Project Title: Devizes Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

(LCWIP)

**Budget Manager: Allan Creedy** 

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Contact Officer:** Martin Aldam

**Contact Details: 01225 713485** 

Service Area: Sustainable Transport

Report author: Martin Aldam; Sustainable Transport, Wiltshire Council.

#### 1.1 BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

As set out in the Government's Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy, Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) should be prepared by local authorities to outline their strategic approach to identifying cycling and walking improvements required at the local level and to enable local authorities to bid for future active travel improvements.

The development of LCWIPs will also assist Wiltshire Council in meeting aims and objectives as set out in Local Transport Plan 3, the Climate Strategy (draft 2021) and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2019 - 2022).

The Department for Transport's LCWIP guidance sets out a recommended approach to planning networks of walking and cycling routes in order to connect places that people need to get to, either for work, education, shopping or for other reasons.

At Wiltshire Council, a draft LCWIP has already been prepared for Salisbury but has not yet been finalised and a Wiltshire-wide LCWIP is currently being prepared but has yet to be consulted on.

It is planned to develop LCWIPs for all of Wiltshire's principal settlements (Chippenham, Trowbridge and Salisbury) and eventually for the market towns. LCWIPs for the principal settlements will be funded through the government's Capability Fund. There is insufficient funding to include Devizes at this stage.

The Devizes Air Quality and Sustainable Transport group believe that accelerating the commission of an LCWIP for Devizes will put the town in a stronger position to bid for future government funding. Consequently, the AQ&ST group recommend that the Devizes Area Board allocate up to £30,000 of relevant developer contributions to appoint consultants to deliver the Devizes LCWIP.

Initially, the Devizes Community Area (<u>boundary</u>) should be the geographical starting point for the LCWIP. However, it is noted that the LCWIP should typically include an area considered within reasonable cycling and walking distance of the town centre. The LCWIP should also consider the emerging proposals for Devizes Gateway, (a proposal for a parkway station circa 3.5 miles to the south east of the town centre).

The geographical scope of the area to be considered should be agreed with the client group at the scoping stage. The Client group will include Wiltshire Council officers and members of the AQ&ST group.

# 1.2 OUTLINE DESCRIPTION OF WORKS TO BE UNDERTAKEN

As outlined in the Department for Transport's Technical Guidance on developing LCWIPs, the consultant will be required to develop the Devizes LCWIP in line with the six stages set out in Table 1 below;

**Table 1: LCWIP Process** 

Stage	Name	Description
1	Determining Scope	Establish the geographical extent of the LCWIP, and arrangements for governing and preparing the plan.
2	Gathering Information	Identify existing patterns of cycling and walking and potential new journeys. Review existing conditions and identify barriers to cycling and walking. Review related transport and land use policies and programmes.
3	Network planning for cycling	Identify origin and destination points and cycle flows. Convert flows into a network of routes and determine the type of improvements required.
4	Network planning for walking	Identify key trip generators, core walking zones and routes, audit existing provision and determine the type of improvements required.
5	Prioritising improvements	Prioritise improvements to develop a phased programme for future investment.
6	Integration and application	Integrate outputs into local planning and transport policies, strategies, and delivery plans.

There may be scope for some of the required stages to be undertaken in conjunction with officers at Wiltshire Council, with input from local stakeholders, to build on existing work that has already been carried out on developing a town cycle network for Devizes, and to potentially save costs in undertaking this work. The viability of this is will be determined when the consultant's brief response has been received.

# 1.3 DELIVERABLES

- Scoping Report
- Background Report
- Final LCWIP Report with recommendations

# 1.4 PROJECT BUDGET

Anticipated Project Budget Range	£20,000 to £30,000

### 1.5 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF WORKS TO BE UNDERTAKEN

- A Scoping Report to outline the proposed approach to developing the LCWIP. This
  should include timescales, recommended data sources and tools that will be used, a
  preferred engagement process and the proposed governance approach. It should
  also outline how, once identified, infrastructure improvements will be prioritised.
- Infrastructure should be planned to be in line with Local Transport Note 1/20 guidance.
- Background Report to outline the findings of the 'Gathering Information' stage of the LCWIP process.
- Delivery of a final LCWIP report containing:
  - Future cycling and walking map for Devizes, with details of how this has been identified
  - Details of preferred routes
  - A programme of recommended and prioritised infrastructure improvements
  - Explanation of how the LCWIP could successfully be integrated with other local plans and policies

# 1.6 STAKEHOLDER & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Effective stakeholder engagement will be necessary at various stages in the preparation of the LCWIP. Representatives from the AQ&ST will help shape and guide local consultation.

#### 1.7 KEY BRIEF DATES

It is anticipated that the delivery of the Devizes LCWIP will take six months from commission.

#### 1.8 RECOMMENDATION

The AQ&ST group recommend that the Devizes Area Board allocate up to £30,000 of relevant developer contributions to appoint consultants to deliver the Devizes LCWIP.