

Open Report on behalf of Paul Coathup, Assistant Director Highways and Traffic

Report to:	Executive Councillor William Webb
Date:	01 June 2010
Subject:	Skegness Community Travel Zone
Decision Reference:	01759
Key decision?	No

Summary:

The report summarises the public consultation questionnaire/survey that has taken place as part of the Community Travel Zone (CTZ) process for Skegness. The results of the survey have been used to determine the priority of the list of schemes identified as possibilities. This list was compiled from remaining works identified in LTP1, alongside more recent feasibility investigations and consultation.

The survey also sought information on the local public's transport habits and preferences.

Recommendation(s):

Approve the prioritised schemes highlighted in Appendix D for delivery in the financial years 2009/10 and 2010/11.

This accords with the previously determined two-year programme planned for this zone.

It is recommended that the Executive Councillor notes the results of the consultation and feasibility process carried out to identify the proposed programme of improvements for Skegness CTZ, and approves the prioritised scheme list in Appendix E for implementation subject to funding.

Alternatives Considered:

1. Amend the priority list of schemes in Appendix D by promoting schemes lower down the ranking.

This would allow for some of the lower ranked schemes to be delivered.

This would be at the expense of delivering priority schemes.

Reasons for Recommendation:

To allow the programme to be delivered. The programme of schemes has been prepared taking into account public opinion.

1. Background

Introduction/Discussion

- 1.1 The CTZ initiative continues to be one of the main themes in the Second Local Transport Plan (LTP2) for Lincolnshire. The objective of the initiative is to reduce the number of short journeys (less than 2 miles) undertaken by car, in the main urban areas of the County through encouraging more use of walking, cycling and public transport facilities and the introduction of Travel Plans.
- 1.2 The first step for Skegness CTZ was a review by officers of previous work and uncompleted schemes from LTP1 to identify potential new schemes for LTP2. An initial list was compiled from those schemes not carried out in LTP1 that were still relevant, new schemes that were 'missing links' and requests received that were in keeping with aims of CTZs. This list was then sent to over 70 stakeholders in September 2009, to gauge opinion and ask for ideas for further schemes. The replies were used to develop the final scheme list, see Appendix A, used for the public consultation exercise that was carried out in October 2009.
- 1.3 The responses from the public consultation were analysed and points were allocated to each scheme using a system of 4 points for a first choice, 3 for a second, 2 for a third and 1 for a fourth. These were added together and the results are shown under 'public votes' and 'public ranking' in Appendix B, together with other survey information.

Scheme Prioritisation and Implementation

- 1.4 The schemes were then prioritised using the agreed guidance note (see Appendix C). They were ranked using the principle that they should:
 - Contribute to the objective of the CTZ
 - Provide an integrated and complete treatment
 - Address the main priorities raised by local people (results of Public vote)
 - Be deliverable within available budgets and time constraints
 - Be cost effective
 - Address any safety concerns
- 1.5 The schemes were then scored and ranked to give a final priority ranking and is shown under 'scores and final ranking' in Appendix D.
- 1.6 The list of higher priority schemes that best fulfil the requirements set out above is given in Appendix E.
- 1.7 However, significant funding restrictions in 2010/11 may restrict the schemes which can be implemented. The schemes will generally be constructed in ranking order, unless a higher priority scheme is found to be undeliverable. This situation can arise for a variety of reasons, such as encountering substantial technical difficulties or unexpected costs, significant changes at detailed design, legal problems or other time delays.

- 1.8 The schemes would normally be financed from the government LTP settlement. However, the recent financial restrictions have meant that no funds are currently available for this zone. Approval of this report will allow the schemes to progress at a future date should finance become available.
- 1.9 From the analysis of the survey forms (see Appendix B), apart from bus service issues which will be passed to the Accessibility and Policy Group; it was noticeable that the largest number of comments / suggestions by far were related to more cycleways (not in the list of schemes) and Park & Ride and parking.

2. Conclusion

- 2.1 Following consultation with the residents and businesses in Skegness, the analysis has provided the priority ranking of schemes as included in Appendix D. However, current financial restrictions have prevented any budget currently being set for this CTZ. Appendix E gives the list of top priority schemes which should be approved for design and construction at a future date if and when finance is available.

3. Legal Comments:

LTP2 refers to the continued use by the Council of CTZ's throughout the County. This decision by the Executive Councillor is therefore lawful and within his remit, provided he has the delegated authority of the Leader.

4. Resource Comments:

Funding of £153,000 was made available for schemes within the Skegness CTZ in 2009/10. Unfortunately following the Council's review of its capital programme no further funding was allocated for 2010/11 onwards. This report identifies schemes that have utilised the funding available within the current Highways and Transportation capital programme together with those that may be progressed should funding become available in the future.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Members of the Public and Stakeholders

The countrywide review of Community Travel Zones was launched in an edition of County News. The intention being that generated ideas from the Public would be fed into the reviews to be carried out for individual CTZs. The review for

Skegness CTZ led to the identification of a potential scheme list for LTP2. This list was then sent to over 70 stakeholders in September 2009 to ask if they had any other suggestions to make. These stakeholders were made up of Councillors, local authority representatives, local community groups, representative organisations, businesses, schools and the emergency services. The replies were considered and relevant ideas were included in the final scheme list for public consultation (see Appendix A).

The public consultation for this zone was carried out by postal survey during October 2009. The consultation consisted of a postage paid survey card enclosed with an explanatory letter, description of Community Travel Zone aims and a plan with a list of possible schemes. These were delivered to every residential and business property in the zone (a total of 9265). The public were asked to choose their top four schemes in order of priority from the list provided and to complete an optional travel survey.

1218 forms (13%) were returned with some valid survey information. Only 778 (8.4%) expressed an order of preference in line with the voting procedure. The information was also made available on the CTZ web page so that people could complete the questionnaire and return it electronically. Officers involved in the CTZ were available for further information or enquiries throughout the consultation period and the local press covered the aims of the consultation.

e) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Plan of zone and list of the schemes/options considered.
Appendix B	A summary of the findings from the consultations.
Appendix C	Guidance Note for the ranking of CTZ schemes for LTP2.
Appendix D	Development of public preferences into final scores and rankings of schemes.
Appendix E	The list of priority schemes.

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
Local Transport Plan	Highways and Traffic, 4th Floor, City Hall, Lincoln
Second Local Transport Plan	Highways and Traffic, 4th Floor, City Hall, Lincoln

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