

Committee: Local Plan Leadership Group
Title: Feedback Consultation on Theme 4 – Transport
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Summary

1. This report feeds back on the First Consultation (Issues and Options) Theme 4: Transport.

Recommendations

2. That members note:
 - a. the consultation responses and the Forum's views
 - b. potential actions to address issues
 - c. that no final recommendations will be made until all comments have been considered (consultation ends 21 April 2021)
3. That members, if desired, provide any feedback e.g. for officers to consider when making final recommendations, for Forum members' reference.

Financial Implications

4. None at this stage.

Background Papers

5. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

Impact

6. None

Communication/Consultation	Consultation is ongoing
Community Safety	n/a
Equalities	Forthcoming policies will be subject to an Equalities and Healthy Impact Assessment (EqHIA)

Health and Safety	n/a
Human Rights/Legal Implications	n/a
Sustainability	Forthcoming policies will need to meet the sustainability objectives of the Council and the Local Plan will be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal.
Ward-specific impacts	All
Workforce/Workplace	n/a

Situation

7. In preparation to the formal consultation on a draft Local Plan the Council is consulting on a series of 9 themes. The starting point for the consultation on each theme is the Community Stakeholder Forum whose purpose is to inform, start a discussion and generate comment.
8. The fourth theme was on the topic of Transport was discussed by the Community Stakeholder Forum on 13 January 2021. Andrew Summers the Strategic Director of Transport East, the Sub-National Transport Body for the East of England Region, delivered a presentation to the Forum and then points raised in the presentation were discussed. Andrew Summer's presentation and a video of the Forum meeting are available on the new Local Plan [website](#).
9. Following the Forum's meeting, the theme was open for public consultation asking the general question 'What options for sustainable transport in Uttlesford would you support?'. People are invited to make comments up to the close of the whole consultation on all the themes on 21 April. Comments received within the first four weeks are summarised in Appendix 1 and were presented back to the Forum for comment on the 24 February and to this working group on 23 March.

Summary of consultation responses

10. Between 13 January and 10 February 2021, 20 people and representatives of organisations responded to the theme.
11. Appendix 1 is a summary of these comments. Common themes are shown on the infographic adapted from the consultation document. This is followed by a more detailed summary of the comments.

Community Stakeholder Forum response

12. Appendix 1 was discussed by the Community Stakeholder Forum on 24 February 2021. The Forum members agreed with most of the feedback from

the consultation to date and there was little of surprise and limited comment on the responses to date.

Officer comments

13. The responses in the consultation to date reveal that there is clear support from stakeholders to ensure that any new development in the district should be located and designed to maximise sustainable transport.
14. Policies in the draft Local Plan will need to ensure that new development is located in areas with good accessibility to public transport and local services by foot or cycle. If new settlements are built in less accessible locations, then they must be of a scale and size where they can support their own amenities and do not necessitate external trips to access services.
15. There was strong support for the principles of designing new neighbourhoods to prioritise pedestrians and cyclists over cars whilst recognising that the car will remain the main mode of transport and must be accommodated.
16. Respondents felt that the current bus network in the district was not adequate and needs significant improvement to encourage people out of their cars. There was a very strong feeling that policies should ensure that developers adequately fund bus services to new developments and contribute to the ongoing operation of services.
17. There was some scepticism about the role of autonomous vehicles and new technologies such as drones however there was universal support for ensuring that new homes have excellent broadband and 5G connectivity. There was strong support for ensuring that developers provide electric vehicle charging infrastructure in both private and public locations throughout the development and fund any necessary upgrades to the electrical grid network.

What happens next

18. The consultation on this theme remains open until 21 April 2021. Officers and the Forum will consider any feedback made by members at this meeting. Final recommendations, considering all comments on all themes will be prepared after the close of consultation in April. The Council will use the comments to determine its vision, strategy, policies and prepare the draft Local Plan.

Risk Analysis

19. Refer to the table below.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Insufficient regard is given to the comments received on the consultation	1 Little	3: Could lead to unsound plan.	Members and officers to carefully consider results of consultation, and clearly explain reasons for decisions

			made.
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1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.