

Committee	<b>Cabinet</b>
Date	<b>15 December 2004</b>
Report By	<b>Director of Transport and Environment</b>
Title of Report	<b>East Sussex Local Transport Plan (2006 – 2011)</b>
Purpose of Report	<b>To report on progress with the development of the second Local Transport Plan (LTP) and seek approval to consult on a draft document.</b>

---

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Cabinet is recommended to:**

- 1. agree to consultation on the draft Local Transport Plan (2006 – 2011) commencing in early 2005; and**
  - 2. authorise the Director of Transport & Environment, in consultation with the Lead Member for Transport & Environment and the Local Transport Plan Panel, to make any appropriate detailed amendments to the draft Local Transport Plan prior to public consultation.**
- 

## **1 Financial Appraisal**

1.1 The current Local Transport Plan (LTP) established, and committed the County Council to, a five-year investment programme for transport covering the period 2001/02 to 2005/06. It has led to supported financial borrowing approvals from Government, to assist in delivering the capital programme, both for integrated transport improvements and highway maintenance. The second LTP (LTP2), covering the period 2006/07 to 2010/11, will seek to establish an investment programme to help maintain the highway network and improve travel choices. It will aim to secure supported borrowing approvals and, in some instances, cash grant to deliver that investment programme, which constitutes a significant proportion of the County Council's capital programme. So far, the current LTP has attracted over £53 million in supported borrowing approvals. Until government announces the final grant settlement, there is always uncertainty about whether such approvals are properly reflected in the grant received.

1.2 The estimated cost of undertaking all elements of the preparation of LTP2, including the engagement of external consultants to undertake various strands of work, is in the region of £200,000. Funding for this is likely to be a staged process over 2004/05 and 2005/06. The budget for 2004/05 includes an additional specific allocation of £150,000 for this purpose and the remainder will be met from the existing revenue budget.

## **2 Background**

2.1 The Transport Act 2000, imposes a statutory obligation on all Local Transport Authorities to produce an LTP. An LTP is a five-year action plan for transport; which sets out the County's policy approach to transport provision in East Sussex over the subsequent five-year period. The current LTP covers the period between 2001/02 and 2005/06 inclusive. LTP2, to be submitted in July 2005, will cover the subsequent five financial years. LTP2 will also have an increased contribution to the overall 2005 Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) refresh for the County Council.

2.2 For LTP2 there are a number of additional and enhanced requirements imposed on local transport authorities. These include greater justification of how the LTP and specific schemes contribute towards national shared priorities for transport and corporate objectives; the need to engage the East Sussex and Local Strategic Partnerships during the Plan's formulation; Transport Asset Management; Accessibility Planning; Strategic Environmental Assessment and the relationship with the Regional Transport Strategy; and emerging South East Plan including the Sussex Coast Sub-Regional Strategy.

2.3 Furthermore, the LTP is no longer a bidding document and the LTP settlement, known as the 'planning guideline' (100% baseline), will now be based on a formulaic approach, although the final assessment criteria or planning guideline figure have still to be determined by Government.

Through the assessment procedure, there is potential for the County Council to get up to 125% of their planning guideline if LTP2 is rated as 'Good' whilst a 'Poor/Weak' LTP2 could receive down to a minimum of 75% of the guideline.

### **3 Progress with East Sussex Local Transport Plan 2**

3.1 As reported to the Cabinet in May 2004, five key stages have been identified in developing LTP2 as outlined in Appendix A.

3.2 Whilst the final guidance from the Department for Transport has yet to be issued, significant progress has been made in producing a draft LTP2. In order to inform the draft LTP2, an initial phase of evidence gathering consultation (Stages 1 & 2) was undertaken between June and September 2004 to identify the transport issues and priorities with members of the public and organisations in the County. Consultation included seminars with Borough and District Councillors, with the East Sussex Youth Cabinet, a market research survey of 1,000 residents, distribution of an Issues Document to over 400 organisations in the County and a Select Committee where representatives from key stakeholders presented evidence on how they believe transport in East Sussex should be considered through LTP2. Sessions have also been held with each of the Council's departmental management teams to ensure that the corporate priorities influence the shape of the document. The first stage consultation outcomes are available in the Members' Room.

3.3 A broad framework for the draft document is attached at Appendix B and a copy of the working draft of the Local Transport Plan is available in the Members Room. The draft of LTP2 is currently being refined (Stage 3) and is programmed for public consultation for a 12 week period in February - April 2005 (Stage 4). Further work is required on this draft prior to consultation. Accordingly, approval is sought to consult on the document and for the Director of Transport & Environment, in consultation with the Lead Member for Transport and Environment and the LTP Panel members (Councillors Reid, Lock, Daniel and Freeman) to make appropriate amendments to the document prior to public consultation. The final draft document, with the outcomes of the consultation, will be reported to Cabinet in June 2005 for approval to submit to the Government Office for the South East (GOSE) (Stage 5).

3.4 GOSE have indicated that the County Council is making good progress, in terms of the development of the next LTP. Further progress meetings will take place with the Government Office for the South East/DfT up to July 2005 to maximise the potential for achieving a successful LTP.

3.5 Cabinet will no doubt wish to note that the recent letter from GOSE, setting out the Local Transport Capital Settlement for 2005-06, not only commended the Council for its excellent performance on its LTP Annual Progress Report but also assessed the Council as "Well Above Average" (the highest category) on transport performance in 2003/04 and accepted the case for the Bexhill Hastings Link Road, with funding for up to £47.120m of the scheme's cost provisionally allocated.

### **4. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendation**

4.1 The County Council, as the local transport authority, is required by statute to produce an LTP. The LTP provides a framework for investment in the County's transport infrastructure and services, contributing to delivering the regional and corporate objectives for raising economic performance in East Sussex.

4.2 Cabinet approval is sought to consult on the draft Local Transport Plan prior to finalising it for submission to GOSE in July 2005.

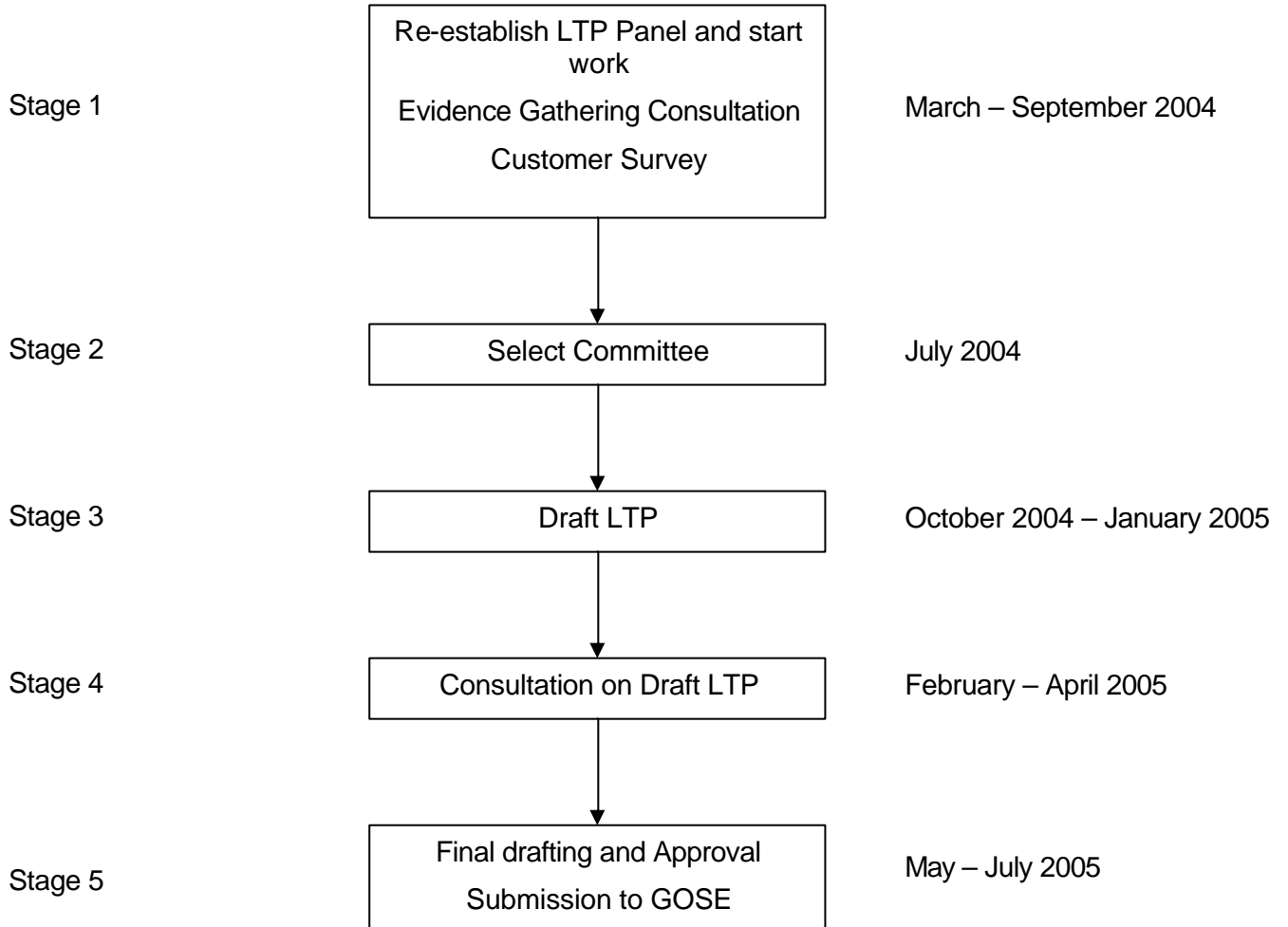
BOB WILKINS - Director of Transport and Environment

7 December 2004 C15December-LTP 2006-2011

Contact Officer: Jon Wheeler – Tel. No. 01273 482212 Local Members: All

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS** - East Sussex Local Transport Plan 2001 – 2006.

**LTP Development Process**



## Draft LTP2 Framework

### Foreword

### Chapter 1

#### Introduction

- Context
  - Quality of Countryside
  - Quality of Strategic Transport Infrastructure
  - Quality of Public Transport
  - Ports
  - Economy & Employment
  - Tourism
  - Safety
  - Cycling and Walking
  - Air Quality
  - Managing Waste
- Developing our next Local Transport Plan
  - Congestion
  - Accessibility
  - Road Safety
  - Environment/Air Quality
  - Developing partnerships to achieve local and national objectives
  - Public Consultation on our new LTP
- Summary

### Chapter 2

#### Transport in the Wider Context

- The Local Transport Plan Context
- European Dimension
  - Problems
    - Pollution
    - Congestion
    - Energy Consumption
  - Solutions
- Transport White Paper and associated White Paper documents
  - Transport White Paper – ‘The Future of Transport’
  - The Aviation White Paper
  - National & Regional Planning Policy Guidance
- The regional planning context

- Regional Planning Guidance for the South East (RPG9)
- Regional Transport Strategy
- Area Investment Frameworks
- South East Plan
- Regional Economic Strategy
- The local government context
  - Corporate Links
    - Links with Corporate Departmental Priorities
    - Reconciling Corporate Policy and Resources
    - LTP Panel
  - Links with Local Strategic Partnership Objectives
    - Initial Inputs
    - Ongoing engagement
    - Drawing together partnerships
  - The LTP and Development Plans
    - The LTP and the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Structure Plan
- 3 Policy TR21 - Trunk Road Box
  - Local Plans and the LTP
  - Minerals and Waste Local Plans
- Transport Service Best Value Review
- Cross-boundary Issues
- Meeting the needs of longer distance travellers
  - Highways Agency
  - Strategic Rail Authority
- Conclusion

## Chapter 3

### Problems and Opportunities

- Introduction
- County Profile
  - Population
  - Environment
  - Economy
  - Transport Infrastructure
- Problems and Opportunities - Context
- Problems
  - Threats to sustainability and integration
  - Threats to the economy
  - Issues around the efficiency of the transport network, Traffic growth and congestion
  - Safety Issues
  - The Environment
  - Perceptions of Safety
  - Funding Arrangements
- Opportunities
  - A proven ability to deliver projects

- Capitalise on the extensive environmental qualities of East Sussex as an economic asset/attractor
- Use the County's environmental qualities to re-invigorate tourism and recreation
- Unlocking the development of key strategic employment sites;
- Improving links with mainland Europe
- Build on the very limited road improvements/schemes that are being taken forward following the South Coast Multi-Modal Study and work with the Highways Agency in developing new, alternative schemes, strategic transport infrastructure improvements
- Public support
- Transport Partnerships
- Increase business access to and take-up of broadband connectivity
- Inclusion of the Central Rail Corridor in the development of the South East Plan
- Conclusions

## **Chapter 4**

### **Vision, Objectives and Targets**

- Reconciling national, regional and local priorities for transport
  - National
  - Regional
  - Local
  - County Council Priorities
  - East Sussex Community Strategy Objectives
- Vision for East Sussex
- East Sussex Local Transport Plan Objectives
  - Improve accessibility to transport and travel choices
  - Reduce the need to travel
  - Provide a safer community
  - Reduce Congestion and improve the efficiency of the Transport Network
  - Protect the Environment
  - Maintain and provide visibly better roads
  - Ensure there is Community Involvement
- Government Requirements and guidelines
- Performance Indicators and Targets
  - National Core Indicators
  - Local Targets
- Monitoring and Data Collection
- Conclusion

## Chapter 5

### Developing the LTP Strategy

- Longer term strategy and its relationship to the LTP
  - County-wide transport policies
    - Road Hierarchy
    - Freight
    - Bus
    - Cycle
    - Walking
    - Road Safety
    - Speed Management
    - Public Transport Information
    - Rail Development
    - Parking
    - Accessibility Planning
    - Intelligent Transport Systems
    - Transport Asset Management
    - Travel Planning
    - Rights of Way Improvement Plan
  - Local Area Transport Strategies
    - Urban areas
    - Rural areas
    - Transport corridors
- Involving local partners in strategy development
- Investment

## Chapter 6

### Delivering the Shared Priorities

- Context
- Shared Priority – Congestion
  - Context
  - Targets & Analysis
  - Strategies for tackling problem
  - Congestion targets and monitoring arrangements
- Shared Priority – Accessibility
  - Social Inclusion through local transport plans
  - Role of Local Authorities
  - Performance measurement
- Shared Priority - Road Safety
  - Road safety as local issue
  - Links to other areas of work
  - Revenue/Capital funding
  - Making most of investment
- Shared Priority – Air Quality
  - AQMA's
  - Air Quality Review
- Other Quality of Life Issues

- Quality of Space and Better Streetscapes
- Community Safety, Personal Security & Crime
- Healthy Communities
- Neighbourhood Renewal and Regeneration
- Assessing the Environmental Implications