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| **Cheshire & Warrington Local Transport Body** |

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| **Date of Meeting:** | Friday 6 April 2018 |
| **Report of:** | Roy Newton |
| **Subject/Title:** | Draft Sub-Regional Transport Strategy Engagement Plan |
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1. **Background**
   1. The draft sub-regional transport strategy is one of a number of plans being developed which set out in more detail how priorities of the Strategic Economic Plan will be delivered.
   2. Transport and connectivity will be central to achieving Cheshire and Warrington’s aspirations for growth and supporting economic development, in particular to the spatial priorities. Effective transport networks will be crucial for the continued success of the sub region as an attractive place in which to live and do business.
   3. The draft strategy:

* summarises the economic and spatial context;
* analyses existing accessibility and travel patterns;
* identifies transport challenges which need to be tackled to support achievement of the SEP objectives;
* describes potential key design principles;
* sets out how the sub-region could address the challenges; and
* proposes transport infrastructure priorities
  1. Engagement with stakeholders is a key component of the development of the strategy, providing an opportunity for stakeholders to input and sense check the various elements of the strategy.

1. **Proposed Approach to Stakeholder Engagement**
   1. Stakeholders have been engaged a number of times recently including, but not limited to, the development and refresh of the Strategic Economic Plan, refresh of Local Transport Plans by the local authorities, engagement by Transport for the North on their Strategic Transport Plan and the West and Wales Strategic Development Corridor study. It is therefore recommended that a focussed and targeted engagement process be undertaken to avoid stakeholder fatigue and also make best use of available resources.
   2. It is proposed to make best use of existing meetings and events, and utilise electronic methods of communication. The following is, therefore, proposed:

* Emailing a copy of the strategy to those organisations engaged during the development of the SEP together with the transport organisations engaged by Transport for the North as part of their Strategic Transport Plan consultation;
* Placing a copy of the draft strategy on the LEP website;
* Creating a new LEP email address specifically for consultation responses;
* Advertising the launch of the draft strategy through a press release;
* Undertaking one event in each Borough open to the general public similar to the approach used for the SEP; and
* Offering to present the draft strategy to representative bodies such as:
  + Constellation Partnership Board;
  + Mersey Dee Alliance Board;
  + Enterprise Zone Board;
  + Cheshire Business Leaders;
  + Cheshire Association of Local Councils; and
  + Cheshire Chambers of Commerce
  1. To ensure sufficient time for stakeholders to engage it is proposed that the process runs for 3 months with a closing date in mid-July. This would give sufficient time to analyse the responses and prepare a stakeholder engagement report setting out the comments and any proposed changes for discussion at the formal LTB meeting on 21 September 2018.

1. **Recommendation**
   1. The Local Transport Body is asked to approve the proposed approach to stakeholder engagement for the draft sub-regional transport strategy.