



# EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION

<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Executive Member for Regeneration
<b>LEAD OFFICERS:</b>	Director of Environment and Leisure Deputy Chief Executive
<b>DATE:</b>	9 August 2018

<b>PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:</b>	Regeneration
------------------------------	--------------

<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	All
-------------------------	-----

<b>KEY DECISION:</b>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
----------------------	---

<b>SUBJECT:</b> Joint Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy 2017-2027
---

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council, working alongside local and national transport and public health partners, have prepared the 10 year Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy "Actively Moving Forward". The strategy is in accordance with the Government's Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy that aims to deliver a transformation in cycling and walking infrastructure and participation rates. The preparation of this strategy, and in due course the delivery of the Cycling and Walking Infrastructure plans, will position the three Lancashire Local Transport Authorities and the twelve district authorities, favourably for future Central Government and local investment opportunities.

## 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

1. Approves the Joint Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy (LCWS) presented for publication, subject to Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council's also granting approval for the document's publication;
2. Approves the development of draft Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans within emerging Highway and Transport Masterplan areas for the purposes of wider consultation, following their preparation.

## 3. BACKGROUND

The Council, with Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and partner organisations have worked collaboratively to finalise the Joint Lancashire strategy taking into account consultation responses and updated Government guidance – the national Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy and Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan Technical Guidance. The LCWS is now in a position to be made available for online publication and for work to progress to prepare five Lancashire Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP's).

### Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy

In April 2017, Government published the Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (CWIS) setting out their ambition to make walking and cycling the natural choice for shorter journeys or as part of a longer journey. Increased cycling and walking can be used to deliver better mobility, safety and better streets by tackling congestion, improving both physical and mental health and supporting local

economies. The Strategy has objectives to significantly increase cycling and walking levels and to reduce the rate of cyclists killed or seriously injured.

The case for investing in cycling and walking is strong and has been made by a number of Government Departments, Academics and Public Health bodies. Benefits to the Economy, Health and Wellbeing, and the Environment and Community are summarised below:

- £30bn is the annual cost of congestion to UK motorists nationally in 2016
- 3.5 million cycles were sold in the UK in 2016
- 137 million working days were lost due to sickness or injury in 2016 nationally
- 65% of the adult population in Lancashire are overweight or obese
- 28% of the adult population in Lancashire are physically inactive
- 6.1 CO<sub>2</sub> tonnes per person were produced in Lancashire in 2015

The Joint Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy – ‘Actively Moving Forward’ attached is proposed to be published, as the integrated approach for cycling and walking across Lancashire, on behalf of the three Local Transport Authorities. Executive Board is now being asked to approve this joint strategy to enable online publication of the document in summer 2018.

The vision for the strategy is to see more people walking and cycling for everyday and leisure journeys in Lancashire. The targets represent an ambitious and unequivocal statement of intent for long term change over the next 10 years; a doubling of numbers of people cycling; a 10% increase in numbers of people walking; and to reduce levels of physical activity in every district to at least the national average.

The strategy presents a case of investing in Cycling and Walking in Lancashire with benefits that spread across the economy, health and well-being, the environment and local communities. The strategy organises various actions and their justifications across three mutually reinforcing themes, these being:

1. **PLACE** to maximise Lancashire’s range of existing walking and cycling assets and scale up current investment to create joined up networks and facilities.
2. **PEOPLE** to bring about behaviour change and support people to walk and cycle to employment, training and learning.
3. **PROMOTION** to engage with different audiences, promote the Lancashire cycling and walking offer and to inspire people to travel actively.

The outcomes of the strategy are to:

- Deliver economic prosperity and growth
- Improve local air quality and road safety
- Support physical and mental health and wellbeing
- Change behaviour through the promotion and access to active travel
- Increase visitor spend on cycling and walking

The implementation of the strategy and the future development of the infrastructure plans will help us:

- To be in a much stronger position to devise successful cases to bid for further investment for Lancashire
- To add value to new and existing rail and road investment
- To support communities to access training and employment by active travel modes
- To increase cycling and walking participation to maximise the benefits in terms of congestion, air quality, health and well-being, social deprivation and cohesion.

Publication of the strategy will help to demonstrate a Lancashire commitment to increasing the levels

of physical activity across Lancashire, helping to deliver healthy lifestyles objectives contained within the Director of Public Health's Annual Report 'Securing out Health and Wellbeing 2016 and completing initiatives such as Your Mile, Your Way.

The Joint Strategy represents the first stage in positioning Lancashire well for future funding opportunities and delivering a comprehensive and coordinated programme of infrastructure and activities to support cycling and walking. In draft, it has also been used successfully to support bids to secure additional funding. A revenue grant award of £1.9m from the Access Fund, was awarded to Lancashire County Council in partnership with Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council to develop and promote active travel across East Lancashire. Blackpool Council likewise received Access Fund to support their 'Walk to Schools' Programme being delivered by Living Streets.

#### **Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP's)**

Implementation of the Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy will be through the preparation of Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans. It is Government's intention for LCWIP's to set out a strategic approach to identifying cycling and walking improvements required at a local level and local authorities that have prepared LCWIPs will be well placed to make a case for future investment in both cycling and walking infrastructure.

LCWIPs are intended to be a long-term approach to the development of cycling and walking networks and will have key outputs of a network plan with the preferred walking and cycling routes, with a prioritised programme of infrastructure improvements for future investment along with a report that sets out the underlying analysis and narrative for the identified improvements and networks. LCWIPs will enable infrastructure work to be identified as short, medium and longer terms, and to be integrated with land use, transport planning and development.

The Lancashire Cycling and walking strategy and the accompanying LCWIPs will inform and complement district local plans, the joint Lancashire Local Transport Plan 4, Economic Development plans and emerging Highways and Transport Masterplans. The Lancashire LCWIPs will also provide a basis for developing the pipeline of cycling and walking network of infrastructure schemes when preparing funding application / developer contributions requests (Section 106) demonstrating the feasibility benefits and cost effectiveness of cycling and walking schemes.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS**

Publication of the Joint Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy will position Lancashire well for future funding opportunities, particularly those with short bidding time frames. Failure to demonstrate a clear and coordinated investment strategy that is accordingly evidenced and justified to Government is likely to curtail future investment for these purposes.

#### **5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Joint Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy's objectives are in accordance with the Government's Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy published in April 2016 and will be a supporting document to the development of Local Transport Plan 4.

#### **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None directly related to this report.

#### **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

None directly related to this report. All future schemes within the programme will need to be designed and implemented in accordance with relevant highway, transport and traffic legislation; and will need to be procured in accordance with the Council's constitution and; where relevant, European directives; and any grant conditions.

## 8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Staff time to delivery of the Joint Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy will be met by existing Council resources.

## 9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1  Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2  In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. (*insert EIA link here*)

Option 3  In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. (*insert EIA attachment*)

## 10. CONSULTATIONS

The draft Joint Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy was subject of a full consultation exercise in September 2016 to April 2017 via the Lancashire County Council, Have Your Say, public consultation webpage. 459 Partners and Stakeholders were informed across the Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and Blackpool Council areas. 205 responses were received in total, and 7 specific responses were received from Blackburn with Darwen consultees relating to the strategy.

## 11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

## 12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

<b>VERSION:</b>	<b>1</b>
-----------------	----------

<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Melanie Taylor, Senior Transport Planner Ext 5687
-------------------------	---

<b>DATE:</b>	8th June 2018
--------------	---------------

<b>BACKGROUND PAPER:</b>	Draft Lancashire Cycling and Walking Strategy <a href="#">DRAFT Cycling and Walking Strategy FINAL.pdf</a>
--------------------------	--