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## Notice of Motion: Cycling

### Background

- 1 The Chairman of the County Council referred the notice of motion on cycling, submitted to the County Council on 20 July 2018, to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure, for consideration. The motion called on the Cabinet to hold a county-wide cycling summit to explore the issues set out in the motion.
- 2 The Cabinet Member met Dr O’Kelly on 5 October 2018 to discuss the motion.
- 3 The Cabinet Member is keen to promote the health and well-being of increasing cycle journeys and improved facilities for cyclists and is grateful to Dr O’Kelly for acknowledging the significant amount of work already undertaken.
- 4 The Cabinet Member also referred to the following:
  - The West Sussex Walking and Cycling Strategy 2016-26, which was adopted in October 2016.
  - Six feasibility studies are currently being progressed and three new studies are expected to form part of the 2019/20 programme. Construction of two schemes (Ifield Avenue, Crawley and Horsham Town Centre contraflows) is also expected in 2019/20.
  - A corporate target in relation to cycling was adopted this year. The target is to achieve a 15% year-on-year increase in the length of cyclable infrastructure installed up to 2021/22 based on the average for 2015/17 (5km). This equates to 28km over the four year period. The County Council is on track to achieve the 2018/19 target (5.75km).
  - An indicative future programme of work (the Local Transport Improvement Plan) has been developed and, where available, developer funding has been allocated to schemes.
  - The County Council is working in partnership with five of the district and borough councils and the South Downs National Park to develop Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs). This work only recently began and is due to be completed in spring 2020.
  - A West Sussex Cycle Summit – led by the West Sussex Cycle Forum (WSCF) in partnership with the WSCC - was held in 2016 and another in 2017. WSCF has decided not to organise a summit in 2018.
- 5 The Director for Public Health (DPH) was invited to comment on the notice of motion/the Council’s work to-date and responded as follows:
  - It could be helpful if the LCWIPs could be used as an opportunity to address inequalities by enabling those who are least active to become more active. (Residents of more deprived areas are less active than those in more affluent areas. They are also more likely to be overweight or obese and present with other long-term conditions.)
  - LCWIPs could also be designed to support those who are not current cyclists to become cyclists and make it easier for people to connect with their community using active travel modes. (The most recent public health

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- profiles using Active People Survey data shows that 25.6% of adults in West Sussex complete less than 30 minutes of activity a week; 60.3% achieve the Chief Medical Officer's guidelines of 150 minutes a week.)
- Behavioural change aspects of the West Sussex Walking and Cycling Strategy should not be overlooked by focusing purely on its infrastructure elements
- 6 Dr O'Kelly was very supportive of the large amount of work being undertaken by the County Council to promote cycling, supported the partnership approach the County Council was taking with district and borough councils to encourage the development of LCWIPs for towns, and agreed that this partnership working had and would continue to achieve good benefits across the county.
  - 7 It was agreed that a cycling summit would be organised in 2019 and may include the following issues: district and boroughs' LCWIPs; the County Council's revised cycling and walking strategy; the South Downs National Park's revised plan and cycling promotion.
  - 8 Dr O'Kelly highlighted the importance of member engagement in achieving West Sussex cycling ambitions. The district and borough councils are responsible for developing local LCWIPs and, to-date, have determined that these will cover Chichester, Worthing, Horsham and Crawley. It was agreed that, where possible, members could take the opportunity to engage in the development of LCWIPs in their local areas via the district and borough councils. It was also agreed that there was the potential for some member engagement in the development of the 2019 cycling summit.
  - 9 Consideration was given to ways of encouraging planners and developers to ensure that cycling infrastructure is built into strategic development sites and the exploration of more formal routes for this option would be pursued. A new set of cycling infrastructure design standards, which will result in higher quality provision, is under development. Statistics recently published by the government indicate that the proportion of West Sussex adults who do any walking or cycling for any purpose is above the national average.
  - 10 Dr O'Kelly confirmed that she still wishes to debate the motion at County Council on 19 October 2018.
  - 11 In light of the information above, the Cabinet Member cannot support the entirety of the motion as drafted, so will prepare an amendment in advance of the County Council meeting on 19 October 2018. The Cabinet Member's decision on this matter was published via the Executive Decision Database on 9 October 2018.

**Roger Elkins**

Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure

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**Background Papers:** None