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Title of meeting:	Full Council
Subject:	Addendum to Local Transport Plan 4 - Decarbonisation
Date of meeting:	13 th October 2021
Report by:	Tristan Samuels, Director of Regeneration
Wards affected:	All

1. Requested by

- 1.1 This report was requested by Tristan Samuels

2. Purpose

- 2.1 This addendum accompanies the draft Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) strategy (Appendix A), and implementation plan (Appendix B), setting out further detail in regard to decarbonisation, and how the LTP4 seeks to support and address carbon reductions in transport.
- 2.2 In July 2021, the Department for Transport (DfT) published their decarbonisation plan; Decarbonising Transport: A Better Cleaner Britain, in which it is stated that going forwards, LTP's will need to set out how local areas will deliver quantifiable carbon reductions in transport, and that this will need to be in line with carbon budgets and net zero.
- 2.3 The draft LTP4 had already been completed before the DfT decarbonisation plan was published, however, the draft LTP4 responds to the decarbonisation agenda, as set out in section 4 below.
- 2.4 It is recognised within the LTP4 that the transport system in Portsmouth needs to change in order to achieve the reductions in carbon emissions which are required. LTP4 will support the climate challenges faced, and work to deliver inclusive, sustainable travel options, where access to a private car is not always needed.

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3. Department for Transport Decarbonisation Plan - Decarbonising Transport: A Better, Cleaner Britain

- 3.1 The Department for Transport's Decarbonisation Transport Plan, published in July 2021 sets out that in the future, LTP's will need to set out how local areas will deliver quantifiable carbon reductions in transport, in line with carbon budgets and net zero (see supporting documents).
- 3.2 The DfT state within this plan that "we will support local areas by providing guidance on designing sustainable transport solutions through LTPs. Having quantified plans in place will ensure that every place understands the level of ambition required to reduce emissions and ensure that this ambition can be translated into action".
- 3.3 As set out in section 4 below, LTP4 includes information on how we will work to reduce carbon emissions from transport, however, we will seek clarification from the DfT on how they will be expecting decarbonisation targets to be included in LTP's going forwards and will update LTP4 accordingly when further guidance is received.

4. How the Local Transport Plan 4 will seek to achieve carbon reductions in transport

- 4.1 A significant way in which carbon reductions in transport can be achieved is through greater uptake of sustainable travel, with a move away from such a high dependence on the private car. By putting measures in place which will provide people with easily accessible, inclusive, affordable and connected travel options, we can create a travel network which delivers reductions in carbon emissions and healthier, more sustainable travel options for all. We will seek to achieve this in a number of ways through LTP4 and the policies set out within.

Improved walking networks

- 4.2 The development of the draft Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), which will be considered at a forthcoming Cabinet meeting, will help to improve the safety, quality and connectivity of walking routes around the city, which in turn will help to encourage and support more people to consider walking for shorter local journeys. We propose to provide high quality walking routes, including widened footways and improved crossings, improving the walking network for all, including those with mobility issues, mobility scooters, wheelchairs and pushchairs.
- 4.3 An improved walking network can support a move away from private car use for short journeys, or when connecting to other modes of travel, supporting a reducing in carbon emissions.

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Improved cycling networks

- 4.4 The draft LCWIP will also help to improve the cycle network, through the introduction of protected, continuous cycleways, and improvements to cycle route connectivity, in particular improving safety and connectivity between residential areas and the city centre, local high streets and health and employment centres.
- 4.5 The introduction of further secure cycle parking and cycle hangers at some residential locations will also help to enable more people to consider cycling as a convenient mode of travel for some journeys, further helping to reduce air pollution and address the climate emergency.

Public Transport Improvements

- 4.6 A further way that LTP4 will work towards decarbonisation of transport will be through continued improvements to the bus network and bus infrastructure, encouraging greater uptake of this mode of travel and prioritising rapid and reliable public transport. A new South East Hampshire Rapid Transit route (SEHRT) will be introduced, leading to faster and more reliable journey times, and improvements to public realm will be made at key transport interchanges, improving attractiveness and safety.
- 4.7 Transport hubs will also be introduced at key interchanges, linking with other modes of sustainable travel, offering further incentives to consider travelling sustainably, and supporting less dependence on private cars. Improvements to the Portsmouth Park and Ride will strengthen this sustainable travel option for vehicles entering the city via the M275.

Shared modes of travel

- 4.8 Shared modes of transport such as e-scooters, shared-bikes and car clubs are being considered, to offer further sustainable travel options and provide alternatives modes of transport to the private car. An e-scooter trial is currently underway in the city, and the introduction of a car club is being investigated. Such schemes can play a part in encouraging a switch to more sustainable forms of travel, helping to reducing carbon emissions.

Behaviour change initiatives

- 4.9 It is recognised in LTP4 that behaviour change initiatives, both for residents and businesses, are important in supporting and encouraging people to consider making the change to alternative sustainable modes of travel for some or all of their journeys. We will build on existing behaviour change initiatives, whilst

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introducing further programmes to help to raise awareness of schemes and transport infrastructure through the life of the transport plan.

Further measures

4.10 In addition to the measures set out above, LTP4 and the accompanying implementation plan detail some additional initiatives and measures which would also contribute to reductions in carbon emissions. These include further roll out of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, through the On-street Residential Charging Scheme (ORCS), the introduction of a Class B charging Clean Air Zone (CAZ) in November 2021 and working with public transport operators (including Network Rail) to see improvements to the public transport network, supporting increased uptake of this mode of travel. A range of measures and initiatives are required in order to achieve the levels of decarbonisation required.

5. Next Steps

5.1 Through LTP4 and the implementation plan, we will continue to work towards decarbonisation of transport, prioritising sustainable modes of travel wherever possible. Through improving the accessibility, connectivity, safety and reliability of sustainable modes, these less polluting modes of travel can become a more realistic option for journeys around the city and beyond.

5.2 In order to strengthen our targets for carbon reduction in transport, we will seek clarification from DfT on how they require decarbonisation targets to be set out in the LTP4 and implementation plan and will update the plans accordingly once further guidance is available.

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Signed by (Director)

Appendices:

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
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Decarbonising Transport: A Better Cleaner Britain (Department for Transport)	Decarbonising Transport – A Better, Greener Britain (publishing.service.gov.uk)
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