

# Economic Development Sub-Committee

Item No.

<b>Report title:</b>	<b>Presentation on the Integrated Transport Strategy</b>
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>30 March 2017</b>
<b>Responsible Chief Officer:</b>	<b>Tom McCabe – Executive Director, Community and Environmental Services</b>
<b>Strategic impact</b> An Integrated Transport Strategy for New Anglia is being developed. This looks at how the two counties' economies might develop and the transport interventions needed to support this. The strategy will be used to help attract government investment into the area to support two of the county council's priorities: Real Jobs and Good Infrastructure.	

## Executive summary

The New Anglia Local Transport Board brings together key stakeholders from across the region including Norfolk County Council. It has commissioned an integrated transport strategy for New Anglia. This will provide a well-evidenced and clear transport strategy setting out the capital investments needed to fully realise the economic potential of the area. It will provide an agreed context for short, medium and longer-term capital investments and be used to help attract significant investment into the area.

The strategy is being developed by Mouchel, the county council's partner consultants who have produced similar well-regarded work for Transport for the North (amongst others). The work is being developed through a reference group, comprising members of the New Anglia Local Transport Board. Norfolk County Council is represented on the Board by the chairs of EDT and Economic Development Committees, with the chair of EDT also being on the reference group.

The work is reaching its final stages of development. A draft of the strategy is due for the end of March. This will subsequently be agreed by the New Anglia Local Transport Board. A presentation on development and content of the strategy will be presented to the Committee.

### Recommendations:

**Members are asked to note progress in development of the New Anglia Integrated Transport Strategy.**

## 1. Proposal

- 1.1. The New Anglia Local Transport Board has commissioned an integrated transport strategy for New Anglia. This will cover the two counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. It will look forward to 2030, 40 and 50 and set out the short, medium and longer-term investment priorities based on a range of future economic scenarios.
- 1.2. Members are asked to note progress in development of this strategy. There will be a presentation to the Committee setting out its development and content.

## **2. Evidence**

- 2.1. The New Anglia area has strengths in many of the sectors with the greatest potential for growth including advanced manufacturing and engineering, agri-tech, energy, ICT and digital creative, and life sciences. Norfolk County Council, working with the Local Enterprise Partnership and other partners, has made good progress to unlock the potential. Investment has been attracted into the area's infrastructure including through Growth Deal (see separate item on the agenda) and major improvements to the trunk roads (the recently delivered A11 dualling and commitment to substantial investment into A47 improvements for example).
- 2.2. However, the absence of a well-evidenced and clear transport strategy setting out the capital investments needed to fully realise the economic potential of the area has been recognised. This is both by internal partners, in terms of having something to demonstrate to government the economic potential and the investments needed to achieve this, and by external partners. It was something noted for example by the Department for Transport's Executive Committee when they visited the area last year. A number of other areas, notably Transport for the North, have attracted significant interest and investment from government on the basis of similar initiatives.
- 2.3. Development of the transport strategy will therefore not only provide an agreed context for short, medium and longer-term capital investments but also have the potential to attract significant investment into the area to secure transport improvements in support of the developing economy.

## **3. Financial Implications**

- 3.1. The development of the strategy is being funded jointly by Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council and the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership. Norfolk County Council has allocated funding of £25,000 towards its development, met from existing budgets.

## **4. Background**

- 4.1. The New Anglia Local Transport Board brings together key stakeholders from across the region including the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership, Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils and Chambers of Commerce, the Department for Transport and major transport providers (Felixstowe Port, Norwich International Airport, Greater Anglia, etc...). Norfolk County Council is represented on the Board by the chairs of EDT and Economic Development Committees.
- 4.2. The Local Transport Board recognised the benefits of having a New Anglia transport strategy, not least because it would help to attract investment into capital infrastructure projects. The strategy would set out the opportunities to UK PLC from development of the New Anglia economy and set out the transport investments that are required to fully achieve this potential. The Board therefore commissioned Mouchel, Norfolk County Council's partner consultants who have produced similar well-regarded work for Transport for the North (amongst others), to produce an Integrated Transport Strategy for New Anglia.
- 4.3. The objectives of the work are:
  - Development of a small number of economic futures for the East reflecting local policy objectives, with a focus on Norfolk and Suffolk but acknowledging the impact of wider economic drivers (eg Cambridge and London, international trade)
  - Evaluation of transport scenarios (ie what technologies will be available to

meet the challenges) and strategies (ie how transport policy should respond to such changes) for Norfolk and Suffolk corresponding to the selected economic futures. This evaluation will take into account the need for inter-county connectivity as well as core external links

- A trajectory based on three years (2030, 2040 and 2050) with feedback loops between the economic futures and transport scenarios and strategies.

As well as the detailed technical evidence and supporting documents for the strategy a shorter brochure-style document will be produced that can be used in lobbying and other advocacy activities.

- 4.4. This work is being led by Norfolk County Council with a reference group, comprising Local Transport Board members, which includes the chair of EDT, providing governance and direction for the work. The programmed completion date for a draft strategy is the end of March. This will subsequently be agreed by the New Anglia Local Transport Board.

### **Officer Contact**

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper or want to see copies of any assessments, eg equality impact assessment, please get in touch with:

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