

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
6 JULY 2022	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Adrian Chapman, Executive Director Place and Economy	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Marco Cereste, Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Planning, Housing and Transport	
Contact Officer(s):	Lewis Banks, Transport and Environment Team Manager	Tel. 01733317465

CLOSURE OF CYCLING AND WALKING WORKING GROUP AND FORMATION OF CYCLING AND WALKING TASK AND FINISH GROUP

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Lewis Banks, Transport and Environment Manager	Deadline date: n/a
It is recommended that the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recommend to Cabinet the closure of the existing cross-party cycling and walking working group 2. Agree to the formation of a time-limited cross-party scrutiny task and finish group 3. Agree the Terms of Reference for the proposed task and finish group 4. Agree that the outcomes of the task and finish group should be presented back to the Committee at the relevant meeting 5. Makes any initial nominations from the scrutiny committee members to join the task and finish group 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee following a discussion at the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee Annual Work Programming meeting of 7 June 2022. The meeting requested a paper was brought to the Scrutiny Committee to recommend to Cabinet to formally close the existing cross-party cycling and walking group and to agree the formation of a Scrutiny cycling and walking task and finish group.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 This report sets out the proposed detail for closing the existing cross-party cycling and walking group and the formation of a cycling and walking task and finish group including the Terms of Reference.

2.2 This report is for the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Council

9. Active Travel

2.3 This report links to the following Corporate Priorities:

Pride in our communities, our places and our environment;

The Cycling and Walking Task and Finish Group will support the development of the Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which will identify cycling and walking routes which have the greatest propensity to increase active travel. Improved cycling and walking routes will offer the opportunity to encourage active travel modes for journeys and continue to ensure that Peterborough is sustainable in the long term.

Better jobs, good homes and improved opportunities for all;

Improved cycling and walking infrastructure contributes to ensuring the future growth is delivered in a sustainable way by delivering high quality infrastructure to encourage journeys to be undertaken by active travel modes.

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	n/a
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 In 2017, the Government published its first Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy. Within the strategy, Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) were outlined as a new, strategic approach to identifying cycling and walking improvements required at the local level. They enable a long-term approach to developing local cycling and walking networks, ideally over a 10-year period, and form a vital part of the Government’s strategy to increase the number of trips made on foot or by cycle.

While the preparation of LCWIPs is non-mandatory, Local Authorities who have LCWIPs will be well placed to make the case for future investment.

At the Cabinet meeting held on 12 July 2021, it was agreed to form a cross-party Cycling and Walking Working Group to support the development of the LCWIP for Peterborough. A meeting was held on 29 March 2022. Terms of Reference and Governance for the Working Group were discussed and agreed.

At the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee Annual Work Programming meeting, it was recommended that the cross-party Cycling and Walking Working Group should cease. It was recommended that a cross-party Cycling and Walking Task and Finish Group is formed in its place to support the development of the LCWIP and associated rural cycling strategy. Both projects are definitive pieces of work, and therefore a Task and Finish Group is considered a more suitable method for members to support and input into these projects.

If the formation of the Task and Finish Groups is agreed by the committee, the names of the members of the Task and Finish Groups will be sought.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Not applicable although consultation will happen as part of the development of the LCWIP and rural cycling strategy.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 6.1 It is anticipated that the Committee will agree to the formation of a time-limited cross-party scrutiny task and finish group. This will inform the approach the council will take in the development of the LCWIP and a rural cycle strategy.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The recommendations in this report follow the discussions at the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee Annual Work Programming Meeting.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1
1. Continue with the cross-party working group. The LCWIP project has a defined timescale due to the funding provided by DfT. The LCWIP reports needs to be finalised as soon as possible for submission to Government. Beyond this project and the rural cycling strategy, there is no future programme of projects that will require input from a working group.
 2. To complete the LCWIP with no member involvement – the LCWIP and rural cycle strategy are key projects for setting out cycling and walking routes which will be prioritised for improvements over the next few years. It is important that all parties are able to have an input in to the process, as the project is developed.

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 9.1 There are no immediate financial implications that arise as a result of this work. Any financial implications that do arise through the work of the task and finish group will be set out in the group's final report.

Legal Implications

- 9.2 There are no immediate legal implications that arise as a result of this work. Any legal implications that do arise through the work of the task and finish group will be set out in the group's final report.

Equalities Implications

- 9.3 There are no immediate equalities implications that arise as a result of this work. Any equalities implications that do arise through the work of the task and finish group will be set out in the group's final report.

Rural Implications

- 9.4 There are no immediate rural implications that arise as a result of this work. Any rural implications that do arise through the work of the task and finish group will be set out in the group's final report.

Carbon Impact Assessment

- 9.5 There are no carbon impacts associated with the closure of the working group. If the task and finish group is held online there will be no impact to council emissions. If the task and finish group is held in person, there will be a small increase in travel emissions. The Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee will continue to scrutinise cycling and walking plans, thus ensuring that this work continues to be held to account and city-wide travel emissions are minimised.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 10.1 None

11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 Appendix 1 – Draft Terms of Reference

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