

Notes of Meeting and Action Points

Date of Meeting: 25/9/2015



Topic: Cycle City Ambition Programme Board

Present: Coun Ged Bell (Chair), Neil Mitchell, Tim Pheby, Craig Blundred, Peter White, Rob Snowball, Bill Dodds

Apologies: John Litherland, Tom Warburton

Action

1. Actions from Previous Meeting

Notes from previous meeting were agreed and actions picked up under agenda items.

2. CCA Programme

PW has prepared an update note, which will be circulated with the notes.

There was discussion on the following projects:

Acorn Road – PW / GG reported that no issues have been reported so far. Site staff are the point of contact for issues and aim to resolve them on site. An agreement has been reached for parking to be permitted in the Royal British Legion Club car park for the duration of the works. There has also been some feedback in relation to increased traffic on St George’s Terrace which is being monitored.

GNR North of Broadway – NCC are working on a scheme to continue the Great North Cycleway up to the City Boundary on Sandy Lane. North Tyneside Council are currently working on continuing this in their area. Concerns have been expressed that this scheme does not match our ambition in terms of the standard of cycle route that would be provided. GB indicated that contact will be made with NTC at a political level. GB also highlighted that at a Parklands Ward Committee meeting, there was a desire for a reduction in the speed limit on the GNR north of Broadway. GG indicated this would be included in the proposals.

RS provided a brief updated received from Gateshead Council and North Tyneside Council on their CCA schemes. The Gateshead Scheme has been designed and consultation is underway. A TAG has been set up and has provided comment on the scheme. Gateshead will present the final scheme to a future board meeting. For the NTC Coast Road scheme, design work is ongoing and the first stage of consultation with stakeholders and user groups to steer the design process took place at the North Tyneside Cycle/Walking Consultation Group meeting of 18 August 2015. BD highlighted that concerns re the standard of the scheme had been highlighted by the North Tyneside Cycle Campaign to the Cycling Stakeholders Forum. GB expressed that he would like a meeting set up with NTC Officers and Politicians to discuss cycling schemes.

GG

BD reported that at the Newcastle Cycle Stakeholders Forum meeting last week, Stakeholders had noted and were pleased with the activity on cycle schemes. BD also suggested that there should be greater promotion of completed schemes such as when Acorn Road is completed.

BD did ask about the Gosforth High Street Proposals. There item Agenda Item 11 was discussed at this point.

Gosforth High Street – GG confirmed that the next step for the proposals was technical

<p>consultation, and will be discussed at TAG at the same time. This is not public engagement and no public meetings will be held by NCC, although if groups wanted to organise their own they are free to do so.</p> <p>BD outlined that a group called SPACE for Gosforth had made a presentation at the Cycling Stakeholders Forum setting out 5 objectives for the High Street scheme:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raised crossings at street ends 2. 20mph from Salters Road to the Little Moor 3. Promotion of a safe, healthy, vibrant High Street 4. Protected bike lanes on both sides of the High Street 5. No parking on the High St (but more loading/disabled parking bays on street ends next to High St) <p>GG outlined that there is currently an external review of the proposals being carried out which may result in changes (potentially including some of the above).</p> <p>BD also sought clarification on whether the Salters Road and the Car Park realignment would be subject to technical consultation. GG and PW explained that it was, but the consultation related to the legal orders require to facilitate the work.</p> <p>It is expected that Technical Consultation will be carried out at the end of September / early October.</p>	
<p>3. Quality of Cycling Infrastructure</p>	
<p>A paper had been prepared setting out a number of issues relating to the quality of cycling infrastructure and setting out the following recommendations which were subject to discussion by the board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Board make a decision as to whether a more comprehensive and cycling specific QA process is developed or whether the existing processes have proved suitable. <i>Following discussion it was agreed that lessons had needed to be learned, and have been, and therefore at this time no further QA process is necessary.</i> • That the Board consider the need for a Terms of Reference for Technical Advisory Group to be prepared, for meetings to be formalised, and for final scheme designs to be presented to the group ahead of their delivery. <i>Following discussion, it was agreed that it was not recommended that the TAG group is formalised, but it was agreed that bullet points of the discussion at TAG should be made and circulated to the group.</i> • That the Board request the Head of Transport to undertake further work to develop a policy relating to the maintenance of cycling infrastructure. <i>Agreed</i> 	GG
<p>4. CCAF 2 Technical Support</p>	
<p>A Paper was circulated in relation to this Agenda item and the recommendations were agreed. GG will begin the process of reviewing Sustrans' role in relation to CCA and take forward the variation of contract.</p>	GG
<p>5. Route Signage</p>	
<p>RS outlined that a proposal for the signage of the Cycle Network has been developed as set out in the paper that was circulated. Discussion took place around the rationale for the signage and whether there was a requirement to add cycling time as well as distance. The possibility of colour coding routes to set out 'difficulty' was discussed. It was agreed that the proposal be referred to TAG for comment.</p>	RS
<p>6. Re-profiling of Public Health Funding and Additional Research</p>	
<p>CB had prepared a paper around reprofiling public health funding over the 3 years of</p>	

the extension of the bid. GG outlined that CCAF 2 is actually an extension of the CCA programme and therefore this will be acceptable and the Board approved the reprofiling request.	CB
The request to agree to additional research was given.	CB
The request to allow Sustrans to develop the Silver Cyclists programme was also agreed.	CB
7. Bike Life Bike Account	
RS circulated the latest draft for comment and explained that the Central Spread on Newcastle and the Bike to Future Section had been redrafted (NM provided the latest text). PW queried whether comments made in relation to design / readability and whether corporate guidelines etc had been taken on board (Sustrans will check). The Board agreed to the revision of the text as outlined.	
NM asked whether we wanted to organise a launch event and offered to host it at the Journey. It was felt that this was a good idea and RS will liaise with NM and NCC Comms about this	RS / NM
8. Future Behaviour Change Initiatives	
Discussion took place around the desire to shape future behaviour change programmes to align better with NCC Capital schemes. The LSTF funded Go Smarter project ends in March 2016 (although the brand and website etc will continue as part of the legacy and further work is underway in respect of this at a Regional Level).	
There is desire from members of the Board to try and bring together the cycling 'offer' in Newcastle in a more comprehensive manner potentially under an umbrella brand, but signposting people to the various organisations / events / projects as necessary.	
The Board resolved that further work be undertaken to develop this area of work and report back for further discussion	RS
9. Community Cycling Area Extension	
During the development of the Community Cycling Areas project, it has been highlighted that there may be some merit in considering whether there is a need to expand the areas under consideration, if it would add value to schemes or if there were issues just outside of the initial boundaries. Sustrans had undertaken some work to consider extensions into areas with high propensity to cycle. It was agreed that this could be taken forward and reviewed as necessary to consider other and further expansions as necessary in the future.	GG
10. Trial of Bikes on the Metro	
RS highlighted the Nexus are currently consulting on proposals to allow bike to be carried on the Metro as set out in the paper that was circulated. As outlined, the trial is limited in terms of the number of bikes, the route and the times involved, but the trial is about understanding the practicalities associated, more than establishing potential level of demand. It was agreed that GB would respond on behalf of NCC welcoming the trial, but expressing some concerns about the limitations.	RS
11. Gosforth Transport Improvements	
Discussed under item 2.	
12. Active Travel Centre	
NM gave an update on the Centre. NM suggested that we are missing an opportunity to display information on the CCA programme and to help engagement by not having information in the Journey. GG explained that we are working on this and will have information to provide shortly. NM also expressed the view that the Journey needs someone to drive forward the activities and offer of the centre (and beyond). It was agreed that this will be considered as part of the behaviour change initiatives discussed under item 8.	

13. Cycling in the City Update	
CB provided an update as part of his report tabled under item 6.	
14. Feedback from Cycling Stakeholders Forum	
Notes from the previous forum meeting will be circulated. BD queried whether a Programme Gant Chart tabled for item 1 could be circulated to Forum members.	GG
15. AOB	
GB explained that he is looking to undertake a bike ride across the country visiting cycle city ambition cities. He would welcome input such as help with route planning. RS informed the Board that the City Council is now accredited to deliver Bikeability cycle training and has started delivery of training to schools following their return in September.	
Next Meeting: Wednesday 28th October 2015 1pm to 3pm.	