

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Environment & Economy

Report to:	Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee
Date:	7 March 2016
Subject:	Transport Strategy for Grantham – Progress Review Report

Summary:

To report Progress Review of the Transport Strategy for Grantham together with the review of the walking and cycling routes. This will enable Lincolnshire County Council to continue to deliver its objectives with its partners and obtain funding via external processes.

Actions Required:

- i) Members of the Committee are invited to note and comment on the Progress Report.
- ii) To agree that the Progress Report be submitted to the Executive Councillor for Highways, Transport and IT for his approval.
- iii) To note that a full review of the Transport Strategy, with potentially developing a new Strategy, will be required to take account of the significant changes that may occur as part of development planned for Grantham.

1. Background

1.1 The Transport Strategy for Grantham 2007 to 2021 and Beyond (Appendix A) was originally endorsed by Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) in December 2007 and South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) in April 2009. The aim of the Strategy was to look at all of the issues that relate to transport in the town and to make recommendations with regard to how funding should best be spent to make improvements to Grantham's transport system. The Strategy development team included representatives from LCC and SKDC and had the following four aims.

- i. To provide a framework for the better management of movements into and through Grantham in both the short term (up to 2010) and the longer term (2011 – 2021 and beyond).
- ii. To address the problems associated with existing and future levels of congestion in Grantham.
- iii. To address the environmental impacts of existing and future traffic movements in Grantham, in particular with regards to air quality.

- iv. To support the sustainable economic growth of the town and its surrounding area.
- 1.2 Subsequently a Progress Review of the Transport Strategy for Grantham was carried out in April 2014 (Appendix B).
- 1.3 Fifteen individual outcomes were identified as part of the Strategy; these state the detailed, in some cases measurable, aims of the Strategy. Whilst the Progress Review has identified some potential changes to the outcomes, it is considered appropriate to measure the progress against the original outcomes included in the original Transport Strategy.
- 1.4 The progress status for each of the outcomes is summarised below with Green indicating outcome delivered/significant progress, Amber indicating moderate progress and Red indicating little/no progress.

No.	Outcome	Progress Status
1	Reduced private vehicle levels on streets in the town centre area.	Amber
2	Safer environment with increased pedestrian space and facilities.	Amber
3	Improved management of on and off-street parking.	Green
4	Sufficient parking provided to aid the economic success of the town centre.	Amber
5	Improved reliability of bus services.	Green
6	Improved levels of bus services accessible to all users.	Green
7	Improved connectivity between bus and rail.	Green
8	Improved waiting environment and for public transport users at key locations.	Red
9	Clear and attractive links between public transport services and the town centre.	Red
10	Reduced number and severity of bridge hits.	Amber
11	Maximised efficiency of key junctions.	Green
12	Increased level of walking and cycling trips throughout the town.	Amber
13	Reduced proportion of car trips to all new developments.	Amber
14	Economic growth achieved alongside an increase in sustainable travel	Removed
15	Improved air quality within the Air Quality Management Area	Amber

- 1.5 Following this Strategy, significant progress has been made for better management of movements in Grantham both in the short and longer term. The changes in legislation including the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) have meant that whilst many of the outcomes remain fit for purpose, a number require amendment or replacement to ensure they are clear, measurable and achievable.
- 1.6 Over the coming years, the implementation of major interventions (Grantham Southern Relief Road) complemented by smaller scale projects, will lead to improvements to the transport network. These will bring benefits including reduced congestion, an improved and better protected environment and sustainable economic growth. With economic growth forecast to be consolidated in the medium to long term, the Transport

Strategy for Grantham remains relevant and vital to meet the economic, social and environmental aspirations of Grantham and South Kesteven.

- 1.7 The Grantham Southern Relief Road, in particular, will bring considerable changes to travel and traffic within and around the town. When the Relief Road opens, the current Transport Strategy will be ten or more years old. This, coupled with the significant level of development, will require a new Strategy to be developed. It is therefore planned that a new Strategy be formulated once the Relief Road has opened.
- 1.8 As part of the Transport Strategy for Grantham Progress Review, to facilitate growth and promote sustainable transport infrastructure, a review of the improvement to walking and cycling routes was also carried out (Appendix Cii). As an output of this, a Cycling Strategy Map has been developed (Appendix Ci).

2. Consultation

- 2.1 The review was undertaken by the Highway Alliance, with a public workshop/review undertaken with Members of both LCC and SKDC and surrounding Parish Councils on 25 February 2015. The document was also reviewed at the Grantham Growth Point Transport and Infrastructure Group Meeting, which included various departments and officers from LCC and SKDC. As this is a Progress Review full public consultation was considered not to be required. SKDC endorsed the progress review on 5 October 2015.

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

3. Background Papers

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

4. Appendices

Appendix A	The Transport Strategy for Grantham 2007 – 2021 and Beyond http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/searchResults.aspx?qsearch=1&key words=Transport+Strategy+for+Grantham+Progress+REview&x=44&y=27
Appendix B	Transport Strategy for Grantham – Progress Review Progress Report 2014
Appendix Ci	Cycling Strategy Map
Appendix Cii	Review of Improvements to Walking and Cycling Routes.

This report was written by Mark Heaton / Satish Shah, who can be contacted on 01522 782070 or LCCHighwaysWest@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

This page is intentionally left blank