COMMUNITY TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Update note for Growth and Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee Thursday 22nd September 2011

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Purpose of this briefing note:

This briefing note aims to update the Committee on the progress made since the last meeting in developing a Community Transport Strategy for Oxfordshire.

Progress to date:

The Scrutiny Members' Working Group met with members of the Project Team and representatives from the Community Transport Association on 17th August. This was a very informative meeting, and the CTA reported on a number of different types of approach to the development of community transport strategies in various other local authorities.

Research is continuing, to understand best practice across the country, and interdependencies with other factors. The Project Initiation Document (PID) has not yet been agreed by the Environment and Economy Leadership Team (EELT).

Jayme Radford has now left the county council, and Joy White has taken over as Project Manager.

Next steps:

The project plan is still being developed, and it is not yet possible to confirm when the overarching Community Transport Strategy will be in place. Some short-term decisions on service delivery will need to be made in the meantime. The PID and project plan will be finalised with EELT as soon as possible.

We propose that part of the next meeting of the Growth and Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee on 20 October is given over to a Q&A session on community transport. As part of this session we aim to invite local providers and players in community transport in Oxfordshire to come along to the committee to talk about their experiences in providing community transport including the barriers and opportunities. We would also like to invite officers from other authorities to talk to the committee about the approach to community transport in their area. This involvement of members will be extremely valuable in contributing to the evidence base for the community transport strategy project.

Joy White, Principal Transport Planner - Highways & Transport