Topic: Public Consultation on the new Local Transport Plan (LTP3) for CWaC Council

Date: 11 January 2010

Respondent: Chester Cycle Campaign (CCycC)

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Executive Summary

This document contains recommendations from Chester Cycling Campaign (CCycC) for the Cheshire West and Cheshire (CWaC) third generation Local Transport Plan (LTP3).

We are keen to help CWaC achieve the National Indicator's (NIs) recently agreed in the Local Area Agreement, in particular:

- NI 186 Per capita reduction in carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in the Local Authority area
- NI 8 Adult participation in sport and active recreation
- NI 56 Obesity in primary school age children
- NI 110 Young people's participation in positive activities.

We want to continue to work constructively for the benefit of our borough and request that we are added to the consultee database for the LTP3. CCycC would like to develop an ongoing partnership with CWaC to assist in reviewing and improving the plan over time.

CCycC believe that cycling forms an important part of an integrated transport plan. We believe that the LTP3 should be underpinned by a philosophy, and by planning and design proposals, that ensure a modal shift from the car being the default means of transport to an integrated public transport network linked to an environment conducive to cycling and walking.

The investment needed to increase cycling and walking offers good value for money at a time of budgetary constraints. Work in Manchester suggests that Benefit Cost Ratios (BCR) for Active Travel Major Scheme Packages are around 7:1. The economic multiplier of public transport and cycling and walking initiatives is much greater than developing road infrastructure.

We have developed nine key principles that we believe should underpin the LTP3 in order that it helps achieve CWaCs strategic goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, maintaining a strong economy, increasing social inclusion, and improving health and quality of life. This also complements the approach of Vision 2050¹ adopted by the Council in April 2009.

In order to implement this, CWaC should adhere to the guidance given in the CTC document 'Cycling: A Local Transport Solution' as a matter of policy. Actions that are particularly relevant to CWaC are:

- Define a package of major schemes for walking and cycling
- Implement Smarter Choices to encourage transfer onto sustainable modes of travel
- Expand and improve the cycle network in CWaC
- Create blanket 20mph speed limits in residential areas throughout the CWaC area
- Commit to maintaining all surfaces used by cyclists
- Develop an integrated public transport system
- Building on CDT and Connect 2 and initiatives from outside the Borough
- Commit to targets to substantially increase cycling, walking and use of public transport.

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