



Committee	Planning and Transport
Month	January 2021
Report Title	Transport East – Transport Strategy Consultation
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Summary

Transport East – the sub national transport body of Norfolk, Suffolk, Southend and Thurrock are running a public consultation until 30 January regarding their regional transport strategy.

Their aim of the strategy is to set priorities for better transport in the region up to 2050, their website says *“It will also help ensure that strategic transport projects are prioritised based on their ability to help meet national and regional objectives. It does not replace the local transport plans developed by local transport authorities to guide local investment.”*

Officer Recommendation

For Committee to read the consultation brochures and draft investment and delivery programme found [here](#) and to make comment where necessary on behalf of SWTC.

The relevant consultation questions have been extracted below for Committee to consider.

7. To what extent do you support the vision set out in the Transport Strategy – ‘A thriving economy for the East, with fast, safe, reliable, and resilient transport infrastructure driving forward a future of inclusive and sustainable growth for decades to come.’?

Strongly support, Support, Neutral, Oppose, strongly oppose, No opinion

Officer Comments –

Recommended to strongly support this vision. During the Saffron Walden Neighbourhood Plan consultations and the Town Centre road closure consultation days the public reiterated the need for reliable bus services.

8. To what extent do you agree with the following statement ‘The Transport Strategy identifies the right overall approach to transport development across the region’?

Strongly support, Support, Neutral, Oppose, strongly oppose, No opinion

Officer Comments –

Recommended to strongly support the statement. Two priorities highlighted are connecting growing towns and cities and boosting rural (and coastal) areas. By making transport more reliable and faster so people can travel between places easily.



9. To what extent do you support the strategic priorities set out in the Transport Strategy?

These are: Decarbonisation to net-zero, connecting growing towns and cities, energising coastal and rural communities and unlocking international gateways.

Strongly support, Support, Neutral, Oppose, strongly oppose, No opinion

Officer Comments –

Recommended to strongly support the strategic priorities set out. One of the SWTC priorities is to take further measures toward being carbon neutral by 2030, similar to the priority here by decarbonising to net-zero.

15. Do you have any other comments about the Transport Strategy?

Officer Comments –

The six key routes identified in the strategy are:

- Midlands to Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft
- London to Norwich and the Suffolk coast
- Norfolk and Suffolk to Cambridge, the Midlands and South West
- London and South Essex to Southend
- Stansted to Harwich and Clacton
- King's Lynn to London

Whilst not necessarily directly linking to Saffron Walden accessible links to London and Cambridge are often reiterated as a need in past SWTC consultations.

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the Investment and Delivery Programme sets out the right approach for delivering the Transport Strategy? And why?

Strongly agree, agree, Neutral, disagree, strongly disagree, No opinion

Officer Comments –

The draft investment and delivery programme details how they can delivery the transport strategy.

Recommended to support the statement because the document clearly explains the initial assessments and how they can be monitored to improve performance and acknowledges that regular reviews will be required.

Conclusion

Committee are asked to read the consultation brochures and draft investment and delivery programme found [here](#) and consider the questions detailed above. Any comments should then be submitted in response to the survey.