

Western Gateway Sub-national Transport Body

Board Meeting

Paper A

Date **11th July 2022**

Title of report: **2022/23 Work Programme and Financial update**

Purpose of report: **To provide an update on work programme and budget position of Western Gateway Sub-National Transport Body.**

Recommendations:

The members of the Board are recommended to:

- I. To note the contents of the programme, update report

Introduction

- 1.1 This report contains an update on project progress and update on final position of the STB finances for 20/21.

Work Programme

- 1.2 To date the STB Programme team have delivered.

Delivered by	Project	Status
2019/20	Story of Place - Regional Evidence Base	Completed
	Economic Connectivity Study	Completed
	Major Road Network and Large Local Major scheme submission	Completed
	Sub-National Rail Strategy – Phase 1	Completed
2020/21	Port Access Study	Completed
	Sub-national Rail Strategy – Phase 2	Completed
	Strategic Transport Plan (2020-2025)	Completed
	Strategic Modelling Review Study	Completed
2021/22	Strategic Model	Completed
	Freight Strategy	Completed
	Rural Mobility	Completed
2022/23	Strategic Transport Plan Phase 1	Due for completion for July
	Rail Phase 1	July
	Carbon Audit	September
	Coach	September
	Cycling	September

Delivered by	Project	Status
	Strategic Transport Plan Technical Assessment	Due to complete for September Board
	Alternative Fuels for Freight	Due to complete for September Board

1.3 Schemes in delivery - progress update:

- **Strategic Transport plan 2025-2050** – March 2023 - Red–significant delay to project largely due to quality issues and resource availability.
 - Progress to date:
 - The project was delayed largely due to issues with resource and receipt of data required to support the baseline position. Data has now largely been received. Additional resource secured from Gloucestershire to support review and take forward other project elements as required.
 - Baseline report draft received in review with officers, individual Corridor reports due this week following review of data held on schemes.
 - Technical Assessment BAU model review due 05/07, with forecast model due end of July. Final report on model outputs due in September.
 - Next Steps:
 - Complete the phase 1 report and Technical Assessment reports.
 - Commission Stage 3 Strategy project and consultation support.
 - Discuss project progress with M4 to Dorset South Coast project.
- **Carbon Audit Project** – Amber, project continues to be delayed by
 - Progress to date:
 - The draft Baseline tool has been completed and is planned to be placed on the WGSTB in a ‘beta’ version for use and feedback by constituent authorities.
 - Additional work agreed to align this tool with the Strategic Transport Phase 2 technical assessment work. Funding for this work is included in the Phase 2 work.
 - Next Steps:
 - Completion of the options and levels technical report. The forecasting tool is tied into work being undertaken with the West of England Combined Authority and is due to output a forecast model for review at the end of April. At which time the project will seek to provide the project sponsor, Department for Transport technical lead and Senior Officers with an overview of the tool for review and approval.
 - July – complete alignment of the carbon tool with the technical assessment phase 2 work.
 - Approval of the final transport decarbonisation model.
- **Freight** – Completed, feedback received from stakeholders, no fundamental changes.
 - Progress to date:
 - 57 separate stakeholder groups engaged across public & private sector
 - Final comments received from DfT and National Highways – largely supportive and no material changes required

- Changes being incorporated now and will proceed to adopt Strategy and publish online be taken forward both by the Western Gateway and Peninsula STB's and our authority members.
 - AECOM to be retained to support with facilitating Freight Forum until in house resource is obtained
 - Next Steps:
 - Inaugural Freight Forum due to be held (remotely) on 14th July
 - Draft ToR due to be presented at July Board.
 - Freight Forum will present strategy to members and discuss emerging priorities to take forward into delivery
 - Project closed.
- **Strategic Rail Programme** – Green – completed first work package.
 - Progress to date:
 - Technical reports received from Network Rail.
 - Next Steps:
 - Update the Board and propose next steps to be included in the Business Plan.
- **Alternative Fuels** – Amber– now due to complete September, additional time allowed to include Peninsula in project and supplier resource issues
 - Progress to date:
 - Working in conjunction with Peninsula & Midlands Connect to ensure a holistic picture for the region
 - Fleet survey underway to understand current fleet operations and future plans
 - Technical note on future demand produced
 - Next Steps:
 - Industry workshop July – Freight and energy providers
 - Completed work on long list of re-fuelling & recharging stations
 - Submit to September Board for approval of final report
- **Strategic Cycle Routes** – Green – to complete at September Board
 - Progress to date:
 - Finished the prioritisation of the network. There are some very minor issues such as the rail scoring but these should be sorted soon.
 - Second workshop better received with good input from all LAs and generally good alignment on preferred prioritisation metrics for the network
 - Sustrans requesting route prioritisation from Transport Officers so they can indicate their top 3 for their area, this is final prioritisation scoring metric.
 - Draft report in discussions
 - Next Steps:
 - Sustrans will share GIS analysis of the network with Atkins this week to support the evidence base for the network in the report
 - Final Sustrans tasks are to propose high-level design approaches for top 20 priority routes to assess deliverability for proposed delivery programme (based on short/medium/long-term)
 - Atkins will incorporate these Sustrans outputs into the final report.
 - Draft report due next week
- **Coach Strategy** – Green – project due to complete December Board
 - Progress to date:

- Workshop held with officers and engagement meeting with Department for Transport
 - Work has started by identifying appropriate datasets and their availability, in order to collect evidence and undertake a gap analysis to identify gaps in the current services and infrastructure, as well as opportunities for the enhancement of coach services.
 - National and regional transport policies and strategies are also being reviewed in order to ensure that this work is aligned with the transport vision in the wider area.
- Next Steps:
 - Stakeholder workshop 1: w/c 18/7/22
 - Stakeholder workshop 2: w/c 3/10/22
 - Final report – w/c/ 17/10/22
- **Rural Mobility – first phase completed.**
 - Progress to date:
 - Minor changes made to the Southwest Rural Mobility Strategy following points raised at the Peninsula Board on 7 April 2022.
 - More acknowledgement added that even affluent rural areas can hide pockets of deprivation.
 - “Avoiding or reducing the need to travel” expanded to include “for people who can and wish to.”
 - Caveat added “Reducing the need to travel in rural areas needs to be balanced with ensuring communities and individuals do not become more socially isolated from others.”
 - Need for monitoring and evaluation throughout the development stages recognised so findings can disseminate as they are generated.
 - The map showing the distribution of the seven settlement types will be moved to the technical report. Whilst the map is intended as a guide to possible pilot areas and is not prescriptive concerns were raised about this excluding other potential places.
 - These are not considered to be significant changes. The Peninsula Board will approve the amended Strategy at their meeting on 12 July 2022.
 - Next steps:
 - Complete prospectus and commence long list short listing exercises subject to resource capacity

2021/22 Financial Year

- 1.6 To note funds were drawn down on a project-by-project basis. The underspend in the Department for Transport funding has not been drawn down and the allocation has been therefore released. Project costs are rolled forward into 22/23.

Table A 2021/2022

INCOME	Budget	Received	Total Outturn	Variance Budget v Outturn
DfT Grant Carry over 20-21	£425,000	£425,000	£425,000	£0
DfT Grant 21-22	£425,000	£346,980	£346,980	£78,020
Sub-Total	£850,000	£771,980	£771,980	£78,020
Local Authority carry over 20-21	£38,670	£38,670	£38,670	£0
Local Authority income	£180,000	£180,000	£180,000	£0
Sub-Total	£218,670	£218,670	£218,670	£0
Total	£1,068,670	£990,650	£990,650	£78,020

EXPENDITURE	Baseline Budget	Committed Spend	Final Outturn	Variance Budget v Final Outturn
DfT Funded Projects	£850,000	£771,981	£470,663	£379,337
Carbon Audit (20/21)	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£0
STP Phase 1 (20/21)	£120,000	£90,001	£67,183	£52,817
Strategic Model (20/21)	£145,000	£141,075	£141,077	£3,923
Freight (20/21)	£72,500	£72,500	£72,500	£0
Alternative Fuels (20/21)	£67,500	£41,356	£0	£67,500
Rail Strategy (21/22)	£65,000	£65,000	£65,000	£0
STP Phase 2 - Technical Assessment (21/22)	£140,000	£125,449	£0	£140,000
Strategic Cycle (21/22)	£60,000	£55,000	£14,898	£45,102
Coach project (21/22)	£60,000	£71,600	£0	£60,000
Rural Mobility (21/22)	£100,000	£90,000	£90,006	£9,994
WGSTB Funded Projects	£53,922	£71,256	£71,256	-£17,334
Carbon Audit (20/21) - split funding £20k from DfT remaining WGSTB	£53,922	£71,256	£71,256	-£17,334
STB General Costs	£158,000	£158,035	£124,840	£33,160
Programme Management Team costs	£130,000	£130,000	£102,805	£27,195
Communication Support	£25,000	£25,000	£19,000	£6,000
Misc. - Expenses/Licences/IT/Legal	£3,000	£3,035	£3,035	-£35
Risk Contingency	£6,748	£0	£0	£0
Unallocated	£6,748			£0
Total Expenditure	£1,068,670	£1,001,271	£666,759	£395,163
WGSTB Exp	£218,670	£229,291	£196,096	£15,826
DfT Exp	£850,000	£771,981	£470,663	£379,337

Consultation, communication and engagement

- 2.1 This update has been discussed by the Programme Management Team and approved by Senior Officer Group.

Equalities Implications

- 3.1 No adverse impact on any protected groups.

Legal considerations

- 4.1 The Western Gateway STB remains an informal non-statutory partnership.

Financial considerations

- 5.1 The budget considerations are set out in this report.

Conclusion

- 6.1 The Board is recommended to note the final 20/21 position and project progress.

Contact Officer

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