



Subject:	Request to Present: Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan
Date:	14 June 2023
Reporting Officer:	Cathy Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration and Development
Contact Officers:	Sean Dolan, Senior Development Manager Keith Sutherland, Planning Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek permission from the Committee to receive a presentation at the June 2023 Special Meeting of the City Growth & Regeneration Committee from the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) on the work to progress the Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Agree to receive a presentation from the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) on the emerging draft Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan
3.0	Main report
3.1	The DfI are developing the Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan (BMTP) for the city and the surrounding metropolitan area, with the consultants Atkins assisting in the detailed work on what will be the statutory transport plan for the city.
3.2	The BMTP covers the wider Belfast Metropolitan Area encompassing the Belfast, Antrim and Newtownabbey, Ards and North Down, Lisburn and Castlereagh, and Mid and East Antrim Council areas. The BMTP will provide the transport vision for the area for the next

	<p>13 years and will support the Council's through their LDP LPP stage process. The BMTP will support decision making with respect to major capital investment within the metropolitan area, and is viewed by the DfI as the mechanism through which they will deliver on the obligations contained within the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022.</p>
3.3	<p>The CG&R Committee have previously received a number of presentations relating to strategic transport delivery within the Council area. Belfast City Council have been working in partnership with DfI and DfC to develop 'A Bolder Vision' for Belfast. This document recognised the changing demand from the users of the city centre and the need to provide better place-based infrastructure to support city centre living, the relocation of the Ulster University, growing tourism, the need to break down severances between the city centre and the local communities, and the need to address our Climate Emergency. The Bolder Vision outlined four Key Moves, underpinned by an action plan focusing on existing capital investment programmes and opportunities to attract alternative funding sources. An extensive public consultation period resulted in almost 900 responses from individuals and organisation with an overwhelming support (>90%) for the direction outlined within the document. The Four Key Moves include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creation of a Civic Spine with a focus on people• Reimagine the Inner Ring and End Car Dominance• Promote City Centre Living• Embrace the River Lagan and Waterfront
3.4	<p>A final draft version of the Bolder Vision was provided to the August 2022 meeting of the CG&R Committee (attached Appendix 1), subject to DfI & DfC Ministerial sign-off which was not finalised prior to the suspension of the Executive. The BMTP is important in terms of providing the evidence based Strategic Plan to enable the finalisation of A Bolder Vision and to realise the ambitions continued therein.</p>
3.5	<p>As the DfI are proposing to commence public engagement on the emerging BMTP in the early Autumn. In advance of this they have offered to meet with the Council to provide an early outline of what is proposed and the process to bring the BMTP to adoption. This offer of pre-launch engagement will provide an opportunity for the Committee to have an early insight and input into the proposed draft Vision, Objectives and Guiding Principles of the BMTP.</p>
3.6	<p>The DfI are also offering meet with the adjoining councils within the metropolitan area, and have also offered to meet individual Parties during the consultation period. Officers will prepare a response to the Consultation documents, taking on board comments from Members, and subject to Committee agreement and Council ratification.</p>
3.7	<p>DfI will be asked to provide the details of their presentation at least one week in advance of the Committee Meeting to enable Members to review the information in advance of the presentation and this will be circulated via Democratic Services.</p>

4.0	Financial & Resource Implications
4.1	There are no finance or resource implications associated with this report.
5.0	Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment
5.1	There are no Equality, Good Relations or Rural Needs implications associated with this report.
6.0	Appendices – Documents attached
6.1	Appendix 1 – CG&R Committee Paper Request from DfI for the opportunity to present to the Committee.