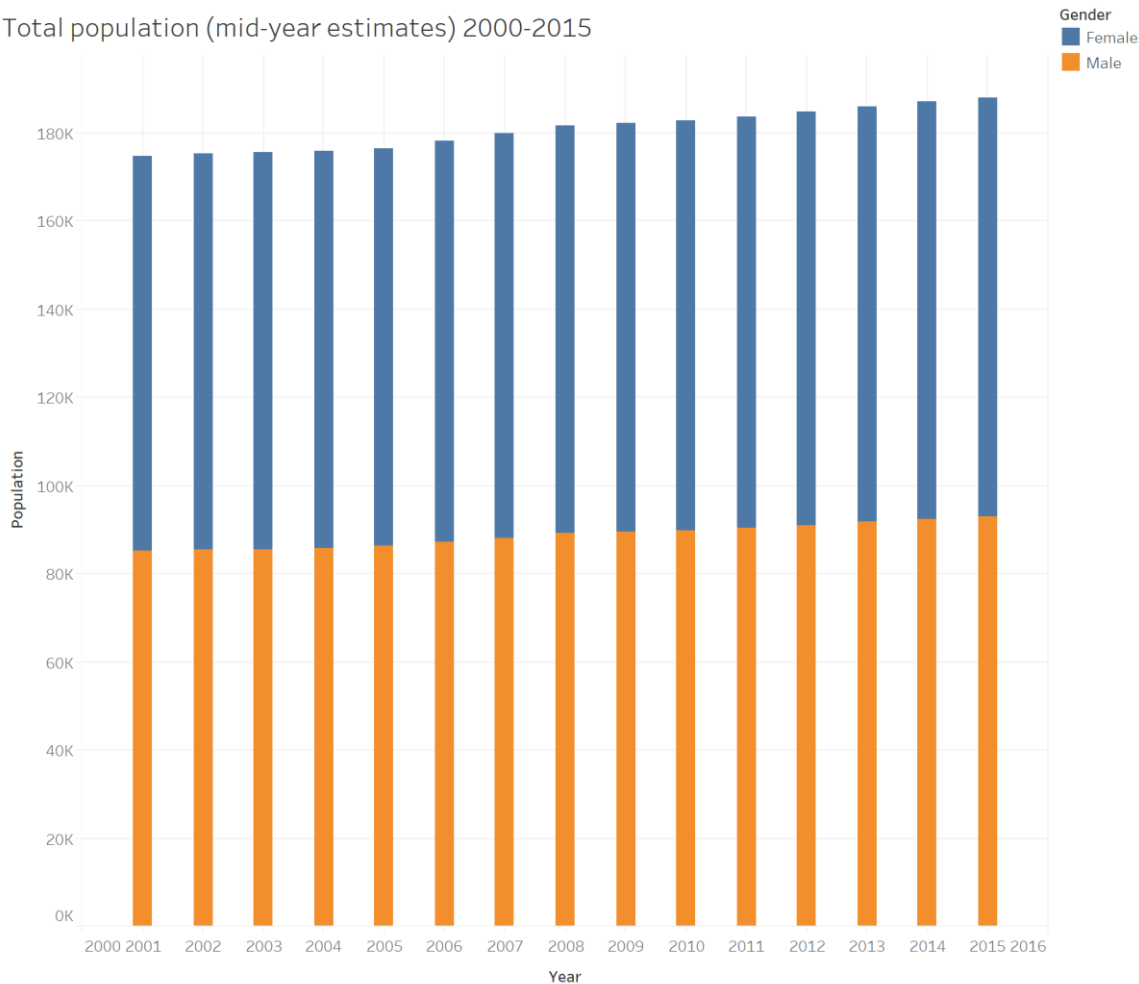## Average population density of local authority districts

The map shows the population density of every district or unitary council in England and Wales. Herefordshire is very sparsely populated. The Census data for 2015 indicate a population of 188,100 living within an area of 2,180 square kilometres (842 square miles). The average population density across Herefordshire is 86 people per km$^2$. This compares to cities like Birmingham which averages 1,410 people per km$^2$ or neighbouring counties such as Worcestershire which averages 332 people per km$^2$ (this is similar to the average for England and Wales). There are only four communities of c10,000 or more people (Hereford City - 60,000; Leominster – 11,900; Ross – 10,900 and Ledbury – 9,800) whilst the rest of the population (52%) live in areas classified as "rural" and almost 80% of those are within the most rural designation of "village and dispersed". This poses significant challenges to those tasked with providing services such as health and social care. Almost all of Herefordshire falls within the 25% most deprived areas in England in terms of geographical barriers to services.

The population is not static, but increased by 7% between 2001 and 2015. This is a lower rate of increase than for England and Wales as a whole where the increase was 9.6% and has largely been attributed to in-migration from the expanded European Community. By 2034 a predicted population growth of 9% will require an estimated 15,000 new homes to be built. Herefordshire's

population is skewed towards the elderly with 23% currently aged 65 or more (compared to 18% for England and Wales). Future predictions suggest this will increase to 30% by 2034 (compared to 23% for England and Wales). Also of concern is a predicted 3% reduction in the proportion of the working age population by 2034. Sixty per cent of people aged 65+ living in the county report that they have a long-term or disabling condition  and therefore these demographic changes are likely to put even more pressure on a health and social care budget which already accounts for 39% of the Council's expenditure (2014/15 figures).

Total population (mid-year estimates) 2000-2015



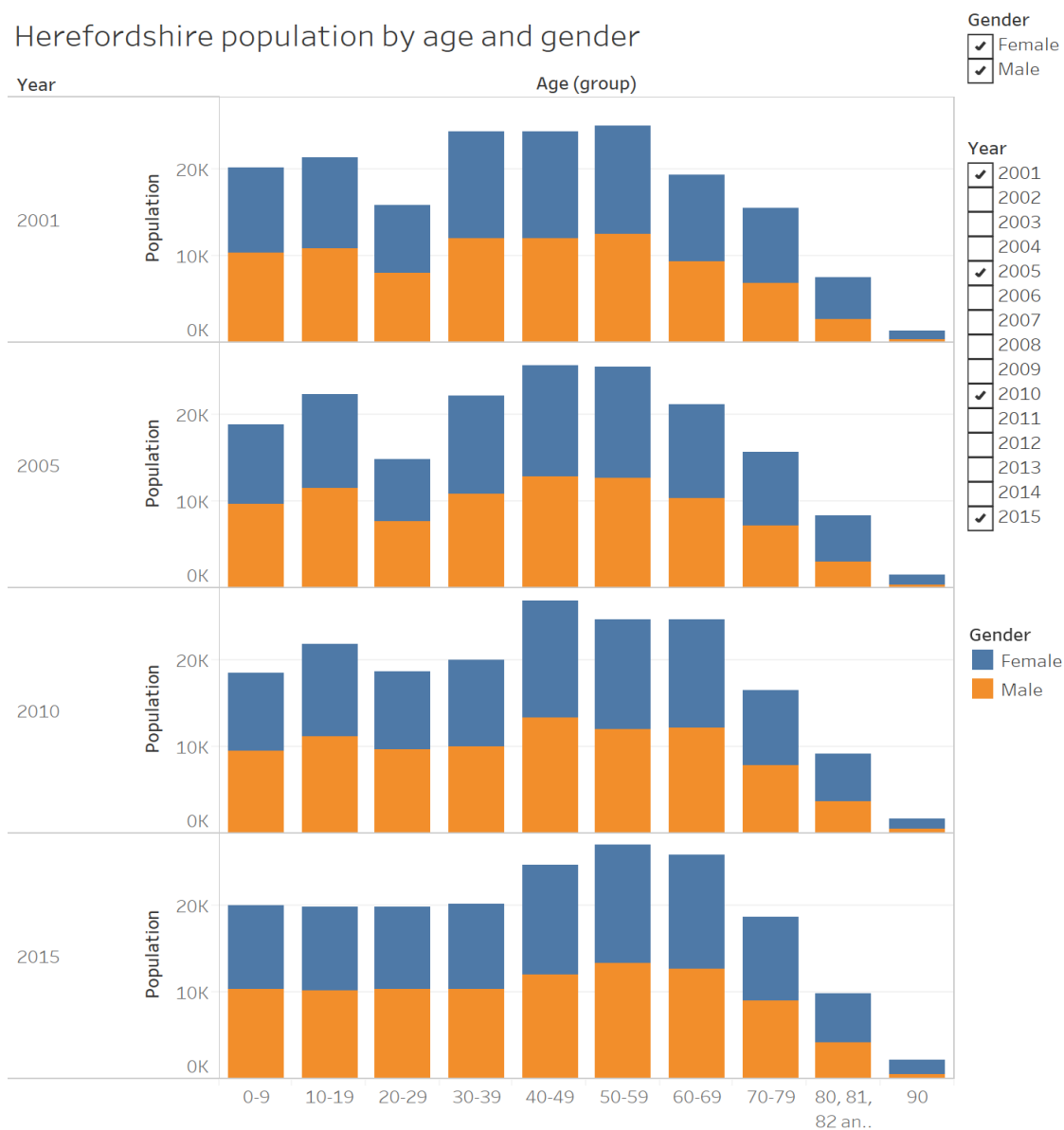https://public.tableau.com/profile/odicardiff#!/vizhome/Populationspreadbyagegenderandyear/Dashboard4

Herefordshire has a large proportion of its employment in sectors attracting relatively low wages such as "wholesale and retail" and "agriculture". The county's housing affordability (the price of housing relative to wages) is a major issue for those who want to live and work here.  Although levels of employment compare favourably with national data, gross weekly pay at £460 is significantly lower than the national average of £541. The County also has higher levels of self-employment (14.5%) than the national average (10.4%).

Transport and communications infrastructure are relatively poor. There are four railway stations and the road network is principally of rural "C" or unclassified roads, leading off single carriageway "A" roads. All of the county's main routes pass through Hereford City (the A49, A438 and A4103). Broadband coverage is gradually improving but there are still significant areas of the county with

poor ICT provision. Although Herefordshire has a high quality natural environment this is also under pressure. High levels of phosphate are threatening the ecological status of two Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), the Rivers Wye and Lugg. Proposed significant increases in housing and business development may further exacerbate this problem. The Council's response has been to establish a Nutrient Management Plan to reduce the phosphate load in these rivers.

In July 2016 the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) announced proposals to enable Local Authorities to retain 100% of business rates, but also gave them greater responsibilities. By 2020, Council Tax and localised business rates will provide more funding than the centrally allocated Revenue Support Grant which in a sparsely populated county with an aging population will lead to considerable budget pressures. The Council's response is to attract inward investment and grow the local economy.

## Herefordshire population by age and gender

# Shaping the Future: Herefordshire's Sustainable Route Map

The Sustainable Route Map is designed to answer the question: *"Is Herefordshire developing in a more- or less- sustainable manner?"* It monitors a series of indicators as a measure of the county's sustainability. Using indicators is not new, the United Nations and national governments spend much time and effort on this, but this project is focused specifically on Herefordshire. The Route Map incorporates desk top studies looking at existing data, organisations and licensing arrangements. It became apparent that data for many aspects of our environment, economy and economy were not being collated, publicised or monitored.

Herefordshire Council's "Understanding Herefordshire" reports and their Facts & Figures website, provides a wealth of information which we do not intend to duplicate and we have worked closely with the Council's Strategic Health Intelligence team and other partners including Data Orchard, Community First, Herefordshire Transition Alliance and New Leaf.

A special thank you to our close partners Data Orchard, who have supported the project from its inception through to the current day. We will continue to work closely together in our 'Data4Good' campaign.

From April 2014 to June 2015 we engaged in workshops, public events, hack days and focus groups with many different networks, organisations and individuals across the county to enable them to inform the development of the indicators to underpin the Sustainable Route Map. Included within this portfolio were two keynote presentations:

A public lecture by Jonathon Porritt CBE entitled "the Herefordshire We Made" (May 2014) and

A public lecture by Sir Nigel Shadbolt, co-founder of the Open Data Institute (October 2015) on the benefits of open data for a sustainable Herefordshire

Both events were attended by a specially invited audience drawn from the key opinion-formers in Herefordshire's economic, community, statutory and environmental organisations. We also used local events such as the annual "Spring Greens" Festival, and the River Carnival, together with bespoke training sessions that had been developed for commissioners of public services and those considering tendering to provide services, to raise awareness of the concept of a Sustainable Route Map and the indicators that should accompany it.

The response throughout has been overwhelmingly positive. Both the challenges and the benefits of applying open data and the development of the sustainable route map to Herefordshire were commented on by Sir Nigel Shadbolt:

*"**Open Data in Herefordsh**ire is a great opportunity to look at the benefits that flow to a very interesting environment. Too often in open data we concentrate on big cities or big nation states. This is a great sized experimental unit. We need to understand how we can make open data **relevant to the lives of the citizens and consumers here in Herefordshire whether it's farmers, people who live here or people who have their businesses here, or whether it's people who are trying to innovate the public or private sector**…………*

*Sustainability is one of key benefits of Open Data. Sustainability relates to transport, health care provision, and every aspect. What can we use our data for to come up with a view that says in a rather difficult financial period for government provision of services, how can we make more **efficient better use of what we have?"***

# Our Indicators

After extensive consultation, we identified 39 indicators to measure Herefordshire's sustainability, though this number may change in future (these are listed in Appendix one, together with their current status). Identifying indicators is one thing, finding relevant data to support them is another. We required enough information to calculate both a long and short-term trend i.e. at least one measure per year for one or more years between 2006 and 2016. We calculated trends using the Trend function in Google Sheets (which uses least squares regression) and if data existed for at least three years we calculated the trend from the oldest to the most recent measure (this is the long-term trend). If data existed for a least two years from 2013 inclusive we could also calculate the short-term trend.

Trends can be classified as:

RED         The long and short-term trends are both getting worse

GREEN       The long and short-term trends are both getting better

AMBER       One trend was improving and the other worsening or there was insufficient data to calculate both

GREY        There are no publicly available datasets; the data may exist but that we couldn't access it.

In order to inform our future project work (see below) we have further sub-divided the amber category into:

AT RISK         The trend is worsening in the short term, and

OF CONCERN      The trend is getting better in the short term

All of the information we found is available on the Herefordshire Data Hub and links are given alongside each indicator on our website, so you can look at the raw data for yourself, together with our justification for choosing the indicator in the first place. We want to encourage people and organisations to submit their own data so that, over time, we can build up a more comprehensive picture of Herefordshire that anyone and everyone can use.

Our plans are to make the route map more comprehensive each year. For example, in year two we want to be able to compare Herefordshire with other UK locations, and in year three to compare different locations within the county. That will take time, however, and in the first report we will give you a snapshot of the county with the current trends. As new information becomes available we will update the indicators, and these changes will be flagged up on our website. We aim to produce an annual "State of Herefordshire" report to monitor progress over time.

We will also add to the list of indicators if there is a valid justification. We are currently working on the Herefordshire's A Great Place initiative looking at indicators to support how culture contributes to health and well-being. This is not a definitive list, therefore, but represents the current knowledge and progression of the Sustainable Route Map.


All indicator data is available on [Herefordshire's Data Hub](Herefordshire's Data Hub)

# Headline data for 2017

## RED INDICATORS

We found four indicators where things have been getting worse in the short and long term. These are:

- the ecological status of Herefordshire's rivers
- the % of Sites of Special Scientific Interest in favourable condition
- the level of low pay in the county
- % of pupils gaining 2 or more Level 3 qualifications
- Because these indicators are red, they require urgent attention

## AT RISK INDICATORS

We have identified 7 amber indicators which are "at risk" because although they show improvement in the long term, they have worsened in the short term which might mean that things are beginning to take a turn for the worse. These indicators are:

- The number of crimes recorded by police
- % of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs
- The affordability of housing
- Fuel poverty
- The number of casualties on the roads
- Household waste collected
- The number of apprenticeships

## OF CONCERN INDICATORS

There are 7 indicators of concern, showing limited improvement or insufficient data to judge the trends.

- Healthy life expectancy at birth
- Healthy life expectancy aged 65
- Utilisation of outdoor space for exercise and health
- Local sites in positive management
- $CO_2$ emissions
- % of people aged 16-64 in employment
- The number of electric vehicle charging points

## GREEN INDICATORS

There are 10 green indicators, showing improvement in both the short and long-term:

- Domestic energy consumption
- Self-reported well-being
- Number of people accepted as homeless
- Levels of Nitrogen Dioxide in the atmosphere
- % of household waste being recycled
- % of people aged 16-64 with no qualifications
- % of 16-19 years olds not in education, employment or training (NEETS)
- % of people satisfied with the provision of cycle routes

- % of properties with access to superfast broadband
- % of county without reliable 3G connection

## GREY INDICATORS

There are 11 indicators where we could not find publicly available and accessible data to support them.

- Local services being delivered locally
- Social capital
- Social cohesion
- Street cleanliness
- Access to health and social care
- Volunteering rates
- Soil health
- Water use in agriculture
- Local food availability
- % of journeys to work by car
- % of businesses actively managing environmental inputs and outputs

Grouping the indicators into more coherent topics suggests three areas of concern arising from this first iteration of the Route Map:

### 1. Pay and qualifications

The number of people starting apprenticeships, the attainment of qualifications at GCSE and Level 3 (A Level and equivalent), levels of low pay, housing affordability and levels of fuel poverty indicate a need for focusing on the economy, skills and education.

### 2. The environment

The quality of our rivers, the status of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the levels of waste that is being generated by our households indicate that a focus on environmental issues is required.
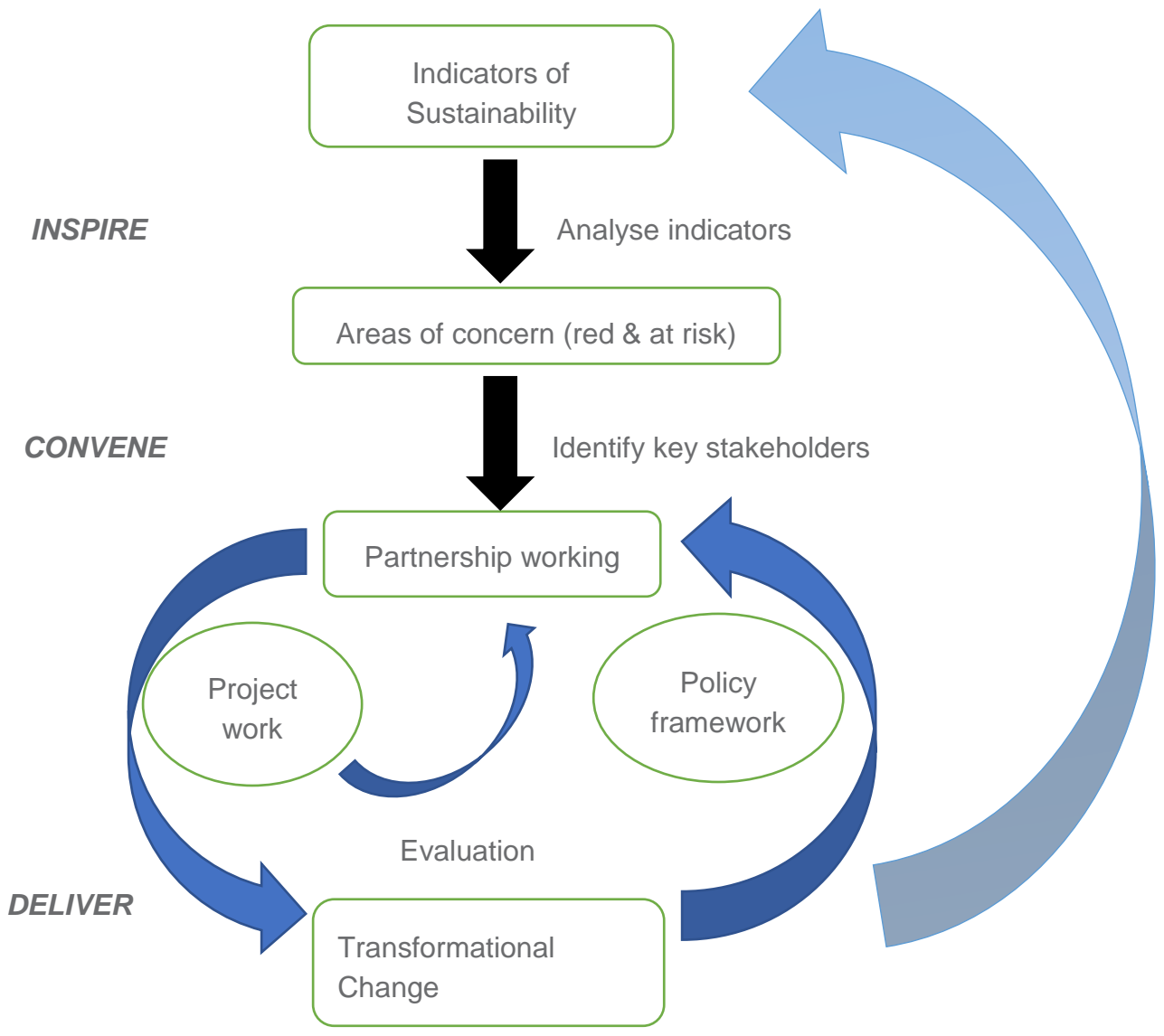
### 3. Community safety

Road traffic accidents and levels of crime are growing indicating a need to focus on community safety.

## What happens next?

In some of these areas work is already being undertaken to address the situation. For example, the Farm Herefordshire initiative and the development of the Nutrient Management Plan for Herefordshire support environmental improvement.  Our next step will be to identify who within the county has responsibility to tackle these issues, and ascertain what can be done to support their work. If necessary, we will convene new partnerships to enable a holistic and co-ordinated response. Our own project work will also focus on the priority areas that have been identified through the indicators.

Our goal is to inspire change, convene the partnerships to effect change, and deliver transformational projects that demonstrate sustainable progress.

# The Indicators in detail

## The Environmental Pillar

### Levels of Nitrogen Dioxide monitored in the atmosphere ($\mu g/m^3$)

This is a standard measure of air pollution monitored throughout the UK. Within Herefordshire monitoring takes place at specific locations and the data are for median figures. Public Health England reports that high levels of nitrogen dioxide are associated with negative impacts on people's health including lower life expectancy. Therefore, the objective is to reduce the levels of nitrogen dioxide in the atmosphere.

Status in 2017: green

### CO2 emissions from Herefordshire (tonnes $CO_2$)

CO2 is an important greenhouse gas whose rising concentrations are contributing to global warming. The Department for Energy and Climate Change publishes estimates of CO2 for each local authority area. Herefordshire can contribute to reducing the impacts of global warming if it reduces its CO2 emissions.

Status in 2017: amber - Of concern

### Soil health

The quality of Herefordshire's soils are an important contribution to agricultural productivity and there is world-wide concern that soil degradation is leading to reduced levels fertility. Measuring "soil health" is not straightforward and at the moment it is impossible to obtain data specific to Herefordshire. However, this is an important subject and there are a number of initiatives, such as Farm Herefordshire, designed to improve soil and water management.

Status in 2017: grey

### Ecological status of rivers

The rivers Wye and Lugg in Herefordshire are internationally recognised "Special Areas of Conservation" (SAC). Clean water is essential for human health and agricultural production and the quality of the aquatic environment contributes to Herefordshire's tourism. The Environment Agency monitors the rivers and grades their ecological status as high, good, moderate, poor or bad. We have taken the data for the 44 monitored sites in Herefordshire and calculated the median status for the county as a whole.

Status in 2017: red

### Water use in agriculture

Water is essential to plant and animal health and Herefordshire's agricultural production is a

significant contribution to the local economy and employment. Water abstraction is a limiting factor to economic growth in many parts of the UK and climate change is affecting the water balance. We want to monitor the situation within Herefordshire but have failed to identify publicly available datasets.

Status in 2017: grey

### % of Local sites in positive conservation management

Herefordshire's quality natural environment is a primary reason why people visit, live and work in the county. Maintaining this requires positive management and the Department for Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) publish statistics on this each year. To be included there must have been a local assessment of the site in question and it must be under some form of management. The most recent publicly available information for Herefordshire dates to 2011.

Status in 2017: amber – of concern

### The percentage of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in a "below favourable" condition

SSSIs represent designated areas of land and water with high nature conservation potential. They are a subset of the more generic local sites referred to previously. Natural England is responsible for designating sites as SSSIs and reporting on their condition in six categories ranging from "favourable" to "destroyed". We have used this data to calculate the total area of land and water in Herefordshire designated as SSSI, and within this how much is categorised as "favourable". By comparing the percentage that fails to reach favourable category over time we can ascertain the trend.

Status in 2017: red

### Total household waste collected by Herefordshire Council (tonnes)

Herefordshire Council collects waste produced by all households in Herefordshire. It measures how much it collects and reports this to the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in the UK Government. Defra publishes this data. It is a measure of an important section of waste produced in Herefordshire. Waste produced by businesses is not included in this figure. The more waste households produce the more energy has been used unnecessarily and the more resources have been consumed and potentially lost to the county. The less waste produced by households the better.

Status in 2017: amber – at risk

### % of household waste collected by Herefordshire that is sent for recycling

Herefordshire Council calculates the total tonnage of household waste it collects which is then sent for recycling. The council then reports this figure to the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in the UK Government (Defra). Defra publishes this data. We have calculated what

percentage the tonnes of waste sent for recycling represent of the total tonnage collected. We want the total waste collected to reduce. When the council does collect waste we want as much of it as possible to be recycled so we will be able to recover the energy and material that went into creating the original material.

Status in 2017: green

## Domestic energy consumption across Herefordshire (GWh) gigawatt hours

Estimates of energy consumption published by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy based on data for the consumption of Gas, Electricity, Road transport fuels  and Residual (non-electricity, non-gas and non-road transport) fuels. Domestic energy consumption is the amount of energy used by households for space heating, water heating, cooking and electricity. It does not include transport use by households. The amount of energy used will depend on the age and condition of building, climate and type of fuel available. Houses that are in good condition with insulation, double glazing and efficient heating systems are generally considered to be more energy efficient and use less energy.

Status in 2017: green

## The Economic Pillar

### % of people aged 16-64 who are in employment

Data are derived from the Annual Population Survey undertaken by the Office for national statistics.

The Office for National Statistics undertakes a survey every year to estimate a range of things about the country's population. They ask questions about people's employment status. They use this information to estimate the employment rate in each local authority level every year. This information is then published. We believe that employment for working age people brings independence and engagement in the county and therefore higher levels of employment are better than lower levels of employment.

Status in 2017: amber – of concern

### % of people aged 16-64 who have no qualifications

Data are derived from the Annual Population Survey undertaken by the Office for national Statistics.

Qualifications give people more options in employment including, potentially, the opportunity to move into higher paid employment. People of working age with no qualifications have fewer options. It is desirable that there are as few people as possible of working age with no qualifications.

Status in 2017: green

## % of pupils at Key Stage 4 achieving five or more GCSE grade A-C including Maths and English

The government records and publishes the percentage of pupils at Key Stage 4 achieving five or more GCSE grade A-C including Maths and English. This is a robust and widely understood measure of the qualifications of school leavers each year. The more pupils that achieve at least five GCSEs the more opportunities they are likely to have. If the county is to develop sustainably we expect more and more young people will need to be qualified.

Status in 2017: amber - at risk

## % of pupils gaining two or more level 3 qualifications (A Level or equivalent)

The government records and publishes the percentage of pupils gaining two or more Level 3 qualifications. This is a robust and widely understood measure of the qualifications of school leavers each year. The greater the proportion of pupils that achieve level 3 qualifications, the more opportunities they are likely to have. If the county is to develop sustainably we expect more young people will need to be qualified.

Status in 2017: red

## The number of people starting apprenticeships each year

Published by the Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Education largely based on the Individual Learner Record. The government records and publishes the number of people starting apprenticeships each year. It is a robust and widely used figure. In general, the more people starting apprenticeships the better the prospects for those people and for the economy as a whole.

Status in 2017: amber - at risk

## % of young people not in education, employment or training (NEETS)

This data is provided to the Department for Education by Herefordshire Council. The Council reports on the number of young people who are not in education, employment or training and the number whose status it is not aware of. We have combined these figures because reducing the number of NEET young people is the improvement and if the local authority does not know their status it cannot be sure that it is improving. This figure will reduce if a higher proportion of young people move into education, employment and training. Because it also includes young people where the council is not sure of their status it will also go down if the council improves its data and finds that these young people are, in fact, in employment, education or training.

Status in 2017: green

## The affordability of housing in Herefordshire

The housing affordability ratio is a widely used measure of the affordability of housing. It is the ratio of lower quartile earnings (that is the point at which 25% of people earn less and 75% of

people earn more) to lower quartile house prices (the point at which 25% of housing has sold for less and 75% has sold for more). A number of housing affordability ratio datasets are published. We have used the data published by the Local Government Association. If this figure gets smaller it means more people on low incomes can afford lower priced housing. This is not a full description of the housing market in Herefordshire but it is an important measure of housing affordability. This figure will go down if low-wages increase or house prices fall or both.

Status in 2017: amber - at risk

### % of households that are fuel poor

Data published by Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. A household is considered to be fuel poor if they have required fuel costs that are above average (the national median level) & were they to spend that amount, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line. If this figure gets smaller it means fewer households are placed into poverty by the costs of heating their homes.

Status in 2017: amber - at risk

### % of journeys made to work by car

We don't have a suitable dataset to monitor progress in this area. The use of more sustainable forms of travel such as walking and cycling to work, particularly for short distance journeys, assists in encouraging healthier lifestyles and hence improved physical fitness as well as tackling congestion and air quality.  We are asking any agencies who hold suitable data to publish the data and make it available to us. We are also asking anyone who shares an interest in measuring the use of cars in Herefordshire to work with us to develop measuring programmes as we believe it is an area that should be monitored.

Status in 2017: grey

### Total number of casualties on Herefordshire roads

This information is gathered and published by the Department of Transport and is a robust and easily understood measure. The safer the roads, the lower the number of casualties.

Status in 2017: amber - at risk

### % of people satisfied with the provision of cycle routes

Data sourced from the National Highways and Transportation Survey and used with permission. If people are more satisfied with cycle routes, they are more likely to use them. An annual survey is undertaken to measure this along with a range of other satisfaction measures. Though we have been given permission to use this data, the data from the National Highways and Transportation Survey is not open.

Status in 2017: green

## Number of electric vehicle charging points for public use

Data collated and published by https://openchargemap.org/site. Though the number of electric vehicle charging points isn't directly related to the number of electric vehicles on the road it is important that there are plenty of charging stations. We think that the more charging points there are, the more likely people will be to purchase and use electric vehicles around the county.

Status in 2017: amber – of concern

## % of businesses who report that they are actively managing environmental inputs and outputs

We don't have a suitable dataset to monitor progress in this area. Businesses managing their impact on the environment by reducing energy and water use and waste and seeking general would help Herefordshire develop sustainably. We are asking any agencies who hold suitable data to publish the data and make it available to us. We are also asking anyone who shares an interest in measuring the management of the environment by businesses in Herefordshire to work with us to develop measuring programmes.

Status in 2017: grey

## Local food availability

If Herefordshire is developing more sustainably, local food will more readily available.  We don't have a suitable dataset to monitor progress in this area. We are asking any agencies who hold suitable data to publish the data and make it available to us. We are also asking anyone who shares an interest in measuring access to health and social care across Herefordshire to work with us to develop measuring programmes.

Status in 2017: grey

## % of properties with access to superfast broadband

OfCom publishes a table each year of the % of properties in each local authority area that has access to superfast broadband (download speeds <30Mps). The higher the percentage of properties that have access to superfast broadband, the greater the access to economic and social opportunities that local residents will have.

Status in 2017: green

## % of the county without reliable 3G from any provider

Data published by OfCom. Though this is a valid dataset it doesn't directly reflect the experience of mobile phone users because most people only use a single network, so the fact that they could access 3G on a different network doesn't help them access the Internet. Even so, if this indicator improves the experience of mobile phone users in Herefordshire should also improve. The fewer areas in the county that don't have reliable 3G coverage, the more likely it is that local people will

be able to access 3G connections in the county.

Status in 2017: green

### Ratio between Lower Quartile hourly rate for full time workers resident in Herefordshire and non-statutory National Living Wage

Community consultation told us that local people thought that if Herefordshire is developing sustainably local people would be paid at least the Living Wage (meaning the higher, voluntary Living Wage rather than the national minimum wage which the government also calls the Living Wage). Because the Living Wage is voluntary it is hard to find definitive data on how many people were paid it. The Office for National Statistics does publish details of pay based on an annual survey. We have calculated the ratio between lower quartile earnings (the point at which 25% of Herefordshire full time workers earn less and 75% earn more) and the UK living wage. If the lowest paid workers earned above the minimum wage this ratio would tend to increase if they earned less this ratio would tend to decrease.

Status in 2017: red

## The Social and Cultural Pillars

Bespoke cultural indicators are under development as part of the Herefordshire's a Great Place project, until then we have grouped social and cultural together.

### Number of crimes recorded in Herefordshire

Data published by police.uk. All police forces publish details of the numbers and types of crimes recorded each year. The number of crimes recorded in Herefordshire is a well understood and reliable measure. If this figure gets smaller, it suggests that fewer crimes have been committed in Herefordshire.

Status in 2017: amber - at risk

### Social capital

Social capital represents social connections and all the benefits they generate. We don't have a suitable dataset to monitor progress in this area. We are asking any agencies who hold suitable data to publish the data and make it available to us. We are also asking anyone who shares an interest in measuring the social capital in Herefordshire to work with us to develop measuring programmes.

Status in 2017: grey

### Social cohesion

Social cohesion would improve Herefordshire is developing sustainably. We don't have a suitable dataset to monitor progress in this area. We are asking any agencies who hold suitable data to

publish the data and make it available to us. We are also asking anyone who shares an interest in measuring social cohesion in Herefordshire to work with us to develop measuring programmes.

Status in 2017: grey

## Street cleanliness

Street cleanliness would improve if Herefordshire is developing sustainably. We don't have a suitable dataset to monitor progress in this area. We are asking any agencies who hold suitable data to publish the data and make it available to us. We are also asking anyone who shares an interest in measuring the cleanliness of the streets in Herefordshire to work with us to develop measuring programmes.

Status in 2017: grey

## Self-reported wellbeing

This measure is published by Public Health England, based on a survey. The number is the percentage of respondents scoring 0-4 to the questions "Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays".
Responses are given on a scale of 0-10 (where 0 is "not at all satisfied" and 10 is "completely satisfied"). The smaller the percentage of residents not satisfied with their life, the happier residents are over all.

Status in 2017: green

## Utilisation of outdoor space for exercise/health reasons in Herefordshire

This is the weighted estimate of the proportion of residents in Herefordshire taking a visit to the natural environment for health or exercise purposes. This data is collected and published by Natural England. Unfortunately, not enough people are surveyed in Herefordshire to allow data to be measured in most years for the county. Herefordshire has high quality outdoor environment. The higher the proportion of the population taking exercise in the outdoor environment the better for their general wellbeing.

Status in 2017:  amber – of concern

## Number of people accepted as homeless

Data are collected by Herefordshire Council, reported to the Department of Communities and Local Government and published by the Department. There is a narrow definition for this measure which does not reflect the experience of many people in Herefordshire. For example, Centrepoint published data on youth homelessness which is largely not picked up in this indicator
https://www.yhdatabank.com/data/aggregate_record_list/?location=a3_20&year=2015

However, it is a widely used measure and the only regularly collected measure we could find. If this figure reduces it will indicate that some types of people are less likely to be homeless.

Status in 2017: green

### Life Expectancy at Birth

This figure is published by Public Health England. It estimates the average number of years a person would expect to live if they were born in that year. Public Health England publishes two figures: one for males and one for females. We have taken the average of these two figures. The longer people are expected to live in Herefordshire, the better.

Status in 2017: amber – of concern

### Life Expectancy at Age 65

This figure is published by Public Health England. It estimates the average number of years a person would expect to live if they were born in that year. Public Health England publishes two figures: one for males and one for females. We have taken the average of these two figures. The longer people are expected to live in Herefordshire, the better.

Status in 2017: amber – of concern

### Volunteering rates

We don't have a suitable dataset to monitor progress in this area. People volunteering are giving their free time, expertise and energy to their community. We are asking any agencies who hold suitable data to publish the data and make it available to us. We are also asking anyone who shares an interest in measuring the levels of volunteering in Herefordshire to work with us to develop measuring programmes.

Status in 2017: grey

### Local services being delivered locally

Herefordshire would be developing more sustainably if more services were available at a local level.
We don't have a suitable dataset to monitor progress in this area. We are asking any agencies who hold suitable data to publish the data and make it available to us. We are also asking anyone who shares an interest in measuring the level of local services available local Herefordshire to work with us to develop measuring programmes.

Status in 2017: grey

### Access to health and social care

If Herefordshire is developing more sustainably, access to health and social care should increase. We don't have a suitable dataset to monitor progress in this area. We are asking any agencies who hold suitable data to publish the data and make it available to us. We are also asking anyone who shares an interest in measuring access to health and social care across Herefordshire to work with us to develop measuring programmes.

Status in 2017: grey

# Indicator Summary Table

## Strong, just communities and wellbeing

| Community wellbeing | Number of crimes recorded by police | Amber |
| --- | --- | --- |
| | Local services being delivered locally | Grey |
| | Social capital | Grey |
| | Social cohesion | Grey |
| | Street Cleanliness | Grey |
| Individual wellbeing | Self- reported well being | Green |
| | Life expectancy at birth: female/male average | Amber |
| | Life expectancy at age 65: female/male average | Amber |
| | Number of people accepted as homeless | Green |
| | Utilisation of outdoor space for exercise/health reasons | Amber |
| | Access to health and social care | Grey |
| Civil engagement | Volunteering rates | Grey |

## NATURAL RESOURCES

| ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT | Levels of Nitrogen Dioxide in atmosphere (ug/m3) | Green |
| --- | --- | --- |
| | Local sites in positive management | Amber |
| | Ecological status of rivers (median of all samples) | Red |
| | Biodiversity % of SSSI land below favourable condition | Red |
| | Buildings at risk | Grey |
| RESOURCE USE AND EFFICIENCY | Domestic energy consumption of all types (GWh) | Green |
| | Soil | Grey |
| | Water use in agriculture | Grey |
| | Total household waste collected by Herefordshire Council (tonnes) | Amber- at risk |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | % of household waste collected by Herefordshire Council sent for recycling | Green |
| Climate change | $CO_2$ Emissions (tonnes) | Amber |

## Resilient and fair economy

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Employment skills and opportunities | Ratio between Lower Quartile hourly rate for full time workers resident in Herefordshire and National Living Wage | Red |
| | % of people aged 16-64 with no qualifications | Green |
| | Number of apprenticeships | Amber - at risk |
| | The % of 16-19 year olds in Herefordshire not in education, employment or training | Green |
| | % of people aged 16-64 in employment | Amber |
| | % KS4 5+ A*-C including English and Maths | Amber - at risk |
| | % 2+ Level 3 qualifications | Red |
| Housing | Affordability of housing | Amber - at risk |
| | % of households that are fuel poor | Amber - at risk |
| Transport | % people satisfied with the provision of cycle routes | Green |
| | Total number of casualties on Herefordshire roads | Amber - at risk |
| | Number of electric vehicle charging points | Amber |
| | % of journeys to work made by car | Grey |
| Tourism, food and agriculture | Local food availability | Grey |
| Sustainable business | % properties with access to superfast broadband | Green |
| | % of county without reliable 3G | Green |
| | % businesses who report that they are actively managing environmental inputs and outputs | Grey |