

REPORT TITLE: WINCHESTER MOVEMENT STRATEGY AND CARBON NEUTRALITY PROGRAMME - TRANSPORT ACTIONS UPDATE

5 JULY 2022

REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER: Councillor Kelsie Learney, Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency

Contact Officer: Andy Hickman Tel No: 01962 848105 Email ahickman@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

This report is to provide an update on the city of Winchester Movement Strategy (WMS) following the public engagement exercise undertaken between December 2021 and February 2022. The public engagement sought the views and priorities of and a package of potential schemes. The report also provides an update on Hampshire County Council's Local Transport Plan (LTP) 4 which is working towards reducing carbon emissions associated with transport.

The committee will receive a presentation setting out progress on the WMS, carbon actions, the recent public engagement on the WMS and the carbon aspects of the Hampshire Local Transport Plan 4. The presentation is appended to this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Health and Environment Policy Committee considers and comments on:

1. Progress of the city of Winchester Movement Strategy and the results of the recent public engagement.

1 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 1.1 Resources have been allocated to progress the Winchester Movement Strategy work.

2 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

Results of Public Engagement on Winchester Movement Strategy next steps options

- 2.1 In July 2021 council members were briefed on the findings of the Phase 2 feasibility studies undertaken as part of the Winchester Movement Strategy. Members were informed that the next steps for the Strategy would be to develop a design for priority schemes, progress the bus and cycle parking strategy and to look at potential funding opportunities. These tasks would be undertaken in conjunction with a public engagement exercise to seek views and endorsement of the Phase 2 proposals and draft Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) and a Delivery Plan.
- 2.2 A feedback exercise to gather residents' and stakeholders' views was held through three online events for members of the public and one further event for stakeholders and a 'Have Your Say' questionnaire (available online and in alternative formats) with accompanying Information Packs.
- 2.3 The questionnaire was available to respondents from Monday 6 December 2021 until Friday 11 February 2022 and was promoted through a communications strategy, including social media advertising and press releases.
- 2.4 In total, 896 responses to the questionnaire were submitted, either online or on paper. Of those who specified, 857 responses were from individuals, 9 were from democratically elected representatives and 18 were from groups, organisations or businesses.
- 2.5 All ten measures were thought by respondents to contribute to the priorities of the Movement Strategy, with improvements to local buses felt to offer the biggest contribution to Priority 1 (reducing city centre traffic), delivering a new walking route from station to the leisure park perceived to best support Priority 2 (healthier lifestyle choices), and creating better public spaces in the city centre being the most valuable measure for supporting Priority 3 (supporting sustainable growth).
- 2.6 The top three proposals that respondents felt were most important to progress were creating safe cycle routes into and through the city, improving bus services and creating better public spaces in the city centre.

Winchester Movement Strategy progress update

- 2.7 A number of studies are underway with Friarsgate / Union Street Two-way to one-way and Worthy Road / Worthy Lane cycle and walking corridor feasibility studies being progressed along with concept options for Upper High Street / Sussex Street being developed.
- 2.8 Hampshire County Council has secured £79k to undertake a feasibility study to look into what form a Mini-Holland project covering inner Winchester should look like, with a Mini-Holland being Dutch style cycling infrastructure to encourage modal shift from cars to cycling. Only a small number of those areas that have been awarded feasibility study funds will be taken forward for full mini-Holland funding.
- 2.9 A number of the schemes from the WMS are also identified as priorities within the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (CNAP). With regards to the Walking and Cycling Strategies, the draft Winchester Town Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan is currently being updated in line with comments received through the engagement exercise. The Districtwide LCWIP has now been commissioned through Hampshire County Council and will commence over the summer. This is an exciting opportunity to identify important cycling and walking links and improvements across the District. It is also planned to look again at cycle parking in the market towns to see if further parking is needed and if suitable locations and provision can be agreed.
- 2.10 New parking tariffs have been agreed for implementation in October which seek to further encourage change in parking behaviours by moving cars out of the central areas. A district-wide parking and access improvement programme has also agreed by Cabinet and is now being implemented. It has also been agreed that a consultation will be undertaken over the summer on a differential parking tariff in Winchester to discourage use of higher polluting. The Vaultex park and ride car park extension at Bar End opened in March providing 287 out of town parking spaces (with easy walking distance of the City Centre) and 16 EVCP bays powered by solar panels. An electric bus trial as part of the park and ride service is being arranged over the summer and enquiries are being made about future electricity supply issues in the Winchester to see if further electric buses can be accommodated as part of a retendered park and ride service in coming years.
- 2.11 A Cycle Parking Plan is currently being developed for the city which was considered by the Town Forum on 16th June and a Plan for the district to be developed later in the year in conjunction with Town and parish councils.
- HCC, WCC and Solent Transport are still looking at the possibility of a micro consolidation for the city centre. Zedify are currently working within the city undertaking a number of deliveries, c160/170 deliveries per week, via e-bikes and e-vans.

Local Transport Plan (LTP) 4

- 2.12 Hampshire County Council has recently consulted on their Local Transport Plan (LTP) 4 which includes the challenges of the decarbonisation of transport. This will be covered in the presentation and the committee can raise issues / make comments which can then be included in the City Council's response to the LEP4 consultation. Please note that the consultation officially finishes on 24th July but the Council can respond after this meeting on specific points.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 3.1 This paper is presenting the outcome of public engagement, no other options for presenting these findings have been considered.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

Previous Committee Reports:-

n/a

Other Background Documents:-

Winchester Movement Strategy: Next Steps Proposals & LCWIP Research report

Winchester Movement Strategy Phase 1 and Phase 2 Summary Reports

LTP4 Hampshire County Council

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Presentation Slides