

# ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## REPORT TO AND DECISION OF PLANNING POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE ON 15 DECEMBER 2020

**SUBJECT: West Sussex County Council Transport Plan Review Consultation (and potential updates on the A259 Bognor Regis to Littlehampton Enhancement Scheme)**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Nicki Faulkner, Principal Planning Officer  
**DATE:** November 2020  
**EXTN:** 37654  
**PORTFOLIO AREA:** Planning

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an update to the West Sussex Transport Plan (WSTP) review, which has recently commenced.

The current WSTP 2011-2026 period needs to be reviewed to take account of changes to national and local policy, such as the Government's legally-binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon by 2050.

The first step in the WSTP review is to ask stakeholders to complete a survey, which will identify key issues and priorities. The survey results will help to shape the draft version of the plan, which is due to be published for consultation in summer 2021.

This report provides the response to the survey, which will be submitted to West Sussex County Council.

It was anticipated that this report would also include an update on the Strategic Outline Business Case for the A259 Bognor Regis to Littlehampton Corridor Enhancement Scheme, for noting. An update on this matter has been slightly delayed, due unforeseen changes to timescales at West Sussex County Council. However, if key milestones are met in the next week, an update can be presented to Planning Policy Sub Committee, as an urgent item.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That Planning Policy Sub-Committee:

- 1) Notes the response to the West Sussex Transport Plan Review Survey, to be submitted to the county council by the deadline of 17 December 2020.

## **1. THE WEST SUSSEX TRANSPORT PLAN REVIEW**

- 1.1 The West Sussex Transport Plan (WSTP) 2011-2026 needs to be reviewed to take account of changes to national and local policy, such as the Government's legally-binding commitment to achieve net zero carbon by 2050. The new plan will set out how the county council will aim to continue to support the economy and communities while protecting the environment.
- 1.2 The county council is asking stakeholders, such as local groups, authorities and transport providers, to complete a survey to gather information about their key issues and priorities. The survey was made available on 5 November and will close on 17<sup>th</sup> December [www.westsussex.gov.uk/WSTPsurvey](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/WSTPsurvey). The survey results will help shape the draft WSTP, which is due to be published for public consultation in summer 2021. The aim is to adopt the plan in early 2022.
- 1.3 An officer response to the survey is provided in Background Paper 1. In summary, the response includes the following key issues to be considered by the county council, as they prepare the Draft WSTP:
- Consider impact of future population growth on the highway network (by taking into account the proposed Standard Housing Methodology, as set out by the Government in its latest consultation, published on 6 August 2020);
  - Taking into account new technologies in relation to transportation – in particular a focus on electric vehicles, and the availability of electric vehicle charging points across the county;
  - Consider equitable provision and the availability of electricity supplies for electric vehicles (looking ahead to 2030 when new diesel and petrol cars will no longer be on sale);
  - Give greater priority in the plan to the impact of the economy, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic – this will have long term impacts on transport and travel;
  - The WSTP should identify the barriers that level crossings continue to have in terms of movement of traffic within the district;
  - The revised plan should address the challenge of integrated transport systems which provide mobility and connectivity to people, through the provision of transport hubs and shared transport opportunities (eg. bike share, car share, bus shelters and efficient links to other public transport nodes); and finally
  - the response explains that Arun District Council officers are investigating the principle of 'twenty minute neighbourhoods', where all essential, day-to-day facilities are located within a twenty minute walk from home. This involves unlocking walking and cycling routes within, and between, communities to allow residents to walk and cycle to key services (schools, shops, leisure facilities etc). This may be increasingly achievable as working from home becomes more commonplace.

## **2. NEXT STEPS**

- 2.1 The report provides a response to the West Sussex Transport Plan review consultation, and raises important issues to be taken into account, as the county council prepares the Draft Transport Plan. The Draft Transport Plan will be subject to further consultation. An update will be provided when that consultation is published.

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| <b>3. PROPOSAL(S):</b>   |            |           |
| 3.1 That the response to West Sussex County Council survey, for the West Sussex Local Transport Plan, is noted.  |            |           |
| <b>4. OPTIONS:</b>   |            |           |
| 4.1 That the response to West Sussex County Council survey, for the West Sussex Local Transport Plan, is noted.  |            |           |
| <b>5. CONSULTATION:</b>  |            |           |
| Has consultation been undertaken with:   | <b>YES</b> | <b>NO</b> |
| Relevant Town/Parish Council   |            | <b>x</b>  |
| Relevant District Ward Councillors   |            | <b>x</b>  |
| Other groups/persons (please specify):<br>Director of Place<br>Strategic Development Team Leader<br>Group Head of Economy  | <b>x</b>   |           |
| <b>6. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES:<br/>(Explain in more detail at 6 below)</b>  | <b>YES</b> | <b>NO</b> |
| Financial  |            | <b>X</b>  |
| Legal  |            | <b>X</b>  |
| Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment  |            | <b>X</b>  |
| Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act  |            | <b>X</b>  |
| Sustainability   |            | <b>X</b>  |
| Asset Management/Property/Land   |            | <b>X</b>  |
| Technology   |            | <b>X</b>  |
| Other (please explain)   |            | <b>X</b>  |
| <b>7. IMPLICATIONS:</b>  |            |           |
| 7.1 The West Sussex Transport Plan will have implications on future funding and priorities for transport in the county, and the district. Therefore, continued engagement in the preparation of the Transport Plan is important. |            |           |
| <b>8. REASON FOR THE DECISION:</b>   |            |           |
| 8.1 That the response to West Sussex County Council survey, for the West Sussex Local Transport Plan, is noted.  |            |           |

**9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

Background Paper 1: Response to West Sussex County Council Transport Plan Review Survey.