

Meeting: **JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND
TRANSPORT**

Date: **18 SEPTEMBER 2009** Agenda item number:

From: **JOINT OFFICERS STEERING GROUP**

TRANSPORT ISSUES UPDATE

Purpose of report

1. To update the Committee on key transport issues for the Greater Nottingham Local Transport Plan (LTP) area.

Local Transport Plan 3

2. In July 2009 the Department for Transport (DfT) published the final guidance on the next round of LTPs. Although the guidance has been expanded there are no substantive changes to the approach to that included in the consultation guidance that was published in December 2008.
3. The two authorities have now commenced discussions on proposed working arrangements for the next LTP period and a further report setting out the recommended approach will be brought to this Committee.

NET Phase 2

4. On 31 July 2009, the Transport Minister confirmed conditional approval for NET Phase Two, with a maximum contribution of £530 million Public Finance Initiative credits. This decision followed the making of the Nottingham Express Transit Order on 9 June 2009, and consideration by the DfT of the NET Phase Two Outline Business Case, which was submitted in May 2009. The decision was accompanied by confirmation of the Workplace Parking Levy (WPL) Order, through which the majority of the NET Phase Two local contribution will be funded. The Government imposed a two year delay until 2012 on the start of WPL in recognition of the current economic circumstances, although compensation for the lost revenue as a result of the delay was included in the NET Phase Two PFI credits.
5. The decision to award conditional approval allows the NET Phase Two procurement process to start. A notice to formally commence the process is expected to be placed in the Official Journal of the European Journal

(OJEU) by the end of August 2009, and the overall process is expected to last approximately two years. The headline project milestones are as follows:

- commence procurement of new concession (August 2009);
- DfT full approval and concession award (Summer 2011);
- Phase Two opens (2014).

Sustainable Travel City

6. In May 2009 the DfT announced a programme of up to £29 million of revenue funding to be made available over the next three years to be invested in at least one of England's largest cities to encourage greener travel choices.
7. A Nottingham bid, which included input from a wide range of partners, was submitted by the 17 July 2009 deadline. During August 2009 we received notification from the DfT that Nottingham was one of only 4 areas to be shortlisted. Cllr Jane Urquhart led the delegation that gave a presentation and answered the queries of the assessment panel in London on 3 September 2009. An announcement on successful areas is awaited.

Further Education Cycling Demonstration Project

8. In May 2009, in partnership with the cycling charity Sustrans and other partners, a bid was submitted by the City Council to the DfT funded organisation Cycling England. The scope of the bid is to establish an exemplar project to promote cycling across Nottingham's two universities and the Queens Medical Centre Teaching Hospital and other further education establishments in Nottingham as part of this work.
9. In August 2009 the DfT agreed to provide up to £1 million of funding for a demonstration project to promote increased cycling levels based on the business case submitted to them as part of the bid. A further £300,000 of funding from the Greater Nottingham Partnership/(East Midlands Development Agency) has also been secured to provide supporting cycling infrastructure in addition to already committed LTP schemes.

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that the Committee note the content of this report.

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