

LINCOLN TOWN DEAL BOARD

DATE OF MEETING: 27th February 2020

SUBJECT: Lincoln Transport Strategy

REPORT BY: Karl Gibson – Senior Project Leader, Lincolnshire County Council

BACKGROUND

Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) is seeking to publish a new strategy to support the economic and spatial development of the Lincoln urban area and beyond through the delivery of improvements to access and transport. Through the LCC Technical Services Partnership, WSP were commissioned to undertake a project to develop a new Transport Strategy.

The current Lincoln Integrated Transport Strategy (LITS) was developed by LCC in 2006 and updated in 2008 with a progress review conducted in 2013. Since the adoption of LITS, LCC has made significant progress in securing funding for and completing a number of major transport schemes, improving public transport and enhancing access for pedestrians and cyclists. Of particular note over recent years have been the completions of the A46 Teal Park Dualling, the East-West Link in the city centre and a number of pinch-point schemes. These have been supported by Quality Bus Corridor improvements and the very successful Access LN6 sustainable travel project.

LCC is also now pressing on with the construction of the largest project in LITS, the Lincoln Eastern Bypass, due for completion in Autumn 2020, which will remove substantial amounts of strategic through traffic from the city centre.

In early 2017, the new Central Lincolnshire Local Plan was adopted by the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee, setting out the spatial development policy for the period up to 2036. The Plan includes very significant ambitions for growth in and around Lincoln and a new strategy is required to identify access and transport-focussed proposals to help support that growth. The Plan is currently being reviewed and with the completion of the strategy the options within it can be embedded in the new Plan.

Since LITS was developed, transport plan-making has evolved, and contemporary approaches focus not just on the transport services and schemes that need to be delivered but also consider these in the context of broader economic and spatial planning aspirations. Transport strategies need to be developed as part of an integrated suite of policies that aim to improve the economy of areas, steer their spatial development and improve access and transport for both communities and businesses.

Travel and the resulting need for transport is a response to the need for people to have access to their daily needs and businesses to their raw materials and markets. As such to properly plan travel and transport a good understanding of accessibility needs is required as well as the associated impacts on transport services and infrastructure. The resulting output of this strategy is therefore to set out proposals to improve accessibility as well as identifying transport interventions.

THE STRATEGY

The new Lincoln Transport Strategy has been developed by Lincolnshire County Council, City of Lincoln Council, North Kesteven District Council and West Lindsey District Council. It aims to provide a clear vision for the future of transport across the Lincoln area.

The development of the strategy included an extension engagement process with members, stakeholders, officers and the general public, through drop-in events, workshops and a questionnaire.

It sets out to enhance our transport network, improve choice and inclusive accessibility and support the continued growth of the city and surrounding area.

The strategy will help deliver a modern, sustainable and future-ready transport network in and around Lincoln so the area can continue to grow sustainably, meeting challenges and taking advantage of future opportunities.

Attached to this report is a summary document of the transport strategy that was released to the press on 17th February 2020.

NEXT STEPS

The main transport strategy is being finalised ready for the Lincolnshire County Council Scrutiny committee on 9th March 2020. Should the committee endorse the strategy the Executive Councillor for Highways Transport and IT of Lincolnshire County Council will then be in a position to formally approve the strategy shortly after.

DISCUSSION

Please see the attached the summary document of the Lincoln Transport Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

The Town Board endorse the strategy.

The Town Board to identify the schemes within the strategy to promote through the Town Deal.