

Paper for Council for Economic Renewal

Prioritising the National Transport Plan

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This paper provides the Council for Economic Renewal with an update on the prioritisation of the National Transport Plan.

2. Action Required

- 2.1. The Council for Economic Renewal is asked to note the contents of this paper and provide feedback during the discussion on 1 December.

3. Background

- 3.1. Since the last paper presented to you in July officials have been working to prioritise the interventions in the National Transport Plan (NTP). Prioritising the NTP will enable interventions to be rescheduled to focus on delivery of Welsh Government's priorities for transport. The prioritised programme will be aligned with the wider objectives for the wider portfolio, and consistent with delivery of the Welsh Government agenda. Prioritising the NTP also provides the opportunity to reschedule the delivery of interventions in light of capital and revenue budget pressures.
- 3.2. The prioritisation exercise examined only those interventions listed in the NTP. The interventions were initially reviewed in light of the following statements as agreed with the Minister for Local Government and Communities:
 - Address the mobility issues faced by people living in poverty in deprived communities, by improving access to employment, services and facilities.
 - Ensure the transport network in Wales operates more efficiently and effectively.
 - Tackle urban congestion to unlock sustainable growth.
 - Improve access to key sites and settlements, particularly in rural areas, with emphasis on improving the quality and provision of healthy and more sustainable travel choices.
 - Improve the capacity and reliability of the main east-west strategic Trans European corridors in Wales.
- 3.3. Interventions that fell into one of the following categories were excluded from the prioritisation process:
 - Interventions that have been completed, or are soon to be completed.
 - Interventions that are policy or planning principles, and therefore guide day-to-day work.
 - Ongoing interventions that directly deliver a Government commitment.

The remaining interventions were segmented by mode and assessed in terms of their relevance to the five statements.

- 3.4. A reference panel was convened to discuss prioritisation of the NTP. Reference panel members represented expertise across sectors and interests. Reference panel members are listed below.
- David Rosser, Director CBI Cymru
 - David Smith, Rail Planning Manager, Association of Train Operating Companies
 - Karen Dee, National & Regional Policy Director Freight Transport Association
 - Dave Adamson, Founder Member at Institute of Social Commissioning Regeneration/Poverty, CREW
 - Lee Waters, National Director Sustrans Cymru
 - Stuart Cole, Professor of Transport, Wales Transport Research Centre
 - Adele Baumgardt, Chair Public Transport User's Committee
 - Councillor Tony Sharps, Chair Taith

4. Next steps

- 4.1. The Minister for Local Government and Communities intends to undertake bi-laterals with Cabinet colleagues to enable wider views to be incorporated ahead of clearance at Cabinet.
- 4.2. Officials will ensure that comments made during bi-laterals and from the reference panel are incorporated into consideration of the delivery schedule.