

Meeting: Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee

Date: 7 January 2020

Title: Transport Strategy

Author: Michael Robson

Tel: 643 5359

Service: Law and Governance

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This report presents evidence to inform and support members in examining specific topics relating to local and regional transport matters.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The sub-committee is invited to note the information in this report and in the presentation which will be provided at the meeting, and consider how members may wish to adapt the sub-committee's work plan for the following municipal year.

3. Introduction

- 3.1 The sub-committee is responsible for examining the delivery of services and influencing decision makers in the formulation of their future plans, strategies and their decision making by making evidence-based recommendations to them on how services can be improved in relation to the following areas:

- Economic Development
- Planning
- Business and Enterprise
- Transport Network
- Highways and Road Safety
- Town Centres
- Inward Investment
- Tourism

- 3.2 In determining its work programme, members acknowledged the importance of transport for economic growth and agreed to devote a meeting to examining transport issues. A selection of specific topics has been identified for review including some identified by members at the beginning of the year and some previously reported to the sub-committee. These topics include:

- a) North Tyneside Transport Strategy 2017-32 – to review delivery of the action and delivery plan contained within the Council's Transport Strategy;

- b) North East Transport Plan – to receive details of the forthcoming public consultation on the North East Transport Plan;
- c) Clean Air Zone – to consider the proposed introduction of a charging Clean Air Zone and its likely impact on the economy of North Tyneside;
- d) Ashington, Blyth and Tyne Railway Line – to examine proposals to re-introduce a passenger rail service from Newcastle to Ashington via Northumberland Park and to assess the benefits for North Tyneside and its residents; and
- e) Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP) – Annual Report – to examine the annual report presented to Cabinet setting out delivery of the HAMP over the past 12 months and the plans for the coming 12 months.

4. Policy Context

- 4.1 The Local Enterprise Partnership’s ambition in its [Strategic Economic Plan](#) is one of improved, greener and more sustainable transport options, including public transport, cycling and walking. It contains a delivery programme to improve transport connectivity.
- 4.2 [Our North Tyneside Plan](#) states that “by 2021 our places will be clean, green, healthy, attractive and sustainable. We will be a cycle-friendly borough with effective public transport and good roads, pavements and physical infrastructure.”
- 4.3 The sub-committee has previously examined delivery of the Council’s [Transport Strategy](#) for North Tyneside 2017-32. One of five aims in the strategy is to:

“Support economic growth; North Tyneside is performing ahead of the region in terms of economic activity, inward investment and job creation. Linking to our Local Plan and the North East Strategic Economic Plan, we seek to continue to grow by building on our strengths, including our world class companies and small and growing businesses. Our aim is to have the right skills and conditions, such as transport links, to support investment, to create and sustain new, good-quality jobs and apprenticeships for working age people. We will seek to:

 - a. connect people with jobs and economic opportunities, through targeted transport investment, continued promotion of sustainable transport initiatives and the Local Plan*
 - b. connect people with education, skills development and training, in line with the North Tyneside Employment and Skills Strategy; and reduce levels of deprivation through supporting access to education, training, jobs and services*
 - c. support the travel needs of tourists and visitors*
 - d. support the movement of freight into and out of the borough, through the effective management of our transport networks and partnership working*
 - e. through targeted major transport improvement schemes, support economic growth in the borough including existing business expansion and new inward investment.”*
- 4.4 At the meeting, officers will update members on the topics outlined in section 3.2.
- 4.5 To assist members to prepare for the meeting, a presentation is attached as **Appendix 1**. In addition, a copy of the HAMP Annual Report, presented to Cabinet in October 2019, is attached as **Appendix 2**.

5. Background Information

5.1 The following background documents have been used in the compilation of this report and are available from the report author:

- Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee Work Programme 2019/20
- North Tyneside Transport Strategy Annual Report for 2018, presented to [Cabinet on 28 May 2019](#) (CAB8/19)
- North East Transport Plan, report to North East Joint Transport Committee ([JTC](#)) [on 19 November 2019](#) (item 7)
- Breathe Clean Air website www.breathe-cleanair.com
- [The Northumberland Line](#) project website (Northumberland County Council)

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 Presentation

Appendix 2 HAMP Annual Report 2019