

# **HERTFORDSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT BODY**

**15 JANUARY 2015**

## **FORWARD PROGRAMME**

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### **1 Purpose of report**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to highlight identified key upcoming matters for which the Board will be asked to endorse or provided greater information when it becomes available.

### **2 Background**

2.1 A number of projects are in the early stages of development/initiation for which there is currently no recommendation or action required from the LTB Board. However, as these projects approach key milestones/deliverables throughout 2015, further information will be brought to the Board for which it is possible to make recommendations with regard to scheme progression.

2.2 This paper highlights the currently identified key matters that are likely to be upcoming for the Board in 2015, with a brief outline of each matter.

### **3. Recommendation**

3.1 It is requested that the Board note this report.

### **4. Background**

4.1 Development of the Hertfordshire Transport Vision/LTP4

4.1.1 The development of a long-term transport vision is important to shape our ongoing transport plans and strategies, communicate our ambitions with partners, and attract future transport investment funding from Government, the private sector and other sources. The ability to collectively and clearly articulate our long-term infrastructure requirements - and how they will contribute to a successful Hertfordshire (and wider UK) over the period to 2050 - is vital.

4.1.2 The County Council adopted its existing Local Transport Plan in 2011, which in effect establishes the current Transport Vision; however, the national context for transport and planning has changed considerably since then. The delivery of economic growth, in the form of housing and jobs, is now a high priority on the Government's agenda, and the national and local transport planning context has evolved significantly to reflect this.

4.1.3 The new spatial Transport Vision will set out a long-term transport map for Hertfordshire, identifying and evidencing the key challenges and setting out the areas and corridors where transport improvements and investment will be required in the period from now to 2050 to support the aspirations of local residents and businesses.

- 4.1.4 The development of the Vision would directly lead to the identification of long term priority schemes and packages for which business cases can be prepared to ensure the County holds a balanced range of well developed schemes that can be utilised to exploit funding opportunities that arise (often at short notice).
- 4.1.5 The first stage in the development of the work programme will be to present an independent review of the key challenges facing Hertfordshire, and how these wider challenges might impact on the transport network and services. The focus for the independent review is to paint a picture for how Hertfordshire might look under a business as usual scenario alongside two differing scenarios (i.e. positive and negative) that could occur. The intention is for the review to highlight how these challenges may impact on the transport network.
- 4.2 Future transport studies to support the SEP
  - 4.2.1 Following Hertfordshire LEPs successful bid to the Government's Single Local Growth Fund in March 2014, a number of studies were identified that will support future transport improvements. The studies are primarily focussed within the priority growth corridors identified within the Strategic Economic Plan.
  - 4.2.2 The studies address a wide variety of issues. Examples of the scope for studies to support the future development of the SEP include the proposal for Growth and Transport Plans, exploring options for the future of east-west travel in the county, and examining the future role and capability for rail within the county.
- 4.3 Strategic Rail developments
  - 4.3.1 There are a number of locally based nationally significant rail projects in development that will either have a direct impact within the county or are likely to influence how people travel by rail to or through Hertfordshire. This includes, for example, the development of HS2 to and through the west of the county.

## **5. Next Steps**

- 5.1 Updates will be provided as these schemes reach key milestones, for which the Board will be asked to endorse