

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE**LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2018/19-2020/21****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval for the Local Transport Plan Implementation Plan for the period 2018/19-2020/21.

Information

2. The Implementation Plan sets out how the County Council will use the funding available to help deliver Nottinghamshire's long-term transport strategy, the Local Transport Plan (LTP), during the period 2018/19-2020/21 (and the executive summary of the Plan is attached as Appendix 1). The Implementation Plan periods are aligned to the Department for Transport (DfT) capital funding allocations for highways and the proposed 2018/19-2020/21 Implementation Plan is the third that the County Council has developed.
3. The third LTP Implementation Plan has been reviewed to reflect a number of new strategies and factors, including:
 - The Council Plan 2017-2021, '*Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future*'
 - The Place Departmental Strategy
 - The 2018 review of major and significant highway schemes that may require safeguarded routes
 - Government's Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan (and the emerging D2N2 Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan)
 - The Authority's additional £20m investment in highways over the next four years
 - External funding secured to deliver specific projects such as the Access Fund and the Clean Bus Technology Fund
 - HS2 developments
 - The 'Major Road Network for England' currently being developed by the Department for Transport
 - Local Growth Funded schemes.
4. Increasing financial constraints have underlined the essential need for the County Council to develop clear implementation strategies to ensure value for money for investment. The Implementation Plan therefore details how the County Council, working in partnership with others, will deliver transport improvements in Nottinghamshire.

5. To help determine Nottinghamshire's local transport priorities consultation is undertaken periodically with a sample of residents and local businesses from each of the seven districts. The last consultation (undertaken in 2016) identified 'reducing traffic congestion' as the highest priority for residents in each of the districts; and similarly, 'reducing traffic congestion' was the highest priority for Nottinghamshire businesses. 'Maintaining a good quality road network' was also a high priority for both residents and local businesses (which is also reflected in the number of requests the Council receives for road repairs); as was 'improving the safety of our roads'. The County Council has therefore prioritised funding on these three areas.
6. These three priority areas help deliver a number of national, regional and Nottinghamshire priorities (as detailed in the Council Plan 2017-21 and the LTP); particularly reducing congestion and maintaining a good road network which are essential in delivering objectives relating to the economy, health and the environment. Consequently, programmes of measures are developed through the integrated transport programme to address congestion and its impacts on local communities; and through the capital and revenue maintenance allocations to improve the condition of roads across the county.
7. The programmes of work detailed within the Implementation Plan and its appendices have been developed to help ensure delivery of County Council priorities, national priorities and local transport goals and objectives; particularly those relating to improving access to jobs and reducing the impacts of congestion and poor road condition on the economy.
8. The Implementation Plan reflects the likely available capital and revenue transport funding, which is determined annually as part of the County Council's budget setting process. The programmes included in the Implementation Plan are based on the Council's current Medium Term Financial Strategy and latest announcements from government for highway capital grants. The Plan will, however, be reviewed annually following the Council's budget decisions, changes in County Council priorities; and to help ensure value for money through assessing the effectiveness of the measures contained within it.
9. The proposed Implementation Plan encompasses all forms of transport improvements, and sets out:
 - Capital and revenue funding levels currently allocated to transport improvements in Nottinghamshire
 - Continued partnership working to deliver transport improvements and strategies
 - The funding secured for, and details of, the major transport schemes to be delivered during this Implementation Plan period
 - Future major highways scheme programme development and prioritisation
 - How the integrated transport and maintenance programmes will be developed and prioritised during this Implementation Plan period, and
 - Programme management and monitoring of the delivery of the annual programmes of work.
10. The detailed 2018/19 highways programmes of work were approved at the 8 March 2018 Communities & Place Committee. These highway programmes will continue to be developed and approved annually; although opportunities to develop longer-term programmes will be taken if possible. The programmes will be developed to reflect a balance of member, public and stakeholder requests as well as priorities; evidence of need (including technical analysis);

value for money (including the co-ordination of works); delivery of the County Council's vision and transport objectives; and the ability to draw in external funding.

Additional funding for maintenance and integrated transport improvements

11. Having listened to local communities across the county, in order to help address local priorities £20m of additional funding has been allocated to highway improvements to predominantly address the backlog of structural maintenance (£17m for the period 2018/19 to 2021/22) and help address local journey time delay (£3m for the period 2018/19 to 2021/22).
12. The additional funding available for highway maintenance will primarily be used to deliver improvements to residential unclassified roads (including those roads prioritised by the local members) reducing the impacts that deteriorated highway conditions have on local communities. The funding will be concentrated on the roads we know are going to deteriorate in the next few years, making the 'right repair at the right time' with the use of surface dressing where appropriate. Similarly, the recently announced additional funding from the DfT for potholes will help the County Council address the backlog of pothole repairs.
13. As detailed in paragraph 5 above, surveys have identified that Nottinghamshire residents and local businesses consider the reduction of traffic congestion as their highest transport priority. In 2018/19 it is therefore proposed that £100,000 of the additional funding be allocated to develop a package of schemes to ease congestion in settlements adjacent to the growth corridors identified in the Place Departmental Strategy, reducing the impacts congestion has on local communities and the environment, as well as aiding productivity for local businesses. Additional funding available in 2019/20 to 2021/22 will then be used to deliver the schemes identified through this preparatory work. It is proposed that the remaining additional funding allocated to integrated transport schemes in 2018/19 is used as follows:
 - a contribution to signal improvements on the A38 to help improve journey time reliability
 - an enhanced programme of interactive speed signs and the delivery of additional pedestrian crossings to help address local perceptions of safety.

Other Options Considered

14. The other option is to not develop an implementation plan. This option, however, was ruled out as increasing financial constraints have underlined the essential need for the County Council to develop clear implementation strategies to ensure value for money for investment.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

15. The highways programmes detailed within the Implementation Plan and its appendices have been developed to help ensure delivery of County Council priorities, national priorities and local transport goals and objectives. The programmes detailed in the Plan and its appendices have been developed to reflect a balance of member, public and stakeholder requests and priorities, evidence of need (including technical analysis), value for money (including the co-ordination of works) and delivery of the County Council's Plan and LTP objectives.

Statutory and Policy Implications

16. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

17. The financial implications, including budget allocations, are set out within the proposed LTP Implementation Plan 2018/19-2020/21 and are in line with allocations determined at the 28 February 2018 County Council meeting. In 2018/19 the allocations are made up of a combination of capital grant, borrowing and successful external funding bids totalling £24.698m for capital maintenance and £6.116m for integrated transport; and the individual programmes and schemes were approved at 8 March 2018 Communities & Place Committee.
18. The additional County capital funding investment represents a budget increase of over 20% of the funding allocated for capital maintenance and integrated transport schemes in 2018/19 (24% increase in funding available for capital maintenance schemes; and 14% available for integrated transport improvements).

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

19. All programmes detailed within this report comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty. An equality impact assessment was undertaken on the Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan 2011/12-2025/26 in March 2011 to ensure that the strategy and its capital programmes to deliver it met the duty.
20. Equality impact assessment of individual significant and major transport schemes (schemes costing more than £250,000) and Bid programmes are also undertaken by project managers to ensure that they comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty, based on advice from the policy and equality officers. Such assessments include those undertaken on the Access Fund programme (undertaken in September 2016) and the A634 Safer Roads Fund programme (undertaken in April 2017).

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

21. Surveys undertaken with the public and local businesses identified reducing traffic congestion as the highest transport priority for both of these groups. The County Council also has a statutory obligation to address air quality issues resulting from road traffic on its managed roads (there are currently two air quality management areas on County Council managed roads). All of the programmes contained within the proposed Implementation Plan have therefore been developed with consideration to address congestion, its knock on effects on air quality and its impacts on local communities. The recycling of materials and aggregates is also considered when delivering highways schemes whenever possible.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that Committee:

- 1) approve the proposed LTP Implementation Plan 2018/19-2020/21.

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For any enquiries about this report please contact: Sean Parks – Local Transport Plan Manager Tel: 0115 9774251

Constitutional Comments [SLB 03/05/2018]

22. Communities and Place Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments [GB 25/04/2018]

23. The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan Implementation Plan 2018/19-2020/21
- Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan 2011/12-2025/26
- Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan Implementation Plan 2010/11-2014/15 and 2015/16-2017/18
- Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan Evidence Base 2010
- The Council Plan 2017-2021, '*Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future*'
- Place Departmental Strategy – January 2018
- Highways Programmes 2018/19 – 8 March 2018 Communities & Place Committee
- Nottinghamshire Access Fund Bid to the Department for Transport
- Nottinghamshire Clean Bus technology Fund Bid to Office for Low Emission Vehicles

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All