



NORTH WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE

22 March, 2024

TITLE: Regional Transport Plan for North Wales - draft Case for Change

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1. The purpose of the report is to present the 15 key objectives within the North Wales Regional Transport Plan draft Case for Change for North Wales.

2. DECISION SOUGHT

2.1. To recommend the agreement of the 15 objectives within the draft Case for Change as part of the North Wales Regional Transport Plan.

3. REASON FOR THE DECISION

3.1. As the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, the Welsh Government Corporate Joint Committee Statutory Guidance and the Guidance to Corporate Joint Committees on Regional Transport Plans Version 2 refers, one of the statutory functions of a Corporate Joint Committee is to develop a Regional Transport Plan. The Case for Change is part of the process to develop a Regional Transport Plan for the North Wales region.

4. BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

4.1. The Implementation Plan for the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) was approved by the CJC on the 24 November, 2023. The next step in developing the RTP requires the development of the Case for Change - which sets out the aims and objectives of the RTP and identifies the key issues, challenges, and opportunities the plan should consider guiding the development of an integrated transport network for North Wales. Setting the right objectives is key as they will be part of the process to score and prioritise future projects and programmes once the RTP is approved by Welsh Ministers. The 15 objectives have been identified to underpin and support the Case for Change and the RTP.

- 4.2. The North Wales RTP will also consider the evidence and recommendations of the North Wales Transport Commission whilst also considering how North Wales can support the delivery of Llwybr Newydd - the Wales Transport Strategy.
- 4.3. Following approval by Welsh Ministers, it is anticipated that the final Regional Transport Plan will be published in late summer 2025.
- 4.4. The following provides the 15 objectives underpinning the North Wales RTP process:
1. Develop a resilient, well-maintained, and efficient transport network that supports economic growth;
 2. Develop the infrastructure and services that provide people with a choice about how they travel for each journey;
 3. Improve sustainable access to employment and educational sites and tourist attractions;
 4. Improve access to key service;
 5. Encourage decarbonisation a culture change that sees people who have a choice travelling by means other than the private car;
 6. Improve access to town and city centres for all sustainable modes;
 7. Reduce both exhaust and non-exhaust emissions from transport;
 8. Improve safety for all highway users;
 9. Reduce the need to travel;
 10. Develop a transport network that provides social value for communities;
 11. Make wellbeing a core consideration across all transport projects and programmes in North Wales;
 12. Prioritise the Welsh language and culture;
 13. Integrate equalities into all aspects of transport planning;
 14. Integrate Investment Zone and the Freeport as regional considerations;
 15. Identify synergies between the RTP and the SDP.
- 4.5. A full copy of the draft Case for Change will be presented to the CJC for approval at a future meeting.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Costs will be drawn from existing North Wales CJC budgets with the necessary support from Cyngor Gwynedd's Legal and Finance teams.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. As set out in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, the Welsh Government Corporate Joint Committee Statutory Guidance and the Guidance to Corporate Joint Committees on Regional Transport Plans Version 2 - one of the statutory functions of a Corporate Joint Committee is to develop a Regional Transport Plan.

BACKGROUND PAPER (Confidential document):

Draft Case for Change

STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. Monitoring Officer:

“Any observations to be presented at the meeting.”

ii. Statutory Finance Officer:

“I have no objections to the decision sought from the perspective of financial propriety. I expect the work of developing the plan to be completed within the budget of the CJC.”