CJC - Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee



Mae croeso i chi siarad yn Gymraeg neu yn Saesneg yn y cyfarfod. Rhowch wybod pa iaith rydych am ei defnyddio erbyn hanner dydd, ddau ddiwrnod gwaith cyn y cyfarfod.

You are welcome to speak Welsh or English in the meeting. Please inform us of which language you wish to use by noon, two working days before the meeting.

AGENDA

1.	APPOINT CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR
1.	

To elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for the ensuing year.

3.	APOLOGIES
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To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from:

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest from Members relating to items to be considered on the agenda.

5.	TERMS OF REFERENCE	
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To receive and consider the Terms of Reference. (Pages 3 - 6)

6. REGIONAL TRANSPORT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

To receive and consider the RTP Implementation Plan. (Pages 7 - 26)

6.1. **Exempt Item**

To consider passing the following Resolution:

RESOLVED to exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that there would be disclosure to them of exempt information under category 3 of The Local Authorities (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007).

The Monitoring Officer has determined that category 3 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules applies to the following item. His view on the public interest test (having taken account of the provisions of Rule 14.8 of the Council's Access to Information Rules) was that to make this information public would disclose information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

These factors in his view outweigh the public interest in disclosing this information. Members are asked to consider these factors when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.

6.2. Exempt Appendix 1

To received and consider Exempt report: Appendix 1 (Pages 27 - 28)



Regional Transport Planning

TERMS OF REFERENCE

General.

- 5.1 Subject to Rule 5.5 below, the CJC may arrange for the discharge of its function by:
 - 5.1.1 A sub-committee;
 - 5.1.2 A member of staff;
 - 5.1.3 Any other corporate joint committee;

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5.1.4 Any county or county borough council in Wales.

Membership

- 5.2 A sub-committee appointed by the CJC may include, or be wholly comprised of, persons who are not members of the CJC.
- 5.3 The functions of a sub-committee, the number of members of a sub-committee and the term of office of each member must be fixed by the CJC and the subcommittee may only exercise those functions as are delegated to it by the CJC.

Delegation

- 5.4 Subject always to Rule 5.5 below, the CJC delegates operational decisions on the discharge of its functions and anything that is required to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of its functions as set out in the Section 7.
- 5.5 The CJC may not delegate any of the following to any other person or subcommittee:
 - 5.5.1 Its function in relation to developing policies under the relevant provisions of the Transport Act 2000 ("Transport Policy Function");
 - 5.5.2 Its function in relation to preparing a Strategic Development Plan under the relevant provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the "Strategic Development Plan Function");
 - 5.5.3 The decision to agree the CJC budgets and contributions of the Constituent Councils and the National Park;
 - 5.5.4 The decision to establish CJC sub-committees; and
 - 5.5.5 Other specific decisions and responsibilities set out in the Establishing Regulations.

Rules Applying to All Sub-Committees.

5.6 The following Rules apply to all Sub-Committees: Rule 4.29 to 4.30 (Location of Meetings) Rules 4.31 to 4.35 (Notice of Meetings and Summons to attend), Rules 4.37 to 4.38 (Remote Attendance) Rule 4.40 (Closure Motions) Rule 4.40 (Closure Motions) Rule 4.41 (Point of Order) Rule 4.42 to 4.43 (Personal Explanation) Rule 4.44 to 4.46 (Declarations of Interest) Rules 4.47 to 4.49 (Access to Agenda and Connected Reports), Rules 4.50 to 4.52 and 4.54 to 4.55 (Minutes), Rule 4.60 (Filming, Audio Recording and use of Social Media during Meetings)

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Rules 4.62 (Inspection and Publication Of Minutes and Other Documents After Meetings), and

Rules 4.63 (Language and Translation) apply to a meeting of a subcommittee of the CJC as they apply to a meeting of the CJC. Rule 8.7 (Right for Public to Attend Meetings)

Quorum

- 5.7 At least one quarter of the members of a Sub-Committee must be present at all meetings and the Brecon Beacons National Park Member must be present at:
 - 5.7.1 meetings where the Strategic Development Plan is to be discussed; and
 - 5.7.2 for decisions to change voting procedures in relation to the Strategic Development Plan.

Voting

5.8 Each person entitled to vote has one vote.

- 5.9 Any vote is to be decided by majority decision.
- 5.10 Where a vote is tied, the chairperson has the casting vote.

Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee.

5.13 The CJC shall appoint a Sub-Committee (known as the Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee) to exercise the development of transport policies under sections 108(1)(a) and (2A)(a) of Part 2 of the Transport Act 2000.

5.14 The Terms Of Reference Of The Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee are set out in Appendix B and those terms of reference may be amended by the CJC from time to time.

Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee – Terms of Reference

B1. Introduction

- B1.1 The Welsh Government has now brought forward The Corporate Joint Committees (Transport Functions) (Consequential Modifications and Transitional Provisions) (Wales) Regulations 2022 (the Transport Functions Regulations 2022)
- B1.2 The Transport Functions Regulations 2022 changes the responsibility of functions under Section 108 of the Transport Act 2000 moves the responsibility for delivering a transport plan from the local authorities to the Corporate Joint Committee and revokes the Regional Transport Planning (Wales) Order 2014.
- B1.3 The Constituent Councils established a joint committee to oversee and coordinate the discharge of the Councils obligations in relation to Regional Transport Planning.
- B1.4 The CJC will appoint the Regional Transport Planning SubCommittee to advise the CJC on its Regional Transport Planning function. The sub-committee will be responsible for making the necessary recommendations to the CJC in relation to the delivery of a Regional Transport Plan for the Constituent Councils.

B2. Composition of the Regional Transport Planning

- B2.1 The composition and functions of the Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee will consist of 6 members, 3 from each of the Constituent Authorities. (to include members with responsibility for transport, highways and economic development)
- B2.2 The Chair of the Sub-Committee shall be elected from Members of the Constituent Authorities and rotated between Authorities on an annual basis.

B3. Regional Transport Planning Sub Committee Recommendations

B3.1 The Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee will make recommendations to the CJC in relation to the development of Regional Transport Planning. The CJC will then be asked to consider the recommendations. If the recommendations are not approved by the CJC, they may be referred to the Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee for reconsideration and re-submission to the CJC.

B4. Meetings

- B4.1 The Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee shall meet on at least a quarterly basis, or at such frequency as the Sub-Committee shall determine from time to time in order to fulfil its role.
- B4.2 The Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee may invite such number of appropriate third parties to observe Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee Meetings as it sees fit from time to time. Such third parties may include individuals or representatives of such organisations and private sector companies as the Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee shall determine from time to time.

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- B4.3 Any third parties invited to a Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee Meeting shall be entitled to take part in such meeting <u>but shall not be able to vote</u> in respect of any decisions to be taken. Any third party in attendance at a Regional Transport Planning Meeting may be required by the Chairperson <u>not</u> <u>to attend some or any part of</u> a Regional Transport Planning Meeting
- B4.4 A Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee Meeting may be held in accordance with Rules 4.29 to 4.30 (Location) and 4.37 to 4.38 (Remote Meetings).
- B4.5 Meetings will be held in public and arrangements for the publication of and access to documents will be the same as for meetings of the CJC as set out in Section 4.

B5. Quorum

B5.1 The quorum necessary for the Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee Meeting shall be at <u>least two elected members</u> from the Constituent Councils or the appropriate deputies appointed.

B6. Voting

B6.1 At meetings of the Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee each elected member or appropriate deputy appointed in attendance shall have one vote each. Decisions at meetings of the Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee will be taken by a majority vote of a quorate meeting.

B7. Minutes

B7.1 Minutes of the proceedings of a Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee meeting must be drawn up and recorded. The minutes must be approved by the person chairing the Sub-Committee meeting or the person chairing the next suitable such meeting by signing the minutes, or by electronically signifying approval.

B8. Proceedings of Meetings

- B8.1 Rule 5.6 above will apply to the meetings of the Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee.
- B8.2 Members of the Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee shall be subject to the Code of Conduct for Members.
- B8.3 Meetings may be rearranged, cancelled or additional meetings scheduled with the agreement of the Chair.
- B8.4 Each meeting will be recorded through the production of notes which will be made available to the public online after the meeting with the exception of any exempt or confidential information. Notes of meetings will usually be brief, containing a summary of discussions, action points and recommendations.
- B8.5 The Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee is not a decision-making body for delivery of a Regional Transport Plan and the Chair should aim to facilitate consensual agreement on matters under consideration. Where a consensus cannot be reached, the Chair shall present the split views of the committee to the CJC.
- B8.6 The Members' Code of Conduct in Section 9 will apply.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Governance of the Regional Transport Plan process is set out in the CJC regulations, and the formal regional transport sub-committee has been set up to provide research and development advice and guidance in order to provide recommendations to the CJC before making its decisions.

To further support the CJC Regional Transport Sub Committee there will be a local authority officer working group.

The corporate joint committee is required to undertake following regarding Regional Transport Planning, following its establishment in 2022.

- the function of developing policies under section 108(1)(a) and (2A)(a) of Part 2 of the Transport Act 2004(4) is, in respect of the area of each constituent council to be exercise by the Mid Wales CJC, and not be the constitute council.
- Part 2 of the Transport Act 2000 applies in relation to the Mid Wales CJC and its constituent councils subject to the modifications in the Schedule to the Corporate Joint Committees (Transport Functions) (Wales) Regulations 2021(5)

The purpose of the **Regional Transport Plan** (RTP) will be to deliver a regional transport by March 2025 as set out and in line with Welsh Government guidance, issued in July 2023

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Although the duty to produce a RTP sits with the CJCs, the duty to deliver a programme of actions for the RTP this sits with the local authorities. Despite this, it is expected that the local authorities in each CJC will collaborate on a single collective delivery plan, an RTDP, alongside the RTP process.

The Area of the regional transport plan covers the counties of Ceredigion and Powys, which also includes the majority of area of Bannau Brycheiniog National Park

Area location Plan

The Mid Wales Region has forged its strategic aim and objectives by engaging with The Growing Mid Wales Partnership (GMWP) who have identified the transport aims to grow the economy as: - "To drive economic growth and attract new investment we need to improve connectivity both to and within the region. We will build on our existing linkages to help deliver the transport network required to help grow the economy and raise productivity". It will be important to work with the wider transport stakeholders to ensure the Vision for the RTP takes account of both the GMWP and that it also supports delivery of the Welsh Government's Welsh Transport Strategy.

The CJC is required to produce a Regional Transport Plan "Implementation Plan" by the 31st October 2023 to be submitted to the Welsh Government (WG) which will set out how the RTP will be developed and submitted by 29th March 2025, and what funding is required to undertake that task.

The Guidance issued by WG sets out the need for the plan to identify how it takes account of the National, Regional and Local Strategies and priorities.

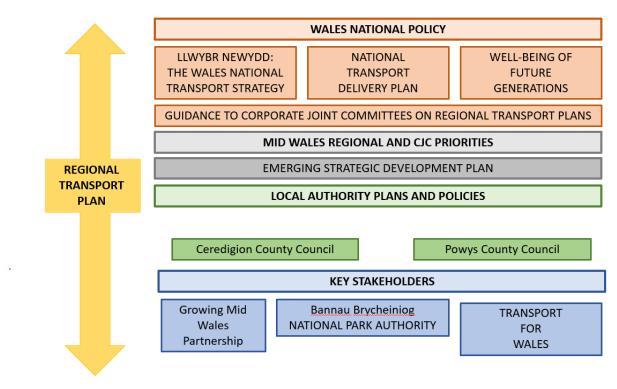


Figure 2: Policy Context for Regional Transport Plan

3. SCOPING THE KEY WORK PACKAGES

Table 1 below shows what are considered to be the key work packages that require completing to develop.

Work Package	Description	Lead Organisation	Key Dates
	Developing the Case for	or Change	
Appoint a partner organisation	Commission to consultants to assist the CJC in delivery of the RTP	CJC	A.S.A.P following funding award from WG. November 2023
Member and key stakeholder engagement plan (to include actions and delivery)	Seek the views of portfolio holders and/or other Members, and key stakeholders about the issues to be captured in the case for change and the policies / schemes needed to address them. Agree approach to engaging members and key stakeholders. Produce materials – bilingual, clear and concise messaging etc.	Agreement between authorities needed.	Tight timescales suggest this stage is necessary very early in the process. Nov/Dec 2023

Work Package	Description	Lead Organisation	Key Dates
	Agree the required number of drop in events and the locations of these. Agree any arrangements and the approach for engaging elected members. Consider innovative way of engaging with hard to engage groups.		
Undertake stage one WeITAG to identify Strategic Case for change	 Set out the regional impact of the following on the RTP and future transport: Llywbr Newydd Welsh Transport Strategy and Delivery plan National Development Plan and National Infrastructure Plan Local development plans Wellbeing Act Regional Transport plan 2008 Joint Local Transport plans e.g. (Wellbeing) Cross Boarder plans (Midland Connect; Marches LEP and DfT both Road and Rail) 	Consultancy	Risk WG need to publish new WelTAG Guidance. Risk – WG need to publish Rural Pathway document.
Transport for Wales Data	TfW to provide Mid Wales Transport Data set to consultants	TfW	
Review of Evidence and Identify Issues and Opportunities	GIS mapping Both North and South-West and Mid Transport and Aberystwyth transport Models findings Consider: - Rurality and access to - services - Car dependency - Bus – improvements such as Bwcabus and	Consultancy	

Work Package	Description	Lead Organisation	Key Dates
Identify RTP Vision	 Fflecsi, Traws, opportunities from franchising and future plans Rail - opportunity for proposals and connections to across the network and links East-West and North-South Road network: e.g. A482, A479, A486, A487, A44, A470, A40, A483, A458, Walking and cycling Housing and economic growth Access to Bannau Brycheiniog Supporting tourism Supporting industry Origin and destination of trips, and importance of Cross border movement Current LTP vision: Vision for Transport in Mid Wales the Mid Wales Local Authorities will plan for and deliver in partnership an integrated and affordable transport system in the region that facilitates economic development, ensures access for all to services and opportunities, sustains and improves the quality of community life, and makes an active contribution to the management of carbon and the quality of the environment. New Growing Mid Wales Vision (2023) 	RTP working Group - after discussion with LAs and stakeholders	

Work Package	Description	Lead Organisation	Key Dates
Identify RTP Smart Objectives	 High quality active travel and public transport networks Net Zero -Climate Change Identify RTP higher level desired outcomes. Identified from GMWP vison document, and Local Authority Wellbeing Plans Consider: Reduce carbon emissions. Wellbeing Support Mid Wales businesses. Improving transport connectivity Making public transport more affordable Enhancing rail services and improving cross- border connectivity Sustainable access to Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Supporting the tourist economy Supporting cross- border conmic growth Increasing active travel Supporting / encouraging the take up of EVs. Road Safety Enhancing Freight connectivity and encourage more rail freight. 	Consultancy	
Governance	Governance arrangements will be via the Mid Wales Corporate Joint Committee for development, sign off and adoption of plan. Supported by RTP Officer Working Group.	CJC - RTP Officer	

Work	Description	Lead	Key Dates
Package		Organisation	
Approval		CJC,	Date to be
Case for		supported by	confirmed
change by		local authority	
CJC		officers	
	Developing the Regional T	ransport Plan	r
Identifying	Identify the policies that will	Constituency	Draft BEFORE
the High-	deliver the identified objectivise		PUBLIC
Level	that will support the delivery of		CONSULTATIO
interventions	the Welsh Transport Strategy.		N to be
and policies			submitted to WG
			by 29 th May
	1. Employment and Tourism		2024.
	Access. Existing and planned		Risk this date
	out of centre employment		will not be met.
	sites may be poorly served by		
	public transport. People		
	without access to a car may		
	be excluded from accessing		
	some job, leisure and tourism		
	opportunities. There is a lack		
	of evening and weekend bus		
	provision, which leads to		
	difficulties in accessing		
	employment opportunities		
	and reliance on the private		
	car. There is an increased		
	need to travel and for longer		
	distances to access job		
	opportunities. The issues		
	above of poor public transport		
	access are acute in Mid		
	Wales given its deep rurality		
	and low population density.		
	2. Inclusive Access to Services.		
	Dispersed settlement		
	patterns have implications for		
	accessibility and access to		
	key services, consequently		
	there is a greater		
	dependence on the private		
	car. Lack of available		
	affordable transport for some		
	communities. Need to tackle		
	the problems many people		
	encounter in accessing work,		
	education and healthcare.		
	Changes in locations of key		

Work Package	Description	Lead Organisation	Key Dates
	services such as health are likely to increase car travel and may isolate some communities. Ageing and in places declining population can result in the withdrawal of local services, reducing access to key services resulting in further depopulation. Opportunities through innovation and collaboration to improve rural transport delivery.		
	 Integration of Public Transport. Bus access to existing and emerging employment sites requires interchange and multiple operator trips making journeys more complex and less attractive. Access to rail stations by car, public transport, walking or cycling can be poor. 		
	4. Active Travel Potential. A high proportion of commuter trips within the key settlements are less than 5km and could potentially be undertaken by active travel modes. There are opportunities to increase mode share by active travel modes and to improve the health and well-being of the local community.		
	5. Journey Time Reliability and Strategic Connections. Poor opportunities for passing pinch point and constraints on the strategic road network led to increased journey times and reduced journey time reliability for the movement of people and		

Work Package	Description	Lead Organisation	Key Dates
	 goods. There are opportunities to better connect the area across borders. 6. Freight Connections. Provision for freight vehicles inadequate on most key strategic highway corridors. Disproportionate impact of road freight on the existing sub-standard highway network. Opportunity for rail freight to reduce road transport of goods. 7. Highway Condition and Road Safety. Poor condition of highways can have an impact on safety. There is an opportunity to continue to improve the road safety record. 8. Resilience to Climate Change. Increased risks to the resilience of the network through impacts of climate change, including flood risk. Opportunities to improve the standard and resilience of the network. There are opportunities to increase mode share by active travel modes and reduce carbon impacts of transport. 9. Availability and Sustainability of Funding. Significant constraints on both capital and ongoing reduce funding threatening the provision of even basic levels of access to markets, jobs and services. Significant reductions in the availability of funding threatening the resilience and reliability of the road network. 		

Work Package	Description	Lead Organisation	Key Dates
	Outcomes from existing LTP: 1. Access to Key Destinations and Markets: Economic growth in the region will have been supported, through an improvement in the efficiency, reliability, resilience, and connectivity of movement, including freight, within Mid Wales and to and from other key destinations and markets.		
	2. Access to Employment and Services: Social equality and employability will have been promoted through inclusive, integrated and affordable access to employment and key health, education, social services, and play and recreation facilities, with a focus on tackling access to the Enterprise Zone and Local Growth Zones and those areas particularly deprived in terms of access to services.		
	3. Improving Health and Well- being by Increasing Walking and Cycling: Levels of cycling and walking for both necessary active travel and recreation, by residents and visitors, will have been increased.		
	4. Improved Safety and Security: The actual and perceived safety and security of travel by all modes will have been improved.		
	5. Benefits and Minimised Impacts on the Environment: The potential for transport improvements to reduce carbon emissions and improve the local		

Work Package	Description	Lead Organisation	Key Dates
	and global natural and built environment will have been maximised and negative impacts minimised, including adaptation to the effects of climate change.		
Dovalor	ing the Local Authoritics Pagior	ol Transport D	oliyon, Blon
Identify projects and schemes that deliver objectives.	 ing the Local Authorities Region Considering: What business case development have been undertaken. Identified how a scheme within programme be prioritised. Ensuring Wellbeing objections are delivered. The guidance requires schemes in the RTDP to be "ranked in order of priority in terms of impact on delivering WTS priorities. These should be the schemes that local transport authorities intend to invest in to deliver the RTPs".	Consultancy in discussion with RTP officers working groups	Draft BEFORE PUBLIC CONSULTATIO N to be submitted to WG by 29 th May 2024. Risk this date will not be met
Identify a methodology for prioritising schemes. Seek guidance and best practice	Identify and agree a robust methodology for assessing schemes against impact on WTS priorities and sub priorities. Possibly 10-point system from -5 to +5 for scale of impact. WTS priorities are: - Bring services to people in order to reduce the need for people to use their cars on a daily basis. - Accessible, sustainable and efficient transport services and infrastructure - Behaviour change	RTP officers working group before taking to RTP Transport Sub committee for approval	

Work	Description	Lead	Key Dates
Package		Organisation	
Prioritise	Prioritise schemes using the	To be agreed	
schemes	methodology identified above.	(working on	
		the principle	
	Assessment, and narrative	of	
	around results, should be	collaboration)	
	cognisant that different funding		
	streams may have different		
A	priorities and requirements	0.10	
Agree		CJC	
Prioritised		Transport	
scheme list		sub- Committee	
	Develop the Integrated Well b		nt
Step 1	Develop the Integrated Well-be Review the Case for Change,	RTP Officer	
	undertake scoping to establish	working	
	what specialist work packages	group &	
	may be needed to develop the	stakeholder	
	IWBA including any supporting	engagement?	
	statutory impact assessments,	(Maybe	
	and develop a brief/s to	GMWP	
	commission that work and	workshop)	
	ensure it is fed into the process		
	of developing the RTP.		
Step 2	An integrated well-being	As above	Draft BEFORE
	framework should be developed		PUBLIC
	and agreed with key partners.		CONSULTATIO
	Options for policies or projects		N to be
	should be reviewed against that		submitted to WG
	framework.		by 29 th May
	As ast suit in MalTAC guidance		2024.
	As set out in WeITAG guidance Welsh transport appraisal		Risk this date
	guidance (WeITAG) 2022		will not be met
	(gov.wales)		will not be met
	(gov.wales)		
	- How will the programme		
	or project benefit people		
	and communities?		
	- How will it benefit the		
	environment?		
	- How will it benefit places		
	and the economy?		
	- How will it benefit culture		
	and the Welsh		
	language?		
Step 3	When the draft RTP is	CJC	Prior to
	published for consultation: it	Transport	consultation
	should be accompanied by a	lead	

Work	Description	Lead	Key Dates
Package		Organisation	
	draft IWBA report showing how		
	well-being has been taken into		
	account and how the five ways		
	of working have been followed.		
Step 4	When the final RTP is	CJC	29 th March 2025
	submitted to WG it should be	Transport	Risk this date
	accompanied by a final IWBA	lead	will not be met
	report taking on board any		
	consultation responses.		
Disa	Public and Stakeholder of		
Plan	This will be identified with the	ТВС	Consultation
proposed consultation	stakeholder Engagement plan.		after submission of first draft to
	Draduce materiale bilingual		
period	Produce materials – bilingual,		WG (late
	clear and concise messaging etc.		May2024).
			Need to avoid
	Develop a feedback platform		consultation in
	such as a focused		summer holidays
	questionnaire (Confirmation is		but have next
	required regarding what support		draft ready by
	TfW can give regarding this		late October.
	process.)		
	p		
	A decision will need to be made		Risk – dates for
	regarding whether drop in		consultation
	events will take place across		need to fit into a
	the region and if they are to		programme.
	take place what locations will be		
	used?		
	Make any arrangements for		
	engaging elected members.		
Attend any	Staffing levels to be agreed by	Staffing	Risk associated
drop in	LAs	levels to be	with LA
events		agreed by	resources
		LAs	
Update Draft Plan			
WG	Review and action WG		Between May
feedback	feedback		2024 and 31 st
Consultation	Review and action consultation	Consultancy	Oct 2024
feedback	feedback		Risk date cannot
	Monitoring and Evolution	tion Dlan	be met.
Monitoring and Evaluation Plan			
Contribution	Develop a MEP that monitors	Consultancy	Guidance unclear on when
to National Priorities	regional progress in achieving the national priorities and	withing with RTP officer	MEP needed-
	ambitions in the WTS will be		The MEP will

Work	Description	Lead	Key Dates	
Package		Organisation		
Agree measures to monitor	monitored, measured and evaluated. This must include the region's contribution to national decarbonisation and modal shift targets. Identify a set of measures with baseline information for each. The measures can include qualitative outcomes and quantitative measures. Note that CJCs are required to	working group Consultancy withing with RTP officer working group	need to ensure no duplication with WTS data collection.	
	A comprehensive evaluation should be prepared after three years to assess whether the RTP is delivering its outcomes, providing value for money and whether there are any unintended consequences. This should follow published guidance and best practice on evaluation. The results of this comprehensive evaluation will feed into the subsequent RTP for each CJC, and the subsequent NTDP.	Consultancy working with RTP officer working group	This will take place After submission and approval of RTP	
	Equalities Impact Ass	essment		
Undertake EqIA	Consider impact on all protected characteristics	TBC	Guidance unclear on when EqIA needed – Risk to final delivery timeline	
	Environmental Impact Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment			
Undertake EIA and HRA	Consider all statutory requirements.	Consultants	Guidance unclear on when EqIA needed – Risk to final delivery timeline	

5. AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Currently local authority resources available for RTP is very limited and to employ staff provides unnecessary administration and time delay therefore the favoured option is to engage a consultancy to work along side the CJC.

5. RISK IDENTIFICATION

At this early stage, the high-level risks associated with delivering a Regional Transport Plan for Mid Wales are considered to be:

- Political agreement on polices and high-level outcomes.
 - To be mitigated through engagement and discussion throughout the process
- Regional agreement on prioritised RTDP schemes list
 - To be mitigated through the development of a robust and impartial scoring methodology
- Challenging timescales for submission and adoption of the RTP
- If the RTP is linked to Transport funding from April 2025, it may be necessary to seek an early approval process from Welsh Government to ensure schemes and projects identified within the RTP receive funding.

6. Timeline and Key Dates

31 st October 2023	CJC to submit implementation plan to WG
29 th February 2024	CJC to submit RTP Case for Change including SMART objectives to WG
29 th May 2024	CJC to submit initial draft RTP, IWNA and RTDP to WG BEFORE public consultation
31 st October 2024	CJC to submit final draft RTP, IWBA and RTDP to WG
29 th March 2025	CJC to submit final RTP, IWBA and RTDP to WG
30 th June 2025	Welsh Government decision to approve RTP.

CJC- Regional Transport Planning Sub-Committee 23rd October 2023

TITLE:	Regional Transport Plan
AUTHOR:	Ann Elias: - Mid Wales Regional Transport Projects and Programme Manager

Background

The Governance of the Regional Transport Plan process is set out in the CJC regulations, and the formal regional transport sub-committee has been set up to provide research and development advice and guidance in order to provide recommendations to the CJC before making its decisions.

To further support the CJC Regional Transport Sub Committee there will be a local authority officer working group.

The corporate joint committee is required to undertake following regarding Regional Transport Planning, following its establishment in 2022.

- the function of developing policies under section 108(1)(a) and (2A)(a) of Part 2 of the Transport Act 2004(4) is, in respect of the area of each constituent council to be exercise by the Mid Wales CJC, and not be the constitute council
- Part 2 of the Transport Act 2000 applies in relation to the Mid Wales CJC and its constituent councils subject to the modifications in the Schedule to the Corporate Joint Committees (Transport Functions) (Wales) Regulations 2021(5)

The purpose of the **Regional Transport Plan** (The Plan) will be to deliver a regional transport by March 2025 as set out and in line with Welsh Government guidance, issued in July 2023

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Although the duty to produce a RTP sits with the CJCs, the duty to deliver a programme of actions for the RTP sits with the local authorities. Despite this, it is expected that the local authorities in each CJC will collaborate on a single collective delivery plan, an RTDP, and this would be undertaken alongside the RTP process.

Action required

The Area of which the RTP will cover is the two counties of Ceredigion and Powys, the CJC will need to seek agreement as to whether they intend to undertake a joint regional transport delivery plan (RTDP).

The processes which are required to be undertaken are resource intensive and timeline restrictive, the guidance suggests the following is undertaken: -

1.Implementation Plan which sets out how and when the following processes are to take place, these agreed timelines, and actions to get the CJC to an RTP, will be scrutinised by Welsh Government by requiring and undertake two Gateway reviews of the plan process against the implementation plan

The implementation plan will need to plan the following tasks: -

2.Review of existing Joint Regional Local Transport Plan "An evidenced-based overview of the current transport situation and likely changes over the plan period – closely tied to land use planning. This should include opportunities and barriers to addressing the priorities in the Welsh Transport Strategy (WTS) and fit with the National Transport Delivery Plan (NTDP). To support this, information is produced by Welsh Government and available via the Well-being of Future Generations Future Trends Report Mobility in Wales¹, and WTS transport data and trends supporting information². Datasets, analytics and regional modelling is available via TfW -the key background data and research used to inform the issues and opportunities (this might include data from previous studies, modelling information, or land use planning information);

• more detailed statutory impact assessments, technical studies, consultation and engagement summaries, or other information that have been used to inform the development of the RTP or integrated Well-Being Appraisal (IWBA)."

The local authorities will need to be able to understand the significance of the data, and interpret this in regard to what it means for Mid Wales, rather than for the whole of Wales.

3. Write Engagement Plan. This plan will set out how the engagement with stakeholders and consultation on the draft RTP will be undertaken. (this will include setting out the "Chase for Change") as well as establishing what the problems are and policies that will be required to affect change. "A vision for the transport network by the end of the plan period with a series of clear SMART objectives linked to this. These should be linked back to the WTS. We expect CJCs to use creative ways of reaching people whose behaviour we want to change to achieve modal shift."

The government has asked the CJC to use "creative way of reaching people whose behaviour they want to change to achieve modal shift". This is very ambiguous because what the region may consider to be an appropriate level of engagement and creative may not be acceptable by Welsh Government! Therefore, it would seem far more effective and less time resource if Welsh Government were to set out what they expect the region to do when undertaking engagement. We have seen in the past that the Welsh Government have been unsatisfied with the type of engagement undertaken for Active Travel, which lead to unnecessary delays to the plan process. The process of engagement is an expective part of the RTP process and therefore there must be proportionality of costs incurred for engagement balanced against the value of the funding being made available for delivery.

¹ <u>https://gov.wales/llwybr-newydd-wales-transport-strategy-2021-mobility-wales</u>

² <u>https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2020-11/supporting-information-transport-data-and-trends.pdf</u>

4. Undertake a WeITAG Lite assessment to establish the case for change- "A vision for the transport network by the end of the plan period with a series of clear SMART objectives linked to this. These should be linked back to the WTS."

5. Draft Regional Transport Plan

The Plan will include "Context and background to the plan, including the link to relevant national and regional strategic plans and policies.

We must undertake a evidenced-based overview of the current transport situation and likely changes over the plan period – closely tied to land use planning. This should include opportunities and barriers to addressing the priorities in the WTS and fit with the NTDP. To support this, information there is produced by Welsh Government and available via the Wellbeing of Future Generations a "Future Trends Report³."

- 6. Drafting of the plan and undertaking of an Integrated Wellbeing Appraisal (IWBA) "an IWBA showing how well-being has been taken into account in developing the RTP including the five ways of working and the four WTS well-being ambitions;" The plan will provide high-level interventions "For each high-level intervention identified in the RTP, the RTDP should set out the specific schemes proposed to deliver them. These should <u>only</u> include proposals for schemes that are within a local authority's remit and should not, for example, include schemes relating to the rail or trunk road network." However, it will be necessary to set out what the National Network is for Mid Wales within the RTP and also how this network need to provide and support the Regional Growing Mid Wales Vision. It will also need to work alongside the local network delivery programmes. For Example, the county highway network intersects the SRN and Rail interchanges and therefore both need to realise the same ambitions to achieve the interventions.
- 7. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan "Information about how projects will be delivered and plans for monitoring and evaluation. These <u>must</u> align with the WTS monitoring framework a monitoring framework and set of baseline data"
- 8. Regional Transport Delivery Plan "A Regional Transport Delivery Plan (RTDP), listing the specific projects that will help to achieve the vision ranked in order of priority (in terms of greatest impact in meeting WTS priorities) and sequenced for delivery. This can be in the form of a detailed table.
- 9. Submitting the draft RTP and draft IWBA to Welsh Government for review
- 10. Publishing the revised RTP and IWBA for public consultation
- 11. Submitting the revised final RTP, IWBA and consultation report to Welsh Government for approval by the Welsh Ministers
- 12. When approved Publishing the approved RTP and IWBA."

³ <u>https://gov.wales/future-trends-2021</u>

The Guidance indicates that the CJC should develop its RTP "in-house" wherever possible, and consultants and specialists are only brought in where needed.

The two local authorities from the of the Mid Wales CJC, do not have the capacity or skills to undertake the tasks set out above in order to deliver the RTP and RTPDP. They do have the option to undertake a recruitment process to employ temporary staff. However, this would unnecessary financial and time risk to the CJC and its ability to deliver the process withing the timeline outline by the Welsh Government Guidance. The delivery of the RTP is relative short (18months) and will require very specialist skills therefore, the only viable option available is for the CJC is to engage a consultancy to support them, and thus ensure they able to undertake the processes needed in order to be compliant to guidance as well as delivering within the required timeline.

Key Dates identified within Guidance: -

- 31st October 2023 CJCs to submit Implementation Plan to Welsh Government.
- 29th February 2024 CJCs to submit RTP Case for Change including SMART objectives to Welsh Government
- 29th May 2024 CJCs to submit initial draft RTP, IWBA and RTDP to Welsh Government BEFORE public consultation.
- 31st October 2024 CJCs to submit final draft RTP, IWBA and RTDP to Welsh Government
- 29th March 2025 CJCs to submit final RTP, IWBA and RTDP to Welsh Government
- 30th June 2025 Welsh Government decision on approval of RTPs

Appendix 1

EXEMPT ITEMS

The Appendices below is exempt from publication because they contain information of the kind described in paragraphs 14 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person) and 21 (public interest test) of parts 4 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

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