



REPORT TO THE STRATEGIC TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

2nd November 2026

TITLE: The Strategic Transport Sub-Committee Bi-Annual Report

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. To consider the bi-annual report as required further to the Terms of Reference.

2. DECISION SOUGHT

- 2.1. To consider the report and make recommendations if necessary to the Corporate Joint Committee.

3. REASON FOR THE DECISION

- 3.1. The Terms of Reference for the Sub Committee require that an update report is produced on a bi-annual basis.

4. BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1. The Terms of Reference state that the “Strategic Transport Sub-Committee will prepare a bi-annual report on its work for the Corporate Joint Committee.
- 4.2. The context for such a report is to ensure that the work of the Sub-Committee is open and transparent and that its functions are being clearly communicated.
- 4.3. The Terms of Reference provide that bi-annual reports shall form part of an agreed scrutiny protocol and shall be in a format which will facilitate its submission into Scrutiny or other governance arrangements as determined by the Corporate Joint Committee.

5. REGIONAL TRANSPORT FUND 2026/27

- 5.1. At the start of the 2026/27 financial year, Welsh Government’s Regional Transport Fund became an important source of funding for the transport interventions identified in the Regional Transport Delivery Plan (RTDP). Ambition North Wales, supported by external consultants, worked closely with officers from local authorities to identify a Programme of Schemes for funding in 2026/27, which was reflective of the RTDP prioritised schemes, local authority aspirations, and the indicative budget provided by Welsh Government. The programme was agreed by the Sub Committee and then the CJC in autumn 2025 before being approved by Welsh Government.
- 5.2. Funding for the delivery of schemes is awarded to local authorities. The total funding amount awarded to North Wales authorities was £28.3m capital, and £0.48m revenue. Scheme delivery commenced on the 1st April 2026.

- 5.3. Work has since commenced on developing the RTF programme of schemes for the 2027/28 financial year. This is subject to more detailed consideration in another agenda item.

6 RESPONSES SENT TO CONSULTATION RUN BY PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

- 6.1. Since the last bi-annual report, a consultation response has been sent to Transport for Wales to ensure that the region's Regional Transport Plan aspirations are considered as part of the bus franchise consultation. The response is shown in Appendix 1.

7. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

- 7.1. Through the Regional Transport Fund, the CJC secured funding of £370k capital and £100k revenue from Welsh Government for programme management of the Regional Transport Fund programme. Reporting at the end of Quarter 2 included the spend shown in Appendix 2.
- 7.2. This funding allocation is, in part, being used to fund a team of three staff working on the strategic transport remit of the CJC.
- 7.3. Financial spend from that funding has been used to cover consultancy support to continue the commission with Arup that has provided technical support and delivery with finalising the RTP and RTDP, and the coordination of the Regional Transport Fund Programme of Schemes. The spend also covers officer time for those CJC officers who have worked on RTP development.
- 7.4. Ambition North Wales buys-in support from Cyngor Gwynedd. This provides officer time for support on Legal services, Democratic Services, and finance support.

8. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- 8.1. The CJC's transport responsibilities have grown as we have moved into the delivery of the Regional Transport Plan schemes this Financial Year. Alongside regional coordination, strategic transport issues that impact the region, and contributing to the wider work of Ambition North Wales; the CJC is responsible for working with local authorities to support and monitor progress and spend of ongoing Year 1 RTF schemes, and to identify and prioritise the Year 2 programme. This has necessitated the recruitment of additional staff to support the Senior Transport Officer. The team of three now consists of:
- Senior Transport Officer (secondment from Transport for Wales)
 - Transport Officer (fixed term employment)
 - Transport Officer (secondment from Wrexham County Borough Council)
- 8.2. As noted in section 7, funding for these staff resources is through the Regional Transport Fund allocation.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. There are no direct financial implications arising out of this report, but Members are advised to note the financial performance update in Section 7.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. The legal and governance implications are addressed in the body of the report.
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APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Bus consultation response

Appendix 2 – Financial Reporting

STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. Monitoring Officer:

“The bi-annual report and that it is being presented in accordance with the Sub-Committee’s Terms of Reference and wider governance arrangements. I have no additional legal or governance observations.”

ii. Statutory Finance Officer:

“The report outlines the situation over recent months and approving the decision sought will not create new financial commitments. I have no objections to the contents of the report.”



Appendix 2									
Scheme name	RTF 2026/27 allocation (£)	Actual spend on ledger in 2026/27	Funding committed in 2026/27	Estimated value ¹ of works/ activities delivered in 2026/27 (£)	Key activities in period covered by report	Key activities planned next quarter (50 words max)	RTF 2026/27 forecast outturn (£)	Q1 RTF claim ³ (£)	Q2 RTF claim ³ (£)
Revenue - RTP Admin	£100,000.00	£26,206.83	£81,188.49	£100,000.00	Ongoing consultancy support for development of Year 2 RTF programme, and for monitoring work	Ongoing support to finalise proposed Year 2 programme for submission to Welsh Gov in Quarter 3. Increased focus on monitoring and evaluation to meet Welsh Gov requirements and our own governance processes.	£100,000.00	£19,694.27	£6,512.56
Capital - RTP Management & Monitoring	£370,000.00	£30,951.58	£152,649.38	£370,000.00	Transport Team recruitment - two new Transport Officers recruited in Q2, creating a team of three. Engagement with Walk Wheel Cycle Trust on Walking and	Retention of staff, allowing more resilience and a growing role for the CJC in regional working and supporting local authorities on RTF programme. Completion of procurement process for Walking Wheeling and Cycling Trust ahead of Walking and Cycling Index commencement. Full team recruitment - and better understanding of cost for that - will provide a clearer picture on available budget to progress any commitments register schemes from RTP	£370,000.00	£0.00	£30,951.58

					Cycling Index involvement.				
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