

CABINET

Extract from the Minutes of a meeting held on 22nd January, 2018.

C205 REVIEW PROCESS FOR TRANSPORT NETWORK STUDIES AT DINAS POWYS & M4 JCT 34 TO A48 (NST) (SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) -

Approval was sought for the process, timescales and terms of reference for the Review Groups involved in the 'WelTAG' (Welsh Transport Approved Guidance) process for Improving Strategic Transport in Dinas Powys and M4 JCT 34 to A48 Transport Network Studies.

Arcadis Consulting UK Limited was commissioned by the Council in 2017 to develop and appraise potential options for improving the strategic transport network in Dinas Powys and Junction M4 JCT 34 to A48 as part of two separate studies. WelTAG Stage one Reports have been presented to Cabinet and a way forward agreed for progressing to WelTAG Stage 2, Outline Business Cases for both schemes. As part of both studies, a Review Group was set up to ensure that the process being followed aligned with the Welsh Government guidance at that time. The appraisal of options was in accordance with Welsh Government's latest June 2016 version of the Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WelTAG).

The WelTAG Guidance had recently been updated by Welsh Government following a consultation process in 2017. The updated Guidance was released on 13 December, 2017 and could be accessed via the following link:
<https://beta.gov.wales/welsh-transport-appraisal-guidance-weltag>.

The new Guidance advised that:

- A Review Group should be appointed for each WelTAG appraisal.
- The size and composition of the Review Group should be set out in the management case in the Stage One report, and should seek to involve individuals from a range of backgrounds and expertise including across the four aspects of well-being (social, cultural, environmental, economic).
- Depending on the scope of the intervention under consideration, it was recommended to designate an independent reviewer for the project. That role should be fulfilled by someone with experience or knowledge of the issues but who was not part of the programme team.

As both studies had significant financial implications if delivered, it was considered that they would be assessed within the High Project Risk Assessment category as identified in the Guidance. Therefore, for avoidance of doubt, and to set out the Council's intention on how it intended to proceed with complying with the Review process, the following process was proposed for both Stage Two reports:

- a) Draft Report received from Consultants and considered by officers.
- b) Consideration by the Review Group, which it was suggested to meet the Guidance, comprised:
 - Vale of Glamorgan Council relevant technical officers
 - Welsh Government
 - Network Rail
 - Arriva Trains Wales
 - Relevant Public Transport Operators
 - Sustrans
 - Road Haulage Association
 - Freight Transport Association
 - Relevant Neighbouring Local Authorities (NEW)
 - Health Board (NEW)
 - A representative designated by the Community Council (For Dinas Powys Scheme)
 - A representative designated by the Community Councils from each of the three Community Councils (for M4 J34 to A48 scheme)
- c) Cabinet to receive a report on the findings.
- d) Consideration of the Report by the Council's Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.
- e) The Stage 2 report to be considered by a separate independent Consultant appointed to act as an Independent Reviewer taking all comments on Board.
- f) A Final Draft Report presented to Cabinet which would include an appendix of the Independent Reviewer's Report. Cabinet will be asked to agree any changes if applicable to the WelTAG Report at this stage.

Suggested 'Terms of Reference' for the Review Group were attached at Appendix A to the report. The role of the Review Group would be to consider the proposals in the technical WelTAG report and to identify any support or concerns with the proposals and to make suggestions for any missing evidence and information. The Review Group would be chaired by the Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport, and a report produced that would be considered by the Independent Reviewer and reported to Cabinet for further consideration. The Groups needed to be formally invited to get involved and initial meetings were arranged for 16 January, 2018.

This was a matter for Executive decision

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the composition of the Review Groups for WeITAG at Dinas Powys and M4 JCT 34 to A48 as outlined in the report be agreed.
- (2) T H A T the Terms of Reference for WeITAG review Groups as attached at Appendix A to the report be agreed.
- (3) T H A T a further report on this matter be received by Cabinet following the receipt of the draft WeITAG Stage 2 reports in Spring 2018.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To confirm the review group participants for the WeITAG studies.
- (2) To agree the Terms of Reference.
- (3) To provide an update on the outcome of the studies and to recommend ways forward to progress to WeITAG stage 3 work using the relevant Welsh Government Transport Guidance.