

Title: Draft Local Transport Plan – Consultation Response
Lead Officer: Dave Barber, Director for Climate Change
Portfolio Holders: Councillor Alan Rhead/John Cooke
Wards of the District directly affected: All

Summary

This report seeks approval for the response to Warwickshire County Council's recent consultation on the Draft Local Transport Plan as set out in Appendix 1.

Recommendation(s)

- (1) That Cabinet approve the consultation response set out at Appendix 1 as WDC's response to The County Council's Local Transport Plan (LTP4) consultation.**
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1 Background/Information

- 1.1 Warwickshire County Council is in the process of updating the current Local Transport Plan (LTP), which is a document that sets out the transport needs, challenges, objectives, and priorities for the County. The LTP sets out policies to shape future transport schemes and developments within the County. It allows the County Council, to target resources to deliver a transport network that gives people who live and work in Warwickshire access to the facilities they need to go about their daily lives, along with those who visit the area
- 1.2 The current local transport plan (LTP3) was intended to run from 2011 to 2026. But major changes to the way we move, work, shop and carry out leisure activities mean it is necessary to adapt and change to provide a modern transport system. Significant global developments also affect Warwickshire and there is a need to acknowledge and respond to transport challenges brought about by climate change, lifestyle changes because of the Covid-19 pandemic and emerging new transport technologies.
- 1.3 In September 2021 the County Council consulted on the overall strategic priorities of the new Plan (LTP4). This indicated that the **four key themes** should underpin the new Plan. The four themes were **Environment, Well-being, Economy, and Place**.
- 1.4 In the new consultation the County Council have set out a **Core Strategy** to show how the four key themes link into the County Council's wider aims These aims are:
 - Thriving Economy and Places – the right jobs, training, future skills, education, infrastructure, and places
 - Best Lives - communities and individuals supported to live safely, healthily, happily, and independently

- Sustainable Futures - adapting to and mitigating climate change and meeting Net Zero commitments

1.5 The Core Strategy is supported by six proposed **Key Strategies** that together make up LTP4. The key strategies are:

- **Active Travel:** a strategy to promote walking and cycling in Warwickshire to bring the physical and mental health benefits from these forms of transport to more people and protect the environment.
- **Public Transport:** how we intend to work with bus and rail companies to improve the existing public transport network in Warwickshire.
- **Motor Vehicles:** recognising the role of motor vehicles in the county as we move towards more sustainable transport options such as electric vehicles and hydrogen-fuelled transport.
- **Managing Space:** making changes to public spaces to make them more attractive places to be, cleaner and less dominated by vehicles, with the routes that connect them less congested.
- **Safer Travel:** reducing the number of people injured on Warwickshire's roads and increasing the safety and attractiveness of all travel options.
- **Freight Strategy:** managing freight movements across the county to promote and grow our successful economy.

1.6 The consultation opened on 24th September and closed on 20th November. Offices have provided an Interim Response to the Council to meet the 20 November deadline. This is set out in Appendix 1. Members are asked to agree Appendix 1 as WDC's formal response to the LTP4 consultation.

2 Alternative Options available to Cabinet

2.1 It would be possible to offer different views and different priorities in relation to each of the LTP policies. Whilst alternative comments have been considered, officers have based their recommended comments on the overlapping priorities set out in the Climate Change Action Programme and the emerging South Warwickshire Local Plan. Carbon reduction has been the key driver behind the proposed comments.

2.2 Another alternative option would be to not make a comment on the draft LTP. This is not recommended as it would deprive the Council from influencing a document which will have a direct impact on the district. Furthermore, with work on the South Warwickshire Local Plan progressing, it is important that any transport ambitions within the emerging Local Plan are also aligned, as far as is within this Council's control, to those in the LTP. This consultation is an opportunity to seek that alignment.

3 Consultation and Member's comments

3.1 The portfolio holder for Planning & Place has been consulted on the draft comments prior to submission to the County Council

4 Implications of the proposal

4.1 Legal/Human Rights Implications: There are no legal or human right implications of the proposals

4.1 Financial: There are no financial implications of the proposed response

- 4.2 Council Business Plan:** The proposed response is consistent with the Council's Business Plan and with the Climate Change theme
- 4.3 Environmental/Climate Change Implications:** The proposed response is consistent with the Climate Change Action Programme, in that it seeks to ensure LTP4 policies prioritise carbon reduction. The County Council's transport-related functions are critical to enabling the achievement of the District Council's carbon reduction ambitions. Whilst it is encouraging to see LTP4 placing a stringer emphasis on carbon reduction than previous iterations, officers consider LTP4 need to be clearer and stringer around its commitment to this issue. The draft WDC response seeks to reflect this.
- 4.4 Analysis of the effects on Equality:** The LTP4 Core Strategy seeks to address the need for safe, sustainable accessibility for all by providing a flexible approach for all geographical areas and all parts of our communities. Officers have not felt the need to offer significant comments in relation to this aspect.
- 4.5 Data Protection:** There are no data protection issues
- 4.6 Health and Wellbeing:** Health and Wellbeing can significantly be impacted by transport options. This includes air quality, health lifestyles arising from active travel choices, and the mental health benefits of being well connected. Road safety is also an issue. LTP4 has wellbeing as one of its key themes and this theme is reflected on the LTP policies for active travel, motor vehicles, managing space and safer travel. In general, LTP4 addresses this theme effectively, although there are several comments in the draft response where officers feel this could be improved.

5 Risk Assessment

- 5.1 There are no significant risks associated with this report and the proposed response in Appendix 1

6 Conclusion/reasons for the recommendation

- 6.1** This report seeks approval for the response to Warwickshire County Council's recent consultation on the Local Transport Plan as set out in Appendix 1. The reasons for the proposed responses are included with Appendix 1.

Background papers:

LTP4 Consultation: [Consultation on draft Local Transport Plan \(LTP4\) - Warwickshire County Council - Citizen Space](#)

Climate Change Action programme

Report Information Sheet

Please complete and submit to Democratic Services with draft report

Committee/Date		
Title of report		
Consultations undertaken		
Consultee *required	Date	Details of consultation /comments received
Ward Member(s)		
Portfolio Holder WDC & SDC *		
Financial Services *		
Legal Services *		
Other Services		
Chief Executive(s)		
Head of Service(s)		
Section 151 Officer		
Monitoring Officer		
CMT (WDC)		
Leadership Co-ordination Group (WDC)		
Other organisations		
Final decision by this Committee or rec to another Ctte/Council?		Recommendation to: Cabinet / Council Committee
Contrary to Policy/Budget framework		No/Yes
Does this report contain exempt info/Confidential? If so, which paragraph(s)?		No/Yes, Paragraphs:
Does this report relate to a key decision (referred to in the Cabinet Forward Plan)?		No/Yes, Forward Plan item – scheduled for (date)
Accessibility Checked?		File/Info/Inspect Document/Check Accessibility