

CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 21 st January 2020
Report Subject	Update on the Progress of the Mold to Broughton Cycleway
Cabinet Member	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Report Author	Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 came into force in September 2014 requiring all Councils to produce an Integrated Network Map (INM), detailing their proposals for new and improved walking and cycling routes and to deliver year on year infrastructure improvements for Active Travel.

During the original statutory consultation for the Council's INM, the demand for a cycling link from Mold to Broughton was identified as a key strategic corridor, receiving high levels of public support whilst also being recognised by Welsh Government (WG) as supporting the principles of the North East Wales Metro. Flintshire County Council's INM has since been approved by WG.

Through the provision of WG Active Travel funding obtained within the 2018/19 financial year, Flintshire County Council commissioned consultants 'Local Transport Projects' to undertake route appraisal and outline design work for a strategic cycling route from Mold to Broughton. The route will link the communities of Mold, Buckley, Penyffordd, Broughton, Saltney and Sandycroft whilst also providing links into existing railway stations at Buckley & Penyffordd and major centres of employment.

The report seeks approval to commence a wide ranging and detailed public consultation process which will commence in February 2020 to help finalise the route which will be the subject of a WG funding bid in 2020/21.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To note the update on the progress of the Mold to Broughton Cycleway design.
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2	To seek Cabinet approval to commence the consultation process on the Mold to Broughton Cycleway with Local Members, Town and Community Councils, members of the public and other interested stakeholders.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOLD TO BROUGHTON CYCLEWAY
1.01	During the original statutory consultation for the Council's INM, the demand for a cycling link from Mold to Broughton was identified as a key strategic corridor, receiving high levels of public support whilst also being recognised by Welsh Government (WG) as supporting the principles of the North East Wales Metro. Flintshire County Council's INM has since been approved by WG.
1.02	<p>Through the provision of WG Active Travel funding obtained within the 2018/19 financial year, Flintshire County Council commissioned consultants 'Local Transport Projects' to undertake route appraisal and outline design work for a strategic cycling route from Mold to Broughton.</p> <p>It was proposed that the route would eventually link the communities of Mold, Buckley, Penyffordd, Broughton, Saltney and Sandycroft, whilst also providing links into existing railway stations at Buckley & Penyffordd and major centres of employment.</p>
1.03	<p>As part of the outline design, the route itself has been broken down into sections which will form a phased series of schemes. The schemes have then been arranged into a delivery hierarchy by route prioritisation.</p> <p>This will consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1 = Most deliverable routes • Priority 2 = Routes with some outstanding issues • Priority 3 = Least potential for timely delivery
1.04	<p>The delivery hierarchy has taken numerous factors into consideration. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is design ready to be implemented? • Third party land requirements • Does a route have merit as a standalone scheme? • Reliance on others (e.g North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency) • Level of connections (benefits) to residential populations, employment sites and rail stations • Potential for joint delivery/phased approach • Traffic/network management considerations <p>The order of construction will also be open to comment during the consultation process.</p>

1.05	Subject to Cabinet approval a full public consultation process on the detailed design will now commence in February 2020.
1.06	<p>The consultation process will offer an opportunity for stakeholders to view the preferred route and an opportunity to provide comments, which will be incorporated within the overall scheme design where feasible to do so.</p> <p>The consultation will consist of a Members Workshop, Public Drop-In sessions, visits to Town/Community Councils, visits to local businesses, paper based feedback forms, online community consultation portal. A communication strategy is also being developed utilising social media, local press etc.</p>
1.07	Subject to the outcome of the consultation, the Mold to Broughton Cycle Scheme will now be submitted as the Council's Strategic application under the WG Active Travel Fund for the 2020/21 financial year.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Subject to the outcome of the consultation process, Flintshire County Council will be seeking Welsh Government Active Travel Funding to deliver the project in a phased programme of works.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT				
3.01	<p>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Long-term Prevention</td> <td> <p>POSITIVE - Existing accessibility problem for people accessing employment, which impacts negatively upon the economy. Developing a sustainable integrated transport corridor will provide affordable access to employment and other services and facilities which are currently difficult for some communities to access.</p> <p>The provision of this section of cycle way will assist local business in their recruitment. It will also help potential employees and existing employees who do not have access to a vehicle and where public transport services do not meet shift patterns.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> <td> <p>POSITIVE - Flintshire Public Service Board is a statutory body which was established on 1st April 2016 following the introduction of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The primary purpose of the Board is to protect,</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Long-term Prevention	<p>POSITIVE - Existing accessibility problem for people accessing employment, which impacts negatively upon the economy. Developing a sustainable integrated transport corridor will provide affordable access to employment and other services and facilities which are currently difficult for some communities to access.</p> <p>The provision of this section of cycle way will assist local business in their recruitment. It will also help potential employees and existing employees who do not have access to a vehicle and where public transport services do not meet shift patterns.</p>	Integration	<p>POSITIVE - Flintshire Public Service Board is a statutory body which was established on 1st April 2016 following the introduction of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The primary purpose of the Board is to protect,</p>
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		<p>sustain and improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Flintshire through collaborative working as a single public service. One of the priorities identified by the Flintshire PSB for 2016/17 is “Inspiring Community Resilience including Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour” which supports some of the goals of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.</p> <p>Implementation of cycling facility to improve safety and encourage more people to walk and cycle for shorter journeys instead of using the car supports this priority identified by Flintshire Public Service Board.</p> <p>Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board is the largest health organisation in Wales, providing a full range of primary, community, mental health and acute hospital services for a population of around 678,000 people across the six counties of North Wales (Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, and Wrexham). One of the corporate goals is to improve health and wellbeing for all and reduce health inequalities. The provision of this shared use facility to enable more active travel journeys supports this corporate goal as it is known that walking and cycling improves health and well-being.</p>
	<p>Collaboration</p>	<p>POSITIVE - FCC have worked in close partnership with Sustrans, Community & Town Councils and Airbus cycle group.</p> <p>Consequently, we believe that the schemes fully reflect the views endorsed through consultation and represents a consensus view of the development of the transport network across Flintshire.</p> <p>By identifying the demand and need within communities we have been able to tailor the scheme to these needs</p>
	<p>Involvement</p>	<p>POSITIVE - A proposal for a cycling/walking facility between Mold and Broughton was included on Flintshire’s Integrated Network Map (INM) and Schedule which underwent informal</p>

		<p>engagement and a public consultation in 2017 which included the following:</p> <p>An informal engagement event was held with the Local Access Forum on 5th May at Wepre Visitor Centre. Members were shown the draft INM and the proposals were received positively.</p> <p>Drop in Events were arranged specifically for Local Members and Community and Town Councillors to view and comment on the draft INM prior to formal consultation. These were held at County Hall on the 30th and 31st May 2017.</p> <p>The statutory consultation ran between 3rd July and 24th September 2017 and was made available on the Council's website. The website homepage included a promotion banner across the top of the page advertising the consultation with a link to the consultation page.</p> <p>Drop in Events were held at Mold Town Hall, Holywell Connects Office, Deeside Leisure Centre and Flint Pavilion.</p>
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Well-being Goals Impact

Prosperous Wales	POSITIVE - The scheme will contribute to an innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment & uses resources efficiently and proportionately.
Resilient Wales	POSITIVE - The development of the Mold to Broughton Cycleway is a vital part of a sustainable, integrated transport network.
Healthier Wales	<p>POSITIVE- Improved health and well-being within for the residents and visitors of Mold and Broughton and the settlements in between.</p> <p>The scheme will encourage residents to access local services and facilities by active travel modes.</p> <p>Research shows that interventions that support walking and cycling enable people to become more active and increases in physical activity levels are observed throughout the community.</p>

		<p>The significant health and wellbeing benefits from an increase in walking apply not only to the young but to the wider community as a whole.</p> <p>Increasing how much someone walks or cycles may increase their overall level of physical activity, leading to associated health benefits. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the risk of coronary heart disease, stroke, cancer, obesity and type 2 diabetes; • Keeping the musculoskeletal system healthy; • Regular cycling improves balance and co-ordination; • Promoting mental wellbeing.
	More equal Wales	POSITIVE - Improved access to employment and services (health, education, training, shopping, social and leisure facilities). Implementation of the infrastructure will also benefit tourism, residential and business growth.
	Cohesive Wales	POSITIVE The scheme will make the journey to school a more attractive, viable, safe and well – connected communities.
	Vibrant Wales	NEUTRAL The scheme promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language. The scheme provides bilingual signage.
	Globally responsible Wales	POSITIVE The scheme promotes and will improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of wales. The scheme takes into account a positive contribution to global well-being.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	Consultation events will consist of a Members Workshop, Public Drop-In sessions, visits to Town/Community Councils, visits to local businesses, paper based feedback forms, online community consultation portal.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.
6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Flintshire's approved Active Travel Integrated Network Map: https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Roads-and-Travel/Connecting-Settlements-Consultation/Revised-Maps/Amended-Maps/Flintshire-Overview-INM.pdf</p> <p>Flintshire's approved Active Travel Schedule: https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Roads-and-Travel/Active-Travel-Docs/INM-Revised-Schedule-2.pdf</p>
7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Stephen O Jones Telephone: 01352 704700 E-mail: stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk</p>
8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	INM – Active Travel Integrated Network Map.