

COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Explanatory Note

The Leader of the Council has established Delegation Schemes by which certain decisions may be made by the relevant cabinet member or specific officers.

Cabinet member decisions are subject to review under the Call-in Procedure.

From the date the notice of the decision made is published there are five working days during which any five Councillors may sign a request for the decision to be reviewed (called in) and deliver it to the Proper Officer.

If, at the end of the period, no request has been made, the decision may be implemented. If a valid call- in request has been made, the matter will be referred to the Scrutiny Panel

Part A – To be completed by the appropriate Cabinet Member/Officer

Title of Report

Transport East Consultation – Transport Strategy and Draft Investment and Delivery Programme

Delegated Power

To promote and procure the implementation of the Borough Council's Transport Strategy in partnership with Essex County Council, the responsible Transport Authority and other partners to improve infrastructure.

Decision Taken

To agree the response (see Appendix 1) to the TE consultation, which will help secure investment in transport infrastructure in the region, thereby helping the Council meet its sustainability objectives, and improve connectivity within and beyond the region.

To request that CBC is closely involved with developing the emerging IDP it aligns with the Council's plans and policies.

Key Decision

No

Forward Plan

N/A

Reasons for the Decision

The public consultation on the Transport East regional Transport Strategy and draft in the draft Investment and Delivery Programme. The IDP comprises a regional transport investment pipeline to assess and prioritise strategic transport projects in the East and supporting mechanisms to identify and help progress projects through the pipeline, from early ideas to business case development to delivery.

The Council has a number of strategies and policies that reflect the importance it places on encouraging sustainability, including in the choices for sustainable modes of transport. Documents such as the Strategic Plan, the Local Plan, the Climate Change and Sustainability Strategic document and the evolving Sustainable Modes of Transport and Electric Vehicle Strategy show the Council's aspirations to encourage greater modal shift from private cars to sustainable transport.

The Colchester Local Plan Section 1 (North Essex Authorities' Shared Strategic Section 1 Plan) identifies that North Essex is well placed in the context of connections by road, rail, air and sea to the wider region and beyond. The challenge is to provide North Essex with a sustainable transport system that provides good access to jobs and services, to support economic growth. Growth promoted through the Local Plan provides an opportunity to prioritise, facilitate and deliver larger scale transport infrastructure projects that can significantly improve connectivity across and within the area. A focus on sustainable transport in and around urban areas and the Garden Community will positively alter travel patterns and behaviour to reduce reliance on the private car. To achieve this, the Plan states that the local planning authority will work with partners to deliver the infrastructure required to support development in the Local Plan. Responding to this consultation will help to ensure that the emerging Transport Strategy for the East is closely aligned with the policies in the Local Plan, delivering a sustainable transport network that can accommodate future growth.

This is also supported by the Council's Strategic Plan which includes walking as cycling as a key component as well as ensuring new developments support the Council's promotion of carbon neutrality; Climate Challenge and Sustainability Strategic document and the upcoming Sustainable Modes of Transport Strategy.

This theme is also echoed in the Council's emerging Economic Plan 2022-25. One of the four economic priorities underpinning the Plan is 'Planet' and the way that businesses can reduce their environmental impacts. The aim is: 'to work with partners to improve the environment of our place and accelerate the decarbonisation of Colchester economy.'

Alternative Options

To not respond to the consultation. This would mean missing the opportunity to influence the TS and IDP and investment opportunities which would benefit the Borough.

Conflict of Interest

None

Dispensation by Head of Paid Service

N/A

Dispensation by Monitoring Officer

N/A

Approved by Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability

Signature Cllr Simon Crow

Date 24 January 2022

(**NB** For Key Decisions the report must be made available to the public for five clear days prior to the period for call-in commencing)

Part B – To be completed by the Proper Officer (Democratic Services)

Portfolio Holder Decision Reference Number

ENV-004-21

Implementation Date

This decision can be implemented if no request for the decision to be reviewed (call-in) has been made **after 5pm on *Monday 31 January 2022***

Call-in Procedure

The Decision Notice for this decision was published on the internet on ***Monday 24 January 2022***.

A request for reference to the Scrutiny Panel must be made by **5pm on *Monday 31 January 2022***.

Signature of Proper Officer
Kelly Barnard