

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

Date: **12 MARCH 2010** 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. Discussions over formalising the future joint working approach have taken place between the City Council, County Council and Derbyshire. The proposed approach is through agreeing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the three authorities involved. This will include areas of common importance that cross administrative boundaries, such as public transport strategy (including information and ticketing), bus quality partnership working, transport modelling, joint planning (including housing strategy), and the co-ordination of street works and traffic management strategies. The MoU formalises the commitment to collectively work together and to deliver improvements of mutual benefit to all parties over the LTP3 plan period and specific schemes to be delivered. Monitoring processes will make the authorities accountable and provide the necessary transparency and confidence to our partners and stakeholders. Each authority is now formally approving the agreement.
3. The next stages in taking forward LTP3s are:

City

- stakeholder consultation on LTP options (during March/April 2010);
- consultation on draft LTP3 (July to September 2010);
- Full Council approval (early 2011);
- new plans effective (from April 2011).

County

- public and stakeholder consultation on priorities (February 2010);

- consultation on strategic options (July to September 2010);
- consultation on draft LTP3 (November 2010)
- Full Council approval (early 2011);
- new plans effective (from April 2011).

Delivering a Sustainable Transport System Studies

4. Work on the East Midlands Three Cities Agglomeration and Accessibility Study, which as previously reported, forms one of a series of regional studies that are informing the Delivering a Sustainable Transport System (DaSTS) process is underway.
5. Working papers setting out the economic and functional roles of the Three Cities sub region and a review of evidence have been prepared. East Midlands Development Agency also hosted a workshop on 26 January 2010 to allow stakeholders to confirm the key challenges to be addressed and begin to identify future options for consideration. A further Councillor and stakeholder workshop has been arranged for 16 March. This will provide information about the studies which have been carried out in the East Midlands and seek views about the content of the submission to the DfT about future work to develop options to overcome the transport challenges which have been identified.
6. The first phase of the study is now not required to be completed until the end of June 2010 as the Department for Transport (DfT) has extended the deadline for this stage of the work.

NET Phase Two

7. The NET Phase Two procurement commenced following the award of conditional approval for the scheme by the DfT, and following a pre-qualification process, two consortia have been shortlisted for the tender process. Tender documents were issued to the bidders on 27 November 2009, with initial tenders due to be returned in May 2010. Following the identification of a preferred bidder, the tender award is expected in the summer 2011, with NET Phase Two opening in 2014.
8. The two shortlisted consortia are as follows:

Arrow Connect Consortia, which is formed from some of the companies who currently operate the successful NET Line One system, includes:

- Bombardier - one of the world's leading aerospace and rail transportation manufacturers;
- VolkerRail - provider of rail infrastructure services in the UK and part of the internationally known VolkerWessels Group;

- Transdev - one of the largest public transport operators in Europe;
- Nottingham City Transport – main provider of bus services in Greater Nottingham;
- CDC Group Ltd - a private equity fund investor.

The Tramlink Nottingham Consortia includes:

- VINCI Investments and VINCI Construction UK - both part of VINCI, the world's leading concession and construction group;
- Alstom – a world expert in urban transport systems;
- Keolis – the major international private sector tram operator;
- Trent Barton – award winning East Midlands bus operator;
- InfraVia – construction equity investment fund provider;
- Meridiam - infrastructure investment fund provider for public private partnerships.

Welbeck Suspension Bridge

9. The Welbeck suspension bridge was reopened to pedestrians and cyclists on 12 February 2010 following a major refurbishment of the 100 year old structure. Severn Trent Water, the bridge owner has spent £1.9 million bringing the bridge back into a safe condition. The City Council, the County Council and National Grid are contributing to the repair costs and have agreed to help pay for ongoing inspections and maintenance.

Recommendation

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

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