

TO: EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR PLANNING & TRANSPORT

DATE: 8th March 2019

SUSTAINABLE MODES STRATEGY 2018-2026

Director of Place, Planning and Regeneration

1 PURPOSE OF DECISION

- 1.1 To approve the over-arching Sustainable Modes Strategy which expands upon the individual policies contained within the adopted Bracknell Forest Local Transport Plan (2011-2026) and which are core to delivering on the Council's sustainable transport obligations.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **That the Executive Member for Planning, Transport and Countryside approves the over-arching Sustainable Modes Strategy.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Policies included within the adopted Local Transport Plan (LTP) are supported by strategies to demonstrate how they will be delivered. Whilst the LTP policies remain unchanged, an over-arching Sustainable Modes Strategy has been produced which collates a number of related strategies. This approach improves the transparency of current work and through its simplified layout is more accessible to the public. The approved document will be available via the BFC public website.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 To retain the existing format of Sustainable Modes related strategies. However, there are no benefits from this approach.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

- 5.1 The current LTP sets out the transport policies and programmes for the Borough from 2011 up to 2026. As Bracknell continues to grow, the LTP provides the framework by which the Borough's transport system will be managed, maintained and improved. The environment, economy and quality of life within the Borough all depend on a robust and effective transport system.
- 5.2 The over-arching Sustainable Modes sets out the Council's sustainable transport priorities and details how it works with partners to deliver an effective, safe and reliable highway network. This contributes in-part towards the overall vision of the LTP.

5.3 The individual policies within the LTP which are core to delivering the Borough’s sustainable transport obligations are set out below:

- Accessibility (Policy TP1)
 - Smarter Choices (Policy TP7)
 - Travel Planning (Policy TP10)
 - Smarter Vehicle Use (Policy TP11)
 - Walking and Cycling (Policy TP8)
 - Public Rights of Way (Policy TP9)
- } Smarter Travel

5.4 For simplicity, and given their close synergies, Smarter Choices, Travel Planning and Smarter Vehicle Use will now be grouped under the broader heading of ‘Smarter Travel’.

5.5 In order to better articulate the Council’s current sustainable transport work, and demonstrate how the related policies and strategies are inter-linked, an over-arching Sustainable Modes Strategy has been produced. Effectively this provides a logical grouping together of transport themes.

5.6 **Figure 1** (below) shows how the proposed over-arching Sustainable Modes Strategy provides a strategic fit for these related themes. As can be seen, this approach can be applied to the remaining LTP themes through the creation of two further over-arching strategies, namely the adopted Traffic Management Strategy and the Public Transport Strategy, which is currently being produced:

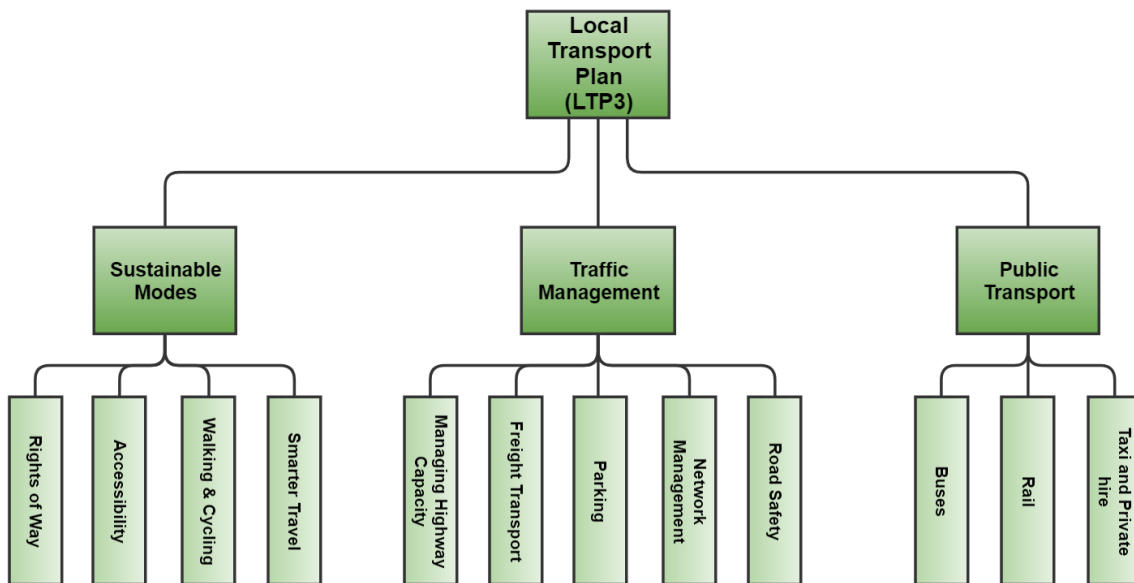


FIGURE 1: Over-arching strategies of the Bracknell Forest Local Transport Plan

5.7 In summary, the over-arching Sustainable Modes Strategy outlines the steps needed to facilitate sustainable travel and what this means for Bracknell Forest. A summary of the 4 themes is set out below:

UNRESTRICTED

- (i) Accessibility – This Strategy focusses on accessing those services by public transport, walking and cycling, providing a holistic approach to considering the accessibility needs of different groups of people, and taking a wide range of factors into account, including journey times to key destinations, and bus service frequencies.
- (ii) Smarter Travel – The way people choose to travel in Bracknell Forest can collectively impact on quality of life, the local environment and strength of the economy. The aim of the council is to keep all modes of transport moving as effectively as possible. However, choosing an alternative, or using the car more efficiently can reward individuals, households and businesses with significant benefits.
- (iii) Walking and Cycling – This Strategy addresses the need to continue to encourage visitors and residents to walk and cycle for work and leisure, through a range of measures set out within Policy TP8 of the Local Transport Plan. These include information, promotion, education, infrastructure provision, maintenance, lighting and trip end facilities.
- (iv) Rights of Way – The Rights of Way Improvement Plan aims to ensure that, above all else, the Borough's Rights of Way network is maintained in legal status and condition, with new routes and links added where possible, and is effectively mapped, marketed and promoted with improved accessibility for all users.

5.9 The over-arching Sustainable Modes Strategy is attached to this report as **Appendix A**. This collates all of the key actions within the four strategy themes it represents. **Appendix B** demonstrates how each of these key actions are linked to their respective policies within the LTP.

6 **ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

Borough Solicitor

6.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from the recommendation in this report

Borough Treasurer

6.2 There are no significant financial implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

6.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment was undertaken in preparation for the formal publication of the adopted LTP3.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

6.4 None

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Consultation on LTP3 objectives was carried out by public consultation conducted between 29 November 2010 and 17 January 2011.

Background Papers

Accessibility Strategy – supporting document
Smarter Travel Strategy – supporting document
Walking and Cycling Strategy – supporting document
Rights of Way Strategy – supporting document

Contact for further information

Neil Mathews, Head of Transport Development - ext. 1163
Stuart Jefferies, Transport Strategy and Implementation Manager – ext. 1155