



**GREATER
CAMBRIDGE
PARTNERSHIP**

Growing and sharing prosperity

Delivering our City Deal

Report To: Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board

Report From: Councillor Kevin Price, Chairperson of Greater Cambridge Partnership Joint Assembly

1. Overview

- 1.1. This report is to inform Executive Board on the discussions at the Joint Assembly held on Thursday 2nd November 2017 to inform decision making.
- 1.2. Three questions were received from members of the public, two of which were answered during the item on the progress report. The third question had been deferred from the September meeting and the subject matter was not on the November Joint Assembly agenda So, I directed officers to provide the questioner with a written response and to be kept when relevant reports would be presented to the Executive Board.
- 1.3. Four reports were considered and the Joint Assembly also heard a presentation on progress of the Rapid Mass Transit scheme.
- 1.4. The Joint Assembly were supportive overall of all of the approaches being recommended to Executive Board in the papers. However, the Joint Assembly had concerns about park and ride development from two papers and also whether Histon Road will deliver the transformational change originally envisaged, and I will go into more detail for the Board at start of each agenda item.

2. A1307 Three Campuses to Cambridge

- 2.1. The Joint Assembly was supportive overall of the approach being recommended to the Executive Board. There was some concern that the three strategies showed a drop in cycling rates and the Joint Assembly wanted this both explored and explained further in the scheme options.
- 2.2. The Joint Assembly felt reassured about the process that had been undertaken with the LLF to get support for the three strategies presented. The Joint Assembly also supported a proposal to consult on the three strategies as they are now and only consult on park and ride options at a later date once a preferred strategy is agreed. This was in order to move the scheme forward quickly which the Joint Assembly all agreed on.

- 2.3. The Joint Assembly requested that officers pursue the lower cost options common to all three strategies, particularly those east of the M11 once the Board has received and agreed the result of the consultation.
- 2.4. In terms of the project title, the Joint Assembly considered that the current title is neither representative of the catchment of the proposals nor the geography of the scheme, but could not agree on a suitable alternative. The Joint Assembly proposed that the Local Liaison Forum decide on the scheme title, and this has been added to the recommendations in the Executive Board paper.

3. Western Orbital

- 3.1. The Joint Assembly was supportive of the need to support employment growth in the Greater Cambridge area, and was keen to ensure progress to expand the capacity of park and ride is brought forward at pace.
- 3.2. However, there was a difference of opinion on whether to expand the Trumpington Park and Ride site or develop a new one at Hauxton. An additional recommendation to the Executive Board was proposed which was:

Further Park and Ride development should be considered only on the Hauxton side of the motorway.

- 3.3. The resulting vote was 5 members in favour, 5 members against and 2 abstentions. The Board is asked to note that there is an evenly divided view as to the best course of action to deliver additional park and ride capacity.
- 3.4. Some members expressed disappointment that Park and Cycle facilities were not recommended for further study and suggested that a small pilot scheme should be developed that could expand if demand materialised. This has resulted in an additional recommendation being included for the paper for the Executive Board's consideration.
- 3.5. The Joint Assembly discussed a number of related issues which included the most effective way of crossing the M11 and the current status of the work to use the existing agricultural bridge. The Joint Assembly also felt that there was a need for a more detailed update on the M11 Smart motorway proposal.
- 3.6. In these discussions, the Joint Assembly also sought clarification about the on-going arrangement associated with the John Lewis facility on the Trumpington Park and Ride site. Some of the Joint Assembly members were supportive of the idea of Park and Ride facilities being considered as 'Travel Hubs' which were more than park and rides, and included places to hold meetings with refreshment opportunities.
- 3.8. The Joint Assembly Chair requested that the LLF receives a written response to the resolutions made at both the September and November meetings. These are in appendix 2 in the Executive Board report. It was agreed that a

meeting will be arranged between the Executive Board Transport Portfolio Holder and the Chair of the LLF to discuss the responses.

4. Rapid Mass Transit Strategic Options Appraisal

- 4.1. The Joint Assembly heard a presentation from Steer Davies Gleave, the consultants leading the rapid mass transit strategic options appraisal on progress to date.
- 4.2. The Joint Assembly wanted to understand more detail about some of the transport options being considered. The Joint Assembly also wanted to know more about schemes being both fundable and affordable and wanted to ensure that this was being looked at from both a build and user perspective.

5. Histon Road

- 5.1. The Joint Assembly was supportive of the suggested approach to move away from the original proposition of 'Do Maximum'.
- 5.2. However, several Joint Assembly members questioned whether the scheme would still deliver a transformative step change in strategic terms given this proposed way forward. There were some concerns that the proposals would only offer incremental improvements.
- 5.3. I am pleased to state that the Transport Director recognised the concern from the Joint Assembly, and undertook to take away the comments and work with officers to review the potential benefits against the anticipated costs.

6. Quarterly Progress Report

- 6.1. The Joint Assembly discussed, noted and indicated their overall support of the recommendations to the Executive Board regarding Cambridge South Station, the Girton interchange and the Cambridgeshire rail study.
- 6.2. There was a discussion about the removal of the £1 parking charge at Park and Ride sites. The Joint Assembly questioned whether the Greater Cambridge Partnership should fund services that other organisations deliver. The Joint Assembly also asked what happens when Greater Cambridge Partnership funding ceases and whether this would result in charges being re-instated.

End of Chair report