

APPENDIX 1

REGIONAL TRANSPORT PLAN (RTP)

As set out in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the Corporate Joint Committee (Transport Functions) (Wales) Regulations 2021, one of the statutory functions of a Corporate Joint Committee is to develop a Regional Transport Plan for its locality.

Following the submission of the Implementation Plan, the purpose of the Case for Change is to set out the aims and objectives of the RTP and identifying the key issues, challenges and opportunities the plan should consider to guide the development of an integrated transport network for North Wales. It considers the evidence and recommendations of the North Wales Transport Commission whilst also considering how North Wales can support the delivery of Llwybr Newydd - the Wales Transport Strategy as well as local policies and strategies.

Involving the 6 transport leads and Transport for Wales, work has focussed on drafting the Case for Change for submission to Welsh Government in early March. Setting the right objectives is key as they will be used to score and prioritise future projects and programmes once the RTP is approved by Welsh Ministers.

Following approval by Welsh Ministers, it is anticipated that both the final Integrated Well-being Assessment and the Regional Transport Plan will be published in late Summer 2024.

INVESTMENT ZONE

UK Government's 2023 Autumn Statement announced the designation of an Investment Zone for Flintshire and Wrexham. The announcement noted that, in Wales, Investment Zones would be overseen by the relevant CJC. The CJC is now working with both governments, Wrexham and Flintshire to progress work in taking Investment Zone proposals forward.

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SDP)

To progress the SDP for North Wales, meetings are in train with key planning leads within local government across North Wales. A key milestone will be the submission of the Delivery Agreement (DA) to Welsh Government in late 2024 with each CJC preparing a DA at the start of the plan preparation process. The DA is made up of 2 parts:

- A timetable for SDP preparation
- A Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)

The DA is an important document as it sets out the timetable for plan preparation and identifies who can engage in the process, at what stage and the methods of consultation. It also explains how responses to consultations on the plan will be considered.

CJC - STATUTORY DUTIES AND FUNCTION

Welsh Language Standards

As with all 22 local authorities in Wales, the 4 CJC's will be required to comply with The Welsh Language Standards (No1 Regulations). These regulations authorise the Welsh Language Commissioner to issue compliance notices which set out the duties that CJC's must comply with. To initiate the compliance process, a questionnaire (covering staff policies, social media, committee papers, committee meetings etc.) has been submitted to the Welsh Language Commissioner. They will then prepare a draft Compliance Notice and consult with us on the Notice for 12 weeks, subject to any changes, they will then issue the North Wales CJC with its final Compliance Notice. The North Wales CJC will then have a minimum of 6 months to implement the standards.

Other statutory duties and functions

All public sector bodies in Wales, including the CJC's need to comply with duties to public sector bodies, they are core in how public services in Wales work. Therefore, work is in progress to promote and facilitate the standards of duties including the Well Being of Future Generations Act 2015, the Socio-economic Duty, the Public Sector Equality Duty and the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty.