

## Report to Cabinet

**Subject:** Gedling Borough Council Travel Plan

**Date:** 15 January 2014

**Author:** Corporate Director (Stephen Bray)

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### Wards affected

Borough wide

### Purpose

- To seek agreement to the draft Gedling Borough Council Travel Plan

### Key decision

This is not a key decision.

### Background

- 1 The Council has committed to significant reductions to the Borough's carbon footprint over the next four years in its Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan.
- 2 Transport is a significant contributor to carbon emissions and employee travel habits in turn contribute to those emissions. One of the actions in the Action Plan is to review and improve the Council's Travel Plan, and then ensure its implementation.
- 3 The previous Travel Plan dated from 2006 and had become significantly out of date. Research into current employee travel habits and future options has been carried out in partnership with the Big Wheel organisation to inform an updated plan.
- 4 As a result, a fully updated draft Travel Plan has been developed, a copy of which is attached at **Appendix A**.
- 5 The Plan has been the subject of consultation through both JCSC and the STEPS group. Where appropriate, the Plan has been amended to reflect comments received.

### Proposal

- 6 The Travel Plan is underpinned by an emphasis on incentivising more sustainable travel habits, with particular emphasis on advice and information to inform more sustainable travel decisions.
  - 7 The objectives of the Travel Plan are: -
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- To reduce transport-related emissions by promoting travel initiatives through behavioural change campaigns.
- To promote other transport means of getting to and from work to staff members.
- To reduce single occupancy vehicles for staff members coming to and from Arnot Hill Park.
- To promote the use of public transport for business related journeys and where possible to encourage walking or cycling for meetings within reasonable distance.
- To continue to promote the Council's pool bikes to members of staff.
- To promote more sustainable ways of working where practically possible to do so

8 The intended outcomes include: -

- Reduced Council emissions due to staff travel
- Raised awareness among staff members of sustainable transport options available to them
- Reduced single occupancy vehicles from 66% to 50%
- Increased the number of staff cycling to work from 2% to 5%
- Increased bus users from 7% to 15%
- Increased number of staff members walking to work from 27% to 30%

9 A range of recommendations are made for future action, many of which relate to promotion and encouragement of behaviour change. Discussions have been held with TravelRight, the organisation commissioned to run the Neighbourhood Sustainable Travel Hub for the Borough, who have considerable expertise and experience in this field. They have indicated in principle that they will be able to support delivery of some of these recommendations.

10 Though headed a Gedling Borough Council Travel Plan, steps will be taken to liaise with partners based at the Arnot Hill Park campus to widen the scope of the Plan wherever possible.

### **Alternative options**

11 Alternatives include not having a plan or any actions to take forward more sustainable travel habits, or taking forward actions in an ad-hoc unplanned way. Neither are felt to be as effective as the more planned approach proposed.

### **Financial Implications**

12 There are no specific resources allocated for delivery of the Travel Plan. Support with implementation is available from the Sustainability Officer and will be sought from other services where appropriate. It is hoped that external support, such as from TravelRight (see above) will also be secured. TravelRight may also be able to signpost to sources of external funding to deliver small scale capital works.

### **Appendices**

Travel Plan.

## **Background Papers**

- Gedling Employee Travel Survey – December 2012/January 2013
- Report to Joint Consultative and Safety Committee – 26 November 2013

## **Recommendations**

Cabinet is recommended: -

- (a) To agree the Gedling Borough Council Travel Plan

## **Reasons for recommendations**

To support and promote delivery of more sustainable travel habits amongst employees.