



PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE

INDIVIDUAL DECISION BY THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

TOPIC - LOCAL TRANSPORT BOARDS

PROCEDURAL INFORMATION

The Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 4, Section 22 of the Council's Constitution provides for a decision to be made by an individual member of Cabinet.

In accordance with the Procedure Rules, the Corporate Director (Governance), the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance are consulted together with Chairman and Vice Chairman of The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and any other relevant overview and scrutiny committee. In addition, all Members are notified.

If five or more Members from those informed so request, the Leader may require the matter to be referred to Cabinet for determination.

Contact Officers:

Case Officer: Andy Hickman, 01962 848 105, ahickman@winchester.gov.uk

Committee Administrator: Nancy Graham, 01962 848 235, ngraham@winchester.gov.uk

SUMMARY

Local Transport Bodies (LTB) – are to be constituted by Government by the end of March 2013 and will be responsible for allocating major transport scheme funding for 2015 onwards.

The Department for Transport (DfT) is consulting at present on the geography / boundaries for LTBs. The DfT would like as far as possible for the LTB boundaries to be similar to that of Local Highway Authority Boundaries and Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) boundaries. In Hampshire this isn't very easy as there are two LEPs ie the Solent LEP and the M3 LEP (see attached plan). They would also like Districts to fit neatly into these areas as the funding for major schemes will be allocated on a population basis and it seems easier to have whole Districts within LTB areas in order to calculate this. Winchester District is split between the Solent and M3 LEP.

It is considered however, that the best approach bearing in mind the local circumstances is to have two LTBs one for each LEP and to split Districts across

both LTB areas i.e. Winchester District would therefore be included partly in both. This would mean depending upon how the LTBs are set up and who is represented on them that the City Council would be represented on both LTBs. The DfT intends to consult on how LTBs are set up and governed by the end of the year however a response is needed in relation to the geographical area of the LTB by the end of September. The consultation on Governance should give a better indication of who will sit on the LTBs and hence how the City Council will be represented on them. This will be subject to further consideration once the consultation details are received.

Hampshire County Council as Transport and Highway Authority has asked that the City Council along with other affected Districts in Hampshire ie New Forest, Test Valley and East Hampshire (all split across two LEPs) be a joint signatory to a letter from them to the DfT endorsing this approach. An informal response will be given until this decision notice has been considered and ratified.

DECISION

That Winchester City Council be a joint signatory to a letter from Hampshire County Council to the DfT stating that due to the particular circumstances in Hampshire that it is felt that the best approach is to have two LTBs matching the two LEPs and to split Districts to match the boundaries of the LEPs.

REASON FOR THE DECISION AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Having Winchester District in one or other of the two possible new LTBs was considered but it was felt that this would not best match the interests of the Council as areas of the District are clearly effected in different ways by what happens in the Solent and M3 LEP areas and as such it is important to have the chance to be represented on both.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Officers and members may be required to attend meetings of both possible new LTBs.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN ON THE DECISION

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport has been consulted.

**FURTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED
FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE DRAFT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION
NOTICE**

Various comments were received from WinACC Transport Group on the notice. However, the opinion from those who responded was divided. It is considered that Winchester would miss out if it was not represented on both Boards and therefore no change to the Notice as drafted is proposed.

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY THE DECISION MAKER OR A MEMBER OR
OFFICER CONSULTED**

None.

DISPENSATION GRANTED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

None.

Approved by: (signature)

Date of Decision: 17.10.12

Councillor Weston – Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport