



DRAFT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE

PROPOSED INDIVIDUAL DECISION BY THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND WELLBEING

TOPIC – HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL’S DRAFT CYCLING STRATEGY

PROCEDURAL INFORMATION

The Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 4, Section 22 of the Council’s Constitution provide for a decision to be made by an individual member of Cabinet.

In accordance with the Procedure Rules, the Chief Operating Officer, the Chief Executive and the Chief Finance Officer are consulted together with Chairman and Vice Chairman of The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and any other relevant overview and scrutiny committee. In addition, all Members are notified.

If five or more Members from those informed so request, the Leader may require the matter to be referred to Cabinet for determination.

If you wish to make representation on this proposed Decision please contact the relevant Portfolio Holder and the following Democratic Services Officer by 5.00pm on Wednesday 15 July 2015.

Contact Officers:

Case Officer: Sara Davies, Tel: 01962 848241 Email: sdavies@winchester.gov.uk

Democratic Services Officer: Nancy Graham, Tel: 01962 848235, Email: ngraham@winchester.gov.uk

SUMMARY

The Hampshire County Council Draft Cycling Strategy has been prepared by the County Council to accompany the Local Transport Plan. The draft strategy sets out its strategic vision for cycling across the county; *“In 2025, cycling will be a convenient, safe, healthy, affordable and popular means of transportation and recreation within Hampshire”*. The draft strategy was published in May 2015, with the public consultation closing on the 29th July 2015. The strategy can be viewed here: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/transport-schemes-index/cycling-strategy>. HCC have asked for response via a survey which can be found in Appendix 1.

The draft strategy has four key aims:

1. To provide a clear statement on Hampshire County Council’s overall aspirations for cycling in the short, medium and long term;

2. To provide a strategic framework to support the planning and development of local cycling measures with local partners including district councils;
3. To provide a means to prioritise available funding for cycling to the best value for money investments; and
4. To support the County Council in attracting new investment from funding partners for cycling and other associated sustainable transport measures.

The strategy realises five challenges which are met by the following objectives:

1. To make cycling a daily travel choice for people
2. To reduce cycling casualties and safety concerns
3. To encourage regular cycling as part of a healthy lifestyle
4. To enable more people to enjoy Hampshire by cycling
5. To ensure an appropriate balance between the needs of all road users.

The County Council have approached the strategy with five themes. These themes reflect the services that are provided by the County Council in relation to cycling. Achieving the objectives will be done through these themes; cycling infrastructure and facilities; cyclist skills and cycle safety; promotion of cycling; recreational cycling and sports cycling and events.

PROPOSED DECISION

That the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Health and Wellbeing responds to the consultation on the draft Cycling Strategy as follows and as attached at Appendix 1 (Cycling Strategy Survey):

‘It is considered that the draft Strategy is a useful document to accompany the Local Transport Plan. It sets out a clear vision for 2025; realises the challenges that cycling faces and meets those challenges with appropriate objectives. The City Council therefore supports the draft Cycling Strategy but makes the following comments:

- Winchester City Council adopted a District-wide Cycling Strategy in 2012. The aim of the strategy is to raise the profile of the cyclist and emphasise the substantial benefits that are gained from cycling. It provides a framework within which cycling can be developed to the benefit of the Winchester District. It also helps to improve the safety and attractiveness of cycling and promote health objectives by setting out different cycling measures. Although there is mention of District Councils having their own cycling strategies, the HCC draft cycling strategy should link directly to these and integrate them further.

- The WCC cycling strategy has an action plan, or a list of cycling improvements and schemes that are aspirations as and when funding becomes available. The majority of these schemes are already on HCC's District Statement. However, there is no mention of the District Statement in HCC's cycling strategy, but instead, reference to a prioritised portfolio of cycle infrastructure projects which will be developed. The City Council hopes that this new list will be split into district areas and that requests for new improvements can be added to the portfolio at any time.
- The City Council welcomes the actions to consider the needs of cyclists as part of safety audits for new development schemes and on all new on-carriageway cycle facilities.
- The Strategy mentions that HCC will be working more closely with partners. It is therefore requested that an HCC officer attends the Winchester Cycling Working Group in the future. The group meeting is a prime opportunity for the County Council to consult on schemes with cyclists and gather information regarding cycle routes and the needs of cyclists.
- Once the Strategy is adopted, it would be sensible for County Council officers in various different departments, such as highway maintenance, to be given training on this guidance. Although the implementation part of the Strategy states that a joined up approach will be required from all County Council services, it does not specify how this will be achieved. Without HCC colleagues being trained or made aware of this guidance, cycling opportunities could be missed.

REASON FOR THE PROPOSED DECISION AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

The draft county wide cycling strategy is consistent with the Council's Community Strategy and will specifically help to support Active Communities (encouraging healthy lifestyles and provision of sport and recreation), High Quality Environment (effective traffic management and support for transport provision) and Prosperous Economy (support the local economy). The draft cycling strategy wants to encourage more cycle tourism, especially in the South Downs National Park. The strategy indicates that statistics from Visit Britain for 2013/14 suggest that approximately 30 million day visits were made within the County, generating an estimated £1.3 billion.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

None.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN ON THE PROPOSED DECISION

None – this is a response to a consultation being undertaken by Hampshire County Council.

FURTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE DRAFT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE

n/a

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY THE DECISION MAKER OR A MEMBER OR OFFICER CONSULTED

None.

DISPENSATION GRANTED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

n/a

Approved by: (signature)

Date of Decision

Councillor Frank Pearson – Portfolio Holder for Environment, Health and Wellbeing

Who are you?

These questions are asked so we can understand different points of view and from where in Hampshire, or further afield people are responding.

Q1 In which Borough or District do you live?

- Basingstoke
- Eastleigh
- East Hampshire
- Fareham
- Gosport
- Hart
- Havant
- New Forest
- Rushmoor
- Test Valley
- Winchester
- Outside Hampshire

Postcode

We ask this so we can show how widely we have consulted. It will not be used to identify your address.

Q2 In what capacity are you answering this consultation?

- Member of the public
- County Councillor
- District Councillor
- Parish Councillor
- Business Organisation
- Cycling Club/Groups
- Health Sector
- Environmental Group
- Residents Association
- Disability Group
- Voluntary Organisation
- Action Group
- School/College/Further Education
- Equestrian Group
- Transport Sector
- Other

Q3 Do you own a bike?

- Yes
- No

Q4 How are you mainly responding?

- Primarily from a cyclist's point of view
- Primarily from a driver's point of view
- Primarily from a pedestrian's point of view
- All of the above
- Other

Q5 Type of cyclist (please tick all that apply)

- Leisure
- For sport/racing
- Mode of transport
- Not applicable, do not cycle

Q6 How frequently do you cycle?

	More than 4 times a week	2-4 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	Less than monthly	Not applicable
Spring/Summer months	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Autumn/Winter months	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

About the Strategy's Approach

Q7 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following objectives in delivering Hampshire County Council's aspirations for cycling?

Please tick one box on each row

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Improving the cycle infrastructure and facilities by expanding and maintaining of cycle routes, cycle parking and facilities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilitating cyclist skills and cycle safety through cycling training and road safety measures	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promoting cycling by marketing initiatives, maps and information and journey planning.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supporting recreational cycling through measures to promote cycling as exercise and cycle tourism.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improving sports cycling and events - cycle sport facilities and the management of cycle events.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Your views on the Hampshire Cycling Draft Strategy

Q8 Is it clear from the cycle draft strategy document what the aims of the strategy are?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q9 Overall, how easy is it to understand the cycle draft strategy?

- Very easy
- Easy
- Neither easy or difficult
- Difficult
- Very difficult
- Don't know

Q10 Do you feel achieving the aims of the cycle draft strategy would encourage people to start cycling in Hampshire?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Q11 Please provide comments

See response in Portfolio Holder Decision Notice