

Meeting:	<b>JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT</b>
Date:	9th March 2018
From:	Joint Officer Steering Group

## **Transport Update**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report provides the Committee with an update on the transport related issues across the Greater Nottingham conurbation. The report provides an update on Transport Funding, Major Roads Network Consultation, Rail Update and the Nottingham Railway Station fire.

### **2 BACKGROUND**

#### **Transport Funding Update**

- 2.2 On the 4th July 2017, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) announced a funding bid for the Housing Infrastructure Fund, split between the Housing Viability Fund and the Housing Forward Fund.
- 2.3 The Housing Viability Fund was only open to single or lower tier authorities. On the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018, it was announced that the bid submitted by Rushcliffe Council was successful for supporting infrastructure on land South of Clifton, being allocated £9.9m.
- 2.4 The Housing Forward Fund was only open to single or upper tier authorities. Nottinghamshire County Council coordinated a large scale HS2 Growth Strategy expression of interest to support an innovation campus at Toton which was submitted on behalf of the entire D2N2 area, supported by all four upper tier authorities. The successful bids for the Housing Forward Fund are yet to be announced.
- 2.5 On the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018, the Department for Transport announced the winners of the Clean Bus Technology Fund, which announced that 20 local authorities would receive a share of £40million to retrofit buses to improve air quality. Both Nottingham City Council (£2.7m) and Nottinghamshire County Council (£1.4m) were successful in bids to this fund.

#### **Major Roads Network Consultation**

- 2.6 On the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2017, the Department for Transport opened a consultation for the provision of a Major Road Network across England. This would see the designation of selected "A" classified roads as of strategic importance. These designated roads are determined from data such as existing traffic levels (above 20,000 vehicles per day) or by having a large proportion of HGV traffic.
- 2.7 It is proposed in the consultation that funding for these designated roads would be provided through a competitive bid process to upgrade or maintain these roads. As currently proposed, funding be provided from 2020.
- 2.8 A map showing the proposed roads that would form part of the network is available on the consultation website. The consultation closing date is on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018.

#### **Rail update**

- 2.9 In November 2017, it was announced by Department for Transport that the rollout of a revised timetable affecting Thameslink services, which operates on part of the Midland Mainline, would be undertaken in phases. It was originally planned that these changes

would have occurred as part of the December 2017 timetable change. From the timetable change on 20 May 2018 until 2020, East Midlands Trains peak-time services will no longer call at Bedford or Luton. Instead, a rail-replacement coach service would be provided from Wellingborough for those requiring connections. Direct East Midlands Trains rail services will continue to run from Leicestershire and Northamptonshire to London, and will continue to call at Luton Airport Parkway throughout the day. Off-peak and weekend services will continue to call at Bedford and Luton.

- 2.10 On the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018, Network Rail announced details regarding the Derby re-signalling project. This will see track and signaling replacement, as well as two new platforms being provided in Derby station. The works will take place this summer from 22<sup>nd</sup> July through to 7<sup>th</sup> October, and will affect all rail services through Derby, including the Matlock-Newark Castle service as well as Nottingham-Birmingham Cross-Country services.
- 2.11 On the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018, Secretary of State approval was given for capacity improvements on the Hope Valley line. These improvements will provide a passing loop for freight trains at Bamford, as well as provision of a new platform and junction improvements at Dore & Totley. These works will allow an additional fast train to operate each hour and the local stopping service to operate hourly. This will affect the Liverpool – Norwich service that operates on this route.
- 2.12 Rail North Ltd's powers and responsibilities have now formally been transferred to Transport for the North (TfN).

### **Nottingham Railway Station Fire**

- 2.13 On the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018, a fire broke out within the Nottingham Station Toilets, causing the station to be closed before reopening partially the next week. The damage was largely confined to the toilets and part of the connecting bridge. At the time of writing, access to platform 7 from the concourse is closed, with access via the "middle bridge" to this platform. Investigation work is currently underway regarding the fire.

## **3 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the contents of this report.

## **4 BACKGROUND PAPERS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

- 4.1 Housing Viability Fund Announcement, MCLG, February 2018.  
Clean Bus Technology Fund Announcement, DfT, February 2018.  
Proposals for the creation of a Major Road Network, DfT, December 2017.

### **Contact Officers**

Chris Carter, Development and Growth, Nottingham City Council

Tel: 0115 8763940

Email: [chris.carter@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:chris.carter@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

Kevin Sharman, Place Department, Nottinghamshire County Council

Tel: 0115 9772970

Email: [kevin.sharman@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.sharman@nottscc.gov.uk)