

REPORT OF THE PLACE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: SCRUTINY OF LOCAL TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIVITY PLAN

Cllr Kieron Mallon
Chair of the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee
June 2022

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to agree —

1. To implement the recommendation of the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee that the Cabinet Member for Travel and Development Strategy report to the November 2022 meeting of the Committee on the implementation and outcomes of the Local Transport Plan 4, the lessons learnt therefrom, and the policy links between Local Transport Plan 4 and Local Transport and Connectivity Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report refers to the Cabinet the observations of the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee in respect of the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan and a related recommendation.

REQUIREMENT TO RESPOND

2. In accordance with section 9FE of the Local Government Act 2000, the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee hereby requires that, within two months of the consideration of this report, the Cabinet publish a response to this report and its recommendation. The Committee suggests the response be published at the same meeting as this report, which has been shared with relevant officers and Cabinet Members in advance.

PUBLIC SCRUTINY OF LTCP BY THE COMMITTEE

4. On 15 June 2022, the Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee considered the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) (item 12) and agreed that the Cabinet Member for Travel and Development Strategy should report to the November 2022 meeting of the Committee with analysis of the implementation and outcomes of Local Transport Plan 4 and its connections with the LTCP. It was also agreed that the Head of Transport Policy would inform the Committee of the proportion of Officers who worked on the LTCP who had also worked on (a) Local Transport Plan 4 and (b) on Local Transport Plan 3.
5. The Committee also resolved to report to the Cabinet its observations in respect of the LTCP:

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- a. The LTCP contains insufficient evidence and explanation of the capability of its policies to deliver its commendable vision and headline targets.
- b. The LTCP does not address the fact that existing local plans in Oxfordshire are collectively likely to increase demand for travel, contrary to the LTCP's aim of reducing travel.
- c. Previous local transport plans had previously been only partially implemented. The LTCP contains insufficient analysis of the delivery and impact of previous local transport plans, which are in many ways similar to the LTCP, and lacks a clear methodology by which the LTCP's implementation and impact is to be evaluated.
- d. There has been a lack of consistency between the content of previous local transport plans and the highways asset management strategy and network management strategy. It was questioned whether those strategies will reflect the LTCP when remade in September 2022, as they should.
- e. There is an apparent disconnect between the LTCP and reality. For example, a member of the Committee who is the director of a stakeholder organisation referenced as working with the council in relation to transport, was unaware of that work.
- f. There is a disconnect between national policy, Oxfordshire County Council policy and between the latter and the policy of lower-tier authorities in Oxfordshire. It is unclear how the LTCP is to integrate in wider decision-making in respect of where people live and work.
- g. The LTCP does not reference or take into account the differences between how men and women tend to travel. For example, women are more likely to 'trip chain'.

NEXT STEPS

6. The Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee will review the published Cabinet response to this report and its recommendation at the November 2022 meeting of the Committee in accordance with part 6.2, 13(f), of the Constitution of the Council.

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