

Divisions Affected - All

Cabinet – 17 October 2023

LTCP monitoring report

Report by Corporate Director for Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. **Cabinet are RECOMMENDED to:**
 - a) **Agree the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan monitoring report for publication alongside Council's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan.**

Executive Summary

2. This report provides Cabinet with an overview of the LTCP monitoring report. It summarises the background to the report and key issues. It is proposed that the monitoring report (appended as annex 1) is agreed by Cabinet for publication alongside the council's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP).

Background

3. The LTCP was adopted by the council in July 2022 and outlines the long-term vision for transport and travel in the county and the policies required to deliver this.
4. The LTCP also includes a set of headline targets to track delivery of the vision. This includes targets to replace or remove 1 out of every 4 current car trips in Oxfordshire by 2030, deliver a net-zero transport network by 2040 and have zero, or as close as possible, road fatalities or serious injuries by 2050.
5. In order to demonstrate progress on delivering the LTCP, progress made against the headline targets and performance against the key performance indicators (KPI) we committed to publishing annual monitoring reports. The first annual monitoring report has now been drafted (annex 1).
6. There is not a statutory requirement for the LTCP monitoring report to be approved by Cabinet and there are no specific decisions required. However, it was agreed that the report is presented to Cabinet for awareness, discussion and agreement to publish. This will help to raise public awareness of the report and ensure that the county council are reporting progress on the LTCP in a transparent way.

Corporate Policies and Priorities

7. The County Council's strategic plan, 2022-25, sets out a vision to lead positive change by working in partnership to make Oxfordshire a greener, fairer and healthier county. The LTCP will help to deliver all aspects of this vision.
8. The LTCP builds on the 9 strategic priorities of the county council and will be key to delivering the following four:
 - Put action to address the climate emergency at the heart of our work
 - Tackle inequalities in Oxfordshire
 - Prioritise the health and wellbeing of residents
 - Invest in an inclusive, integrated and sustainable transport network.
9. The LTCP will help to make Oxfordshire greener, fairer and healthier due to the relationship between transport, quality of life, health and the environment. The LTCP directly seeks to reduce carbon emissions and aims for a net-zero transport system by 2040. It also has a strong focus on healthy place shaping and encouraging active lives. This will help to improve health and wellbeing by providing safer walking and cycling routes to school and improving air quality.
10. The LTCP will also help to tackle inequalities and improve health and wellbeing because transport can play a significant role in enabling older and disabled people to live independently. The LTCP seeks to improve connectivity for all residents and there are policies that will specifically help to achieve this.
11. The LTCP aims to reduce private car use and encourage modal shift to walking, cycling, public and shared transport. This will be central to addressing the climate emergency and improving health and wellbeing.
12. The LTCP monitoring report itself does not introduce any policies or proposed service changes that will impact on the corporate policies and priorities. However, the data collected will help to assess progress made and identify areas of the LTCP where amendments may be required to improve delivery.

Financial Implications

13. The LTCP monitoring report does not have any direct implications for transport infrastructure investment. It provides data and information to help inform future decision making and potential amendments to the LTCP and its supporting strategies.
14. The LTCP monitoring report has been produced by staff from across the Environment and Place directorate, and hence covered by the staffing budget in this area. Immediate work to incorporate the results will not require any additional resources. This work will be undertaken through ongoing work such as area travel plan development, vision zero strategy development and business as usual operations.

Comments checked by:

Filipp Skiffins, Assistant Finance Business Partner (Environment & Place),
filipp.skiffins@oxfordshire.gov.uk (Finance)

Legal Implications

15. The LTCP monitoring report does not have any legal implications. The LTCP is the county's statutory Local Transport Plan, which is a statutory document required under the Transport Act 2000 and was subject to public consultation prior to its adoption in July 2022. There are not any requirements for the subsequent supporting strategies to be consulted upon.

Comments checked by:

Jennifer Crouch, Principal Solicitor (Environment Team),
Jennifer.Crouch@Oxfordshire.gov.uk (Legal)

Staff Implications

16. Development of the LTCP monitoring report has been undertaken by officer resource in the Infrastructure Strategy and Policy Team, with input from officers across the Environment and Place directorate.
17. Immediate work to incorporate the results will not require any additional resources. This work will be undertaken through ongoing work such as area travel plan development, vision zero strategy development and business as usual operations.

Local Transport and Connectivity Plan Implications

18. The LTCP monitoring report directly supports the LTCP and reports on progress made over the last year. The LTCP monitoring report does not introduce any policies or service changes that will impact delivery of the LTCP.
19. The data collected and analysed for the monitoring report will help to identify areas where amendments may be required to improve delivery of the LTCP and maximise the intended benefits.

Equality & Inclusion Implications

20. The LTCP monitoring report itself does not introduce any policies or proposed service changes. Therefore, it does not have any potential impacts on equalities. However, the data collected will help to assess progress made and identify areas of the LTCP where amendments may be required. For information about possible impacts of the LTCP on equality and inclusion, please see the LTCP equalities impact assessment (annex 2).

Sustainability Implications

21. The LTCP monitoring report itself does not introduce any policies or proposed service changes. Therefore, it does not have any potential impacts on sustainability. However, the data collected will help to assess progress made and identify areas of the LTCP where amendments may be required.
22. The LTCP will be central to delivering the County Council's Climate Action Framework as transport produces the majority of emissions in the county. For further information about possible impacts of the LTCP on sustainability please see the LTCP Climate Impact Assessment (annex 3).

Risk Management

23. A risk register has been kept as part of the LTCP programme. Key risks associated with the LTCP monitoring report moving forward have been summarised below.
24. *Risk:* Findings not used to inform future decision making.

Mitigation: The monitoring report has been developed with input from the relevant council teams and shared with partners and stakeholders. We will continue to work with these partners and stakeholders to ensure the findings are used to inform future decision making.

25. *Risk:* Negative publicity due to the data reported.

Mitigation: The report includes commentary to explain the reasons for some of the observed changes and the factors beyond the county council's control affecting them. We will work with communications officers to develop a communications plan for public release of the document.

Consultations

26. The LTCP, including the headline targets and KPIs, was consulted on between January and March 2022. In total 1178 responses to the consultation were received. The LTCP monitoring report itself has not been subject to public consultation and consultation is not required.
27. Engagement has been conducted with key stakeholders through the LTCP Steering Group. The group includes representatives from the bus operators, rail operators, universities, major employers and walking and cycling groups.
28. The relevant cabinet members have also been engaged with through the Environment and Place portfolio holder briefings.

Bill Cotton, Corporate Director for Environment and Place

Annex: **Annex 1: LTCP monitoring report**

Annex 2: LTCP Equalities Impact Assessment
Annex 3: LTCP Climate Impact Assessment

Background papers: Nil

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