

RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON DRAFT LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 4

Head of Service:	Viv Evans, Head of Planning
Wards affected:	(All Wards);
Urgent Decision?	No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:	
Appendices (attached):	Suggested response to the Draft Local Transport Plan 4 consultation

Summary

This report provides a suggested response to Surrey County Council's consultation on the fourth Surrey Transport Plan (LTP4). LTP4 sets out an ambitious roadmap to deliver carbon reduction targets as set out in Surrey's Climate Change Strategy for the transport sector, whilst seeking to support the county's communities and help the economy to thrive. Responses to the consultation must be submitted by the deadline of 24 October 2021. The draft plan appears to be in accordance with the national and local policy direction and the Council's Climate Change ambitions in principle. The draft plan should be supported but will have significant implications for the future of planning for Place and transport across the Borough.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Consider and approve the suggested consultation response set out in Appendix 1 for submission by the deadline of 24 October 2021.**
- (2) Engage with Surrey County Council on the content of the LT4 Delivery Plan.**

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 To enable the Borough Council to provide a consultation response to the draft LTP4 by the deadline of 24 October 2021.

2 Background

LTP4 Overview

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- 2.1 Surrey County Council as the Local Transport Authority, has a statutory duty under the Transport Act 2000, as amended by the Local Transport Act 2008, to produce a Local Transport Plan (LTP) and to keep that plan under review. A LTP contains the objectives, policies and measures intended to improve transport in an area, contributing to wider social, economic and environmental benefits. The current Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3) was produced in 2011 and is now considered 'out of date' as it does not reflect best practice nor align with climate change objectives. Critically, LTP3 is focussed on enabling the predominance of the private car. The global pandemic has also had a far-reaching impact, which needs to be addressed in terms of transport impacts. Consequently, a new LTP4 has been drafted, which is being made available for public consultation from 5 July to 24 October 2021.
- 2.2 Below is a brief summary of the plan. The [full version of the plan and the online consultation](#) can be accessed via Surrey County Council's website.

Vision, Objectives & Core Principles

- 2.3 LTP4 is a fundamentally different kind of plan to that which the county has adopted previously. Its scope is wider and further reaching than previous more traditional transport plans. It seeks to rethink transport across Surrey and meet future challenges, while enhancing Surrey's local environment, economy and quality of life for residents.
- 2.4 The draft vision sets out the primary goal to be achieved over the lifespan of LTP4. It reads:

"A future-ready transport system that allows Surrey to lead the UK in achieving a low-carbon, economically prosperous, healthy and inclusive county with excellent quality of life for all residents, whilst seeking to enhance the built and natural environments."
- 2.5 To help deliver the vision, four objectives have been identified:
 - **Net zero carbon emissions.** To rapidly reduce carbon emissions, ensuring Surrey is on track for net zero emissions by 2050.
 - **Sustainable growth.** To support Surrey's growth ambitions and enable business and people to prosper sustainably.
 - **Well-connected communities.** To provide well connected communities that encourage social mobility and ensure no-one is left behind.
 - **Clean air and excellent quality of life.** To create thriving communities with clean air, excellent health, wellbeing and quality of life.

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- 2.6 Carbon reduction is a primary objective of the plan given that in 2019, 46% of Surrey's CO₂ emissions were generated by domestic transport. It is estimated that 68% of this was from private cars and taxis. LTP4 sets out a transformational and ambitious roadmap to deliver significant carbon reduction targets to help achieve net zero carbon by 2050.
- 2.7 LTP4 also seeks to support economic regeneration following the effects of the pandemic, while also aiming to improve the health and wellbeing of residents through the promotion of active travel and improvements to air quality.
- 2.8 Reflecting its wider scope, the draft plan does not focus purely on physical mobility but recognises that accessibility can also be improved through:
- **Place making:** Bringing activities and opportunities closer to people through land use planning; and
 - **Digital connectivity:** Broadband and mobile connections to allow online accessibility and access to services
- 2.9 Delivery of LTP4's outcomes is proposed to be through nine broad based priority policy areas that replace the narrower policy areas in the current LTP3. These will be guided by "Avoid-Shift-Improve" principles. These are set out below:

Principle	Outcome	New Policy Area
Avoid or reducing	The need to travel, and distance travelled by improving the efficiency of the land use and transport systems	Planning for Place Digital Connectivity
Shift	To lower energy consumption travel, and more efficient modes; public transport, walking and cycling	Active Travel Public/shared transport Demand Management for Cars Demand Management for Good Vehicles
Improve	The energy efficiency of modes, operational efficiency of networks, and reducing vehicle emissions using technology	Efficient Network Management Promoting zero emission vehicles

- 2.10 It is stated that a critical policy area which will underpin these principles is around behaviour change amongst those who travel in Surrey. The new approach set out in LTP4 will be dependent on:
- Promoting place-based development alongside measures that reduce unnecessary journeys.

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- Enabling more use of active travel modes and public/shared transport solutions, where and when journeys must be made.
 - In exceptional circumstances, considering the limited number of locations to promote highways improvements to mitigate congestion and/or capacity issues where there are demonstrable economic and wider environment/sustainability benefits.
- 2.11 A sustainable travel hierarchy will, wherever possible, prioritise sustainable travel measures of walking, cycling and public transport. This will be assisted by the development of a 'streets family framework' which will allocate streets and places to various categories based on local community needs and traffic movement. The street family framework categories will help to determine the types of sustainable transport measures that can be implemented to support carbon reduction and economic regeneration.

Delivery Plan

- 2.12 LTP4 will be supported by a delivery programme which will identify the pathway to achieving the four main objectives set out at paragraph 2.5. This will include a delivery plan for each of the four Impact Strategies and to consider any potential re-prioritisation of schemes currently identified as part of the Surrey Place Ambitions Surrey Infrastructure Plan, for the short, medium and longer term.
- 2.13 The delivery programme will be influenced by the results of the LTP4 consultation and therefore has not yet been published. It is intended that it will be published alongside the final version of LTP4 and presented to Cabinet in December 2021. There does not appear to be a public consultation exercise on the delivery programme.

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Summary comments

- 2.14 The direction of LTP4 is considered to be in accordance with the direction of national and local policies and, in principle, should be supported. The high-level objectives and principles appear sound and are based on an extensive evidence base. Examples are provided throughout the Plan as to how the vision and objectives may be delivered and it is clear that this will require new ways of thinking in terms of how we plan for and deliver transport services in the Borough. Currently it is difficult to assess what the specific impacts on the Borough may be, as the more detailed delivery programme has not yet been published. However, this could potentially include reduced levels of parking, additional infrastructure to facilitate the uptake of electric/zero emission vehicles and road charging. LTP4 will also have implications for the Local Plan in terms of locating development near to existing facilities and the creation of 20 minute neighbourhoods. It will be important that the Council engages with Surrey County Council on the delivery programme to ensure the content is in tune with the Council's aspirations for its residents, businesses, and visitors.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Impact Assessment

- 3.1.1 LTP4 will establish the transport strategy and influence transport related spending decisions for the County over the next ten years. It is an ambitious document which will have a significant impact on travel patterns in Surrey, prioritising the delivery of carbon reductions from the transport sector in line with the County's Climate Change Strategy. LTP4 will influence many of the Borough Council's own strategies (for example the Local Plan) and will, over its lifetime, influence the behaviour and lifestyles of those who live, work and visit Surrey.

3.2 Crime & Disorder

- 3.2.1 LTP4 seeks to be inclusive, encouraging social mobility to ensure that no one is left behind.

3.3 Safeguarding

- 3.3.1 There are no implications for safeguarding.

3.4 Dependencies

- 3.4.1 There are no implications for dependencies.

3.5 Other

- 3.5.1 There are no other risks associated with LTP4.

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4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 Having an up-to-date relevant Transport Plan will enable the County to attract investment from Central Government and other third-party funding sources to secure investment for the County's transport priorities. The Borough Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds could be used to provide 'top up' funding to assist in the delivery of schemes, although any proposals would be subject to a business case being approved at the appropriate Committee (s).
- 4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** None arising from the contents of this report.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 Surrey County Council as the Local Transport Authority, has a statutory duty under the Transport Act 2000, as amended by the Local Transport Act 2008, to produce a Local Transport Plan (LTP) and to keep that plan under review. Consultation on a draft Plan is part of the statutory requirement.
- 5.2 **Legal Officer's comments:** none arising from the content of this report.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

- 6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged: improve transport infrastructure, promoting healthy and active lifestyles, especially for the young and elderly, green and vibrant, and providing services digitally.
- 6.2 **Service Plans:** LTP4 will influence the Local Plan, significantly its approach to transport. It will also support the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** LTP4 seeks to deliver significant carbon reductions, which is in line with and will help to deliver elements of the Borough's Climate Change Action Plan. Anticipated benefits also include cleaner air.
- 6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** LTP4 seeks to deliver a healthier, inclusive and more environmentally sustainable transport system for Surrey.
- 6.5 **Partnerships:** Delivering LTP4 will be dependent on partnership working with a wide range of organisations/groups. The Borough Council will be a key partner.

7 Background papers

- 7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

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Previous reports:

- N/A

Other papers:

- Suggested response to the LTP4 consultation.
- [Draft Surrey Transport Plan 2022 to 2032](#)