Report to Cabinet Item

10 July 2013

Report of Head of city development services

14

Subject Consideration of the Local Transport Body's long list of

transport improvement projects

Purpose

To inform members that the Local Transport Body is seeking comments on the proposed long list of transport improvement schemes and suggestions for additional schemes that could be included in that list.

Recommendations

- (1) To endorse the transport improvement schemes that directly benefit the city that are included in the draft long list from the Local Transport Body and to ask that the importance of the economic and environmental benefits to the city of Norwich of those schemes and their wider economic and jobs growth potential for the whole of the Greater Norwich area be recognised in the prioritisation process.
- (2) To request that the following schemes are added to the list;
 - (a) £3.8m funding for improvements to the pink pedalway on the cycle network
 - (b) £5m funding for implementation of improvements to other pedalways identified in the agreed cycle network
 - (c) £6m for NATS city centre improvements, including Westlegate, Golden Ball Street, Rose Lane and Prince of Wales Road

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priorities of a prosperous city, a safe and clean city and decent housing for all. It also helps to deliver the service plan priority to deliver new housing and jobs and to deliver [NATS] improvement schemes

Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications for the city council

Ward/s: All wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Stonard – Environment, development and transport

Contact officers

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Background documents

None

Report

Background

- 1. The Norfolk and Suffolk Local Transport Body (LTB) involves the two county councils and the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership. It has been set up to allocate government funding to major transport improvement schemes across Norfolk and Suffolk. It is anticipated that it will receive £39M over the 5 year period 2015-2019 and that qualifying projects will have a value in excess of £2m each.
- 2. The LTB has published its long list of potential projects. This comprises major transport schemes identified in the current plans of Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils. Stakeholders are being asked for their views on the long list and to make suggestions about which schemes should be added to the list for consideration for inclusion on the 2015-19 spending programme.
- 3. Once the long list has been finalised the projects will be assessed. The LTB are proposing to use 5 criteria to assess the relative priority of each scheme; value for money, deliverability, environmental impact, social/distributional impact and economic and regeneration effect. This prioritisation will be used to produce the draft programme. Norwich is one of the two key economic drivers in the LEP area with significant potential for further growth. It is hoped that this pre-eminence and opportunity is properly reflected in the prioritisation, alongside a need to deliver sustainable patterns of travel with reduced and more predictable journey times for all users being a very strong economic driver for employers.
- 4. A meeting of the LTB in late July will be asked to consider the draft programme, together with any comments received, and to sign-off the final programme for submission to government by the end of July.

The Long List

- 5. A copy of the long list is attached as Appendix 1. Below are the schemes that are directly relevant to Norwich.
 - (1) Norwich northern distributer road
 - (2) Great Eastern main line Norwich to London rail speed and capacity improvements
 - (3) Norwich to Cambridge rail improvements
 - (4) Norwich area transport strategy (NATS) public transport improvements, including bus rapid transit (BRT) routes
 - (5) A140 bus priority from Long Stratton to city centre
 - (6) A47 Longwater junction improvements
 - (7) A11 / A47 Thickthorn junction improvements
 - (8) A47 / B1108 junction improvement
 - (9) A47 Postwick hub

6. It should be noted that at this stage the list includes some schemes that may not be eligible for LTB funding as they have been funded from other sources.

Additional schemes

- 7. The long list was produced from existing published programmes. At the current time implementation of the agreed NATS cycle network for the Greater Norwich area and the city centre NATS measures do not feature in any published programme.
- 8. The city council has recently submitted an application for a cycle city ambition grant to the department for transport seeking funding to significantly improve the pink pedalway from the Norwich Research Park (NRP) to Heartsease and beyond. The bid is for £3.8m to contribute to a £5.5m scheme overall. It is suggested that this be added to the long list so that it can be assessed, should the cycle ambition bid be unsuccessful. A further bid for £5m to implement other pedalways identified on the agreed cycle network is also suggested.
- 9. Within the city centre there are a number of changes identified in the NATS implementation plan, including the closure of Westlegate, making Golden Ball Street and Rose Lane two way and removing general traffic from Prince of Wales Road. It is suggested that funding is sought to complete these schemes.

Integrated impact assessment



Report author to complete			
Committee:	Cabinet		
Committee date:	12 July 2013		
Head of service:	Andy Watt		
Report subject:	Consideration of the Local Transport Body's long list of transport improvement projects		
Date assessed:	25 June 2013		
Description:			

		Impact		
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)				
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact				
ICT services				
Economic development				Improving accessibility to Norwich by all modes of transport will boost the city's economy and it's capacity to deliver further jobs and economic growth
Financial inclusion				
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults				
S17 crime and disorder act 1998				
Human Rights Act 1998				
Health and well being				
Equality and diversity (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Relations between groups (cohesion)				

		Impact		
Eliminating discrimination & harassment	\boxtimes			
Advancing equality of opportunity				
Environmental (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Transportation				All schemes on the long list are aimed at improving accessibility
Natural and built environment				Until the details of all schemes are known the effect on the natural and built environment cannot be judged, but every effort will be made to have a neutral or positive impact on the environment. Insofar the schemes lead to more travel by non-car modes they have the potential to improve the natural and build environment
Waste minimisation & resource use				
Pollution				The proposes schemes will help encourage non-car modes or reduce congestion and thereby help to decrease pollution
Sustainable procurement				
Energy and climate change				
(Please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Risk management				

Recommendations from impact assessment	
Positive	
Negative	
Neutral	
Issues	



Norfolk and Suffolk Local Transport Body: Published Long List

NB: Schemes on this list are taken directly from the local authorities' published plans. Some may not be relevant for consideration for funding from the local major transport scheme pot because, amongst other things, they may already have received funding or may not meet the criteria for the funding stream.

All schemes, plus any arising from the public engagement process will be assessed and appraised in accordance with the Local Transport Body's published processes.

Scheme	Location / Scope
A11 junction improvements	Thetford, junctions of A11 with A1075 Thetford Road / Norwich Road, C107 Croxton Road, A134 Two Mile Bottom / A1066 Mundford Road, and B1107 Brandon Road / A134 Brandon Road (Norfolk)
A12 - 4 villages by pass	A12 Glemham - Farnham - Marlsford - Stratford (Suffolk)
A12 Gapton Hall Roundabout improvements	A12/A1243 junction Great Yarmouth (Norfolk)
A12 Harfreys Roundabout improvements	A12 junction with C631 Williams Adams Way / Harfreys Road (Norfolk)
A12 Junction Improvements	James Paget Hospital, Beacon Park roundabout and Bridge Road (Norfolk)
A12/A143 link road	New link road between A12 and A143, extending from Beaufort Way (on Beacon Park) (Norfolk)
A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvements	Cambridge to Huntingdon (Cambridgeshire)
A14 Copdock major junction improvements	Copdock (Suffolk)

A140 Harford - sustainable transport corridor	Bus priorities on A140 from Long Stratton to Norwich city centre. (Norfolk)
A47 Acle Straight Dualling	A47 Acle-Great Yarmouth (Norfolk)
A47 Easton / Longwater	A47 junctions with A1074/U71505/C162/C574 and U78206 (Norfolk)
A47 Easton to Tuddenham dualling	A47 from Easton roundabout to dualling at N Tuddenham (Norfolk)
A47 Hardwick Junction	A47/A149/A10 junction, King's Lynn (Norfolk)
A47 Honingham Expressway	A47/C539 junction Honingham (Norfolk)
A47 Middleton/East Winch bypass	A47 from King's Lynn westwards to Narborough (Norfolk)
A47 Other junctions	Pullover (A47/ A17) and Saddlebow (A47/A148 NORA) roundabouts, King's Lynn (Norfolk)
A47 Vauxhall Roundabout improvements	A47/A12 junction, Great Yarmouth (Norfolk)
A47 Wisbech bypass improvement	Junction A47 with broad End Road (Norfolk)
A47/A10 link road	A10 bypass of West Winch to link with A47 east of Hardwick roundabout (Norfolk)
Attleborough A11 link road	Preferred route from the B1077 Buckenham Road to the London Road in the vicinity of the Breckland Lodge roundabout (Norfolk)
Attleborough Town centre transport improvements	Attleborough town centre (Norfolk)
B1108/A47	Part signalisation (Norfolk)
Beccles Relief Road	Beccles southern relief road (Suffolk)
Bittern Line Rail Improvements	Norwich-N Walsham-Cromer-Sheringham rail line. Various improvements (Norfolk)
Blofield to Burlingham dualling	A47 single carriageway section between Blofield and Burlingham (Norfolk)
Brandon Relief Road	Brandon (Suffolk/Norfolk)

East Suffolk Rail Line	Westerfield - Lowestoft level crossing closure (Suffolk)
East Suffolk Rail Line	Westerfield - Lowestoft electrify line (Suffolk)
Eastern Relief Road	Bury St Edmunds / Rougham (Suffolk)
Felixstowe Rail Line	Ipswich - Felixstowe double tracking (Suffolk)
Great Yarmouth local junctions	A149 junctions with ASDA/Station Approach and B1141 Fullers Hill / North Quay / A149 North Quay (Norfolk)
Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing	New crossing from A12 Harfreys Road roundabout to Southgates Road (Norfolk)
Gt Eastern Main Line	Norwich - London rail speed and capacity improvements (Suffolk/Norfolk)
Haverhill Relief Road	NW Haverhill (Suffolk)
Hospital roundabout improvements	A1076/A149 junction, King's Lynn (Norfolk)
Ipswich Transport Corridor Improvements	Ipswich (Suffolk)
Ipswich Wet Dock Crossing	Ipswich (Suffolk)
King's Lynn Town centre gyratory improvements	King's Lynn gyratory (A148 Railway Road / Austin Street / A1076 Blackfriars Road) (Norfolk)
Leiston Passenger Rail Service reinstatement	Leiston (Suffolk)
Long Stratton bypass	A140 Long Stratton (Norfolk)
Lowestoft 3rd River Crossing	Lowestoft (Suffolk)
Lowestoft Commercial Road improvements	Lowestoft (Suffolk)
Lowestoft Denmark Road improvements	Lowestoft (Suffolk)
Lowestoft N Spine Road phase 5	Lowestoft (Suffolk)
New bus station, King's Lynn	King's Lynn bus station (Norfolk)
Northern Distributor Road	Norwich (Norfolk)

Norwich to Cambridge railway	Norwich-Cambridge rail line. (Norfolk/Cambridgeshire)
	(Notion Cambridgestille)
Postwick Hub	(Norfolk)
Public transport NATS	Sustainable transport / BRT routes (Norfolk)
Sudbury Chilton Woods access road	Sudbury (Suffolk)
Sudbury Relief Road	Sudbury (Suffolk)
Suffolk Rail Lines	Suffolk wide improvements to regional hubs (Suffolk)
Thetford bus station	New bus interchange on land between St Nicholas Street, Minstergate and London Road (Norfolk)
Thickthorn Junction	A47/A11 junction. Measures to include improvements for traffic, Park and Ride, and buses (Norfolk)
Wherry Line rail and Great Yarmouth station improvements	Great Yarmouth station and Norwich to Great Yarmouth rail route (Norfolk)
Wickham Market Rail Loop	Wickham Market (Suffolk)