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| Meeting: | JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT |
| Date: | 6 September 2019 |
| From: | Joint Officer Steering Group |

ITEM: 6

Transport Update

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides the Committee with an update on the transport related issues across the Greater Nottingham conurbation. The report provides an update on Transforming Cities Fund, funding bids from the Department for Transport (DfT), Spending Review changes, as well as an update on the East Midlands Rail Franchise announcement and the Gedling Access Road.

2 BACKGROUND

Transforming Cities Fund

- 2.2 £8.3m of Tranche 1 funding has been secured for Nottingham and Derby to deliver a programme of 'quick win' measures focused on public transport technology and cycling that is currently being implemented.
- 2.3 A Strategic Outline Business Case for Tranche 2 for a programme of up to £180 million for the period 2019/20 to 2022/23 was submitted in June 2019. Final bids are due for submission in November.
- 2.4 In addition an expression of interest as a 'Future Mobility Zone' to trial new innovative transport projects was submitted at the end of May for a programme of up to £15 million. In July Nottingham City were notified they are one of seven areas to be shortlisted. Final bids are required to be submitted by the end of September.

Funding Bids from Department for Transport

- 2.5 On the 24 July, the DfT announced the opening of two further competitive bidding opportunities for local authorities: the Maintenance Challenge Fund and Pinch Point Fund.
- 2.6 The Maintenance Challenge fund is a further round of this funding stream for 2020/21. The £198million fund is split equally between a small bid (less than £5million) and large bid (over £5million) process. Funding is for maintenance of bridges and structures, carriageways, footways and gullies/drainage. This funding round cannot be used for Rights of Way works or street lighting. Small bids and expression of interests for large bids need to be submitted to DfT by the 31 October.
- 2.7 The Local Pinch Point Fund is a further round of this funding stream, with funding available between 2021/22 and 2022/23. The £150million fund will follow a two stage process. Expressions of Interest to the fund by local authorities should be submitted by the 31 January 2020. Shortlisted authorities will then be invited to submit a full business case later in 2020.

Spending Review changes

- 2.8 On 8 August the Treasury announced that it was "fast tracking" the spending review for 2020/21. A full spending review for longer term funding in future years will now be provided in 2020. It is expected that the one-year spending announcement will be made Autumn 2019.

East Midlands Railway Franchise

- 2.9 The new East Midlands Railway franchise awarded to Abellio started on 19 August.

Gedling Access Road

- 2.10 The primary purpose of the GAR is to support the redevelopment of the former Gedling Colliery site enabling the construction of up to 1,050 new dwellings and development of 6 hectares of employment land. The secondary objective of the GAR is that it will also provide a 'bypass' link to the east of Gedling, with the wider road network and consequently Nottingham City Centre. The construction of GAR will have positive impacts to the transport network by improving connectivity of the local road network and reducing traffic flows along the A6211 Arnold Lane / Main Road corridor thereby reducing traffic congestion in Gedling Village. Such roads are at present either at, or nearing, capacity and therefore provide neither a safe nor a pleasant environment for both local residents and drivers.
- 2.11 The scheme will involve the construction of a new 3.8km link road, in Gedling, Nottinghamshire. The new road follows a south-eastern route from the B684 Mapperley Plains, in Mapperley north of Gedling to the A612 Trent Valley Way / Nottingham Road junction east of Gedling. A new 3.0m wide shared use footway / cycleway will be provided along the entire length of GAR. Signal controlled TOUCAN crossings located at key desire lines will be provided to assist pedestrian and cycle crossing movements. Pedestrian crossing points will be provided across the GAR to enable the public to access land to the Country Park and other areas to assist pedestrian and cycling crossing movements.
- 2.12 The Side Road and Compulsory Purchase Orders were made in October 2018. A 6-week consultation period for affected or interested parties expired on the 21 December 2018. The National Transport Casework Team (NTCT) at the Department for Transport, confirmed on the 7 January 2019, that there were 8 statutory and 1 non-statutory objections to the Orders. The NTCT have advised that Inspector J Wilde has been appointed to open the inquiry at 10am on Tuesday 11 June 2019 with an expected duration of 5 days at the St Georges Centre, 91 Victoria Road, Netherfield, Nottingham. The objections were all withdrawn in advance on the Inquiry being opened. The Planning Inspector confirmed that all the statutory objections had been satisfactorily resolved and therefore decided there was no need to proceed with the Public Inquiry and it wasn't formally opened. It is expected that this will enable a positive decision to be issued that will enable the Orders to be confirmed.
- 2.13 The setting of the public Inquiry defined the timescales for delivery of GAR and subject to confirmation of the Orders it is being planned for the main construction works to commence in January, 2020 with site mobilisation in December 2019 and the road open to traffic during 2021.

3 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the contents of this report.

4 BACKGROUND PAPERS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

- 4.1 Maintenance Challenge Fund Guidance, DfT, July 2019
Local Pinch Point Fund Guidance, DfT, July 2019
Spending Review announcement, HM Treasury, August 2019
East Midlands Rail Franchise announcement, DfT, April 2019

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