

**Report to** Sustainable development panel  
22 June 2021  
**Report of** Executive Director, Development and City Services  
**Subject** Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

---

**Item**

**7**

### **Purpose**

To give members an opportunity to comment on Norfolk County Council's consultation on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Norwich.

### **Recommendation**

To provide comments on Norfolk County Council's consultation on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Norwich to inform the City Council's response to the consultation.

### **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priority great neighbourhoods, housing and environment, inclusive economy, and people living well.

### **Financial implications**

Norwich City Council was awarded £65k of central government revenue funding to enable the production of a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. We received this money because the city council had a highways agency agreement with the county council and we were the accountable body for the cycling ambition programme. The county council has been leading the production of the LCWIP and we will transfer the funds to the county (less the cost of the city council's time spent contributing to the document) once the Department for Transport has indicated that it is satisfied with the document.

**Ward/s:** All Wards

**Cabinet member:** Councillor Stonard - Sustainable and inclusive growth

### **Contact officers**

Ben Webster, Design conservation and landscape  
manager

01603 989621

### **Background documents**

None

# Report

## Introduction

1. In 2017 the government introduced Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) as the main tool for transport and highway authorities to develop cycle networks and schemes for their improvement. The publication of “Gear Change: a bold vision for cycling and walking” by the government in 2020 has increased the importance of LCWIPs because they are needed to justify and secure government funding for schemes that will meet the government’s vision that “Cycling and walking will be the natural first choice for many journeys with half of all journeys in towns and cities being cycled or walking by 2030.”
2. Norfolk County Council is currently consulting on the draft LCWIP for Norwich. It opened on 17 May and closes on 28 June. City council officers have contributed to the document. The documents relating to the consultation can be found [here](#) ( [Chance to help shape Norwich cycling and walking route plans - Norfolk County Council - Citizen Space](#) )
3. The LCWIP will cover the period 2021-31 and form an important part of the city’s transport strategy sitting alongside the new Transport for Norwich Strategy. The Transport for Norwich Strategy is currently being drafted by Norfolk County Council. The city council is contributing ideas to the production of the Strategy guided by the [response](#) to the Local Transport Plan that was agreed by the city council’s cabinet (16 December 2020). A public consultation is being planned for late summer / early autumn with the document being finalised before the end of the year. The draft document will be brought to the sustainable development panel for discussion.

## Norwich Cycle Network

4. Unlike many places, the Norwich area has a well-established [cycle network](#) ( [https://www.norwich.gov.uk/downloads/file/3488/norwich\\_cycle\\_map](https://www.norwich.gov.uk/downloads/file/3488/norwich_cycle_map) ) based on a set of seven strategic cycle routes called pedalways that are complemented by neighbourhood routes. This network was first presented in 2012 and has formed the basis for investment in cycling through the cycling ambition programme (2013-2019) and more recently the Transforming Cities Fund programme.
5. The LCWIP proposes an eighth pedalway (brown) connecting Drayton to Poringland via Mile Cross and the city centre. It also proposes changes to the alignment and extension of some pedalways. The projects map and summary document associated with the consultation illustrate and describe 28 improvement projects that are funded and a further 27 that are not currently funded.

## Walking Zones

6. The LCWIP proposes the creation of walking zones and improvement of walking conditions in the city centre and at University of East Anglia / Norwich Research Park.

## **Behaviour change**

7. The LCWIP also recognises that increasing levels of cycling and walking cannot be achieved by investing in hard infrastructure alone and acknowledges the importance of complementary initiatives such as cycle hire, wayfinding, cycle parking, micromobility (e.g. cargo cycles and electric scooters), mobility hubs, mobility as a service, cycle training and workplace support.

## **Next steps**

8. Following the discussion at sustainable development panel a response to the consultation will be produced by officers for submission by the deadline of 28 June in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth.