



Report of the Director of City Development

Executive Board

Date: 30 March 2011

Subject: West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2011-26

Electoral Wards Affected:

All

Ward Members consulted
(Referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In

(Details contained in the report)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides information about the adoption of the new West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan. The current five year Local Transport Plan ends in March 2011. In line with the Transport Act 2008 a new Local Transport Plan (LTP) has been prepared on behalf of the West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) by the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (Metro) in conjunction with the five West Yorkshire District Councils.

The LTP strategy will cover the period 2011-26 and will include a Local Implementation Plan which sets out investment proposals on a three year reviewable cycle. The first implementation plan for the period 2011-14 therefore forms part of the LTP document to be approved by the ITA.

An extensive consultation process has been undertaken to support the development of the LTP strategy and implementation plan which has included scrutiny and consultation with elected members. Appraisal of the proposals has included an Integrated Sustainability Assessment which has included environmental and equality assessments of the proposals.

The LTP is to be considered by the ITA at its meeting on 25 March 2011 and this report therefore is intended to inform the Executive Board of the making of a new Local Transport Plan and the decision made by the ITA which will be reported verbally to the Board.

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report informs Members concerning the production of a new West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan and the decision made concerning the approval of the Plan of the West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority the responsible authority.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 The Local Transport Plan (LTP) is a requirement of the Transport Act 2000. The current LTP 2006-11 is the second full Plan to be prepared for West Yorkshire and is required to be replaced from April 2011. Unlike the two previous Plans which were the joint responsibility of the District Councils and former Passenger Transport Authority the Transport Act 2008 placed the responsibility for the LTP with Integrated Transport Authorities.
- 2.2 Preparation of the new West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan (WYLTP) has been undertaken for the West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (WYITA) by the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (Metro) working closely with the five West Yorkshire district councils. The WYITA Local Transport Plan Committee on which the district executive portfolio holders for transport are represented has overseen the process of preparing the new LTP at every stage.
- 2.3 Final approval of the WYLTP is due to be considered by the ITA Executive Board on 25 March 2011.

3.0 Main Issues and Proposals

- 3.1 The LTP Executive Summary and Implementation Plan summary will be circulated to Members on 25 March 2011
- 3.2 The LTP provides a 15 year transport policy and strategy framework for the period 2011-26. This fifteen year period is divided into 3 year Implementation Plans the first of which forms, for the period 2011-14, part of the Plan to be considered by WYITA. The Implementation Plan sets out the proposals for funding and investing in local transport including the local district highway proposals for maintenance expenditure.
- 3.3 In summary, the Plan, branded 'MyJourney West Yorkshire', comprises a draft vision statement:

"MyJourney West Yorkshire Vision 2026 - Connecting people and places Working together to ensure that West Yorkshire's transport system gives people access to what they want and need easily, efficiently and in a way that supports the environment, the economy and their quality of life."

- 3.4 To achieve this vision for transport in West Yorkshire **three key objectives** (draft) have been developed.

Objective 1: To make substantial progress towards a low carbon transport system for West Yorkshire by:

- Reducing West Yorkshire's CO₂ emissions from domestic transport (road and rail) to contribute to the achievement of national goals.
- Increasing the proportion of low carbon/emission trips.

Objective 2: To improve connectivity to support economic activity and growth in West Yorkshire and the Leeds City Region by:

- Reducing journey times on key commuter, business and freight routes
- Making journey times more reliable
- Increasing the proportion of trips made using the most efficient mode of transport (in terms of time, carbon and impact on others)

Objective 3: To enhance the quality of life of people living, working and visiting West Yorkshire by:

- Reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on the roads
- Improve local air quality and reducing levels of noise from the transport network
- Increasing the number of trips made on foot and by bicycle
- Improving customer satisfaction with the transport system and services

3.5 The strategy has been developed around four strategic approaches:

- **Transport Assets** – ensure effective management of transport assets to gain maximum value for money, reliability and efficient use
- **Travel Choices** – encourage and influence more sustainable travel choices by understanding people’s needs and tailoring marketing, information, education and support activities to them, including measures to manage demand for car travel
- **Connectivity** – deliver an integrated, reliable transport system, that enables people and goods to travel as efficiently as possible (in terms of carbon, the economy and quality of life)
- **Enhancements** – make targeted technological and structural enhancements to the transport system for greater capacity and performance

3.6 An Integrated Sustainability Assessment of the proposals has been undertaken. This has incorporated a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) and a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA).

4.0 Consultation

4.1 Preparation of the LTP has included an extensive programme of consultation involving the public, key stakeholders and Elected Members. This has been conducted at each stage of the development of the strategy and policy and the Implementation Plan.

4.2 Details of the Consultation Report are provided in Section 9 of this report.

5.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

5.1 As the report describes the responsibility for the adoption of the LTP rests with the WYITA. However since the LTP sets out policies which influence and inform the Council’s duties as a highway and traffic authority, the Council has been directly involved in the preparation of the new LTP. As well as informing highway and traffic management policies and decisions, the LTP also sets out transport policies which are of relevance to the making of the planning policy through the Local Development Framework and development planning decisions.

5.2 The draft LTP proposals were reported for consideration by the Scrutiny Board (City Development) on 2 November 2010.

5.3 The new LTP has been drafted to provide the flexibility to respond to prevailing economic conditions and takes into account the time required to promote, deliver and

fund sustainable transport strategies and schemes. This flexible approach is illustrated by a separate report concerning City Centre Commuter Car Parking which is also being considered by this Executive Board . The latter will support longer stay car parking in the short term, within a prescribed framework, recognising the particular circumstances and issues that apply in this area of the City and the need to sustain the economy during this difficult time. Ultimately however, the intention is to provide public transport facilities that fit with the long term ambition of delivering an Integrated Transport Strategy for the City and indeed, West Yorkshire.

6.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 6.1 The statutory duty to prepare a Local Transport Plan rests with the Integrated Transport Authority. However the LTP strategy and implementation plan combines both the public transport duties of the WYITA and WYPTE and the highway authority duties of the Metropolitan District Councils. As such Leeds City Council has been fully engaged in the preparation of the LTP at the officer level through working groups and boards and at the Member level through representation on the ITA LTP Committee and the ITA Executive.
- 6.2 This report does not request any funding decisions. However, it should be noted that local transport is funded from a variety of sources including Government grants, the ITA levy and district revenue and capital expenditures as set out in the ITA and District Councils' approved budgets.

7.0 Conclusion

- 7.1 This report has detailed the proposed new Local Transport Plan for West Yorkshire which is a statutory document required by the Transport Act 2000 and following the Transport Act 2008 is the responsibility of the WYITA. The new LTP has been prepared by Metro in conjunction with the West Yorkshire District Councils and is due to be approved by the WYITA at its 25 March meeting, the decision of which will be reported verbally to the Executive Board meeting.

8.0 Recommendations

- 8.1 Executive Board is requested to:
- i) note the content of this report and the proposed West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2011-26.
 - ii) note the decision made by the West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority at its meeting on 25 March to be reported verbally at the Executive Board meeting.

9.0 Background Information

- 9.1 The following documents provide background information relating to this report.
- i) West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2011-26 Executive Summary (to be circulated to Members on 25 March 2011)
 - ii) West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2011-26 (copy deposited in the Member Library and available on line at www.wyltp.com)
 - iii) West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan Integrated Sustainability Assessment (copy deposited in the Member Library and available on line at www.wyltp.com)

- iv) West Yorkshire Local Transport Consultation Report (copy deposited in the Member Library and available on line at www.wyltp.com)