Transport Report

The Purpose of this report is to:

- Update members on the general position in relation to the work of the consultants providing transport planning advice in Bromsgrove District.
- To report back on the resolutions made at the Council meetings of the 26th April and the 21st June 2017
- To report back on member concerns expressed at the Council meeting of the 20th September 2017.
- To highlight the way forward to ensure current planning applications can be considered by the planning committee, and
- To highlight the ongoing strategic work which requires further resourcing.

Council Minute Extracts

26th April

RESOLVED:

- (a) that in respect of LTP4 a letter be sent to WCC on behalf of all the Group Leaders expressing the Council's great concern and requesting that the LTP4 process should not proceed until all outstanding issues have been adequately resolved;
- (b) that the Head of Planning and Regeneration clarifies to Members the current framework for processing planning applications in relation to their transport implications and for this framework to be circulated to Members;
- (c) that developers be required to provide full information on their traffic proposals in their planning applications;
- (d) that Mott MacDonald be requested to advise individually on major planning applications and to include consideration of the wider transport implications relating to any other developments whose applications are before the Council:
- (e) that Mott MacDonald or other similar organisation, undertake appropriate traffic counts as necessary in respect of these developments ;
- (f) that the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services be instructed to make all efforts to recover the Council's costs associated with (d) an (e) above, including instituting legal proceedings against WCC if necessary.

21st June

RESOLVED that

- (a) In light of these ongoing concerns this Council considers that any data produced by the current survey work being carried out, may be flawed due to the extent of the road works taking place in the town;
- (b) Because of these concerns Council recognises in the context of its Statutory Duty to determine planning applications that in order for it to be in a position to make robust and evidence based determinations it will be necessary to ensure that all traffic data is subject to scrutiny by Mott MacDonald or a similar organisation on behalf of the Council;

- (c) That Mott MacDonald or similar organisation undertake independent traffic data monitoring in September to ensure that the data gathered can be robustly verified;
- (d) that subject to amendment as detailed in the pre-amble above the minutes of 26th April 2017 be approved; and
- (e) the minutes of the meeting held on 17th May 2017 be approved as a correct record.

20th September

Members considered the following notice of motion submitted by Councillor L. C. R. Mallett:

"Council notes that even Worcestershire County Council's (WCC) potentially flawed highways survey data from 2017 shows large uplifts in traffic volume over the past few years over historic levels.

Council further notes that on some roads especially on the west of town the actual observed growth is much higher than the previous projections from Worcestershire highways' now discredited models.

Council resolves to commission an urgent independent review of all WCC input into current development strategy and any local highways strategy, including the analysis and report around the need for a Western distributor road for Bromsgrove."