

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director (Planning and Development) (Introduced by the Executive Member (Economic Growth and Public Sector Reform))	Executive Cabinet	17 th June 2021

Executive Cabinet Response to the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group – Sustainable Public Transport

Purpose of report

1. To outline the response to the recommendations of the Task Group for Sustainable Public Transport.

Recommendation(s)

2. That the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group be received, and recommendations accepted.

Executive summary of report

3. The report of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group was presented to Executive Cabinet on 25th March 2021 with a view to the Executive Cabinet's recommended response to the recommendations being reported to a future meeting. It was noted that the task group were keen to see the continuation of the council's development of the green agenda in line with the recommendations.
4. The final report of the task made 22 recommendations for action, some of which, are for delivery in the short term, such as letters lobbying particular bodies or Government Departments, and others require more of a sustained effort and will require engagement with partners externally, for example LCC as the Transport Authority.
5. A review of the recommendations has been undertaken and officers are able to progress all 22 of these however it must be noted that for a number of the recommendations, the final outcome or decision will be subject to external partners and beyond the control of the Council.
6. The action plan at paragraph 14 will form part of the business plan for Spatial Planning and activity will commence with regular reporting to Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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Key Decision? Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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Reason Please bold as appropriate	1, a change in service provision that impacts upon the service revenue budget by £100,000 or more	2, a contract worth £100,000 or more
	3, a new or unprogrammed capital scheme of £100,000 or more	4, Significant impact in environmental, social, or physical terms in two or more wards

Reasons for recommendation(s)

- 7. Sustainable public transport is an important element of a comprehensive approach to tackling climate change and the emergency the earth faces with regards carbon emissions, loss of nature and biodiversity and the obesity crisis. Delivery will contribute to achieving net zero carbon emissions.

Alternative options considered and rejected

- 8. None.

Corporate priorities

- 9. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all	X	A strong local economy	X
Clean, safe, and healthy homes and communities	X	An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	

Background

- 10. Sustainable public transport, including buses, trains, and taxis, can relieve traffic congestion and reduce air pollution from road transport. Sustainable public transport achieves better integration of the economy while respecting the environment, improving health, urban-rural linkages and reducing loneliness and social isolation in the community. Public transport should form part of a wider integrated sustainable transport strategy. However, the cost and convenience of use of public transport needs to be lowered to encourage people to use this as an alternative to personal vehicles.
- 11. The recommendations made by the task group were informed by the views and ideas of the diverse groups of stakeholders engaged through the inquiry. The recommendations seek to drive forward the councils' local commitment to improve sustainable public transport in the borough whilst identifying what the council can influence and understand the resources that will be needed to address this.

Recommendations and Action Plan

- 12. There were 22 recommendations made by the task group with the main cost associated with delivery these being officer time.

13. The recommendations have been considered and are included below as part of a programme for Sustainable Public Transport. The action plan lists all 22 recommendations, what the activity will mainly comprise of and identifies lead officer from within the Council for each.
14. This programme illustrates the deliverability of the Councils' role in the recommendations, however, it must be noted that many are dependent on positive engagement and cooperation from our partners and stakeholders, with actions 8, 9, 10, 11, 15 and 18 heavily reliant on factors beyond the direct control of the Council, including commercially driven decisions and the financial implications of some decisions and, decisions of a Planning Inspector where it relates to the new Local Plan.

Table of Recommendations and Actions

No	Recommendation	Action	Lead
1	Chorley Council to proactively lobby and engage with Lancashire County Council to encourage a greater role on bus route tendering, service enhancement and communication between all parties.	Letter to be sent to LCC on behalf of the Chair requesting engagement	Service Lead Spatial Planning
2	Chorley Council to lobby Ministers and the government in cooperation with our Member of Parliament to raise regulation of the buses to obtain local delegated powers.	Letter to be sent to Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP Secretary of State for Transport on behalf of the Chair cooperation with RT Hon Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP Speaker of the House of Commons	Service Lead Spatial Planning
3	Spatial Planning to invite Lancashire County Council to participate in a Member Learning session on the Central Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan draft proposals.	Email to LCC transport planning team inviting participation in a Member Learning Session	Service Lead Spatial Planning
4	Routine consultation with Northern Rail and Lancashire County Council be requested with Chorley Council over changes or reductions in rail service.	Email to be sent to Owain Roberts, Regional Stakeholder Manager, Northern Trains requesting engagement with Chorley Council (i.e. districts) and not just upper tier in consultations regarding train service changes. Comms to publicise consultations and changes on social media to encourage public engagement and ensure local users aware of changes	Service Lead Spatial Planning Shared Service Lead Communications and Visitor Economy
5	To publicise all the railway stations through communications including "Check out Chorley" and its	Use of social media and other channels to promote rail use.	Shared Service Lead Communications and Visitor Economy

	immediate area to get more people into the borough for social and economic activities and to use the train service		
6	Undertake regular communications activity to educate residents about the bus services, bus routes and ticketing options in the borough to encourage increased bus usage when it is safe to do so. The Council undertakes a borough wide public transport survey using social media & other technology to engage with residents, businesses and employers about bus services and public transport.	Use of communications channels to promote bus use Incorporate into next Resident Survey	Shared Service Lead Communications and Visitor Economy Shared Service Lead Policy and Transformation
7	The Council engage with Greater Manchester Combined Authority /Lancashire County Council on cross boundary routes should the Greater Manchester Combined Authorities instigate franchising and request to be consulted on how bus services are run across cross boundary routes and be included in their integrated ticketing scheme.	Letter to be sent to addressed both Public Transport Manager at LCC and TFGM requesting engagement	Service Lead Spatial Planning
8	Chorley Council will engage with all bus operators to determine and recommend which bus routes are viably operable.	Workshop to be arranged as part of emerging Local plan and transport infrastructure planning	Service Lead Spatial Planning
9	The Council continues to progress discussions with Lancashire County Council to take over the Chorley Interchange.	Progress Commercial negotiations	Service Lead Commercial and Assets
10	The Climate Change Working Group to further investigate bus routes for new developments in conjunction with the preparation of the Central Lancashire Local Plan.	Workshop to be arranged as part of emerging Local plan and transport infrastructure planning and reported back to the CCWG.	Service Lead - Spatial Planning/Climate Change Officer/Central Lancashire Local Plan Co-Ordinator
11	The Council (Spatial planning) will use reasonable endeavours to safeguard a site for the reopening of the Coppull rail station in the Central Lancashire Local Plan, include the project in the Central Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan and engage with Lancashire County Council and relevant partners to bring this forward.	Initial scoping meeting to be arranged to identify necessary feasibility and business case work required.	Service Lead Spatial Planning/Service Lead Commercial and Assets/Director Planning and Development/Director Commercial /Central Lancashire Local Plan Co-Ordinator
12	The Council to lobby for improved	Email to be sent to	Service Lead

	railway services across the borough at stations such as Adlington.	Owain Roberts, Regional Stakeholder Manager, Northern Trains requesting engagement with Chorley Council (i.e. districts) and not just upper tier in consultations regarding train service changes.	Spatial Planning
13	The Council to lobby to improve our rail connections to the airport at stations in addition to Chorley	Email to be sent to Owain Roberts, Regional Stakeholder Manager, Northern Trains requesting engagement with Chorley Council (i.e. districts) and not just upper tier in consultations regarding train service changes.	Service Lead Spatial Planning
14a)	Undertake communications activity to highlight the work of Dial-a-Ride including the community car scheme, how it can assist the community and dispel the myth the service is just for the elderly and publicise their need for volunteers.	Engage with Manager, Central Lancs Dial-a-Ride to develop marketing strategy	Shared Service Lead Communications and Visitor Economy
14b)	Dial-a-Ride be invited to attend a Chorley Liaison meeting to raise awareness of the service for both users and volunteers.	DAR to attend future Parish Liaison Meeting	Democratic Services Team Leader
14c)	Dial-a-Ride be invited to contact the Parish Council clerks as there was significant interest from Members to have a Dial-a-Ride service in their Wards and Parishes. This should include regular articles IntheBoro and InTheKnow and notice board communications.	DAR to attend future Parish Liaison Meeting Regular articles for IntheBoro and IntheKnow to Democratic Services	Shared Service Lead Communications and Visitor Economy
14d)	In addition to funding, the Council explores how it can work with Dial-a-Ride to develop its offer to residents by working with local VCFS partners and the health community e.g. hospital appointments, vaccination appointments etc.	Regular engagement to take place with DAR manager to identify ways to increase uptake.	Transformation & Change Team Leader Service Lead Communities
15	Chorley Council to lobby Lancashire County Council to create a Public Transport Task Group to scrutinise transport routes and opportunities across Lancashire	Letter to be sent on behalf of the Chair to Head of Planning at LCC to request establishment of a task group.	Service Lead Spatial Planning
16	The Council should explore the	Initial engagement to be	Shared Service Lead

	feasibility of attracting a community car share club to the borough.	undertaken with providers.	Transformation and Partnership
17	When appropriate, the Council to actively promote car sharing for staff at both Town Hall and Union Street, using methods including but not limited to IntheKnow, IntheBoro, and Lancashire Shared Wheels	To be raised at Staff Matters and the Loop to explore appetite and rolled out if feasible.	Shared Service Lead Transformation and Partnership
18	The Council will work with all transport partners to improve accessibility, timetable and facility provision across the borough including an Oyster card for all journeys.	Initial invitation for expressions of interest in developing a scheme, in partnership with LCC.	Service Lead Spatial Planning
19	Chorley Council to work with Lancashire County Council, the Canal and River Trust and other organizations to identify cycle opportunities, and plan for the implementation of cycle routes and cycle hubs.	Engagement to be undertaken and schemes and opportunities to be progressed	Service Lead Spatial Planning
20	Establish a Cycle Task Group to look at cycle opportunities, and cycle routes in the borough	Request for a Scrutiny Task Group.	Democratic Services Team Leader to flag with Overview and Scrutiny Chair
21	The Council should explore the possibility of electric charging points on council buildings to allow people to charge their electric bikes.	Feasibility and demand study to be undertaken	Climate Change Officer/Asset Manager (Property and Facilities)

Implications of report

Risk

15. There are no direct risks associated with the actions recommended within this report. An associated risk is that if no action is taken, the likelihood of achieving local and national targets regarding environmental sustainability will be negatively impacted.
16. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area	X	Policy and Communications	

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

17. There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. All actions identified are to be delivered within existing staff resources however if budget is required this will be reported where necessary to members.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

18. No comments

Jonathan Noad
Director of Planning and Development

Background Papers		
Document	Date	File
Overview and Scrutiny Task Group Sustainable Public Transport Report	25/3/21	http://mod/ieListDocuments.aspx ?CId=115&MID=8066#A178412

Report Author	Ext	Date
Zoe Whiteside	5771	13 th May 2021