

Health Impact Assessment of the draft Local Transport Plan 4

Report of Director of Public Health and Communities

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

1) Recommendation

- That board members note the public consultation on the draft Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan which is taking place between 1st October and 30th November 2024.
- That board members note the rapid Health Impact Assessment on the draft Local Transport Plan 4, produced by Devon and Torbay Public Health and attached here,
- If Board members wish to contribute to the Health Impact Assessment (HIA), they should make contact, written or verbally by the 8th November 2024 (details in section 4).

2) Background / Introduction

Transport has the potential to greatly influence the public's health, in many ways, both positive and negative. The next Local Transport Plan will set the strategic direction of travel for investment in transport in Devon and Torbay over the next 10 to 15 years. This presents a significant opportunity to promote a transport system that will support health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities.

A rapid Health Impact Assessment (below) is a summary assessment of the potential impacts of the draft Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) on the health and wellbeing of the populations of Devon and Torbay. It considers a range of health impacts and identifies population groups that require specific consideration. It is intended to compliment the Local Transport Plan and highlight further opportunities to improve population health and wellbeing through its delivery. It is a rapid 'Health Impact Assessment' (HIA), produced in a very short timeframe, that draws on existing guidance and best practice.

3) Gathering evidence from stakeholders

A fuller, more detailed HIA is now being produced with stakeholders, including this invitation to the Health and Wellbeing Boards of Devon and Torbay. The Integrated Care System Health Inequalities Steering Group will also be considering and contributing to the HIA and a range of other stakeholders have also been invited to share their views.

4) Next Steps

Please submit any written feedback **no later than by Friday 8th November**, publichealth-mailbox@devon.gov.uk. Verbal feedback or discussion of the health impact assessment is also welcomed. Please contact Sara Gibbs or John Amosford. Telephone: 01392 383000
Email: sara.gibbs@devon.gov.uk / john.amosford@devon.gov.uk

5) Options / Alternatives

To help inform the Health Impact Assessment the Public Health teams are particularly interested in any comments or feedback with regards to the following questions:

- ***Thinking about the people/organisations you represent and/or interact with, are there any additional groups of people whose health and wellbeing may be affected by the Local Transport Plan?***
- ***Are there any additional impacts on groups of people's health and wellbeing that are not considered in the Rapid Health Impact Assessment?***
- ***Do you have any evidence that you think would be useful to inform the Health Impact assessment?***

General thoughts and feedback are also welcomed.

6) Consultations / Representations / Technical Data

Nil

7) Strategic Plan

The HIA identifies opportunities in the draft local transport plan 4 to further align to the priorities in both [Devon County Council's Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025](#) as well as One Devon's [Integrated Care Strategy](#).

8) Financial Considerations

Nil

9) Legal Considerations

Nil

10) Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change, Sustainability and Socio-economic)

All of Devon's population will increasingly be affected by the significant risk to health and wellbeing arising from climate change. Transport systems can be designed to positively impact on people's health and wellbeing, whilst promoting sustainable and inclusive

economies, and reducing our impact on climate change. They can also have many negative impacts. The HIA therefore identifies opportunities to promote transport systems with health, equity and climate co-benefits.

11) Equality Considerations

Equality considerations are at the heart of the Health Impact Assessment process. A lack of transport options that are available, reliable, affordable, accessible and safe, referred to as transport poverty, creates serious health and social implications by blocking people's ability to meet their daily needs and provide a good quality of life. Several 'vulnerable' groups were identified for particularly close consideration within the assessment (page 14), including:

- *Children and young people*
- *Older people*
- *People with disabilities, mobility impairments and people with existing health conditions*
- *Unemployed and low-income groups*
- *Socially excluded groups.*

12) Risk Management Considerations

The Health Impact Assessment process contributes to a risk management approach by identifying ways in which the Local Transport Plan may minimise the risks to health, equity and climate change from transport whilst supporting thriving and resilient communities and economies.

13) Summary / Conclusions / Reasons for Recommendations

Transport is a key building block of health, connecting people to many of the other key building blocks of health (i.e. housing, jobs, education, community, green space). The Local Transport Plan therefore provides a very important opportunity to embed a fair, sustainable, safe and health-promoting transport system for Devon and Torbay. Board members are therefore invited to contribute their comments and any relevant intelligence for inclusion in the Health Impact Assessment of the Local Transport Plan.

Separately, Board members may wish to submit responses to the public consultation of the Local Transport Plan.

Name

Steve Brown, Director of Public Health and Communities

Electoral Divisions: All

Contact for enquiries:

Name: Sara Gibbs / John Amosford

Telephone: 01392 383000

Email: sara.gibbs@devon.gov.uk / john.amosford@devon.gov.uk