



Committee: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: WEDNESDAY, 7 MARCH 2018

Venue: MORECAMBE TOWN HALL

Time: 6.00 P.M.

Councillors are reminded that as Members of overview and scrutiny they may not be subjected to the Party Whip, which is prohibited under the Lancaster City Council Constitution.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes

Minutes of the Meetings held on 10th January and 7th February, 2018 (previously circulated).

3. Items of Urgent Business authorised by the Chairman

4. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations by Members of interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting).

Whilst not a legal requirement, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 and in the interests of clarity and transparency, Members should declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, at this point in the meeting.

In accordance with Part B Section 2 of the Code Of Conduct, Members are required to declare the existence and nature of any other interests as defined in paragraphs 8(1) or 9(2) of the Code of Conduct.

5. Implementing the Lancaster District Highways and Transport Masterplan (Pages 1 - 4)

6. Referral from Cabinet regarding the Voluntary Community Faith Sector Task Group report (Pages 5 - 7)

7. Scoping of Digital Lancaster Task Group

The Scoping Document will be circulated separately.

8. **Consideration of any requests for Councillor Call for Action (in accordance with the process)**
9. **Consideration of any Petitions (in accordance with the process)**
10. **Locality Working**
11. **Work Programme Report (Pages 8 - 12)**

Report of the Chief Executive.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

(i) Membership

Councillors June Ashworth (Chairman), Nigel Goodrich (Vice-Chairman), Alan Biddulph, Tracy Brown, Brett Cooper, Rob Devey, Charlie Edwards, Caroline Jackson and David Whitaker

(ii) Substitute Membership

Councillors Lucy Atkinson, Mel Guilding, Janet Hall, Tim Hamilton-Cox, Geoff Knight, Abi Mills and Phillippa Williamson

(iii) Queries regarding this Agenda

Please contact Jenny Kay, Democratic Services - telephone (01524) 582065 or email jkay@lancaster.gov.uk.

(iv) Changes to Membership, substitutions or apologies

Please contact Democratic Support, telephone 582170, or alternatively email democraticsupport@lancaster.gov.uk.

SUSAN PARSONAGE,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE,
TOWN HALL,
DALTON SQUARE,
LANCASTER, LA1 1PJ

Published on Tuesday, 27th February 2018.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**Implementing the Lancaster District Highways and Transport Masterplan****7 March 2018****Report of Regeneration Manager****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To brief the Committee on joint working between the city and county councils to implement those aspects of the Lancaster District Highways and Transport Masterplan 2016 concerning the city of Lancaster and approaches to it.

This report is public

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee

- (1) In the context of the Highways and Transport Masterplan proposing significant change to travel and transport in the city note: (i) that work is underway by city and county council officers to plan implementation, (ii) the role of the proposed Movement Strategy for the city centre and, (iii) how planning for growth within the city centre and at Lancaster South relates closely in transport terms.
- (2) Include in its work programme regular joint city county updates on Masterplan implementation and advise Cabinet and the Portfolio Holder as appropriate on implementation decisions required.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The county council adopted its Lancaster District Highways and Transport Masterplan (Masterplan) in October 2016. This directs and guides investment and change in transportation across the district through to 2031 and is one of a suite of such masterplans for districts and combinations of districts across Lancashire.
- 1.2 This introductory report is to brief members on the main implications of the Masterplan and the implementation work in hand for Lancaster and particularly the city centre and the approaches to it. Note the report does not directly cover those elements of the Masterplan pertaining to Morecambe, Heysham and the wider district.

2.0 Report

New transport approach and its importance

2.1 The Masterplan sets a vision that by 2031 -

“Lancaster city centre is vibrant and successful, with no air quality issues, no gyratory congestion and so no barriers to sustainable travel. Pedestrians and cyclists can move around easily and freely through safe and attractive public spaces. The centre is largely free of traffic and most of the vehicles that do need to be there are ultra – low emission.

Without the gyratory to contend with, public transport is also more reliable and new links to South Lancaster mean that the University has been able to expand and maintain its prestigious reputation. Those who work in the area almost all commute by sustainable modes; on foot, by cycle, or using the ‘Lancaster Reach’ bus rapid transport services operated by ultra-low emission vehicles”.

2.2 This represents a decisive change in approach from (by and large) seeking to meet demands for private motorised travel to advantaging more sustainable patterns of travel. This means reducing use of private vehicles (together with making more efficient use of private vehicles) alongside providing for much more travel by bus and more cycling and walking.

2.2 The Masterplan suggests such change in approach is vital for the economic, social and environmental future of the city as a place for people to live in, work in and visit and crucially, as a place to invest in. It is widely appreciated that the economic performance, visitor attraction and liveability of the city centre and arounds is held back by the long prevailing poor traffic conditions and that without action are likely only to worsen.

2.4 Officers observe that the opening of the Bay Gateway Link in 2016 has relieved congestion northbound to Morecambe and Heysham (as well as vastly improving journey times direct to Morecambe and Heysham via the link road itself). But from the outset the Link was predicted to make for a no more than 10% reduction in city centre traffic, a level of reduction that will readily be offset as traffic levels otherwise increase with growth anticipated in population and travel demands.

2.5 Continuing acute congestion on the city centre gyratory, its approaches at many times of the day and at peak times extending in particular along the A6 corridor lengthens travel times, delays and distorts bus services, impairs and makes less safe conditions for pedestrians and cyclists and, impacts adversely on peoples’ health through air pollution.

Air quality, technology and change

2.6 Large parts of the city centre and Galgate suffer from impaired air quality and are designated as Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). It is recognised that over the long term there is prospect that technology will reduce air pollution problems as motorised travel moves on from the internal combustion engine. However, without significant change, impaired air quality will likely continue at least over the short and into the medium terms. The Masterplan advances that this is unacceptable and that action must be taken.

- 2.7 The technological solutions for many air quality impacts and other changes in technology foreseeable (such as driverless cars) are very unlikely to be widely established within the current trajectory of growth. Further, such technological change is unlikely to reduce levels of traffic and congestion and so the adverse impacts of this will persist and perhaps likely worsen progressively without action.

Movement Strategy for the city centre and Bus Rapid Transit

- 2.8 The Masterplan sets parameters for how transport is to serve and move through the city centre and that for the city centre these will be worked up in a Movement Strategy with Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) the transport priority.
- 2.9 Caton Road is to be the principal gateway into the city centre for traffic from the M6 from both north and south and a BRT terminus. This capitalises on the benefits of the new Link Road and makes it possible to heavily manage traffic in the city centre, including via the J34 Park and Ride facility. Catering for just over 600 cars, the Park and Ride should intercept traffic coming from the motorway and from both sides of the Lune Valley.
- 2.10 The bus rapid transit system is to create a 'Y' shaped network of two routes, from J34 to Lancaster University via the city centre and between Heysham and Morecambe, the city centre and South Lancaster. Both routes are to operate via the Royal Lancaster Infirmary, presenting a genuine opportunity to create a true sustainable transport corridor linking the city centre and the areas to the south including the main Lancaster University campus and the prospective Bailrigg Garden Village.
- 2.11 Officers of the county and city councils and the Lancaster University are working together to establish viable route and service options for bus rapid transit for the first priority routes between the city centre, south Lancaster and junction 34. This work will output in late April 2018 to inform the Movement Strategy and the consultation in May 2018 on the Bailrigg Garden Village – see para 2.14 also.
- 2.12 The Masterplan recognises that all this will involve substantial and long term changes to the city centre gyratory system. To assure changes deliver the anticipated positive environmental and place benefits and have no unintended consequences will require detailed assessment of potential options. Further, changing the gyratory system requires detailed consideration of other factors. A key one is how to provide for walking and cycling.
- 2.13 Preparing the Movement Strategy will work all this through. Members should note that this Strategy must be consistent with both the Masterplan and, the Vision for the City that the two councils and the Lancaster University are presently working on. The Committee should note that officers have briefed cabinet members on draft objectives for the Movement Strategy and will finalise objectives first for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and then for decision by Cabinet. With this officers can then prepare delivery options that will inevitably present some key decisions on change.

Growth at South Lancaster and Bailrigg Garden Village

- 2.14 Work to bring forward proposals for development and growth in South Lancaster relates very closely. Growth prospects in South Lancaster are

constrained by traffic conditions and highway capacities just as they are in the city centre. Achieving growth at Lancaster South and delivering the Bailrigg Garden Village requires transport planning consistent with the Masterplan and properly integrated with that for the city centre so as to promote sustainable travel and not ever more private vehicle traffic.

2.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 The Highways and Transport Masterplan is ground-breaking. City council regeneration officers consider that implementing it is absolutely pivotal to making Lancaster the place we all want it to be. The Masterplan calls for very significant change in travel and transport in and around Lancaster and in particular for the city centre, the A6 corridor and in Lancaster South. City and county council officers are working on a range of proposals and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is well placed to oversee and help shape this work.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing):

No impacts at this stage

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

This report relies on joint working between officers of the authorities and no obligations or liabilities are being entered into by this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional financial implications arising for the City Council at this stage with the cost of any studies/work to date either being met directly by Lancashire County Council or where appropriate City Council input contained within existing staff resources/budgets.

OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, such as Human Resources, Information Services, Property, Open Spaces:

None

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

This is an information only report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Highways and Transport Masterplan,
Lancashire County Council, 2016

Contact Officer: Julian Inman
Telephone: 01524 582336
E-mail: jinman@lancaster.gov.uk
Ref:

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY**Referral from Cabinet regarding the Voluntary
Community Faith Sector Task Group report
7th March 2018****Report of Interim Head of Legal & Democratic
Services****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To enable the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the comments made by Cabinet with regard to the Voluntary Community Faith Sector Task Group report.

This report is public

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) **That the Overview & Scrutiny Committee consider Cabinet's comments with regard to the Voluntary Community Faith Sector Task Group report, set out in paragraph 2.3 of this report.**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting on 13th February 2018, Cabinet considered the recommendations of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee with regard to the Voluntary Community and Faith Sector Commissioning Informal Task Group.

2.0 Details

Councillor Ashworth, as Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, advised Cabinet that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had rejected the task group report at its meeting on 10th January 2018. Whilst there were no plans to reconstitute the task group, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee would work with the Budget & Performance Panel to ensure the additional work identified by the Committee during their consideration of the task group report would be undertaken.

- 2.2 Cabinet agreed with the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as follows:

- (1) That Cabinet retains the current status quo regarding voluntary community and faith sector commissioning grant funding for 2018/19.

2.3 In addition, Cabinet proposed two additional recommendations:

- (2) That officers be requested to explore the possibility of introducing lottery funding to support Voluntary Community Faith Sector funding in the future.
- (3) That the following comments be forwarded to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee:
 - That the Overview & Scrutiny Committee consider conflicts of interest when appointing task group members (particularly the chairman)
 - That the Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers the inclusion of the following items when progressing the work on the voluntary community and faith sector commissioning framework:
 - a. *Description of the current procedure of the Council for allocating grants*
 - b. *How much officer time is devoted to the allocation and management of grants each year?*
 - c. *What are the Council's priority areas for allocating grants and should these change?*
 - d. *How do organisations apply for grants, and how easy is it for new ones to apply?*
 - e. *What does the Council require of organisations receiving grants (e.g. reports, outcomes) and does this need to change?*
 - f. *Evidence from stakeholders or service providers.*

3.0 Proposals

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to consider the comments made by Cabinet when undertaking the additional work identified to complete the work on Voluntary Community Faith Sector funding prior to reporting back to Cabinet within the next financial year.

With regard to the comment regarding conflict of interest when appointing to task groups it is up to the Political Groups to appoint members to task groups and therefore the Overview & Scrutiny Committee does not determine which members are appointed to task groups. When considering the composition of future task groups it would be sensible for Group Administrators and proposed task group members to identify and advise the Monitoring Officer of any potential conflicts of interest in order that it can be determined whether the appointment is appropriate.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing):

There are no implications as a result of this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising from this referral report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None arising from this referral report.

OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, such as Human Resources, Information Services, Property, Open Spaces:

None arising from this report.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no comment to add.

DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Deputy Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments, other than to reiterate that the Monitoring Officer is able to give advice on any conflicts of interest to members or to political group administrators.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

none

Contact Officer: Liz Bateson

Telephone: 01524 582047

E-mail: ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Work Programme Report

7th March 2018

Report of the Chief Executive

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Members with an update of the Committee's Work Programme.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

(1) That Members note the updated Work Programme, as detailed in Appendix A.

1. Introduction

Members are requested to consider the Work Programme attached at Appendix A that has been updated since the last meeting.

2. Updates

Site Visit to Caton Road

The site visit is taking place on Thursday 15th March. The Chairman will provide an update at the next meeting.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

Contact Officer: Jenny Kay
Telephone: 01524 582065
E-mail: jkay@lancaster.gov.uk

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18

<u>Matter for Consideration</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Comments/Expected Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Officer Responsible /External</u>
Lancaster Traffic Masterplan	<p>That the Committee request an update from Lancashire County Council on its Traffic Masterplan, which included the gyratory system in Lancaster City Centre.</p> <p>(Minute 25 - 29th Nov 2017).</p>	March 2018.	Regeneration Manager.
<p>Review of Policies and Procedures in place for dealing with Major Flooding Incidents.</p> <p>Resilience Commission Task Group.</p>	<p>To remain as a standing item on the work programme.</p> <p>Any major flooding works to be reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>(Min 16 - 20th September 2017).</p> <p>That the Committee request information from partners and agencies on the reporting process and possible sharing and referring of information, in the period following the initial emergency.</p> <p>(Minute 26 - 29th Nov 2017).</p>	April 2018.	Chief Officers (Heath & Housing), (Environment) and (Regeneration & Planning).
Update report on Health Scrutiny.	<p>Note: OSC given permission by CBC to undertake preparatory work in response to the consultation, with the final response to be considered by CBC, in line with the standard procedure, if and when appropriate to do so. (CBC Min 8 – 27th June 2013 refers).</p>	April 2018.	<p>CCG UHMBT.</p> <p>Invite all City Council's incl. the City Council representative on the County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee.</p>
Ideal Choice process.	<p>The City Council is about to review the Choice Based lettings system, which will include an upgraded Ideal Choice software. This will be reported to the Committee once this is complete.</p> <p>That a visit to the Council Housing Service be arranged to allow Members of the Committee to see how the system works first hand.</p> <p>(Min 16 - 20th September 2017).</p>	Service site visit to be arranged.	Chief Officer (Heath & Housing).

<p>Update on the Peer Review.</p> <p>To include Councillors Skills and Information.</p>	<p>Whilst progress against the Peer Review recommendations continues, the Chief Executive will be reporting on these initiatives at a future meeting. The recommendations will also be taken forward through a new Corporate Plan and associated monitoring, which is currently being developed.</p> <p>(Min 16 - 20th September 2017).</p>	<p>The Chief Executive will report on initiatives at a future meeting.</p>	<p>Chief Executive.</p>
<p>Housing – Delivery of need:</p> <p>(1) How do we manage the need of required changes.</p> <p>(2) How do we deliver property change/modification to meet residents need.</p>	<p>That the two issues that emerged from the training session be explored further.</p> <p>(12th July 2017).</p> <p>Ascertain meeting date.</p> <p>(Min 16 - 20th September 2017).</p>	<p>Autumn 2017.</p> <p>Ascertain meeting date.</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Heath & Housing),</p>
<p>Annual consideration of Older People's Issues (inviting Age UK and other relevant agencies).</p>		<p>Summer 2018.</p>	<p>External Organisations/ Chief Officer (Heath & Housing),</p> <p>Invite Cabinet Member with Responsibility.</p>
<p>Community Safety Partnership.</p> <p>Annual meeting to consider Community Safety issues.</p>	<p>Note: The Committee undertakes the functions of the Council's crime and disorder committee for the purposes of Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, including CCfA relating to crime and disorder matters.</p>	<p>November 2018.</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Environment). Invite Chief Inspector and the relevant Cabinet Member with responsibility.</p>
<p>Promoting the Local Economy and the Sustainable Economic Growth Strategy.</p> <p>Committee have requested this to be prioritised.</p>	<p>Raised as a Cllr suggestion, consideration of report prior to Cabinet (Min 15 refers - 8th July 2015).</p> <p>That Morecambe BID be invited to attend a future meeting to discuss promoting the Local Economy. (Min 4 refers - 8th June 2016).</p> <p>Request information from the Chief Executive as to what the Council is doing to promote the District to encourage business to invest here.</p> <p>Invite the relevant Cabinet Member.</p> <p>(Min 16 - 20th September 2017).</p>	<p>It is anticipated that this strategy will be presented to Cabinet and there will be an opportunity for wider member involvement in the run up to that process.</p> <p>TBA.</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Regeneration and Planning) and Morecambe BID.</p>

Air Quality Control.	A further update report in 2018 to take into account the impact of the Bay Gateway link road on air pollution in the district. Ascertain a date for this update. (5 th April & 20 th Sept 2017).	Date to be ascertained. 2018.	Chief Officer (Health & Housing).
Lack of Support for People with Mental Health issues in the Community.	That the Committee invite the Lancashire Care and Cumbria Trust to a future meeting to discuss the lack of support for people with mental health issues in the community. (Minute 19 - 18 th October 2017)	2018.	Lancashire Care and Cumbria Trust.
Morecambe Market	That the Markets consultation be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee once it was completed. (Minute 38 – 10 th January 2018)	2018.	Chief Officer (Environment).
Voluntary Community and Faith Sector Commissioning Framework	That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee look at the voluntary community and faith sector commissioning framework and other issues raised and report back to Cabinet within the next financial year. (Minute 37 – 10 th January 2018)	2018.	

Updates

<u>Matter for Consideration</u>	<u>Comments & Date Requested</u>	<u>Officer Responsible</u>	<u>Date Circulated</u>
Timescale for Risk Management.	Action from LGA Peer Review Action Plan – That a timescale on this piece of work be provided for the Committee – (Min 72 refers - 6 th April 2016).	Chief Officer (Resources).	Work on information Governance and other Assurance matters taking priority.
The Council's approach to digitalisation - Council's plans, obstacles and how the Council would ensure it took place.	Action from LGA Peer Review Action Plan – That the Council's approach to digitalisation be requested to include the Council's plans regarding digitalisation, what the obstacles are and how the Council ensures this takes place - Min 72 refers - 6 th April 2016.	Chief Officer (Resources).	

Update on the Council's Energy Strategy.	Pre-Scrutiny agreed to request a Briefing Note – November 2016.	Chief Officer (Environment).	
Locality Working.	Pre-Scrutiny agreed to request a Briefing Note – November 2016.	Request made to Lancashire County Council.	Response awaited.
Update on the Beyond the Castle project.	(Min. 4 - 21 st June 2017). Request a briefing note to update the Committee. (Min 16 - 20 th Sept 2017).	Chief Officer (Regeneration and Planning).	This was reported to Cabinet in February 2018.
Update on Road Accidents in the District	That the Committee request data from the Community Safety Partnership analyst on specific locations of road accidents and those of child casualties within the district. (Minute 25 - 29 th Nov 2017).	Chief Officer (Environment).	

Task Groups

<u>Task Group Topic</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Progress</u>
Resilience Commission Informal Task Group (Informal).	6 th April 2016. (Min 84 refers).	The Task Group will report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Commissioning (Informal).	21 st September 2016 (Min 9 refers).	Reported to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 10 th January 2018.
Customer Services Strategy & Future Complaints Policy (Informal).	8 th March 2017 (Min 56 refers).	First meeting held on 22 nd January 2018.
Digital Lancaster.	6 th December 2017 (Minute 30 refers).	To be considered by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 7 th March 2018.