

North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet

12 October 2015

ITEM 5(a)

Cycling Strategy –
Overview, Scrutiny and
Policy Development
Committee Sub Group
Report

Portfolio: Housing and Transport

Cabinet Member: Councillor J
Harrison

Report from: Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

This report presents the recommendations of the Environment Sub-committee in relation to its study into the 2010 – 2014 North Tyneside Cycling Strategy.

In accordance with Section 122 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, Cabinet is required to provide a response to the recommendations of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee within two months. In providing this response Cabinet is requested to state whether or not it accepts each recommendation and the reason for this decision. Cabinet must also indicate what action, if any, it proposes to take.

1.2 Recommendation:

It is recommended that Cabinet consider and formulate a response to the recommendations presented to them as a result of overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee's study into the Cycling Strategy.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 5 May 2015 under the heading 'matters arising from Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee and its sub committees'.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report relates to the following priorities in the 2014/18 Our North Tyneside Plan:

Our People will be supported to live healthier and longer lives;

Our Places will be places that people like living and will attract others to either visit or live.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

- 1.5.2 As part of the Environment Sub-committee's work programme for 2014/15, a report on the 2010 – 2014 North Tyneside Cycling Strategy was considered at the meeting held on 10 September 2014. It was agreed to establish a Sub-group to examine the cycling strategy to see what could be done to ensure that it could be used to improve cycling and to maximise investment in cycling in North Tyneside.
- 1.5.3 The topic was selected as the current strategy was due to be renewed during 2015 and members wished to ensure that the objectives of the 2030 Vision were still appropriate and that steps were taken to ensure that the North Tyneside cycle network was designed and maintained in accordance with international best practice.
- 1.5.4 The health benefits of regular cycling are widely acknowledged and North Tyneside has a very high level of cycling in the borough, much of it as a way of getting to and from work, school and shops. There are also many people who make use of the Waggonways and other routes for recreational cycling.
- 1.5.5 Members held a series of evidence gathering sessions with officers of the authority, adjacent authorities, and partners along with residents and representatives of cycling groups and examined examples of international best practice.
- 1.5.6 As a result of the study the Sub-group has identified four recommendations for submission to Cabinet which are :
1. Cabinet be requested to endorse the addition of a further key objective to the 2030 Vision, relating to new developments; to agree that an updated set of objectives be incorporated into the 2015-19 Cycling Strategy when drafted; and to agree that the appropriate Local Development Document should be amended, as part of its review, to more robustly reflect best practice with respect to cycling.
 2. Cabinet be requested to ensure that the 2015-19 strategy includes a clear indication of strategic cycling routes and a clear indication that initiatives will be developed to further support and increase cycling; and to agree that a target be set for increasing cycling in North Tyneside.
 3. Cabinet be requested to ensure that a corporate approach (including Public Health, Highways, Planning and Tourism) to the promotion of cycling in North Tyneside is adopted; and agree that an Annual Information Report on cycling should be provided to Cabinet.
 4. Cabinet be requested to ensure that design guidance is developed and that this guidance reflects best practice; and ensure that a corporate approach to maintaining the cycling network is adopted.
- 1.5.7 The full report which outlines the key findings, conclusions and recommendations of the review is attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.5.8 Cabinet has a statutory duty to respond to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee's recommendations within 2 months of receiving them. In providing this response Cabinet is asked to provide reasons for any recommendations which are not approved. Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development feel that accepting the recommendations set out in the report will ensure that the current high level of cycling within the borough by residents and visitors will be maintained and improved upon with the consequent health and environmental benefits for the residents of North Tyneside. It will also ensure that facilities for cycling will be identified at an early stage and built into all new developments and highway schemes.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1

Cabinet accepts the recommendation set out in the paragraph 1.2 above.

Option 2

Cabinet does not accept the recommendation set out in paragraph 1.2 above and provides a response to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee at the meeting.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Cabinet has a statutory duty to respond to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee's recommendations within 2 months of receiving them. Option 1 is recommended as this option allows Cabinet time to consider and formulate a response to the recommendations.

1.8 Appendices:

'Appendix: Report of the Cycle Strategy Sub-group September 2015.

1.9 Contact officers:

Dave Parkin, Democratic Services Officer (0191) 643 5316
Alison Campbell, Senior Business Partner (0191) 643 7038

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

- (1) [North Tyneside Constitution](#)
- (2) Minutes of the Environment Sub Committee – 8 September 2015

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

The financial implications associated with each recommendation will be included in Cabinet's response to this report.

2.2 Legal

There are no legal implications at this stage.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

The Sub group which undertook this work on behalf of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee met with officers in the Environment, Housing and Leisure Department, Capita and representatives of a number of residents and interest groups. Full details are included in the Sub group's report attached at Appendix 1.

2.4 Human rights

There are no direct issues relating to human rights arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no direct issues relating to equalities and diversity arising from this report.

2.6 Risk management

There are no direct issues relating to risk arising from this report.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no direct issues relating to crime and disorder arising from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no direct issues relating to environment and sustainability arising from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

The following officers and Members have been sent a copy of the report for their information:

- Chief Executive
- Deputy Chief Executive
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer