

Transport for Lancashire Committee

3rd February 2015

Lancashire Strategic Transport Prospectus
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Executive Summary

At their previous meeting, Members requested that a Strategic Transport Prospectus for Lancashire be prepared. The attached prospectus builds on work already undertaken in developing the five area-based highways and transport masterplans and the Lancashire Strategic Economic Plan to set out a clear proposition that will facilitate engagement with the various organisations Lancashire needs to influence if it is to benefit fully from the current momentum to significantly enhance connectivity across the North.

Recommendations

The Committee is invited to:

- 1) Note the contents of this report; and
- 2) Agree the attached Strategic Transport Prospectus and recommend that it be submitted to the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board for approval.

1. Background

- 1.1 At their last meeting, the Committee received a report summarising the various proposals that emerged during 2014 to improve connectivity to, from and across the North of England, particularly but not exclusively by rail. The report also set out the potential implications for Lancashire of the 'Connected North' agenda, and proposed a way forward to enable Lancashire to align its own strategic transport priorities alongside this fast emerging agenda. Members requested that a Strategic Transport Prospectus for Lancashire be prepared, in similar vein to the 'One North' proposition and based on the strategic transport priorities contained with Appendix 'A' to the report.
- 1.2 A draft Strategic Transport Prospectus is attached as Appendix 'A' for consideration together with a sample short leaflet for publicity purposes. The prospectus builds on work already undertaken in developing the five area-based highways and transport masterplans and the Lancashire Strategic Economic Plan to set out a clear proposition that will facilitate engagement with the various organisations Lancashire needs to influence if it is to benefit fully from the current momentum to significantly enhance connectivity across

the North. Many of the strategic priorities contained therein will require the support and commitment of external organisations such as Network Rail, the Highways Agency and neighbouring city region combined authorities if they are to be successfully delivered.

- 1.3 Lancashire needs to be in a position to influence development of the government-led transport strategy for the North announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in October 2014. An interim report is due in March 2015 with a full report scheduled for March 2016. The prospectus will also enable both the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership and the three local transport authorities to engage positively with the incoming government following the 2015 General Election.