

**REPORT TO:** East Lothian Council

**MEETING DATE:** 27 February 2018

**BY:** Depute Chief Executive (Partnership and Services for Communities)

**SUBJECT:** East Lothian Council – Local Transport Strategy and Associated Plans for Approval (Subject to Consultation and Amendment as Appropriate)

---

**1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To present Council with the draft Local Transport Strategy and associated plans (subject to consultation and amendment as appropriate)
- 1.2 To note the consultation on the scoping on the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) accompanying the Local Transport Strategy and associated plans.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 To approve for consultation, the draft Local Transport Strategy and associated plans and supporting supplementary documents.

**3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Transport is a vital part of everyday life for East Lothian and is important for multiple reasons including travel, economic education, health, leisure and access to services among other things. Since the last publication of the Local Transport Strategy, significant change has occurred or is planned to occur throughout East Lothian.
- 3.2 The updated Local Transport Strategy will reflect these changes and set out how East Lothian Council intends to meet national objectives at a local level and detail actions which will achieve local objectives.

- 3.3 The Local Transport Strategy is a key component that is instrumental in the delivery of the Local Development plan and adds value, context and evidence to the LDP.
- 3.4 The Local Transport Strategy is aligned with other strategic Council policies and plans and has been developed to support and encourage the delivery of the Council plan and single outcome agreements. The Local Transport Strategy provides a clear direction of travel for the Council in the delivery of road services, transport interventions and regulatory change. Accordingly, the publication of the strategy and associated plans is timed in alignment with the Local Development Plan.
- 3.5 The strategy has been prepared in accordance with the Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance (STAG). This guidance is objective led so the strategy is based on defined objectives. The strategy is inclusive (it has been consulted on and includes partner organisations), the strategy is based on evidence and is based on a thorough understanding of the problems and opportunities in the area and that the interventions are pragmatic and proportionate to the scale and impact on the area.
- 3.6 There are five main themes identified within the strategy reflected in four action plans:

#### Active Travel Improvement Plan (ATIP)

The purpose of the Active Travel Improvement Plan is to improve facilities to accommodate walking and cycling in East Lothian and increase the number of people choosing these forms of active travel. It aims to enable, encourage and support people throughout the county to choose active and sustainable travel for both every day and leisure journeys.

The focus of the plan is to improve health and wellbeing, to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality, to reduce congestion, to improve access to jobs, services and amenities and create better places for people. The plan identifies a series of interventions to support active travel and supports current good practice.

#### Parking Management Strategy (PMS)

The purpose of the Parking Management Strategy is to provide a strategic framework of interventions to improve parking performance throughout East Lothian. It aims to provide a balanced and appropriate parking provision to deliver a supply of parking opportunity that meets demand, to support economic, environmental and community objectives and improve accessibility of our towns and villages.

The strategy will apply a hierarchical scale of parking interventions to manage parking on and off street to reduce demand and improve supply by introducing Traffic Regulation Orders to restrict waiting, introduce limited waiting, charging, and new parking provision.

## Road Asset Management Plan

The purpose of the Road Asset Management Plan is to provide a suite of maintenance strategies to improve or maintain the performance of the road network by promoting good practice and better value for money techniques.

The Plan promotes an annual programme of assessment to evaluate the performance of the road assets, the value and depreciation of the assets, the assessment of condition and available investment options going forward. The plan considers customer expectations, and future demand through growth and the financial consequences of development over a 20-year period.

## Road Safety Plan

The purpose of the Road Safety Plan is to identify the scale and character of road collisions in East Lothian and co-ordinate between partner organisations interventions to manage speed through regulation, provide engineering improvements, educate, and encourage safer road practices.

- 3.7 In accordance with Section 15(3)(b) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 the Council has submitted to Scottish Ministers a scoping plan of the LTS for comment. Feedback from the Consultation Authorities has been positive.
- 3.8 Full consultation on the Local Transport Strategy, associated Plans and supporting documents will commence mid-March 2018 for a 6-week period. The consultation will involve a series of community based local workshops and will also be available to the general public via the Council's consultation hub. A consultation report and final draft will be brought back to Council in June 2018 for approval.

## **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 These proposals will contribute towards The East Lothian Council Plan - 2017-2027 (Local Outcome Improvement Plan) (LOIP) and the Council Plan (2017-2022) objectives and strategic goals - to grow our economy, to grow our people, to grow our communities and our capacity as a Council.
- 4.2 The Road Safety Plan has been approved by the East Lothian Partnership and the Safe and Vibrant Communities Partnership.
- 4.3 These proposals will add value to the LOIP supporting businesses, support strong resilient communities, living in high quality environments, and enjoying healthier lives.

## **5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1 The subject of this report will affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy. Accordingly, an integrated impact assessment has been completed.

## **6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Financial - The delivery of the interventions necessary to implement the Strategy and associated plans cover a 5-year period is estimated to be a total of £69 million (capital and revenue). However, it is likely that these will be required over a period of time dictated by the rate of development within East Lothian. Current expenditure on asset management – maintenance and renewals £50m, transport interventions £5m, parking improvements £3m, road safety £1m and £10m for active travel.
- 6.2 Personnel - None
- 6.3 Other - None

## **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 The following plans have been lodged in the Members' Library
- Active Travel Improvement Plan (Ref: 25/18, Feb18 Bulletin)
  - Parking Management Strategy (Ref: 26/18, Feb18 Bulletin)
  - Road Asset Management Plan (Ref: 27/18, Feb18 Bulletin)
  - Road Safety Plan (Ref: 28/18, Feb18 Bulletin)

<b>AUTHOR'S NAME</b>	Peter Forsyth
<b>DESIGNATION</b>	Asset and Regulatory Team Manager
<b>CONTACT INFO</b>	Peter Forsyth Ext 7724
<b>DATE</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2018