

North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet 14 December 2015

ITEM 7(g)
Cycling Strategy –
Response to Overview,
Scrutiny and Policy
Development Committee
Sub Group Report

Portfolio(s): Housing and Transport

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr J Harrison

Report from Service Area: Environment, Housing and Leisure

Responsible Officer: Phil Scott, Head of Environment,
Housing and Leisure

Tel: (0191) 643 7295

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet's approval to the proposed response to the recommendations of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee in relation to its study into the Cycling Strategy, as set out in Appendix 1.

In accordance with Section 21B of the Local Government Act 2000, 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 asked to state whether or not it accepts each recommendation. Cabinet must also indicate what action, if any, it proposes to take.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet agrees the proposed responses to the recommendations from the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee in relation to its study into the Cycling Strategy, as shown in Appendix 1 of this report.

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 9 November 2015.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report is relevant to the following priorities set out in Our North Tyneside, the Council Plan 2014 to 2018:

Priority 1. C – Our People will be supported to live healthier and longer lives

Action: We will deliver a programme of road safety education and support for active travel, including cycling training

Priority 1. C – Our People will be supported to live healthier and longer lives

Action: We will improve accessibility in the borough and support accessibility by walking and cycling

1.5 Information

Cabinet received the recommendations of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee study into the Cycling Strategy at its meeting on 12 October 2015.

As part of the Environment Sub-Committee's work programme for 2014/15, a report on the 2010-2014 North Tyneside Cycling Strategy (which formed the first part of a long-term '2030 Vision' for cycling) 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.

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.

The health benefits of regular cycling are widely acknowledged and North Tyneside has a substantial and increasing 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.

Members held a series of evidence gathering sessions with officers of the authority and of adjacent authorities, and other partners and stakeholders including residents and representatives of cycling groups, and examined examples of international best practice.

As a result of the study, the Sub Group identified four recommendations, which were directed to Cabinet. A proposed response to the recommendations is set out at Appendix 1.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1

Cabinet may accept the recommendation set out in paragraph 1.2 above.

Option 2

Cabinet may not accept the recommendation set out in paragraph 1.2 above.

Option 3

Cabinet may also accept, reject or amend any of the proposed responses at Appendix 1 on an individual basis.

Option 4

Cabinet may refer the matter back to Officers for further consideration of particular issue(s).

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Option 1 is recommended in order to support the effective delivery of measures to support cycling in North Tyneside.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix 1 Proposed response to Cycling Strategy recommendations

1.9 Contact officers:

Colin MacDonald, Senior Manager, Technical and Regulatory Services, 0191 643 6620
Andrew Flynn, Integrated Transport Manager, 0191 643 6083
John Cram, Integrated Transport Officer, 0191 643 6122
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) [Report to Cabinet 12 October 2015 'Cycling Strategy – Report of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee'](#)

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

If approved it is anticipated that the accepted recommendations can be delivered from existing budgets. Any actions that cannot be met from existing budgets, or have further financial implications, will be brought to Council / Cabinet, as appropriate in future reports before implementation.

2.2 Legal

In accordance with Section 21B of the Local Government Act 2000, Cabinet is required to provide a response to the recommendations of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee within 2 months. In providing this response Cabinet is asked to state whether or not it accepts each recommendation and the reasons for this decision. Cabinet must also indicate what action, if any, it proposes to take

As the highway authority for the borough, the Authority has a duty under the Highways Act 1980, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to assert and protect the rights of public to the use and enjoyment of any highway including a duty to prevent, as far as possible, the stopping up or obstruction of highways.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

Members consulted with officers of the Authority and of the Authority's Technical Partner.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

Members met with an officer of Newcastle City Council and with representatives of the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB), North Tyneside Cycling Campaign, North Tyneside Riders and Sustrans.

2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights issues directly arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no equality and diversity issues directly arising from this report.

2.6 Risk management

There are no risk management issues directly arising from this report.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder issues directly arising from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are potential positive implications for the environment and sustainability as the proposed responses will support increased take-up of cycling and thereby assist in reducing transport-related emissions.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Deputy Chief Executive
- Head(s) of Service
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Head of Corporate Strategy