

Greater Cambridge Partnership's Programme for the Review of Mill Road, Cambridge

To: Highways and Transport

Meeting Date: 07 December 2021

From: Steve Cox, Executive Director, Place and Economy

Electoral division(s): All

Key decision: No

Forward Plan ref: Not applicable

Outcome: To note the Greater Cambridge Partnership's (GCP) emerging programme to review Mill Road within the context of its City Access work.

Recommendation:

1. Note the emerging programme developed by the Greater Cambridge Partnership to review Mill Road, Cambridge.

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Member contacts:

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1. Background

Mill Road

- 1.1 At the meeting on 27 July the Highways and Transport Committee considered the Mill Road, Cambridge ETRO. The Committee resolved to remove the restriction and undertake a full review and consultation on the options and use of Mill Road, in the light of further work to manage city access, adopting the holistic approach as outlined in the report and to instruct officers to consider funding opportunities to carry out further consultation and development of a plan to address issues in Mill Road.
- 1.2 The Committee further resolved at its meeting of 4 November to request that the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) undertake the work to review and consult on options for Mill Road ETRO and asked GCP to carry it out within the context of its City Access proposals. The Committee requested that the GCP seek to expedite this work and update the Committee on the emerging programme at the December meeting. This report has been written in conjunction with colleagues within GCP who will be leading the consultation.

The City Access Strategy

- 1.3 As part of its programme of works, the GCP has developed a public transport improvements and a city access strategy that sits at the heart of the City Deal, aiming to address some of the major pressures on the local economy by reducing congestion and pollution, and by providing people with better, healthier, more sustainable options for their journeys – key objectives of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Transport Plan.¹ Taking action on these issues is a key part of supporting a green recovery.
- 1.4 The GCP has undertaken detailed work to understand these issues, alongside comprehensive public and stakeholder engagement activities, and to develop a vision for the future
- 1.5 The City Access work encompasses a number of activities to support delivery of these objectives, including active travel, integrated parking and network hierarchy plans (in partnership with the County Council), traffic signals pilots, bus improvement projects and supporting the County Council in delivery of Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs). as part of the Emergency Active Travel Schemes programme. The review of Mill Road will be undertaken in this context.

Review of Mill Road

- 1.6 The priorities for the Mill Road Project are to review, design and develop deliverable proposals in line with the County Council's extant Highways and Transport Committee decision as soon as practicable.
- 1.7 In the context of the GCP's City Access proposals, communications with seek to:

¹ <https://bit.ly/3mRfBEj>

- Achieve widest possible exposure of proposals, prioritising communities and groups experiencing greatest benefit/impact.
- Demonstrate how proposals for Mill road will work with the City Access proposals and other schemes in GCP's transport programme to deliver a wholesale improvement in congestion and air quality without compromising access for various groups.
- Deliver a technically and procedurally sound solution for Mill Road.

1.8 The process will commence early in January 2022 with independently facilitated focus groups. This will be followed by a review of options and quick wins. The proposed timeline of key activities includes;

- W/c 10 January 2022 – Independently facilitated focus groups of key local stakeholders – MillRd4People, Local Traders, Camcycle etc and representative sample of the public
- January 2022 – (In conjunction with Focus Groups) Review of options and identification of “quick wins”
- February – 4/6-week consultation to sift options and quick wins
- The consultation responses will be reviewed and presented to the Highways and Transport Committee along with proposed quick wins and timeline for future work.

1.9 The process would be supported by an extensive communications and press strategy. In line with local government guidance relating to key activities, communications and decisions during pre-election periods (April 2022 -May 2022), the process will suitably account for purdah.

2. Alignment with corporate priorities

2.1 Communities at the heart of everything we do

The City Deal and associated City Access Strategy seeks to reduce congestion and pollution, and by providing people with better, healthier, more sustainable options for their journeys

2.2 A good quality of life for everyone

The City Deal and associated City Access Strategy seeks to reduce congestion and pollution, and by providing people with better, healthier, more sustainable options for their journeys

2.3 Helping our children learn, develop and live life to the full

There are no significant implications for this priority.

2.4 Cambridgeshire: a well-connected, safe, clean, green environment

The City Deal and associated City Access Strategy seeks to reduce congestion and pollution, improve air quality and contribute to net-zero, and by providing people with better, healthier, more sustainable options for their journeys

2.5 Protecting and caring for those who need us

There are no significant implications for this priority.

3. Significant Implications

3.1 Resource Implications

There are no significant implications for this priority.

3.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

There are no significant implications for this priority.

3.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

The GCP consultation and associated decisions will be carried out in a procedurally sound way.

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

Equality and diversity will be a key consideration of the consultation and associated options.

3.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

See 1.7 and 1.8

3.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement.

Significant local involvement through consultation.

3.7 Public Health Implications

Public Health will be considered through the consultation.

3.8 Environment and Climate Change Implications on Priority Areas

3.8.1 Implication 1: Energy efficient, low carbon buildings.

Neutral Status:

Explanation: There are no significant implications within this category

3.8.2 Implication 2: Low carbon transport.

Neutral Status:

Explanation: The City Deal proposals seek to deliver more sustainable transport solutions

3.8.3 Implication 3: Green spaces, peatland, afforestation, habitats and land management.

Neutral Status:

Explanation: There are no significant implications within this category

3.8.4 Implication 4: Waste Management and Tackling Plastic Pollution.

Neutral Status:

Explanation: There are no significant implications within this category

3.8.5 Implication 5: Water use, availability and management:

Neutral Status:

Explanation: There are no significant implications within this category

3.8.6 Implication 6: Air Pollution.

Neutral Status:

Explanation: The City Deal proposals seek to tackle air pollution

3.8.7 Implication 7: Resilience of our services and infrastructure, and supporting vulnerable people to cope with climate change.

Neutral Status:

Explanation: There are no significant implications within this category

Have the resource implications been cleared by Finance? Yes

Name of Financial Officer: Sarah Heywood

Have the procurement/contractual/ Council Contract Procedure Rules implications been cleared by the Head of Procurement? Yes

Name of Officer: Henry Swan

Has the impact on statutory, legal and risk implications been cleared by the Council's Monitoring Officer or LGSS Law? Yes

Name of Legal Officer: Fiona McMillan

Have the equality and diversity implications been cleared by your Service Contact?

Yes

Name of Officer: Elsa Evans

Have any engagement and communication implications been cleared by Communications?

Yes

Name of Officer: Sarah Silk

Have any localism and Local Member involvement issues been cleared by your Service Contact? Yes

Name of Officer: David Allatt

Have any Public Health implications been cleared by Public Health?

Yes

Name of Officer: Iain Green

4. Source documents guidance

4.1 Source documents

None

5.2 Location

None