Housing and City Development Scrutiny Committee: 30 September 2024

Response to Recommendations: Transforming Cities Programme Portfolio: Strategic Regeneration, Transport and Communications

Recommendation

1) That the Council considers how it can maximise the effectiveness of its engagement with the East Midlands Combined County Authority (CCA) and associated Local Authority partners on the future development and delivery of transport infrastructure schemes across the wider area that will bring important benefits to Nottingham people.

Response

Following the Devolution Deal, the new CCA has taken over responsibility for a number of Local Transport Authority functions. This includes responsibility for the preparation of an area-wide Local Transport Plan (LTP) and the formation and delivery of a Transport Investment Programme. Given the increased scale of transport funding expected to be available to the CCA in future years, this investment programme is a significant opportunity to improve transport across the area. Investment could cover public transport such as bus priority measures, major new infrastructure projects such as new road and rail connections, active travel measures to promote more healthy and sustainable transport, and highway maintenance to build more resilience into the existing network.

The LTP is a statutory requirement and it is important as it lays out the transport strategy against strategic objectives and the role various measures will play in contributing to achieving delivery. The four constituent Local Authorities (including the Council) are directly supporting the CCA in the preparation of the LTP through feeding in local knowledge, developing the evidence-base and informing operational and transport strategy delivery requirements. The approval of the LTP requires the consent of each of the constituent Councils.

Similarly, the constituent Councils are helping to identify future local transport schemes to feed into the investment programme, including undertaking early design, cost estimates, identification of risks and calculation of potential benefits. The experiences learned from the delivery of the large-scale Transforming Cities Programme demonstrates to the CCA that the Council has the capability to deliver programmes of

integrated transport measures of a similar nature to those that are likely to be required in the future within our area and may be a potential example to others.

Engagement with the CCA is taking place at different levels including representation at the CCA Board, through the Transport and Digital Connectivity Committee, regular Place Director meetings and input through various officer technical groups. Development of the LTP and Transport Investment Programme will also be informed by stakeholder consultation with local business, community groups, transport operators, national bodies, interest groups, etc.