



Report to:	Transport Committee
Date:	16 November 2023
Subject:	The West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan
Director:	Simon Warburton, Executive Director for Transport
Author:	Liz Bennet, Policy Manager

Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 To update Transport Committee on the development of the West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan revised programme, co-development with district partners and engagement and consultation approach.

2. Information

- 2.1 Local Transport Plans (LTPs) were established by the 2000 and 2008 Transport Acts as the statutory plan for transport in Integrated Transport Authority (ITA, now Combined Authority) areas. As such, the LTP is a plan of the Combined Authority in its duty as the ITA for all five authorities in West Yorkshire. Government regards the LTP as the principal transport policy, performance and spending priority document for a Combined Authority area, against which it will consider policy development and transport funding settlements. Therefore, the preparation of a new West Yorkshire LTP is a critical city region-wide policy matter, particularly in the context of the major role that transport plays in our growth, inclusion, environment and devolution objectives.
- 2.2 The Combined Authority has a statutory duty to produce and keep under review a LTP on behalf of West Yorkshire. The West Yorkshire Transport

Strategy 2040 is our current LTP, adopted by the Combined Authority in August 2017. In October 2022 Transport Committee noted the anticipated government update to LTP Guidance, and the subsequent development of a new West Yorkshire LTP (WYLTP), reflecting the significant development in local transport policy and wider city region policy that has followed since 2017.

Department for Transport Local Transport Plan Guidance

- 2.3 The DfT provides guidance on requirements for LTPs, most recently in 2009. Guidance was initially prescriptive, but from 2009 was flexible, emphasising the development of local strategies and policies that work best for the area, its economy and environment.
- 2.4 LTPs are also used to bid for, prioritise and allocate funds, and provide the strategic narrative and rationale for specific schemes and interventions. The Mayor's WYLTP will form the basis for future delivery programmes including future City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements (CRSTS) plus other funding bids.
- 2.5 In October 2022 Transport Committee was informed of the DfT's indication to update their guidance on LTPs, with new LTP's expected to be in place by early 2024. At its February 2023 meeting, the Transport Committee approved the development of a new West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan based on the emerging overarching narrative, vision and ambitions presented within the report. To date anticipated new LTP guidance or a date new LTPs are expected to be in place by has not been published by the DfT.

A Plan for A Well-Connected West Yorkshire Co-Developed with Our Partners

- 2.6 Transport is a crucial part of our recently published [West Yorkshire Plan](#) vision 'a brighter West Yorkshire – a place that works for all. An engine room of ideas and creativity, where anyone can make a home'. With 'a well-connected West Yorkshire – a strong transport system being one of our key missions. By 2040 we will have:
 - A sustainable, accessible transport system;
 - Reliable and affordable buses, trains, and mass transit;
 - A region with healthy people where active travel is the easiest choice for short journeys, car usage is reduced, and the first choice for travel is public transport.
- 2.7 Our Local Transport Plan will need to ensure that our strategic vision for integrated transport is one we can all support across West Yorkshire and focus on where change is most needed to deliver our strategic ambition contained within the West Yorkshire Plan. To do this the Combined Authority will build on recent engagement and consultation undertaken by the Combined Authority on bus, mass transit and rail as well as climate and the environment. Most importantly, recognising the strong intention of the Combined Authority and the five West Yorkshire Councils to pursue one integrated transport strategy for West Yorkshire, it is intended to prepare the LTP as a jointly endorsed transport plan.

2.8 The Combined Authority is the Local Transport Authority and has statutory duties in relation to transport planning and developing the Local Transport Plan. The district councils are the local highway and planning authority and are closest to local challenges that we need to address to if we are to deliver a successful LTP. For each of our cities, towns, communities and rural areas, the LTP will need to understand different transport user needs. This includes aspects such as levels of accessibility, affordability of transport options, socio-demographics such as housing and employment and social exclusion. A commitment to co-developing our LTP with the district partners through a place-based approach is also a recognition that the decarbonisation of transport will need to happen at different a pace and require a different combination of policies and investment across our diverse West Yorkshire places.

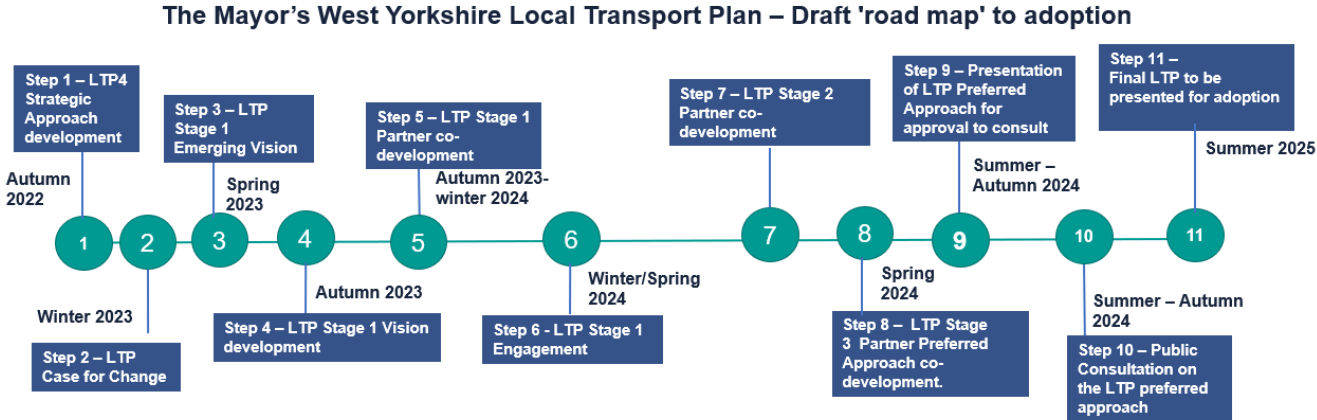
2.9 The Local Transport Plan is co-developed with the district partners and will provide an agreed strategic policy framework and implementation plan, including one transport investment pipeline, to help deliver the following actions for change outlined in the West Yorkshire Plan.

- a) We will develop an integrated, affordable, sustainable, reliable and resilient transport system that connects all parts of our region so everyone can access the places they need to live fulfilled lives, boosting productivity, increasing innovation, and creating jobs. We will work collaboratively to ensure West Yorkshire has robust connections across the UK and the world.
- b) We will tackle the climate emergency through the fair and inclusive decarbonisation of our transport network, delivering the right choice of transport, in the right place, at the right time.
- c) We will make sure everyone can enjoy walking and cycling to ensure good health, and a cleaner, greener environment for future generations. We will make our transport system easier to use and understand, so quick, joined-up journeys become second nature to us all with a London-style transport network.
- d) We will have a new mass transit system for West Yorkshire by 2040, connecting communities with an integrated cycling, walking, bus and rail plan. This bold investment will deliver a transformational transport system to benefit generations to come.

LTP Revised Programme and Consultation Approach

2.10 The new policy framework that the LTP is being developed in, as well as the ongoing delay to government guidance means a revised programme approach has been developed. This includes an ambition to closely co-develop the LTP with our partners for adoption by 2025.

2.11 The Combined Authority is in the process of receiving legal advice on the development and adoption of the LTP. The finalisation of the LTP development programme is dependent on this. In the meantime a draft LTP development ‘road map’ can be found below:



2.12 The Local Transport Plan will be developed under the guidance of the Mayor, the Combined Authority and Transport Committee. West Yorkshire Leaders will be integral to the LTP co-development process. It is also intended that Transport Committee will be regularly updated as the roadmap progresses.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

3.1 One of the aims of the updated West Yorkshire LTP is to help facilitate the decarbonisation of the transport sector, as well as encourage more travel by walking, cycling, bus and other sustainable modes in order to help tackle the climate emergency.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

4.1 One of the key aims of the updated West Yorkshire LTP will be to improve connectivity and support the region’s inclusive growth ambitions.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

5.1 Supporting Equality and Diversity through ensuring the transport is attractive, inclusive and accessible for all is a key aim of the updated West Yorkshire LTP. Public engagement will prioritise engaging with seldom heard groups and, where possible, obtaining data on protected characteristics from participants, in order to strengthen the insights, it provides to support Equality and Diversity.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

8.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

10.1 That the Transport Committee approve the development of a revised LTP programme.

10.2 That the Transport Committee endorse the principle of co-development of the Local Transport Plan with the district partners led by the Combined Authority.

10.3 That the Transport Committee request that the Director of Delivery and Transport Policy provide an update on the progress of the West Yorkshire Local Transport in Spring 2024.

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

None.