

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

Date: **JUNE 2011** 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. Both the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire third round LTPs were adopted on 1 April 2011. The two component documents comprising long term strategies and shorter term implementation plans are available to download on each of the authority's web sites.

Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF)

3. In January 2011 the Coalition Government announced a new White Paper entitled 'Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon' which confirmed the Government's two national priorities for transport. Alongside the White Paper came announcement of guidance on the Local Sustainable Transport Fund application process and timescales. A total of £560million is being made available over this Parliament on a 60:40 ratio of revenue to capital resources.
4. A Nottingham Urban Area 'Key Component' Bid for £5 million was submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) in April 2011 which was developed by the City Council in partnership with Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire County Councils, the Greater Nottingham Transport Partnership, Sustrans and NHS Nottingham City. The Bid put forward a package of measures aimed at delivering multi-operator smartcard ticketing (including specific measures for targeted travel support), establishing a pilot community travel hub and funding to support sustainable travel services at the neighbourhood level, providing enhanced business support and travel plan measures for employers and continuation of active travel partnerships including the successful UCycle Nottingham initiative that is promoting cycling at Nottingham's Further Education sites and University Hospital.

5. A second large scale Bid for an £11 million package was submitted to the DfT on 6th June 2011. This Bid covered the following further elements including:
 - Establishing a network of community travel hubs across the urban area.
 - Demonstration projects to create low speed environments in residential areas to encourage more walking and cycling for short local trips.
 - Support for schools, coordinated community cycling promotion and events programmes to promote more active travel.
 - Development of a low carbon transport network including purchase of more electric buses for Linkbus services and electric vehicle charging infrastructure at employment sites and community hubs, and establishment of a city car club
 - Personalised travel planning and initiatives to support sustainable access to work and training, Year 6 transitional travel training for pupils moving on from primary to secondary school, journey planning packages aimed at homemovers and an extended programme of travel training for vulnerable groups.
6. Bids are currently being assessed with a decision on the Key Component Bid to be announced by the end of June 2011 and a decision on the initial proposals for the large scale Bid to be announced in July 2011.

Congestion Performance Funding

7. On 18 March the Department for Transport confirmed payments for Tranche 4 of the Congestion Performance Fund. The total awarded to Greater Nottingham was £155,890. It is proposed that this funding be used to continue development of the Greater Nottingham transport computer model, appraisal work in support of our Nottingham Local Sustainable Transport Large Scale Bid and development of the economic case for the A453 (M1 to Nottingham) widening scheme associated with a Regional Growth Fund bid. As a consequence of Government funding cuts this funding stream has now been terminated and therefore no further payments are to be made.

A453 (M1 to Nottingham) widening scheme

8. The County Council, other local authorities and businesses have long campaigned for this key strategic infrastructure which has the potential to unlock huge economic benefits in Nottinghamshire. The County Council has recently had discussions with senior civil servants in the Department for Transport regarding the prospects for advancing the A453 into the trunk road programme for construction before 2015. The County Council believes so fervently that this scheme is the key to the economic well being that the Council is prepared to commit £20m of County Council capital funding to support the A453 scheme. A bid to the Regional Growth Fund

for additional funding support is also being progressed. The Secretaries of State for Transport and Business have been notified of the Council's local financial contribution and potential for alternative funding sources and a response is awaited.

Nottingham Express Transit Phase Two

9. Funding for two more lines of the tram comprising NET Phase Two was confirmed by Government in March 2011 albeit with a reduced Government funding contribution. Following this announcement, the Tramlink Nottingham consortium was appointed as preferred bidder for the scheme. The consortium 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
 - Wellglade Trent Barton: award winning East Midlands bus operator
 - InfraVia: construction equity investment fund provider
 - Meridiam: infrastructure investment fund provider for public private partnerships.
10. Work is progressing towards a contract being let in early autumn 2011. Construction work would start in the autumn and would be completed by 2014.
11. Transport and Works Act and Exchange Land Certificate applications were made to Government in 2010 seeking Compulsory Purchase powers over open space land in Chilwell owned by the County Council, and the provision of replacement open space respectively. Both applications have been subject to the written representation procedures, which have been completed, and approved.

Recommendation

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

Contact officers

Chris Carter, Development, Nottingham City Council
Tel: 0115 8763940
Email: chris.carter@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Kevin Sharman, Nottinghamshire County Council
Tel: 0115 9772970
Email: kevin.sharman@nottscc.gov.uk