

**MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL**

<b>Report of:</b>	Director for Environment and Community Services
<b>Relevant Executive Member:</b>	Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability
<b>Submitted to:</b>	Executive
<b>Date:</b>	4 December 2024
<b>Title:</b>	Highway Infrastructure Delivery Plan
<b>Report for:</b>	Decision
<b>Status:</b>	Public
<b>Council Plan priority:</b>	A successful and ambitious town
<b>Key decision:</b>	Yes
<b>Why:</b>	Decision(s) will have a significant impact in two or more wards
<b>Subject to call in?:</b>	Yes
<b>Why:</b>	It is a decision of the Executive and a non-urgent decision

**Proposed decision(s)**

That the Executive approves the updated Highway Infrastructure Delivery Plan, and endorses seeking funding to expedite the requirements.

**Executive summary**

This report is to provide details of the schemes associated with the Council's Highway Infrastructure Delivery Plan (HIDP); aimed at supporting the ambitious growth of the town. The report highlights issues to be considered, such as securing the required funding for scheme delivery and potential sources for where it could be secured from.

Individual schemes would still require Executive approval once the relevant funding is secured and technical work is complete. It is recommended that the Executive approves the updated strategy document to ensure that the Council can deliver its objectives in a prudent manner; as set out within the strategy. This is particularly pertinent as it allows the Council to seek funding as it is an adopted strategy.

## **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Highway Infrastructure Delivery Plan; aligned with updated traffic modelling, transport policy and government strategy.
- 1.2 The approval will support the wider economic growth of Middlesbrough and the pursuit of external funding to enable timely delivery.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the Executive approves the updated Highway Infrastructure Delivery Plan and endorses seeking funding to expedite the requirements.

## **3. Rationale for the recommended decision(s)**

- 3.1 The approval will reference the required infrastructure changes to ensure the Councils transport network is fit for purpose; while acknowledging the anticipated demand placed upon it due to ambitious economic and housing growth of the town.
- 3.2 This will support the wider economic growth of Middlesbrough and the Tees Valley, with the pursuit of external funding to enable successful delivery.

## **4. Background and relevant information**

- 4.1 Transport modelling has been undertaken on the Councils Highway to identify current and predicted demand associated with housing and economic growth up to the year 2040. The model has identified locations that require improvements to off-set the impact of increased demand.
- 4.2 Vehicular infrastructure improvements alone will not be sufficient to off-set the anticipated growth. Alternate modes of travel need to be considered and provided for as part of a modal shift toward more sustainable transport (walking, cycling and public transport). This will be crucial in terms of re-addressing the imbalance and dominance of the private car as a mode of travel, supporting the green agenda, and improving physical activity.
- 4.3 Approval will allow the Council to seek funding from external sources to deliver the improvements.
- 4.4 The following documents have been used to inform the updated version of the Highway Infrastructure Delivery Plan
  - [Active Travel England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)
  - [Cycle infrastructure design \(LTN 1/20\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)
  - [teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/business/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/03/BSIP-Brochure-Dec-22-5.pdf](https://teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/business/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/03/BSIP-Brochure-Dec-22-5.pdf)
  - [UK electric vehicle infrastructure strategy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

## **5. Other potential alternative(s) and why these have not been recommended.**

- 5.1 Do nothing. If the Council does not approve and endorse the updated plan, this would result in a significant challenge to delivering future infrastructure projects or seeking required funding, due to an approved strategy not being in place.
- 5.2 Not having an approved strategy in place, could indicate that the Council has not considered mitigation measures to support new transport and housing schemes across the town. This will result in a disjointed approach between local, regional and national approaches to facilitate economic growth; presenting a weaker methodology for seeking funding from future external funding sources.

## **6. Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)**

- 6.1 The impact of the decision ensures that the Council is co-ordinated in its approach to promoting sustainable transport initiatives at every stage in the planning, implementation and maintenance of its local highway network. This will result in providing mitigation measures that simultaneously align with both internal and external strategies and policy frameworks. This will further strengthen the Councils position toward succeeding in its ambitious growth plans, while simultaneously delivering a fit for purpose and resilient transport network.

## **7. Financial (including procurement and Social Value)**

- 7.1 The strategy will not result in additional demand on the Council's revenue or capital budgets. Annual Local Transport Plan allocations will be considered in conjunction with other funding streams to contribute to schemes, approved annually as part of the capital programme.
- 7.2 Endorsing this strategy will strengthen the possibility of attracting any additional funding as it demonstrates the Councils commitment, and forward planning to delivering specific initiatives.

## **8. Legal**

- 8.1 There are no legal implications for the Council associated with the recommendation, as the approval and endorsement highlight the methods and schemes to be adopted. Each individual scheme will be impact assessed accordingly prior to commencing.

## **9. Risk**

- 9.1 In relation to the Strategic Risk Register, the relevant risks are outlined below.
- a. O1-005 - If poor economic growth occurs, this will reduce public and private sector investment in the town, including town centre retail, housing development and business.

- b. O8-008 - If effective partnership working is not achieved, this will reduce the Council's ability to deliver strategic priorities and key services, resulting in reduced outcomes for local communities.

9.2 These risks are all mitigated to an extent by the proposed approach.

### **10. Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion**

10.1 There are no implications on Human Rights, equality, and community cohesion because of approving this document. All policies are based upon improving the highway network for all residents and highway users based on increasing accessibility to services.

### **11. Climate Change / Environmental**

11.1 Approving this document will assist Climate Change and Environment as the strategy is to improve the efficiency of the available space within the highway network and supporting sustainable transport. This will reduce emissions associated with different forms of vehicular transport.

### **12. Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers**

12.1 The approval of this document will support young people cared for by the authority and care leavers as it will improve accessibility to modes of transport that do not require the use of a private vehicle. This will ensure that social mobility is promoted, which is more prevalent for transport users with less disposable income.

### **13. Data Protection**

13.1 No data will be required to be collected as part of approval of this document. Any subsequent projects that are delivered as part of this strategy document will be subject to data protection requirements as required.

### **Actions to be taken to implement the recommended decision(s)**

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
Continue to explore funding opportunities in order to deliver the improvements outlined within the HIDP.	Chris Orr	2040

### **Appendices**

1	Highway Infrastructure Delivery Plan (appendix a and b are accompanying the plan)
2	
3	

### **Background papers**

Body	Report title	Date
n/a		

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