

# Public Document Pack



Contact Officer:  
Maureen Potter 01352 702322  
maureen.potter@flintshire.gov.uk

To: Cllr Rosetta Dolphin (Chair)

Councillors: Sean Bibby, David Evans, George Hardcastle, Patrick Heesom, Cindy Hinds, Kevin Hughes, Dennis Hutchinson, Joe Johnson, Vicky Perfect, Paul Shotton and Owen Thomas

6 January 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

**NOTICE OF REMOTE MEETING**  
**ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**TUESDAY, 12TH JANUARY, 2021 at 10.00 AM**

Yours faithfully

Robert Robins  
Democratic Services Manager

Please note: Due to the current restrictions on travel and the requirement for physical distancing, this meeting will not be held at its usual location. This will be a remote meeting and 'attendance' will be restricted to Committee Members. The meeting will be recorded.

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact a member of the Democratic Services Team on 01352 702345.

# AGENDA

## 1 **APOLOGIES**

**Purpose:** To receive any apologies.

## 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)**

**Purpose:** To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

## 3 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING** (Pages 3 - 10)

Report of Environment and Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator -

**Purpose:** To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.

## 4 **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSE TO WG TRANSPORT STRATEGY CONSULTATION** (Pages 11 - 28)

Report of Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) - Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside

**Purpose:** To seek Scrutiny comment on Flintshire County Council's response to Welsh Government's Transport Strategy.



## ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	12 January 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking
<b>Report Author</b>	Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview & Scrutiny presents a unique opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work programme of the Committee of which they are Members. By reviewing and prioritising the Forward Work Programme Members are able to ensure it is Member-led and includes the right issues. A copy of the Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for Members' consideration which has been updated following the last meeting.

The Committee is asked to consider, and amend where necessary, the Forward Work Programme for the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

The report also shows actions arising from previous meetings of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the progress made in completing them. Any outstanding actions will be continued to be reported to the Committee as shown in Appendix 2.

### RECOMMENDATION

1	That the Committee considers the draft Forward Work Programme and approve/amend as necessary.
2	That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises.
3	That the Committee notes the progress made in completing the outstanding actions.

## **REPORT DETAILS**

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING</b>
1.01	Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Members can suggest topics for review by Overview & Scrutiny Committees, members of the public can suggest topics, items can be referred by the Cabinet for consultation purposes, or by County Council or Chief Officers. Other possible items are identified from the Cabinet Work Programme and the Improvement Plan.
1.02	<p>In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful for a 'test of significance' to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Will the review contribute to the Council's priorities and/or objectives?</li><li>2. Is it an area of major change or risk?</li><li>3. Are there issues of concern in performance?</li><li>4. Is there new Government guidance of legislation?</li><li>5. Is it prompted by the work carried out by Regulators/Internal Audit?</li><li>6. Is the issue of public or Member concern?</li></ol>
1.03	In previous meetings, requests for information, reports or actions have been made. These have been summarised as action points. Following a meeting of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee in July 2018, it was recognised that there was a need to formalise such reporting back to Overview & Scrutiny Committees, as 'Matters Arising' was not an item which can feature on an agenda.
1.04	It was suggested that the 'Action tracking' approach be trialled for the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Following a successful trial, it was agreed to extend the approach to all Overview & Scrutiny Committees.
1.05	The Action Tracking details including an update on progress is attached at Appendix 2.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	None as a result of this report.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	In some cases, action owners have been contacted to provide an update on their actions.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	None as a result of this report.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Forward Work Programme Appendix 2 – Action Tracking for the Environment & Economy OSC.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	Minutes of previous meetings of the Committee as identified in Appendix 2.  <b>Contact Officer:</b> Margaret Parry-Jones Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702427 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Margaret.parry-jones@flintshire.gov.uk">Margaret.parry-jones@flintshire.gov.uk</a>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	<b>Improvement Plan:</b> the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Improvement Objectives and publish an Improvement Plan.

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**Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2020/21**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Presentation</b>	<b>Scrutiny Focus</b>	<b>Responsible/Contact Officer</b>	<b>Submission Deadline</b>
<b>9 February 10.00 am</b>	Fleet Electrification	To consider proposals for fleet electrification.	Pre-decision scrutiny	Chief Officer Streetscene & Transportation	
	Ash Dieback surveys update (PE12)	To receive a progress report	Assurance	Chief Officer Planning, Environment & Economy	
	Borderlands Line Train Services – Additional Services and Potential Impact on Stops	To receive a progress report on developments.	Assurance	Chief Officer Streetscene & Transportation	
	Planning Enforcement	To receive a progress report	Assurance	Chief Officer, Planning, Environment & Economy	
<b>9 March 10.00 am</b>	Regeneration of Town Centres (PE03)	To receive a progress report	Assurance	Chief Officer, Planning, Environment & Economy	
	Recyclable materials income/increased expenditure on disposal of residual waste (ST10)	To receive a progress report	Assurance	Chief Officer, Streetscene & Transportation	
	Provision of electric car	To consider the current provision	Assurance	Chief Officer,	

Date of Meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report/Presentation	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible/Contact Officer	Submission Deadline
	charging points across Flintshire	across Flintshire for residents, workers and visitors.		Streetscene & Transportation	
12 May 10.00 am	Highway Asset Management Plan	To receive an update on how Flintshire County Council manages the maintenance of its highways to fulfil its statutory obligations.	Assurance	Chief Officer Streetscene & Transportation	
8 June 10.00 am	Year-end Council Plan and Monitoring Report 2020/21	To enable Members to fulfil their scrutiny role in relation to Performance Monitoring	Performance Monitoring	Facilitator	
6 July 10.00 am					

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Items to be added: Integrated Transport Plan & Climate Change updates as appropriate

**Site Visit to Parc Adfer (deferred due to COVID-19) – virtual meeting to be held in the new year**



**ACTION TRACKING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Action Required	Action Officer(s)	Action taken	Timescale
17.09.19	Forward work programme/action tracking	Steve Jones to provide feedback to Committee when pothole trial is completed.	Steve Jones		Ongoing
10.03.20	Minutes	Re: Demand Response Transport roll-out. Cllr Owen Thomas referred to changes to bus services leaving areas without public transport, e.g. Llys Alyn, Rhydymwyn. Steve Jones agreed to arrange for Sarah Blake to meet with Rhydymwyn residents regarding demand responsive transport.	Steve Jones	Sarah Blake to meet with residents once Covid Crisis is over	Ongoing
13.10.20	Forward Work Programme	Parc Adfer - virtual meeting with Project Manager and Management Team to be arranged in the new year.	Steve Jones		Ongoing
10:11:20	None				
10:12:20	None				

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## ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday 12 January 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Flintshire County Council Response to Welsh Government's Transport Strategy Consultation
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer - Streetscene & Transportation.
<b>Type of Report</b>	Strategic

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Welsh Government's (WG) overarching Transport Strategy sets out the future direction for transport in Wales. The existing Transport Strategy has now expired and WG have now published their new draft Strategy entitled '*Llwybr Newydd – A New Wales Transport Strategy*', with a request for comments from any interested parties by the 25 January 2021.

The implementation of WG's revised overarching strategy will require all Welsh authorities to revise their Joint Local Transport Plans (JLTP) in order to reflect WG's desired direction for transport over the next 5 years. This in turn will instigate the revision of the Council's own Integrated Transport Plan, which will define the Council's own aspirations for transport over the same period.

This report provides Scrutiny with an overview of the content of WG's revised Transport Strategy whilst also sharing details of the Council's proposed response to the formal consultation process for Scrutiny comment and additions.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Scrutiny recommend Cabinet approve the Council's response to the formal consultation process for WG's revised Transport Strategy.
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### REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>BACKGROUND</b>
1.01	Responsibility for transport in Wales has been devolved to Welsh Government (WG) however, Welsh Councils, Transport for Wales, Network Rail, public and community transport operators and third sector

	organisations all have an interest and contribute to transport provisions and facilities across all modes of transport in Wales.
1.02	The WG Transport Strategy serves as the overarching document within the hierarchy of transport and sets the direction for transport in Wales in the coming years. Whilst the existing document is currently outdated, in November 2020, WG published the new draft Wales Transport Strategy entitled “ <i>Llwybr Newydd – A New Wales Transport Strategy</i> ” (WTS) which frames WG’s vision and long-term, 20-year ambitions for how transport can contribute to the wider social, environmental, economic and cultural well-being of people in Wales.
1.03	<p>The WTS is a statutory document required by the Transport (Wales) Act 2006 (the Act), which places a duty on the Welsh Ministers to prepare and publish a WTS setting out its policies and how they will be discharged.</p> <p>Covering all modes of transport, the WTS sets WG’s strategic priorities and desired outcomes, providing a link to the wider priorities as well as plans at the local authority level. The Act requires the Welsh Ministers to keep the WTS under review and provides the powers to revise it from time to time.</p>
1.04	The draft Strategy is currently at the consultation stage with responses being sought by WG by the 25 January 2021. A link enabling Members to view the draft strategy document has been enclosed within the accessible background documents for information.
1.05	Upon adoption of the revised Strategy, all Welsh authorities will have a statutory duty to revise their Joint Local Transport Plans (JLTP) in order to reflect WG’s desired direction for transport for the forthcoming 5 years. This in turn will instigate the subsequent revision of the Council’s own Integrated Transport Plan in which the Council’s own aspirations for transport will be defined.
1.06	WG’s revised Strategy aims to provide an accessible, sustainable transport system that is good for people and communities, good for the environment, good for the economy and places in Wales, and good for culture and the Welsh language, contributing to each of the seven national well-being goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
1.07	<p>In order for WG to deliver their vision and ambition for an accessible sustainable transport system, the following 5 year priorities have been defined;</p> <p><b><u>Priority 1:</u></b> Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by planning ahead for better physical and digital connectivity, more local services, more home and remote working and more active travel, so that fewer people need to use their cars on a daily basis.</p> <p><b><u>Priority 2:</u></b> Grow public transport use in Wales by providing services that everyone can use, wants to use, and does use.</p>

	<p><b>Priority 3:</b> Safe, accessible, well-maintained and managed transport infrastructure that is also future-proofed to support public transport and electrification especially walking and cycling.</p> <p><b>Priority 4:</b> Making sustainable transport choices more attractive and affordable to more people and businesses, whilst respecting the fact that many people including those in rural areas or disabled people, may not have options, and</p> <p><b>Priority 5:</b> Supporting innovations that help more people and businesses adopt more sustainable transport choices.</p>
1.08	<p>A selection of ‘mini-plans’ detailing WG’s vision and priorities for each mode of travel has been detailed within section 7 of the new strategy document. This section of the strategy takes an integrated approach to transport by showing how individual transport sectors and modes can contribute to the shared ambitions and priorities.</p>
1.09	<p>Following the adoption of a revised Transport Strategy, many of WG’s existing guidance and policy documents will need to be reviewed or updated to reflect the ambitions and priorities in Llwybr Newydd. These include TAN (Technical Advice Note) 18: Transport, which was last updated in 2007, as well as WG’s guidance on biodiversity, trunk road maintenance standards, the Road Safety Framework and WG’s approach to local speed limits.</p> <p>WG also propose to take forward wider reforms designed to improve transport services in Wales, including proposals to reform bus services, road user charging arrangements and practical measures to improve Active Travel, such as pavement parking and lowering local speed limits. It also proposes further devolution of transport powers to Wales.</p>
1.10	<p>Having reviewed the WTS document, it is evident that WG’s approach to transport has evolved from a previously highway dominated focus to the prioritisation of greener, more sustainable modes of travel with an emphasis on Active Travel and Public Transport. This approach is strongly endorsed by the Council’s own Integrated Transport Strategy which aims to provide long term sustainable transport solutions through the successful integration of all modes of transport, catering for the demands of each, whilst maintaining and promoting at its heart, a sustainable, affordable and environmentally friendly Public Transport Service, with links to all of Flintshire and the wider region.</p> <p>The Council’s own transport strategy forms a key element of the North Wales Metro project and there is little doubt that the Council’s holistic approach to integrated and progression of sustainable transport options has helped shape WG’s revised Strategy and on this basis the Council welcomes the new strategy and its amended priorities.</p>
1.11	<p>In order to provide feedback on the current consultation, WG are inviting the views and suggestions of consultees (including local authorities) for which a specified Consultation Response Form has been included within the rear of the draft document. Having reviewed the document, the response form has subsequently been completed and has been enclosed within <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> for information and comment.</p>

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<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	Continued WG financial support to develop both the Council's own Integrated Transport Strategy and the North Wales Metro project will be necessary, if we are to achieve the aims and objectives of the new strategy.
2.02	WG are undertaking a concurrent consultation exercise on their proposals to introduce Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs). One of the functions the new Committee will undertake is the preparation of the Regional Transport Plan that will replace the JLTP referenced in this report. The Council has prepared a response to these proposals.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>	
3.01	Long-term	<b>Positive</b> – The move to low carbon sustainable transport options (as specified within the WTS) aligns itself with the long term aspirations of The Environment (Wales) Act, The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act & The Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations. The concept is also strongly endorsed within the Council's Council Plan under the priority of a 'Green Council' as well as aligning to the Council's Integrated Transport Strategy.
	Prevention	<b>Positive</b> – The development of sustainable transport options (as defined within the WTS) will reinforce the Council's commitment to climate change whilst also facilitating a vision for a zero carbon future as defined within WG legislation. Implementation of the required infrastructure will provide resilience to the County's highway network and also boost the Council's status as a 'key player' within the region thus reducing the risk of public abandonment in terms of tourism, residential and business growth.
	Integration	<b>Positive</b> – The continued development and delivery of multi-modal integrated transport options are key to the success of a sustainable, integrated transport network.
	Collaboration	<b>Positive</b> – The continual development of a fit for purpose Integrated Transport

	<p>Strategy (as defined within the WTS) will enable FCC to work with local authorities across the region in order to standardise the provision of infrastructure.</p> <p>The nature of this approach recognises the importance of strategic cross-border movements to the local economy in terms of commuter movements, business and tourism.</p>
Involvement	<p><b>Positive</b> – Within the WTS, WG set out the importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and ensuring that those people reflect the area which the body serves. As part of WG’s wider commitment to equality WG are committed to meaningful engagement, involvement and co-production. By means of the Consultation, WG are actively engaging with a wide range of people in order to understand their experiences of travel, and why they choose particular transport options.</p>
<p><b>Well-being Goals Impact</b></p>	
Prosperous Wales	<p><b>Positive</b> – The continual development of greener, sustainable transport options within a fit for purpose Integrated Transport Strategy (as defined within the WTS) will boost the Council’s status as a ‘key player’ within the region thus reducing the risk of public abandonment in terms of tourism, residential and business growth.</p>
Resilient Wales	<p><b>Positive</b> – Adoption of the revised WTS will support the progression of the Council’s Integrated Transport Strategy and ability to deliver required infrastructure improvement works (as defined within the Active Travel Act / Road Safety Framework) which is key to the success of a sustainable, integrated transport network and a low carbon future.</p>
Healthier Wales	<p><b>Positive</b> – The promotion and utilisation of active and sustainable transport modes will provide obvious benefits to air quality through the reduction of Co2 emissions. This will also greatly assist the Council to achieve decarbonisation targets set within Central and WG legislation.</p>

	More Equal Wales	<b>Positive</b> – Improved connectivity through the implementation of required infrastructure (as defined within the WTS) will benefit tourism, residential and business growth. Health benefits obtained from improved air quality and increased levels of exercise will benefit the Council’s most deprived communities, often associated with densely populated areas.
	Cohesive Wales	<b>Positive</b> – The visible presence of active and sustainable transport options within the County will have a positive effect on public awareness whilst displaying the Council’s outward commitment to climate change.
	Vibrant Wales	<b>Positive</b> – The continued development and implementation of active and sustainable transport modes will improve the quality and sustainability of the natural environment whilst providing benefits to the local and regional economy in terms of tourism, residential and business growth.
	Globally Responsible Wales	<b>Positive</b> – The continual development of Active and sustainable transport options (as defined within the WTS) will reinforce the Council’s commitment to climate change whilst also striving to achieve a zero carbon future as defined within Central and WG legislation.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	With Cabinet Member (Streetscene and Countryside).
4.02	With Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1: Flintshire County Council’s Consultation Response Form.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	Welsh Governments ‘A New Wales Transport Strategy’ (WTS): <a href="https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2020-12/consultation-document-llwybr-newydd.pdf">https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2020-12/consultation-document-llwybr-newydd.pdf</a>



<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Stephen O Jones, Chief Officer, Streetscene and Transportation <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704700 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk">stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>
<b>8.00</b>	<p><b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b> <b>These are provided corporately on the Infonet (link) and maintained by the Executive Office</b></p>
8.01	<p>(1) <b>The Wales Transport Strategy:</b> A statutory document required by the Transport (Wales) Act 2006 (The Act). The Act places a duty on the Welsh Ministers to prepare and publish a WTS setting out its policies and how they will be discharged.</p> <p>(2) <b>National Transport Plan:</b> A statutory document detailing how WG propose to deliver the outcomes set out in the Wales Transport Strategy from 2015 and beyond. The Plan includes all transport interventions financed by the WG.</p> <p>(3) <b>North Wales Joint Local Transport Plan:</b> A statutory document that will sit alongside the Local Development Plans and other policies and plans of each of the local authorities, once adopted. The plan sets out all of the six North Wales local authorities vision to ‘remove barriers to economic growth, prosperity and well-being by delivering safe, sustainable, affordable and effective transport networks’ and details this Council’s specific transport interventions and projects to achieve this aim.</p> <p>(4) <b>Flintshire County Council Integrated Transport Strategy:</b> An integrated strategy aiming to provide long term sustainable transport solutions through the successful integration of all modes of transport, which links to all of Flintshire and the wider region.</p> <p>(5) <b>North East Wales Metro:</b> North East Wales Metro is an investment in all modes to deliver a modern, high quality transport system that is fundamental to achieving sustainability and climate change objectives and delivering economic growth across North Wales.</p> <p>(6) <b>Active Travel (Wales) Act:</b> A statutory document introduced in 2013, its purpose is to enable more people to undertake active travel for short journeys instead of using motorised vehicles where it is suitable for them to do so. An Active Travel route must be within a designated locality in a local authority area.</p> <p>(7) <b>Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:</b> This act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It requires public bodies listed in the Act think more about the long-term; work better with people, communities and each other; look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach.</p>

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## Consultation Response Form

Your name: -

Organisation (if applicable): Flintshire County Council

E-mail / telephone number: [stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk)

Your address: Streetscene & Transportation, Alltami Depot, Mold Road, Alltami,  
Mold. CH7 6LG

### Q1). Do you agree with our long-term vision?

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree nor disagree   
Disagree  Strongly disagree  Don't know   
No Opinion

Please provide your comments:

Welsh Government's long term vision for an accessible, sustainable transport system that is good for people and communities, good for the environment, good for the economy and places in Wales, and good for culture and the Welsh language very much aligns to Flintshire County Council's future vision for transport. This approach is strongly endorsed within the Council's own Integrated Transport Plan which aims to provide long term sustainable transport solutions through the successful integration of all modes of transport, catering for the demands of each, whilst maintaining and promoting at its heart, a sustainable, affordable and environmentally friendly Public Transport Service with links to all of Flintshire and the wider region.

The stated aim should include 'affordable' to ensure the transport network remains accessible to everyone. It should also include 'in every area of the Country' to ensure the Strategy delivers in rural areas as well as in our towns and cities.

Suggested Aim 'An accessible, sustainable and affordable transport system in every area of the Country'.

### Q2). Do you agree with our 20-year ambitions?

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree  Strongly disagree  Don't know   
No Opinion

Please provide your comments:

It is evident that Welsh Government's long term ambitions for transport has evolved from a previously highway dominated focus to the prioritisation of greener, more sustainable modes of travel with an emphasis on Active Travel and Public Transport.

As above, this approach is strongly endorsed by the Council's own Integrated Transport Strategy which aims to provide long term sustainable transport solutions through the successful integration of all modes of transport (walking, cycling, bus and rail), in order to enhance access to employment and services, improve connectivity between communities and key destinations whilst minimising the impact on the environment

The Council's Strategy also forms a key element of the North Wales Metro project for which innovative projects with a clear focus on prioritising Active and sustainable modes of travel have been successfully introduced.

Flintshire County Council are also actively developing their own Electric Charging network, implementing a number of electric buses powered by 'home grown' sustainable energy sources as well as investigating the potential for the use of Hydrogen. As above, the Council's development and investment in greener transport solutions strongly supports Welsh Government's aspirations for a more equal, better connected, healthier and globally responsible Wales.

**Q3A). Do you agree with our 5 year priorities?**

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree nor disagree   
Disagree  Strongly disagree  Don't know   
No Opinion

Please provide your comments:

Flintshire County Council fully support the 5 year priorities and 'sustainable travel hierarchy' contained within the New Wales Transport Strategy with priority being given to walking and cycling, public transport and ultra-low emission vehicles.

Public Transport needs to be reliable and affordable and this should be stated in the priority statement

The development of the Council's electric charging network, implementation of electric buses and the investigation in to the use of Hydrogen, strongly support the concept of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and indicate the Council's commitment to climate change and the need to achieve a zero carbon future. A single, easy to use and consistent charging arrangement across Wales needs to be a priority.

In conjunction with the technological developments stated above, Flintshire also support the development of low emission public transport services whilst also recognising the need to provide safe, sustainable and affordable access to key transport hubs through the provision of active and sustainable travel infrastructure.

The development of key infrastructure to enable the undertaking of seamless multi-modal transport journeys is essential in providing the traveling public with a viable alternative to single vehicle car journeys, thus positively raising the profile of active and sustainable modes of travel.

Welsh Government's 'sustainable travel hierarchy' is engrained within the Council's approach to integrated transport with priority being given to the development and integration of the County's Strategic Core Cycle Network, Core Bus Network and key Rail improvements.

**Q3B). Do you think that we have the right number of priorities or should these be further refined? If so, do you agree with the following three priorities?**

1. We will reduce the need to travel.
2. We will encourage modal shift – when people need to travel we will encourage them to take fewer car journeys and use sustainable forms instead through supply of better services, and stimulating demand for them through behaviour change measures.

3. We will adapt our infrastructure to meet the challenge of climate change, and ensure our transport system is well-maintained, safe and accessible.

Please provide your comments:

As stated above, Flintshire County Council support the priorities put forward within the New Wales Strategy. The concept of reducing the need to travel should be promoted further with an emphasis placed on working from home wherever possible, thus negating the need to travel.

It is important that any transport infrastructure, both new Active Travel infrastructure and the existing predominantly highway orientated infrastructure is well maintained. This will require significant revenue funding which will may not be available to local authorities if support funding is not made available from WG.

**Q4). We have identified high level measures to aid us to capture our overall progress. Are these the right measures?**

Yes  No

Can you suggest others?

No further measures identified.

**Q5). Do you think we should include specific targets for more people to travel by sustainable transport?**

Yes  No

Do you have any suggestions for how we should do this?

This may only be appropriate once the required infrastructure is in place as this will be the key driver for behavioral change.

**Q6). We have identified a set of actions to deliver the draft strategy. Are they the right Actions?**

Yes  No

Are there others that you can suggest?

No further actions identified.

**Q7). We have set out mini plans for each transport mode and sector. Have we identified the key issues for each of these?**

Yes  No

Do you have any comments on these?

In respect of Active Travel, there should be an emphasis of the development of strategic cycle links both within county and cross border rather than shorter / more localised routes with poor / irregular connectivity. By enabling the undertaking of 'whole journeys' via cycle to access both employment hubs and key services, will positively raise the profile of active travel as a 'viable alternative' to the single occupancy vehicle journeys, thus achieving the behavioral change that is required.

Consideration should also be given to the development of Quality Bus Partnerships (QBP) across the identified core bus network in order to encourage patronage growth through the provision of a high-quality public transport service along key transport / movement corridors. This will enable the successful integration of local bus services with the strategic bus network and national rail services at key hubs through the provision of integrated timetables and integrated ticketing to key destinations.

A standardised approach to electric vehicle charging infrastructure also needs to be prioritised in order to stimulate electric vehicle uptake and to encourage cross boundary movements in terms of tourism, leisure and business. Initiatives should also be explored to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles for taxi operators and private hire vehicles.

**Q8). We have shown how transport will use the 5 ways of working set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Do you agree with this approach?**

Yes

No

Do you have any comments?

As stated above, the ideology of WG's New Wales Transport Strategy is deeply rooted within Flintshire County Council's Integrated Transport Plan which is also built upon the 5 ways of working set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

**Q9). If charges for road use were to be introduced to help meet the goals for cleaner air, a safe climate and better health, how can this be done in a way that is fair for everyone?**

Yes

No

Do you have any comments on these?

This question needs to be clear as to whether it is referring to charging for road use or specifically car usage?

If the purpose of this question is relating to road usage in the wider context, then any charges will of course have a detrimental effect on the affordability and viability of public transport.

Should the question be relating to specifically car usage, then the introduction of charging would only be ethical provided that the required infrastructure is in place to ensure there are viable alternatives to meet the demands of public need. If not, then this could exacerbate instances of social deprivation with car travel only available to benefit the wealthy in society.

A substantial portion of the income from any road charges should be set aside for maintaining the infrastructure.

### **Question on the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal**

We have also published an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA). The aim of this is to ensure that the Wales transport strategy has considered the impact of transport on the environment, health, equalities, Welsh language, rural issues, children and young



people, economic development as well as wider sustainability issues, within the context of the national well-being goals in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

**Q10A: Do you think the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Report identifies the most important sustainability effects for transport?**

Yes  No

Do you have any comments on these?

The impact on budgets of long term maintenance liabilities needs to be considered and built into the model.

**Q10B: Are there any gaps?**

Other than long term maintenance – no gaps identified

**Q10C: Do you have any comments on the findings of the report?**

No further comments.

**Question A:** We are under a duty to consider the effects of our policy decisions on the Welsh language, under the requirements of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

We would like to know your views on the effects that draft strategy would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English.

What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated

Flintshire County Council endorse the approach of The New Wales Transport Strategy which positively promotes the use of the Welsh Language. Ensuring the equal usage of Welsh and English for purposes of transport information and digital services will effectively promote the Welsh language and culture without being of detriment to non-Welsh speakers.

**Question B:** Please also explain how you believe the draft strategy could be formulated or changed so as to have positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities

As above.

for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favorably than the English language, and no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favorably than the English language.

**Question C:** We have a duty to consider the impact of our policies on people or groups who share protected characteristics.

Do you think this draft strategy will deliver positive benefits for people who share protected characteristics? If so, which are the most important?

Yes, the effective delivery of an accessible, sustainable transport system that is good for people and communities, good for the environment, good for the economy and places in Wales, and good for culture and the Welsh language will by definition provide positive benefits for people who share protected characteristics.

**Question D:** Do you think the draft Strategy could have a negative impact on some people or groups who share protected characteristics? If so, what are they and how can we prevent those?

None identified.

**Question E:** Are there any further comments that you would like to make on Llwybr Newydd: a new Wales transport strategy?

Please enter here:

Constructing an extensive Active Travel network will create an additional maintenance liability for local authorities in future years as the network deteriorates. This needs addressing at the outset to avoid building a maintenance backlog which is present in the predominantly highway network. **Page 26**

Responses to consultations are likely to be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here:

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