

SUBJECT:	TRANSPORT PLANNING UPDATE
MEETING:	CENTRAL MONMOUTHSHIRE AREA COMMITTEE
DATE:	9 March 2016
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: CENTRAL MONMOUTHSHIRE AREA	

1. PURPOSE:

To update members on work undertaken progressing transport projects and to seek external finance, including through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

To note the report.

3. KEY ISSUES / REASONS:

- 3.1 The Monmouthshire Local Transport Plan was agreed by the council on 26 February 2015. The plan was developed in accordance with Welsh Government guidance, and included the following projects relating to Central Monmouthshire:

Scheme Name	LTP Priority	LTP Cost
Metro: Monmouth bus station improvement	6	Tbc
Metro: Bus stop upgrade (upgrade of bus shelters at major stops and key routes across county, including real time information at key locations)	8	Tbc
Active Travel Act mapping	10	Tbc
Monmouth Wyebridge traffic and pedestrian Improvements	11	£1.3m
Road Safety capital schemes	16	Tbc
Road Safety Education, Training & Publicity	17	Tbc
Safe routes in Community Schemes	18	Tbc
Monmouth coach stop (provision of coach stop along A40 corridor to encourage existing coach services to call at Monmouth)	23	Tbc
Usk Active Travel Network	24	Tbc
Monmouth Links Connect 2 further phases (Monmouth Active Travel Network)	26	Tbc
TrawsCymru (Extension to include Monmouth)	27	Tbc
Speed limit strategy (Reduction of speed limits in towns and villages across Monmouthshire where appropriate)	28	Tbc
Travel Planning (develop and implement travel plans for key council facilities, work with Regional Travel Plan Coordinators to help key businesses and trip generators and new developments in the development of travel plans; encourage school travel plans)	29	Tbc

Scheme Name	LTP Priority	LTP Cost
Safe routes to schools mapping (as set out in line with the Learner Travel Wales Measure and associated Guidance)	On-going	n/a
Bus information (provision of accessible electronic timetables, timetable booklets / travel information at various outlets including rail stations and readable at-stop timetable information)	On-going	n/a
Local bus service enhancement (Provision of bus services for connections not provided by bus operators at own risk)	On-going	n/a
Flexible bus services (Grassroutes)	On-going	n/a
Bus Service Quality (administrate Bus Service Support Grant)	On-going	n/a
Monmouth Wonastow Road Corridor Pedestrian Improvements	n/a	developer funded
Usk traffic relief, environmental and road safety improvements (Usk by-pass)	long-term aspiration	Tbc

3.2 A key issue is funding to progress development and implementation of the proposals. They following funding sources are expected to contribute:

- Welsh Government Metro: The Welsh Government has made a commitment to implement the South Wales Metro project. A number of Monmouthshire projects are on the Metro list, including the Newport – Monmouth and Abergavenny – Monmouth bus corridors.
- Welsh Government Local Transport Fund, Road Safety and Safe Routes in Community Grants: These are grants that provide funding for transport infrastructure and road safety revenue projects, local authorities may submit annual funding bids for specific proposals that support Welsh Government’s transport objectives.
- Welsh Government Bus Service Support Grant: Funding provided to support bus and community transport services.
- Section 106 funding / Community Infrastructure Levy: The CIL Draft Infrastructure Schemes Eligible for CIL Funding table contains the following transport schemes relating to Central Monmouthshire:

Infrastruc ture Category	Area	Infrastructure Scheme	Timing/ Phasing	Estimated Cost	Delivery/ Funding Sources	Available Funding	Estimated Potential Funding Gap
Public Transport	Monmouth	Monmouth coach stop	From 2016/17	£100,000	Potentially WG Metro, TrawsCymru	None. Potentially up to 90%	£100,000
Public Transport	Monmouth	Monmouth bus station improvement	From 2017/18	£100,000	Potentially WG Metro, TrawsCymru	None. Potentially up to 90%	£100,000
Public Transport	County- wide	Bus stop and information improvements	From 2016/17	£200,000	Potentially WG Metro	None. Potentially up to 90%	£200,000
Public Transport	County- wide	Rail-bus link services	From 2016/17	£1,000,000	Potentially WG Metro, BSSG	None. Potentially up to 90%	£1,000,000

Infrastructure Category	Area	Infrastructure Scheme	Timing/ Phasing	Estimated Cost	Delivery/ Funding Sources	Available Funding	Estimated Potential Funding Gap
Public Transport	County-wide	TrawsCymru Extensions	From 2016/17	£1,500,000	Potentially WG Traws Cymru programme	None. Potentially up to 100%	£1,500,000
Public Transport	County-wide	Local bus service enhancement	2016-21	£6,000,000	BSSG, MCC	Approx. £600k p.a.	£3,000,000
Public Transport	County-wide	Flexible bus services (Grass Routes extension)	2016-21	£1,000,000	BSSG, MCC	Approx. £100k p.a.	£500,000
Walking & Cycling	Monmouth	Monmouth Active Travel Network	From 2016/17	£1,250,000	Potentially WG LTF	None. Potentially up to 90%	£1,250,000
Walking & Cycling	Monmouth	Walking and cycling route improvements – Monmouth Link Connect	2011 onwards – scheme has started but still requires significant funding to complete	£2,400,000	Sustrans, Big Lottery funding	None secure to date	£2,400,000
Walking & Cycling	Monmouth	Refurbishment of Redbrook Railway bridge to accommodate Wye Valley Walk and Cycleway	Subject to detailed feasibility study	£700,000	MCC & GCC and potentially Sustrans/ developer funded	None secured	£700,000
Walking & Cycling	Monmouth	Wye Valley Walk. Engineering assessments have been completed on river erosion/ land slips	Tbc	£23,925 site investigations £5,500 design	MCC	None secured	£29,425
Walking & Cycling	Usk	Usk Active Travel Network	From 2016/17	£1,250,000	Potentially WG LTF	None. Potentially up to 90%	£1,250,000
Walking & Cycling	County-wide	Various schemes relating to access improvements/ upgrades to walking and cycling routes and PRow ¹	2012-21	£2,500,000 +	Tbc	Tbc	£2,500,000+
Highway Improvements	Monmouth	Monmouth Wye Bridge improvements	2015-18	£1,300,000	WG LTF	£90,000 to date. Potentially up to £1,170,000	£1,210,000
Highway Improvements	Usk	Usk traffic relief, environmental and road safety improvements	Tbc	Tbc	Potentially WG LTF	Tbc	Tbc

¹ Details of additional walking & cycling schemes that could be included under this theme and which are yet to be costed are set out in Appendix B Additional Potential CIL Eligible Infrastructure Schemes.

Infrastructure Category	Area	Infrastructure Scheme	Timing/ Phasing	Estimated Cost	Delivery/ Funding Sources	Available Funding	Estimated Potential Funding Gap
Highway Improvements	County-wide	Road safety capital schemes	From 2016/17	£300,000	Potentially WG RS ²	None. Potentially up to 90%	£300,000
Highway Improvements	County-wide	20mph zones across Monmouthshire	From 2015/16	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc
Sustainable Transport	County-wide	Development and implementation of travel plans	From 2016/17	£500,000	None	None	£500,000

- City-deal funding: The proposed city-deal is expected to include a number of transport infrastructure proposals that will contribute to improve the economic performance of the region, and key LTP schemes are being considered for inclusion.
- Council own funding
- Possible active travel funding: The Welsh Assembly’s post-legislative scrutiny on the progress of the Active Travel (Wales) Act implementation includes a recommendation that there should be “a specific budget line dedicated to supporting active travel”.

3.3 Council officers are looking at other opportunities for funding, including Rural Development Grant and European Funding.

3.4 In addition to the ongoing schemes, the following key improvements are currently being actively progressed:

- Active travel: Following a public consultation, existing Routes maps have been submitted to Welsh Government in January. Workshops to develop draft future key walking routes and key cycling routes are planned for April-June, with a public consultation later in 2016/17. MCC is also currently seeking Local Transport Plan funding for 2016/17 for a number of possible quick wins, including surface improvements between Victoria Close and Clawdd Du, upgrade an additional crossing points (dropped kerbs) at Wonastow Road, additional cycle parking at Monmouth Leisure Centre and town centre and in Usk, making permanent current trial pavement widening in Monmouth Monnow Street, installation of electronic information point at Monmouth bus station, new/upgraded crossing points at Usk Maryport Street, Twyn Square, Castle Parade, Porthycarne Street, Bridge Street and Woodside and a new uncontrolled pedestrian crossing with central refuge and new section of footpath at Trellech. A response is expected late March. It should be noted that it is very unlikely that the bid will be funded fully, and there is no guarantee that MCC will get any funding.
- Monmouth Wyebridge traffic and pedestrian Improvements: Local Transport Fund grant has been received to develop the scheme in 2015/16; further funding for pre-works is

² Welsh Government Road Safety Grant

expected for 2016/17. Once this has been received and the work undertaken the council will then be able to bid for funding for implement in 2017/18.

- Bus services: Officers are currently working on a retender for the 63, 69 and Monmouth town bus routes. Furthermore, Welsh Government has undertaken a study on the Chepstow-Monmouth corridor, including reopening the railway or converting it to busway. Officers have suggested including Abergavenny-Monmouth-Chepstow/Newport in the TrawsCymru long-distance bus service for Wales network, and are now awaiting the report.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report. A number of the schemes set out above are partly or mostly funded through the council's revenue budget.

5. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING)

- 5.1 The LTP, the Active Travel (Wales) Act and the CIL have all been reviewed in line with future generations' implications (or equivalent as then applicable). The actual impact details of individual schemes will be considered during their further development and progressing.

6. CONSULTEES:

- 6.1 The LTP, the Active Travel (Wales) Act and the CIL have been consulted upon as set out in the background papers. Individual schemes will be further consulted upon during their further development and progressing.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

- Local Transport Plan www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/local-transport-plan
- Active travel www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/active-travel-act
- CIL: report to Planning Committee 2 February 2016
<http://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=141&MId=334>

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