

17 September 2013

Agenda Item:

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORT, PROPERTY AND
ENVIRONMENT**

TITAN PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide an update of the TITAN (Towards Integrated Transport Across Nottinghamshire) project.

Background

2. The purpose of this major project was to reconfigure passenger transport services to make more efficient use of all the resources available whilst improving access to key services for the people of Nottinghamshire. The project was tasked with saving a total of £2.08m countywide and has delivered approximately £1m savings to date.
3. There is one defined pilot area which covers the Newark, Ollerton and Southwell areas, and four other project areas, known as:

Area 2 – Mansfield and Ashfield

Area 3 – Rushcliffe

Area 4 – Central Nottinghamshire Conurbation

Area 5 – Bassetlaw

TITAN Progress

4. The Newark Pilot area services were introduced in January 2013 and, in the main, these have worked very well. Some changes were made in response to feedback from the public and transport operators in the early stages and these now seem to have settled down. The Pilot has served to identify some issues around the requirements for Adult Day Services journeys and these are currently being addressed by the project team.
5. The second phase of public consultation for the remaining four county areas was undertaken in May and June this year. The method of consultation was through Roadshow events held in 56 locations across the county. These were held in libraries, bus stations and in County Council accessible minibuses parked in key locations. Attendance was higher than anticipated with nearly

800 people visiting the events, including many County, District and Parish Council Members.

6. The consultation involved displaying maps of proposed outline network plans, with staff talking consultees through the proposals and seeking their views on them. Network plans are now in the process of being finalised, taking into account all of the consultation feedback received. A summary of the consultation is at Appendix 1.
7. At the meeting of the Transport and Highways committee on 21 March, a business case for the introduction of a county wide Independent Travel Training (ITT) scheme was approved. ITT provides an opportunity for the more vulnerable members of the community to develop the skills and confidence to gradually become safe, independent travellers able to access public transport. The benefits to those participating in the training can be huge and, in many cases, life changing for them and their families.
8. A staff appointment has been made to the post of ITT Officer and the postholder will be responsible for the delivery of the ITT programme in accordance with the implementation plan targets. The target for the first year of implementation (2013/14 academic year) is to begin delivering training to young people in six schools or colleges. There are seven schools and colleges who are already committed to delivering the programme this year and more than 80 staff across these establishments have been fully trained and equipped to deliver the training to young people. There are also other organisations that are really keen to deliver the programme to the vulnerable clients they work with and we have provided training to some of their staff to enable them to do so. A summary of the ITT achievements to date is contained in a recent report to the Members Working Group at Appendix 2.
9. The TITAN project has a further £1m of efficiency savings outstanding. In addition to this, there is likely to be a need to make further savings from transport services to support the forthcoming County Council budgetary constraints between 2014/15 and 2016/17. The TITAN Project Board and Members Working Group have endorsed changes to the project in order to allow for the integration of the efficiency targets for TITAN and any further budget savings that may be required. It is therefore planned that all requirements will be reconfigured into a new project and supporting timeline with a view to revised services being implemented by August 2014 instead of the previous planned date of January 2014. The proposed timeline for the reconfigured project is shown at Appendix 3.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

11. The introduction of the pilot area network services is a positive outcome for users and will enable them to access key services and facilities in the area thus improving their quality of life. The revised network of services to be introduced in August 2014 will be subject to further consultation with the public and stakeholders.

Crime and Disorder Implications

12. The new infrastructure that will support any revised services will ensure that users have a safe waiting environment, especially when waiting for connecting services.

Financial Implications

13. The implementation of revised transport services across the County overall has generated £1m savings to date with additional efficiency savings of £995k to be made over the next two years.. Further savings of approximately £1m over the next five years will be generated by the implementation of the Independent Travel Training scheme. The levels of savings necessary may increase as funding reviews move forward therefore options for differing service levels and networks will be included in the next tender exercise.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

14. The revised services will help to promote alternative ways of travel, an overall reduction in mileage and travel will reduce CO2 emissions. The network proposals will introduce services which are economically sustainable in the long term.

Human Resource Implication

15. None

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Committee:

- 1) Notes the progress of the TITAN Project.

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For any enquiries about this report please contact: Mary Roche or Mark Hudson

Constitutional Comments (SHB 01.08.13)

16. Committee have power to decide the Recommendation

Financial Comments (DJK 01.08.13)

17. The contents of this report are duly noted and the financial implications are as stated in paragraph 13.

Background Papers

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.

Transport & Highways Committee: Progress Report: 21 March, 2013

Electoral Divisions Affected

All