



Transport & Infrastructure Committee

18 September 2024

Title:	Local Transport & Connectivity Plan and Associated Strategies
Report of:	Emma White, Acting Transport Strategy and Policy Manager
Lead Member:	Cllr Anna Smith, Lead Member for Transport
Public Report:	Yes
Key Decision:	Yes
Voting Arrangements:	A No vote B: Vote by consensus otherwise a vote in favour by at least two thirds of the members present including the Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council members or their substitutes.

Recommendations:

A	Note the update on the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) associated strategies and welcome comment on scopes and work stream.
B	Recommend to the Combined Authority Board to delegate authority to the Assistant Director for Transport in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to enter into one or more contracts with the relevant delivery body, as needed to continue the development of the LTCP sub strategies.

Strategic Objective(s):

The proposals within this report fit under the following strategic objective(s):

x	<p>Achieving ambitious skills and employment opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bringing together people, employers, providers, and place leaders to guide and drive an integrated approach to skills and employment in our region.Attracting more businesses to grow or relocate to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.Improved community connection.
x	<p>Achieving good growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Further development of long-term strategies that integrate our local transport and highway connectivity priorities.
x	<p>Increased connectivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Digital and physical connection to communities, professional networks, health services, leisure, nature and to places of employment and education. Reducing the need for travel with more services located within communities.Deliverables: - Reduced rural isolation - Improved Highway connectivity - Sustainable and reliable public transport.Outcomes - (1) Increasing share of public transport usage and sustainable travel as a proportion of all travel; (2) Reduction in numbers of people killed or seriously injured on region's roads; (3) Reduced congestion on major roads; (4) Measurable improvements in connectivity for 'left behind' areas.

x	<p>Enabling resilient communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing the infrastructure and support to enable communities across the region to be adaptable to environmental and climate, financial and social crises and be well placed to extend cultural opportunities for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to be a great place to live and work. • Have the infrastructure – power and water especially - needed to achieve sustainable growth - Reduced accidents on region’s roads. • Deliverables: Environmental and Climate actions - Infrastructure – sufficiency, preservation, and safety. • Outcomes - (1) Reduction in CO₂ emissions for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough; (2) Increase in biodiversity with improvements in both common and red-list species.
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1. Purpose

1.1	This paper provides an update on the sub strategies to the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) and seeks a delegation to the Associate Director for Transport to enter contracts to continue the development of the LTCP sub strategies.
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2. Proposal

2.1	<p>The Combined Authority role is the Strategic Transport Authority for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and the purpose of a LTCP is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline the current baseline regarding transport, accessibility, and pollution; • Set out challenging, but achievable, objectives; and • Set out the timeline for achieving these objectives. <p>The LTCP received formal approval on 29 November 2023 during the Combined Authority Board meeting. Subsequently, the Transport and Infrastructure Committee was last briefed on the progress of the LTCP, along with its associated sub-strategies, during on meeting held on 13 March 2024 – the link to which can be found here.</p>
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3. Background

3.1	<p>In March 2024, the Transport and Infrastructure Committee and Combined Authority approved the reprofiling of the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) funding. The following table outlines a summary of the funding profile that will be instrumental in refining and updating the sub-strategies. In addition, this funding will be used to ensure that the Combined Authority maintains an active and influential role in key industry forums, fostering continued collaboration and thought leadership across the sector.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 35%;"></th> <th style="width: 15%;">2024/25</th> <th style="width: 15%;">2025/26</th> <th style="width: 15%;">2026/27</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LTCP sub strategy development</td> <td>£800,000</td> <td>£800,000</td> <td>£670,000</td> <td>£2,270,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total	LTCP sub strategy development	£800,000	£800,000	£670,000	£2,270,000
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LTCP sub strategy development	£800,000	£800,000	£670,000	£2,270,000							
3.2	<p>Also, in March 2024 the Transport and Infrastructure Committee and Combined Authority took note of the proposed strategies, importance, and programme. Below is an update on each of the strategies and workstreams that are programmed to begin in 2024/2025.</p> <p>A number of scopes have been drafted for comment (detailed below), then following this Committee meeting and any comments, these scopes will be issued for procurement then appointment for the works (excluding Rail and Connectivity to Network and Freight Strategy, which after further development will be brought back to the committee for additional feedback and discussion). All strategies cover all the Combined Authority area, except the Greater Cambridge Transport Strategy and Peterborough Transport Vision.</p>										

LTCP Implementation Plan and update to appendices	<p>Steer have been commissioned to update and finalize the LTCP appendices, as well as to conduct a comprehensive Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) for the LTCP.</p> <p>Alongside this, we are working on rebranding the LTCP to align with the corporate layout, enhancing its overall presentation without making any substantive changes to the document's content or text. This update focuses solely on improving the layout and imagery to make it more accessible and visually cohesive. The revised version has already been shared with constituent Councils for their input and feedback, ensuring full alignment and engagement across the board.</p>
Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy and Implementation	See Transport and Infrastructure Committee paper – Agenda Item 8.
Active Travel Strategy and Implementation Plan	A detailed scope has been prepared and shared with officers from each constituent and district Council for their review and feedback. This scope can be found in Appendix A.
Micromobility Strategy	A scope has been prepared and shared with officers from each constituent Council for their feedback. In addition, the scope has been circulated to the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP), Cambridge University, and Cambridgeshire Police, with updates made based on all comments received. The scope can be found in Appendix B.
Freight Strategy	<p>Following feedback from TIC, this is programmed to commence in 2026/2027, but initial ideas for a scoping document have already been drafted and shared as part of early feedback.</p> <p>The scope encompasses a wide range of freight opportunities within the region, including – though not limited to – road, rail, cargo bikes, and drones.</p> <p>This strategy aims to collaborate with both local and national businesses to explore opportunities for improvement and future investments in infrastructure, facilities, and sustainable fuels. The full scope is available in Appendix C.</p> <p>After further development, this scope will be brought back to the committee for additional feedback and discussion.</p>
Rail and Connectivity to Network Strategy	Programme to begin in 2026/2027, with initial thoughts on the scope already drafted. This scope explores potential future strategic improvements aimed at enhancing both local and national rail infrastructure. The detailed scope can be found in Appendix D. Once further work is completed, the scope will be brought back to the committee for additional feedback and review.
Mobility Hubs and Development Implementation	A scope has been prepared and shared with officers from each constituent Council for comment see Appendix E.
Vision Zero – Road Harm Strategy and Implementation Plan	See Transport and Infrastructure Committee paper – Agenda item 12.
Greater Cambridge Transport Strategy (GCTS)	The Greater Cambridge Transport Strategy (GCTS) will be a child document to the LTCP developed collaboratively with the Greater Cambridge area, considering engagement across the Combined Authority area and beyond, reflecting the important role of Greater Cambridge in the regional labour market as well as in leisure, shopping and economic activities.

		<p>Over the summer, officers from the Combined Authority have been collaborating closely with officers from the Highways Authority, GCP and local planning authorities to establish the scope and timelines for the work and to begin evidence stocktake.</p> <p>The Chair of Transport and Infrastructure Committee (TIC) convened a Member Steering Group to have oversight of process and programme which will include representatives from the County Council, City of Cambridge, South Cambridgeshire District Council, and the Greater Cambridge Partnership. This group had its first meeting in September to consider suggestions for scope and programme. The Member Steering Group will not be decision making. Progress updates and, in the fullness of time, decisions on the GCTS will come to future meetings of the Transport and Infrastructure Committee.</p> <p>The programme will need to be aligned to the development of the Joint Local Plan for Greater Cambridge which itself will be affected by the new Government's approach to updating the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).</p>
	Peterborough City Centre Strategy	An initial scope has been prepared, and further collaboration with Peterborough City Council will be undertaken to refine it. This process will also involve gathering broader input to ensure a comprehensive and well-rounded scope.
	Soil affected roads – economic impacts	Scope being prepared by Cambridgeshire County Council. Separately, the Fen Road's Trial is proceeding through the Single Assurance Framework, and it was agreed that the business case should be tabled at a subsequent Investment Committee.
3.3	<p>The Government has outlined five strategic priorities that position transport as a central element of a mission-driven approach to governance. These priorities are designed to create a more efficient, inclusive, and environmentally responsible transport network across the UK, while addressing regional disparities.</p> <p>These priorities align closely with the goals and objectives of the Combined Authority's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan and the scopes of these sub-strategies, ensuring a coordinated approach to building a more connected, sustainable, and equitable transport system.</p>	

4. Appendices

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| 4.1 | <p>Appendix A – Active Travel Strategy Scope</p> <p>Appendix B – Micromobility Scope</p> <p>Appendix C – Freight Strategy Scope</p> <p>Appendix D – Rail and Connectivity to Network Strategy Scope</p> <p>Appendix E – Mobility Hub Strategy Scope</p> |
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5. Implications

Financial Implications

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| 5.1 | Funding the LTCP sub strategies is included in the existing MTFP and approved at March 2024 Combined Authority Board. |
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Legal Implications

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| 5.2 | A standard Combined Authority contract will be issued as required for the consultancy work. |
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Public Health Implications	
5.3	The report recommendations have a positive implication for public health. One of the objectives of the Plan is improved health and well-being enabled through better connectivity, greater access to healthier journeys and lifestyles and delivering stronger, fairer, more resilient communities. The new strategies endeavour to work towards this.
Environmental & Climate Change Implications	
5.4	The report recommendations have a positive implication for the environment and climate change. Both Climate and Environment are objectives of the Plan including successfully and fairly reducing emissions to net zero by 2050 and protecting and improving our green spaces and improving nature with a well-planned and good quality transport network. The new strategies endeavour to work towards this
Other Significant Implications	
5.5	N/A.
Background Papers	
5.6	Combined Authority Board March 2024