

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Communities

Report to:	County Council
Date:	20 May 2011
Subject:	Adoption of 3rd Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan

Summary:

This report outlines the development of the 3rd Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan, a copy of which is attached at Appendix A. At its meeting on 1 March 2011, the Executive agreed to recommend the Plan to Full Council for adoption.

Recommendation:

That the 3rd Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan as proposed be adopted.

1. Background

- 1.1 The statutory 2nd Local Transport Plans (LTP2) covered the period 2006/07 through to 2010/11. Hence, Local Transport Authorities need to prepare their 3rd Local Transport Plan (LTP3) looking forward from 2011/12 onwards. Whereas previous LTPs have been required to cover 5 years, authorities now have discretion to choose a time period that suits their own requirements. In view of the uncertainties around the national transport situation following the change of government last year, the agreed way forward in Lincolnshire has been to adopt a 'light touch' approach for LTP3 by simply rolling forward the current LTP2 strategies and policies for a further 2 years. This time will then be used to carry out a full review for LTP4 as greater detail regarding national policies and funding becomes available. This approach was supported by Members of the Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee at their meeting of 13 September 2010 and subsequently endorsed by the Executive Member. It is an approach that is also being adopted by other authorities.
- 1.2 Work has been ongoing on preparing the 3rd Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan along these lines and a proposed document is attached to this report at Appendix A.
- 1.3 As Members will see, the Plan outlines progress during the 2nd LTP period and, where possible, gives an indication of proposals for the 3rd LTP period, in particular in Chapter 14. This summarises the proposed Implementation

Plan for the next two years, based on the recently agreed budgets. However, work still remains to develop detailed spending proposals.

- 1.4 The Plan has been considered by the Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee and subsequently approved by the Executive and recommended for adoption by Full Council.
- 1.5 As mentioned above, the national transport picture remains uncertain, although it is gradually becoming clearer as announcements are made. Issues to date which will have an impact on the development of LTP4 include:
 - the publication in January 2011 of the DfT's transport white paper "Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon: Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen" with an increased national emphasis on supporting economic growth and job creation, whilst also reducing carbon emissions;
 - the introduction of a new Local Sustainable Transport Fund available for authorities to bid for funding for smaller scale schemes which support the economy and reduce carbon;
 - the formation of the new Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) who will have an important role in terms of identifying and taking forward economically important infrastructure improvements using the Regional Growth Fund;
 - the new draft national Strategic Framework for Road Safety published in April 2011;
 - the growing 'localism' agenda as outlined in the Localism Bill currently going through parliament.

2. Conclusion

- 2.1 The 3rd Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan has been developed in line with the agreed approach i.e. a 'light touch' approach rolling forward existing strategies and policies for the next 2 years. This will enable work to begin on developing the next Lincolnshire LTP, taking into account the emerging national transport picture as appropriate.

3. Legal Comments:

The Local Transport Plan is part of the Policy Framework in the Council's Constitution. This decision is lawful as the 3rd LTP has been prepared in compliance with legislation, the Local Transport Act 2008, and in particular, the duty to ensure the Council's LTP is kept under review.

4. Resource Comments:

The Local Transport Plan 3 is an overarching strategy document that details how Lincolnshire will deal with transport issues over the next two years. The work contained in the strategy will be funded by the Department for Transport (DfT) and by the Council's own resources.

In December 2010 the DfT announced that it was allocating £25.1m of Asset Protection and £3.9m of Integrated Transport capital grant to Lincolnshire for 2011/12, this will be spent delivering the Local Transport Plan together with £40.8m of County Council funding giving an annual spend total for 2011/12 of £69.8m. A similar amount of £69.5m is available for 2012/13. These budgets are contained within the current Council revenue and capital programmes.

In addition, the DfT have also announced that they will provide Lincolnshire £6.2m of grant funding for 2011/12 towards the repair of roads damaged by recent severe winter conditions.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

c) Scrutiny Comments

The 3rd Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan was discussed by the Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee on 21st February 2011. The Committee's comments were noted and incorporated into the Plan where necessary.

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

The LTP supports many of the wider policies of the authority, in particular access to services, community safety (by reducing road casualties) and public health (by encouraging physical activity through increased walking and cycling).

The impact of individual proposals on the natural and built environment will continue to be carefully considered at the detailed design stage.

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	3rd Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan

7. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Executive Report 01/03/2011 - Approval of 3rd Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan	Executive Director for Communities
Highways, Traffic and Technology Scrutiny Report 21/02/2011 - 3rd Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan	Executive Director for Communities

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