



LEP – Sub Committee

Transport for Lancashire Committee

Private and Confidential: NO

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Transport for the North and Spending Review 2015 Update

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Executive Summary

This report provides a short update on progress with the Transport for the North agenda together with relevant announcements from the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Spending Review and Autumn Statement 2015.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to note the contents of this report.

Background and Advice

Since the last Transport for Lancashire committee on 1st October, the Government has introduced legislation into Parliament month that will enable the establishment of Transport for the North (TfN) as a statutory body from April 2017. A Chief Executive is now in post and an announcement of who will become TfN's Independent Chair is expected shortly. As reported previously, TfN is developing a number of workstreams to inform the update of the interim Northern Transport Strategy¹ due to be published in advance of the Budget next March. The Spending Review announced a further £20m of funding this Parliament to support TfN's running costs and enable TfN to take forward its work programme, making a total funding commitment of £50m.

The Government has committed to invest £61bn in transport this Parliament, an increase of £20bn. This includes £46.7bn capital investment on HS2, the Roads Investment Strategy and local transport. Investment in the Strategic Road Network from 2020/21 will be funded directly from the revenues of Vehicle Excise Duty. The Government will publish a second Roads Investment Strategy before the end of this Parliament setting out how the 'Roads Fund' will be spent. A new Transport

¹ 'The Northern Powerhouse: One Agenda, One Economy, One North – A Report on the Northern Transport Strategy' HM Government and Transport for the North, March 2015



Development Fund will provide £300m over the next 5 years to develop the next generation of transport infrastructure projects, potentially including proposals emerging from the Northern Transport Strategy, following advice from the National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) prior to Budget 2016.

As part of its commitment to drive forward major transport improvements across the North in support of the Northern Powerhouse, the Government has announced £150m of funding to support the delivery of smart and integrated ticketing across local transport and rail services in the North. TfN will produce a regional implementation plan, working in partnership with the DfT, by Budget 2016. This will support TfN's plans for a ticketing system that makes it simple and easy for people to travel across the North by bus, tram, metro and rail.

The Government has confirmed indicative Local Growth Fund allocations made through Growth Deals. In Lancashire, this comprises contributions to the following schemes:

- Preston Western Distributor £30.9m
- A6 Broughton Bypass £6.7m
- Darwen East Distributor £2.5m
- Blackpool Town Centre Green Corridors £6.6m
- Blackpool Tramway Extension £2.1m

The Government will also provide £475m of new funding over the next five years for large local transport projects, enabling local areas to bid for funding for projects that would be too expensive to pay for by themselves. An additional £250m will be made available to tackle pot holes on the local road network.

A new Enterprise Zone will be established at the Hillhouse site in Wyre focused on chemicals and energy, bringing the number of EZ sites in Lancashire up to four.