

**PENINSULA TRANSPORT: RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION ON
REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY VISION**

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr Richard Chesterton

Responsible Officer: Mr Richard Marsh, Director of Place

Reason for Report: To inform Members of the District Council's response to the Regional Transport Vision consultation being undertaken by Peninsula Transport, the sub-national transport body. This report was requested by the PDG following consideration of consultation material at its last meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: That members note the content of the submitted response.

Financial Implications: There are no direct impacts on the District Council's budgets arising from this report; however the emerging Regional Transport Strategy is likely to inform national and regional funding allocations.

Budget and Policy Framework: There are no budgetary implications arising from this report. However the emerging Regional Transport Strategy is likely to inform strategic investment decisions in the south west.

Strategic Transport is relevant to many of the Council's land use policies.

Legal Implications: There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Risk Assessment: There are no risks identified with responding to this consultation.

Equality Impact Assessment: The proposed 'Goals' section of the consultation document recognises the importance of improving transport provision for more communities and more people; however our consultation response suggested placing even more emphasis on tackling inequalities and transport disparity.

Relationship to Corporate Plan: Enhanced transport provision underpins and supports the corporate objectives for the economy:

- Bringing new businesses into the District
- Business development and growth
- Improving and regenerating our town centres
- Growing the tourism sector

Impact on Climate Change: The emerging Regional Transport Strategy places great emphasis on climate change and includes a goal to deliver a net-zero carbon transport system across the peninsula. The importance of addressing climate change was an important part of our response.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Sub-National Transport Body (STB) for the South West Peninsula (Peninsula Transport) was established in 2019. It was created to transform transport and boost economic growth. It includes representatives from five local transport authorities: Somerset County Council, Cornwall Council, Plymouth City Council, Devon County Council and Torbay Council and the two Local Enterprise Partnership, Heart of the South West & Cornwall and Isles of Scilly. It is responsible for defining and delivering the strategic transport priorities for most of South West England. Peninsula Transport will work with central government to help shape and outline strategic priorities for the region which will influence strategic investment decisions.
- 1.2 'Peninsula Transport' is currently developing a regional transport strategy, which will plan and prioritise strategic infrastructure across the peninsula over the next thirty years. It is currently consulting on its vision and goals for the South West transport network. This is a key milestone in developing the longer term regional transport strategy, as the vision will define the overall direction and principles of the strategy. Responses will inform a Full Transport Strategy which will be developed next year.

2.0 The Consultation Document

- 2.1 The consultation document is included in Appendix 1. This document was considered at the Economy Policy Development Group meeting of the 9th September 2021. At that meeting the Group discussed key elements of a response and requested that the submitted response be considered at the next meeting (4th November 2021). The response to the consultation is appended as Appendix 2. The consultation response was submitted on time and acknowledgement was received.
- 2.2 It should be noted that this consultation is the start of a conversation with regard to the emerging Regional Transport Strategy and Officers will continue to liaise with the County Council and Peninsula Transport as this work evolves.

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Circulation of the Report: Cllr Richard Chesterton
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List of Background Papers: Peninsula Transport Vision (see Appendix 1)