

Wiltshire Council

Environment Select Committee

14th January 2025

Update on the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan (LTP4)

Proposal

That the committee:

- a) Endorse the contents of the report which sets out the progress made on the development of Wiltshire's fourth local Transport Plan (LTP4) to date, including statutory consultation which runs until 24th January 2024;
- b) request a further update to this Committee detailing progress on adoption and delivery of LTP4.

Author:

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Update on the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan (LTP4)

Purpose of report

1. To provide an overview of the Wiltshire's fourth Local Transport Plan (LTP4) including a summary of the work undertaken to date to prepare the draft LTP4 for statutory consultation which runs until 24th January 2024.

Background

2. All Local Transport Authorities (LTAs) have a statutory duty under the Transport Act 2000 (as amended by Local Transport Act 2008) to prepare a Local Transport Plan (LTP) which consists of a policy document setting the strategic framework for transport and proposals for the implementation of those policies.
3. The current Local Transport Plan for Wiltshire, LTP3, was adopted in February 2011 with subsequent supporting documents adopted in 2014 and 2015.
4. The Department for Transport announced the requirement for authorities to renew their LTP last year and developed new LTP guidance; however, the publication of this guidance has been delayed.

- Given the importance of a safe, reliable and effective transport system in Wiltshire, the draft LTP4 has been prepared and following Cabinet approval in November, is subject to statutory public consultation until 24th January 2025. The Cabinet report is attached at **Appendix 1**.

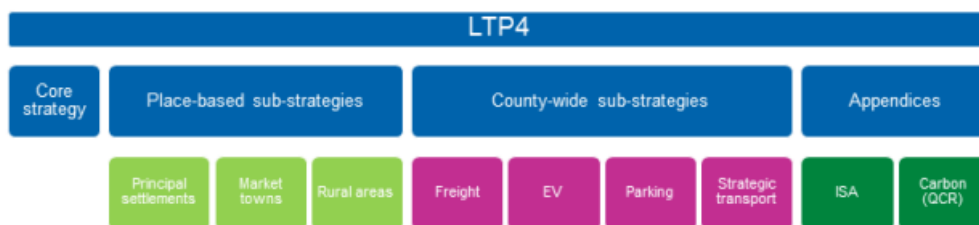
Main considerations for the committee

- This report is presented to provide an update on the emerging LTP4, including consultation to date and next steps.

Draft LTP4: Structure and content

- A comprehensive review of relevant national, regional and local policies and strategies has been undertaken to inform the preparation of the draft LTP4. This highlights several key themes for the LTP4 for Wiltshire:
 - Creating a LTP4 that outlines how transport integrates with, and can contribute to, achieving other policy objectives such as the Business Plan, Local Plan and Climate Strategy;
 - Acknowledging Wiltshire’s distinct characteristics and unique environment, which makes it important to tailor transport measures to suit the largely rural county and support the health, wellbeing and safety of its residents;
 - Ensuring Wiltshire futureproofs its transport systems to deliver a resilient network that is prepared for technological, environmental and societal changes and will meet the needs of future generations;
 - Supporting sustainable economic growth in Wiltshire;
 - Establishing a clear decarbonisation trajectory toward achieving net-zero carbon emissions across Wiltshire;
 - Using a combination of Avoid, Shift and Improve principles to reach our targets.
- LTP4 is broken down into three overarching documents and supporting appendices under which there are a number of themed documents as detailed in Figure 1 below:

Figure 1: structure of draft LTP4



Core Strategy

- The Core LTP4 Strategy is the strategic overarching document that forms the basis of the Wiltshire LTP4. It provides the context and background, introduces the local transport challenges and sets out the LTP4 vision and

objectives; in doing so, it details the overall forward plan for transport across the county for the LTP4 period, which is until 2038.

10. The Core Strategy explains how different documents fit together. It is proposed that the sub-strategies contain the detail of the LTP4 policies and measures; however, the Core LTP4 Strategy will provide a summary of them and signpost the reader should they wish to explore policies in more detail in the sub-strategies.

Place-Based Sub Strategies

11. The place-based approach was driven by the need to tailor the Avoid, Shift, Improve framework to Wiltshire's particular circumstances, considering the transport implications of the vast diversity of place types in the county, including predominantly rural areas.
12. Whilst the recommendation for a place-based approach includes the integration of all modes/themes in principal settlements, market towns and rural place-based sub-strategies, for some themes this place-based approach is less applicable, for example freight and asset management. Therefore, to supplement these areas a limited number of specific modal/thematic county-wide sub-strategies will be produced alongside the place-based sub-strategies.

County-wide Sub-strategies.

13. While the main approach for the LTP4 is to consider policies specific to each place type, there are some themes which will impact the whole county, regardless of place type. Accordingly, it is proposed the LTP4 will have a primarily place-based focus, and contained themed strategies including but not limited to, freight, strategic transport, electric vehicles, asset management and parking.
14. To accurately cover these topics, county-wide sub-strategies are proposed as part of the LTP4.
13. The proposed approach to LTP4 will reduce the overall number of documents that have previously been prepared as part of the LTP process, providing focus on the key considerations and confirming interdependencies between themes and place-based sub strategies where appropriate.

Consultation

14. The draft LTP4 is accompanied by a comprehensive communication strategy. This is to encourage as many Wiltshire residents as possible to comment on the draft, and to engage a wide range of stakeholders including businesses, statutory bodies and partners, and interest groups.
15. Consultation responses are accepted through an online survey/engagement portal ([Have Your Say Today - Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2025 -](#)

[Commonplace](#)). All LTP4 information and documents are hosted on the LTP4 webpage on the Wiltshire Council website. An online event was held at the start of the consultation period on 3rd December 2024 ([Local Transport Plan \(LTP4\) consultation webinar 3-12-24 - YouTube](#)). A second online event is being held on Monday 13th January 2025. Questions can be submitted in advance of the online events.

16. We have highlighted the LTP4 consultation through the Area Board process. For those Area Boards that are hosting meetings outside of the consultation period, we are working with Area Board Chairs and our Strategic Engagement Partnership Managers to encourage public participation.
17. The consultation is also being widely promoted through the council's communications channels, including in members newsletters, the residents' newsletter, the town and parish newsletter, highways newsletter and the business newsletter. It has also been featured in the local media through press releases, and is being widely publicised on the council's social media channels.
18. There have been over one thousand visitors to the Consultation portal to date, with 139 respondents and over 500 contributions. 40 individuals attended the first webinar and 21 pre-submitted questions were received with another 6 submitted on the night.
19. Communications updates through established Wiltshire Council media channels continue and individual comments are being collated. All comments received will be considered by officers, and a detailed consultation report including officer responses will be presented to Cabinet recommending any changes considered necessary before adoption.
20. It is anticipated LTP4 will be presented to Cabinet for adoption in Spring 2025. Advance work has already commenced and a detailed programme will be confirmed for next steps once all consultation responses have been considered and responded to.

Conclusion

21. Wiltshire Council, as Local Transport Authority, is required to prepare a Local Transport Plan.
22. The draft LTP4 has been prepared following initial stakeholder engagement and is intended to contribute to national, regional and local priorities including the Wiltshire Council Business Plan, Local Plan and Climate Strategy.
23. The draft LTP4 was presented to Cabinet for consideration in November 2024.
24. Public consultation began on 28th November 2024 and is due to finish on 24th January 2025.

25. LTP4 is accompanied by a comprehensive communication strategy, including online events.
26. It is anticipated the final LTP4 will be presented to Cabinet for adoption in the Spring. A consultation report, detailing all comments received and officer responses, will accompany the LTP4. Advance work has commenced and a detailed delivery programme for next steps will be confirmed when all consultation responses have been received and fully considered.

Samantha Howell
Director, Highways and Transport

Date of report: January 2025