

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR ALLERDALE	Paper No. 6
Meeting date: 30 June 2010	
From: Corporate Director – Environment	

CUMBRIA TRANSPORT PLAN (2011-2026) – DRAFT CORE STRATEGY

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1** *The purpose of the report is to introduce and seek members view on the Draft Core Strategy of the 3rd Local Transport Plan for Cumbria (2011-2026). The Core Strategy is the first of the three key parts of the Plan to be developed; the thematic Policy section and Implementation Plan will follow later this year.*
- 1.2** *The Draft Core Strategy (Appendix 1) sets out the transport vision for Cumbria for the next 15 years to 2026, refreshing the context and outcomes of the 2nd Local Transport Plan. The strategy is aligned with the Government's 2009 national policy context for transport (Delivering a Sustainable Transport System) and will reflect the vision and outcomes of the new Single Community Strategy for Cumbria which is being developed during 2010.*
- 1.3** *Public and Stakeholder engagement on the Draft Core Strategy is taking place between 30 June and 3 September 2010 using a web based approach via the Council's website. The public, stakeholders and groups are being given the opportunity to fully engage in this and future stages of the Local Transport Plan's development.*
- 1.4** *To stimulate the debate on the strategy, views are being sought on key questions which focus around options for where and how investment should be prioritised in transport. Local Committee responses to these questions and to the strategy document as a whole would be welcomed.*

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 The Draft Core Strategy will form the basis of the new 3rd Cumbria Local Transport Plan (2011-2026) and supports and reflects the Cumbria Community Strategy vision and its outcomes. It is also integrated with and supports the Council Plan.**
- 2.2 An Equality Impact Assessment of the Local Transport Plan is being undertaken to examine and address the equality implications arising alongside assessments of other impacts in line with Department for Transport guidance.**

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

- 3.1 Members give an initial view on the Strategy at the meeting.**
- 3.2 Members respond to the Transport Policy team with any further views after reflection on the Strategy within two weeks of this meeting to enable a feedback response to the next Local Committee.**

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1** Government guidance requires that the third round of Local Transport Plans are in place by 31 March 2011. A summary of the guidance is attached as Appendix 2.
- 4.2** The new Cumbria Transport Plan will set out how the highways and transport networks and services will be managed and how future investment and planning decisions will be guided to achieve the wider policy outcomes for Cumbria. The Plan will support the vision and priorities of the new single Community Strategy for Cumbria presently being developed.
- 4.3** The Plan comprises three key elements:
- a core strategy
 - a thematic policy section
 - an implementation plan.
- 4.4** The Core Strategy sets out a 15 year transport vision for Cumbria based on the county's priority outcomes set out in the current Cumbria Community Strategy: safe strong and inclusive communities, health and well-being throughout life, a sustainable and prosperous economy, effective connection between people and places, world class environmental quality. These will be kept under review as the Single Community Strategy and the Local Transport Plan are developed in parallel.

- 4.5 These outcomes are aligned with the five national goals for transport earmarked in the Government's 2009 policy statement on transport, Delivering a Sustainable Transport System (DaSTS): Support national economic competitiveness and growth; tackle climate change; contribute to better safety security and health; promote greater equality of opportunity; improve quality of life and promote a healthy natural environment
- 4.6 The Strategy which will be reviewed every 5 years identifies the transport opportunities and challenges facing the county and the objectives to address them and support the delivery of the local outcomes.
- 4.7 The approach to delivering the strategy is based around the above five priority outcomes with a recognition that setting clear priorities for investment is critical given the significant cutbacks in the levels of government funding for transport for the foreseeable future.
- 4.8 An area based approach to delivery focussed on the four Delivery Boards of Carlisle, West Cumbria, Barrow and Eden, and South Lakeland is proposed alongside countywide interventions and a modest package of measures within the Key Service Centres.
- 4.9 Fourteen key questions are contained in the draft strategy to catalyse and focus debate on the options on how and where limited transport investment should be prioritised. The engagement on the core strategy will run from the end of June to early September 2010.
- 4.10 Following the development of the Core Strategy, the thematic policy section will set out the overarching policies for sections on road safety, active travel, highway network, countryside access, passenger transport, and development control. This will be a review and refreshment of the current policies expressed in the existing Local Transport Plan and filling any gaps identified. In addition, as Area based strategies are developed they will be incorporated into the policy framework.
- 4.11 The final element of the Cumbria Transport Plan is the Implementation Plan, which will cover a three year period and will be reviewed annually showing in detail the programme of investment in transport improvements. This will be the subject of future detailed development and consultation with Local Committees and delivery partners in the autumn and winter of 2010/11.

5.0 OPTIONS

- 5.1 Option 1. Members provide a response to the questions of the draft strategy.
- 5.2 Option 2. Members provide wider, additional views on the content of the strategy.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Local Transport Plan is developed within allocated Highways and Transport resources 2010/11 including staff in the Transport Policy Team and support for the web based consultation process.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The Local Transport Plan is a statutory document required under the Transport Act 2000, amended by the Local Transport Act 2008.

8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 The Core Strategy is a key component of the 3rd Cumbria Local Transport Plan. Aligned with the new Single Community Strategy for Cumbria it will provide the vision for the next 15 years, setting out how transport will contribute to the well-being of Cumbria and its people. It is important that the views of communities, businesses and organisations are understood in the development of the Strategy and these views are now being sought.

Marie Fallon
Corporate Director - Environment

June 2010

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Draft Cumbria Transport Plan Core Strategy (to follow – approval of draft strategy for circulation is scheduled for 25 June)

Appendix 2 – Summary guidance on preparing Local Transport Plans(to follow)

Electoral Division(s): All

** Please remove whichever option is not applicable*

Executive Decision

<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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Key Decision

<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
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Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

		N/A
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Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?
If so, give details below.

Yes	
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Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?

Yes		
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Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

Yes		
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N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and the Head of Member Services and Scrutiny has obtained the necessary approvals.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS
[including Local Committees]

No previous relevant decisions.

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Environment Scrutiny considered the third Local Transport Plan approach on 14 June 2010. Scrutiny recommendations will be reported verbally to the Local Committee.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers.

REPORT AUTHOR

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