

Report of the Director of City Strategy

Update Report on Major Transport Initiatives in York

Summary

1. This report provides Members of the Economic & City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an overview and update in relation to the major transport initiatives in the city currently being progressed.

Major Transport Initiatives

2. Separate reports on the major transport initiatives are presented to the Cabinet Member for City Strategy on a regular basis. The overall capital programme is monitored through the year with the latest report submitted to the 11 September 2012 Decision Session.

LTP3

3. LTP3 sets out the transport strategy for the city and the measures to be progressed in the short-term (2011-2015), medium-term (2015-2021) and long-term (2021 -2031), under the following strategic themes:
 - Provide Quality Alternatives (to the car).
 - Provide Strategic Links
 - Implement and Support Behavioural Change.
 - Tackle Transport Emissions.
 - Improve Public Streets and Spaces
4. The infrastructure improvements proposed over the LTP3 period are included in the document and delivery identified in detail in the Capital Programme reports to the Cabinet Member for City Strategy Decision Sessions.

Integrated Transport Capital Programme 2012/13

5. The original Planning & Transport capital programme budget for 2012/13 was £7.4m (compared to £1.9m at the start of 2011/12). The high level of funding is due to the funding for the Access York scheme from the DfT. Carryovers and additional items have increased the budget to £8.9m.
6. Details of the 2012/13 programme were provided in the consolidated report to the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning & Sustainability Decision Session on 7 August.
7. The key schemes planned to be progressed in 2012/13 are shown below:
 - Access York Phase 1: A59 bus priority schemes and two new Park & Ride sites.
 - Public Transport Schemes: Bus stop upgrades; Bus Location & Information Sub-system improvements; provision of real-time displays at stops; provision of off-bus ticket machines at P&R sites.
 - Better Bus Area Fund schemes: bus priority improvements; improvements to bus interchanges in the city centre; bus stop and shelter upgrades.
 - James Street Link Road Phase 2: dependent on progress of development.
 - UTMC & BLISS: Upgrades for move to new council headquarters.
 - Fishergate – Pedestrian Route to Barbican: Improvements to crossings on Paragon Street and improvements to Fishergate Bar area.
 - Haxby to Clifton Moor Cycle Route: New off-road cycle route along Outer Ring Road.
 - Cycling Network Priority Schemes: Development and implementation of highest priority schemes (as identified in report to 21 May Decision Session).
 - 20mph Programme: Implementation of South Bank scheme and development and implementation of Acomb area scheme.
 - School Schemes: Rolling programme of improvements to improve sustainable access to schools.
 - Safety Schemes: Schemes to address local safety, danger reduction and speed management issues.

Fishergate – Pedestrian Route to Barbican

Improvements to pedestrian facilities in the vicinity of the re-opened Barbican Centre, and improvements to the Fishergate Gyratory.

8. The scheme has been split into two phases. Phase one is concerned with the walking route between St George's car park and the Barbican plus other pedestrian and cycle improvements.
9. Proposals for improved pedestrian crossings on Paragon Street, and improvements to the pedestrian and cycle route through Fishergate Bar have been out to external consultation, which finished on 24th August 2012 and should be constructed in early 2013 if the scheme is approved for implementation.
10. Phase two will dealing with the gyratory lane markings and traffic priority, and will be progressed in future years.

Haxby to Clifton Moor Cycle Route

Construction of a new off-road route along the Outer Ring Road between Haxby Road and Clifton Moor.

11. This is one of the major schemes in the LSTF programme, and aims to provide an off-road route along the Outer Ring Road to Clifton Moor, a key employment and retail site, including new crossing facilities on Haxby Road and Wigginton Road.
12. Design work on the scheme is being progressed; however there are issues to be resolved with the section of the route over the railway bridge before the final design for the scheme is agreed.
13. Once the design issues have been resolved, it is expected that work to construct the route will start in early 2013.

Cycling Network Priority Schemes

14. As reported to the Cabinet Member at the 21 May Decision Session, a review of the cycle network has been carried out and a list of 'missing links' has been identified and prioritised.
15. Funding has been allocated in the 2012/13 programme in order to carry out feasibility work on the proposed schemes, and allow the implementation of schemes to provide

improved cycle routes to the new council headquarters at Queen Street and Toft Green.

Other Integrated Transport Schemes

Access York Phase 1

16. A major scheme to deliver an enhanced Park & Ride service, capacity improvements to A59/A1237 roundabout and bus priorities on the A59. The key milestones for the project are indicated below.
 - Programme Entry Status confirmed in Autumn Statement on 29th November 2011.
 - Main Programme:
 - Finalise design: August 2012
 - Start procurement of contractor: June 2012
 - Tender main works: October/November 2012
 - Final Approval: January 2012
 - Start construction: February/March 2013
 - Sites operational: Spring/Summer 2014.
 - Consultation on highway elements of project completed in February 2012 with final layouts approved at April City Strategy Decision Session.
 - Variation to planning application for Poppleton Bar site, to accommodate village green identified on part of the site, submitted in June. Application due to be determined at Planning Committee in September.
17. The design of the main sites is nearly complete with the scheme due to be put out to tender by early October. A shortlist of suitable companies has been prepared.
18. The bus priority measures along the A59 for the Access York Project are progressing with an aim to complete delivery by the end of 2012/13.
 - Phase 1 (Plantation Drive to Princess Drive) Layout approved with construction due to start in the Autumn following the completion of utility works in the area.
 - Phase 2 (Carr Lane to Water End) Consultation ongoing with an aim to construct in Nov/Dec.
 - Phase 3 (Holgate Park Drive to Acomb Road) Consultation ongoing with an aim to deliver December/January

Local Sustainable Transport Fund

19. The latest i-travel York highlight report which provides an update against capital and revenue spend is attached as Annex A.
20. Notable progress since the highlight report was produced includes: 18th September - launch of website with a range of information and sustainable journey planning tools; launch of momentum road safety campaign(young driver assessment); festival of cycling in Rowntree Park on 8/9th September

20mph Limits

21. A policy approach to delivering and installing 20mph schemes was agreed at the Decision Session for the Cabinet Member for City Strategy on 3rd May 2012. An outline programme for rolling out 20mph speed limits across the Local Authority area (included in the report) has been put in place. The installation of the first part of the scheme in South Bank is due to commence on 13th September 2012.
22. The launch of the initiative as a whole will also take place on the 13th September in the South Bank area. Diva, marketing consultants, are leading on the launch and development of an associated website.
23. Work has already commenced on the next phase (south west sector between Boroughbridge Road and Tadcaster Road). Initial internal consultation has taken place on the proposals and wider consultation will be programmed for the Autumn to enable delivery of the scheme in the last quarter of 2012/13.
24. A 20mph project officer post has been advertised and shortlisted. Interviews are due to take place in October.

Better Bus Fund

25. A successful bid was made to the Better Bus Fund (a sister fund to the LSTF) and in March 2012 CYC was awarded £2.925m. Internal funding of approximately £1.8m has also been made available to deliver a range of schemes that aim to improve reliability, promotion and passenger facilities. These improvements will focus primarily on the corridors, Coppergate-Ouse bridge-Rougier street-Station street and Station street-Lendal bridge-Gillygate. The funding is provided over a two year period. The successful bid is

available on the Council's website at
http://www.york.gov.uk/transport/Public_transport/buses/Better_Bus_Area_Fund/

26. The funding has allowed for additional engineering resources to be employed to deliver the programme. A programme manager post has been advertised and shortlisting is taking place.
27. A key part of the BBAF work (and affecting other schemes/programmes being delivered across the city) is the strategic modelling that will identify traffic redistribution patterns as a result of restrictions and highlight junctions where improvements will be required in order to support the alterations to the spine. Work has progressed on four main options for access restrictions into the city centre. Discussions with the Cabinet Member for City and Environmental Services to scope the next phase of work are programmed ahead of a formal report on progress being brought to Members.

Consultation

28. Not applicable as this item is for information only

Options

29. Not applicable as this item is for information only

Corporate Priorities

30. These transport initiatives accord with the Council's priorities relating in particular to maintaining a thriving City through support for its economy and for a sustainable city which is allowed to grow whilst maintaining York's special qualities.

Implications

31. There are no financial, human resources, crime and disorder, information technology, property or other implications directly associated with this information only report.

Risk management

32. Not applicable as this is an item for information only.

Recommendations

33. That the Committee note the present position in relation to major transport initiatives in the city.

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Report
Approved



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For further information please contact the author of the report

Wards affected – ALL

Annexes

Annex A – I-travel Hightlight Report