

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture)

Date: 1st December 2011

Subject: Scrutiny Board Inquiry Draft Terms of Reference – Inquiry into the impact of existing major sources of travel movements within the City, and the plans being made to address the impact of known future developments on the City’s transport infrastructure.

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1. Summary of Main Issues

1.1 The Leeds City Priority Plan and the Council Business Plan 2011 – 2015 both define transport aspirations, to improve journey times and the reliability of public transport and to provide, manage and maintain a safe and efficient transport network to aid sustainable growth.

1.2 The Leeds Growth Strategy, Getting Leeds Working states that ‘Transport Connectivity is still as important as it has ever been for economic growth... The primary objective is to maximise an increase in employment and productivity growth by the completion of transport schemes across West Yorkshire.’

1.3 To assist in achieving these objective the terms of reference for the Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture) specifically provides authorisation to scrutinise the impact of existing major sources of travel movements within the City, and the plans being made to address the impact of known future developments on the City’s transport infrastructure.

1.4 On the 16 June 2011 the Scrutiny Board considered the work programme for the year and determined that transport would be one of the key areas on which the Board would concentrate. On the 14 July and the 22 September the Scrutiny Board considered the West Yorkshire Transport Plan and Leeds Local Implementation Plan and Strategy

and resolved that further Scrutiny be undertaken to establish if transport infrastructure and management is sufficient for Leeds as developing city in order to sustain economic growth.

The following matters were specifically highlighted as areas of interest:

- a. Traffic impact of new city centre developments under construction or in planning and maintaining traffic flow.
- b. Outcome and progress of the NGT scheme and other bid funding requests for major transport works in the City.
- c. Park and Ride schemes
- d. Links around and through the City, with particular reference to the north and north-west areas

1.5 Additional guidance has been sought from the Acting Head of Transport Policy in order to recommend areas of focus for the inquiry.

1.6 In line with Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 12.1 where a Scrutiny Board undertakes an inquiry the Scrutiny Board shall consult with any relevant Director and Executive Member on the terms of reference. Any views will be communicated to the Board by the Principal Scrutiny Advisor.

2.0 Scope of the Inquiry

2.1 It is recommended that the inquiry focuses on the matters raised in paragraph 1.4. The Board should pay particular attention to:

- a. Demand management - the capacity to meet transport, traffic and travel demands now and in the future.
- b. Forecasting and development - The data utilised for planned transport infrastructure development and future forecasting of demand. The process for developing new interventions, the range of plans and options available to the city and the current position in their development.
- c. Update on progress with current major proposals.
- d. Efficient management of the transport network

3.0 Timetable and Submission of Evidence

Session 1 – 26th January 2012

- Current transport challenges for the City.
- Government decisions on funding for three major scheme proposals - outcomes of the bids and the next steps to be taken.
- Forecasting, planning and delivery – The integrated approach to identify demand, generate capacity and keep transport flowing.
- The role of good transport availability for tackling deprivation
- Transport as a catalyst for the growth of employment and inward investment.

Session 2 – 22nd March 2012

- Draft Transport Strategy for the City Centre
- Traffic management strategies and plans
- Network management
 - Links and control of traffic flowing into and around the city centre
 - the improvement of travel times.
 - plans for managing disruption to networks/traffic flow around Arena, Eastgate and Harewood quarter and other major city centre developments whilst under construction and once completed.
- Promoting sustainable movement including the integration of pedestrians and cyclists

Session 3 – 19th April 2012

- Meeting future demand –Forecasted growth and development of the City and the capacity of the transport infrastructure as detailed in the Leeds Implementation Plan to cope in the long medium and short term. (Census information 2010 if available)
- Park and Ride
 - overview of functioning park and ride schemes in the City and their effectiveness.
 - overview of the public consultation that has taken place with regard to functioning sites.
 - update on the current position, including development work in progress and potential future options, including influences/rationale for site selection.
 - planned consultation process to be undertaken and timetable.
 - the opportunities and barriers and the outcomes that might be expected from park and ride.

It is anticipated that the Scrutiny Boards final report will be agreed in the 2012/13 municipal year.

There is a range of available approaches to evidence gathering which the Board could seek to adopt as part of the scrutiny inquiry process. Approaches include:

- Submission of documentation and reports
- Discussion with key stakeholders
- Visits to selected locations or establishments, as appropriate.
- Visits to and/or discussions with other organisations identified as delivering best practice, as appropriate

4.0 Witnesses

4.1 The following witnesses have been identified as possible contributors to the Inquiry:

- Officers from the City Development Directorate
- Councillor Richard Lewis – Executive Member - Development and Economy
- Councillor Peter Gruen – Executive Member – Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration

- Representative from the Sustainable Economy and Culture Partnership Board

5.0 Equality, Diversity and Cohesion and Integration Issues

5.1 Where appropriate, all terms of reference for work undertaken by the Scrutiny Boards will include:

‘To review how and to what effect consideration has been given to the impact of a service or policy on all equality areas, as set out in the council’s Equality and Diversity scheme and on the Council’s Cohesion and Integration Priorities and Delivery Plan’.

6.0 Post inquiry report monitoring arrangements

6.1 Following the completion of the Scrutiny inquiry and the publication of the final inquiry report and recommendations, the implementation of the agreed recommendations will be monitored by the Sustainable Economy and Culture Board (or its successor) or a specific working group as stipulated by the board.

6.2 The final inquiry report will include information on the detailed arrangements for how the implementation of recommendations will be monitored.

7.0 Measures of success

7.1 It is important to consider how the Scrutiny Board will deem if their inquiry has been successful in making a difference to local people. Some measures of success may be obvious at the initial stages of an inquiry and can be included in these terms of reference. Other measures of success may become apparent as the inquiry progresses and discussions take place.

8.0 Recommendations

The Sustainable Economy and Culture Scrutiny Board is recommended to:

8.1 Note the information contained within this report, make further recommendation to update the terms of reference where necessary and agree the terms of reference for the inquiry.

8.2 Note that the terms of reference may incorporate additional information during the inquiry should the Sustainable Economy and Culture Scrutiny Board identify any further scope for inquiry or request further witness or evidence.

9. Background Papers

None