



**MID WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE**

**Date of Meeting – Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**REPORT OF THE CJC Transport Sub Committee**

<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To provide the CJC with an update on the progress of the work of the Regional Transport Sub-Committee
<b>Decision Sought:</b>	
<p>A) To note the content of the report and next steps in relation to the development of a Regional Transport Plan for the Mid Wales CJC.</p> <p>B) To approve the amended Terms of Reference for the CJC Transport Sub-Committee.</p> <p>C) To note the acceptance of funding by the CJC and for the request for Ceredigion County Council to deliver the RTP Implementation Plan and for the regional transport lead officer to continue to commission the work required via Ceredigion County Council’s commissioning arrangements for this piece of work, on behalf of the CJC.</p>	
<b>Report Author</b>	Ann Elias, Regional Transport Lead, Ceredigion Council (on behalf of the CJC)
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Duncan Hall, Section 151 Officer
<b>Legal Officer</b>	Clive Pinney – Monitoring Officer

**Introduction:**

1. The Transport Sub Committee is being requested to advise the CJC on the development and delivery of the Regional Transport Plan as required by the regulations and subsequent guidance set by Welsh Government.

**Background:**

2. Following the issuing of guidance from the Welsh Government, the Transport Sub Committee met on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 to consider the draft Implementation Plan and required resources to develop a Regional Transport Plan.

### **Terms of Reference.**

3. 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 was the first meeting of the Transport Sub-committee and they were asked to consider proposed amendments to the terms of reference. These terms were amended following the request of the two constituent local authorities (Powys and Ceredigion) to wind up the existing transport partnership known as TraCC, because the agreement was between three local authorities, Ceredigion, Gwynedd and Powys and now that the Welsh Government regulations stated the CJC Regional Transport Plan would only be for two of the three local authorities, it was considered an unnecessary duplication of meetings.
4. Therefore, the terms of reference removed TraCC – amended copy attached (**Appendix 1**)

### **Regional Transport Plan – Implementation Plan**

5. The sub-committee considered the draft Regional Transport Plan Implementation plan which had been required to be submitted to Welsh Government by the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023. This was approved in line with the agreed delegation provided by the CJC meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (**Appendix 2**)
6. The implementation plan, together with a request for funding was submitted to Welsh Government by the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 in compliance with the guidance.
7. Officials from the Welsh Government’s Department for Climate Change have provided feedback to the Chair of the CJC. They requested that the CJC takes account of these comments as the CJC develops the Regional Transport Plan. Funding was also confirmed to support the development of the RTP, in the form of a grant award FY2023-24 and FY2024-25 (**Appendix 3**). To be accepted by the CJC at the beginning of January 2024. Note: we are not disclosing the value of the grant award due to a procurement process that needs to be undertaken for this work.
8. The CJC has previously resolved that the regional transport lead officer previously coordinating TraCC continues to take forward the RTP work for this phase.
9. Considering the current temporary resource arrangements are being provided by Ceredigion – it is proposed that the procurement of the RTP as per the implementation plan proceeds via Ceredigion County Council’s Standing Orders for this single piece of work. This is to ensure the timely delivery of the RTP by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 and avoid any further delays.

### **Decisions Sought:**

- A) To note the content of the report and next steps in relation to the development of a Regional Transport Plan for the Mid Wales CJC.
- B) To approve the amended Terms of Reference for the CJC Transport Sub-Committee.

- C) To note the acceptance of funding by the CJC and for the request for Ceredigion County Council to deliver the RTP Implementation Plan and for the regional transport lead officer to continue to commission the work required via Ceredigion County Council's commissioning arrangements for this piece of work, on behalf of the CJC.

### **Financial Impacts:**

10. The full financial implications of progressing an RTP will not be fully known until the tender process is completed, currently officers have only been working to estimates pre-procurement.
11. If the procurement process results in a resource requirement greater than the budget available – that would require engagement with Welsh Government and finance officers in both Local Authorities.

### **Integrated Impact Assessment:**

12. The CJC is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
  - Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
  - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
  - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
  - Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage.
  - Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.
  - Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
  - Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
13. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals.
14. The allocation of resources for the RTP would support the CJC in exercising its

functions listed under the legislation above. The allocation of resources and the commencement of the Implementation Plan to deliver the RTP does not in itself require an integrated impact assessment as it is not forming policy, however later stages of RTP development will require an IIA.

**Workforce Impacts:**

15. The formal start of the RTP will have workforce impacts across the 2 constituent authorities with a requirement for officers to join workstreams and engage with stakeholder forms and consultations. Currently there is no provision for re-charging their time to this CJC work.
16. There has not been any assessment of the cost associated with Annual Monitoring report requirements which will be an output of the RTP process and until these requirements are established costs cannot be assessed by their will be an impact on existing local authorities.
17. The cost estimated for the officer time to deliver the RTP are currently being seconded from Ceredigion County Council on the bases of two full time posts.

**Legal Impacts:**

18. None recognised at this time.

**Risk Management Impacts:**

19. The current risk the delivery of the RTP is whether CJC is able to secure appropriate consultancy support and that we are able to engage with stakeholders sufficiently to establish the required “case for change” by 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 the next critical date, identified within the guidance.

**Consultation:**

20. There is no requirement for consultation in respect of this report.