

Open Report on behalf of Executive Director for Environment and Economy

Report to:	Economic Scrutiny Committee
Date:	8 September 2015
Subject:	Impact of Transportation on Maximising Economic Growth (ITMEG) Scrutiny Review - Specific Actions

Summary:

The ITMEG Task and Finish Group presented a report to the Council's Executive in September 2014 on the importance of the role of transport on economic growth around the County.

An action plan incorporating the Executive response to the initial report was presented to Economic Scrutiny Committee on 9 December 2014.

This report provides a second update on that action plan and makes further suggestions on the way in which the key issues raised through the report can be progressed.

Actions Required:

Members are asked to note progress being made against the action plan and make comments accordingly on the detailed workstreams.

1. Background

The updated action plan is attached as an appendix to this report. As the nature of most of the recommendations is strategic, the extent of the progress is by definition limited in some areas. The Action Plan did make very specific links to the importance of using the ITMEG work to inform and drive the detail of the Commissioning Strategies and the Committee has a work programme that picks up the work required to get those strategies adopted by the Council. In those reports, Members should see the detail of the ITMEG work shaping our forward looking agenda and are invited to comment accordingly.

It can be confirmed that the strategic importance of the transport agenda continues to be raised through other forums and the ITMEG work is an important contribution to that agenda and debate. In that respect there are two areas of work that are being taken forward by the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GL

LEP) that are highlighted in the action plan update and will form the basis of a detailed presentation to the Committee.

These two pieces of work relate to:

A county wide transport strategy which cuts across most of the ITMEG work and the key recommendations. This work is being considered by the GL LEP and it is important that the views of the Scrutiny Committee inform that discussion. The strategy is proposing an overall approach based on the following:

Our Roads Strategy identifies key corridors within Greater Lincolnshire that are most likely to contribute to growth in existing centres and along which new growth could be prioritised. We aim to encourage investment in and around the following routes:

- **South Humberside Corridor:** M180/A180 from A1 to Grimsby;
- **East Midlands Coastal Way:** A46 Newark to Lincoln and A158 Lincoln to Skegness;
- **Mid-Southern Lincolnshire Corridor:** A17 Newark to Kings Lynn;
- **Ermine Street North Corridor:** A15 Lincoln to M180 to Humber Bridge.
- **Lincoln Corridor** – A46 to and around Lincoln

Supported by key links:

- A52 Grantham to Boston Link;
- East Coast Link: A16 Peterborough to Grimsby.

We will support local road improvements that facilitate growth. We will also support improved operability and higher levels of maintenance for our existing principal road network, including the use of technology to improve journey reliability and safety.

A rail strategy - this work is also forming a central part of the work of the GL LEP and it is important that the views of the Scrutiny Committee inform the work of the GL LEP.

The focus of that work is to make the distinction between the service improvement that are required to serve our communities and the infrastructure requirements necessary for those service improvements to be delivered.

Issues

Presentations will be provided on some of the detailed issues affecting that work to the Committee to inform their consideration and response.

It is important to note that our role as the County Council does differ in respect of each element of this work. As the highway authority we can drive some of the agenda within the context of the national funding regime but in terms of the rail agenda we are limited to more of a lobbying and facilitation role in that services and infrastructure are provided by other parties.

2. Conclusion

The ITMEG report identified a series of important connections between transport and local economic growth. Work continues to be progressed against its priorities.

The action plan summarises the overall approach and the detailed presentation on the transport strategy and the rail strategy are presented for Scrutiny comment.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Executive response to ITMEG - Action plan arising from recommendations

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Andy Gutherson, who can be contacted on 01522 554827 or Andy.Gutherson@Lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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