

East West Rail Consortium Board
11th June 2019

Agenda Item 7: For Information

Recommendation: It is recommended that the meeting note the item.

1. England's Economic Heartland: Outline Transport Strategy

- 1.1. EEH's 3rd Regional Conference (on 16th July) will mark the publication of the Outline Transport Strategy.
- 1.2. The Outline Transport Strategy will not contain a definitive set of policies or proposals, but will set out the nature of the challenges we face collectively as a region in shaping the transport system for the longer term.
- 1.3. Its publication marks the start of a 15-week period of engagement (ending 31st October) the outcome of which will be a key input into the development of the detailed draft Transport Strategy. The latter will be the subject of a formal consultation in the first half of 2020, with the definitive strategy being published in summer 2020.
- 1.4. The engagement will be largely conversational in style, with an emphasis on a dialogue with key organisations and representative groups.
- 1.5. Components of the programme of activity include:
 - a) **Meetings with Partners** – including the local transport authorities, local enterprise partnerships and growth boards: in addition there will be meetings with local planning authorities ideally in collective meetings.

There will be bespoke meetings with adjoining Sub-national Transport Bodies, as well as with London.
 - b) **Transport Influencers Group:** this is being established in order to ensure that secure a perspective that is both diverse and inclusive. The aim here is to ensure the development of the Transport Strategy is informed by an understanding of the needs of users. Particular attention will be paid to ensure the user views of women, BAME, disabled people, the LGBT community, those with mental health issues, older and younger people. The implications of transport poverty on those with low incomes will also be captured.
 - c) **Parliamentary engagement:** A Parliamentary reception on the Outline Transport Strategy will be held in the autumn. In addition, a session on connectivity is proposed for the Oxford to Cambridge APPG
 - d) **Business and University roadshows:** there will be conversations with the business sector and with the Arc Universities Group.
 - e) **Peer Review:** the views of professional bodies (for example, CIHT) will be sought as a means of capturing expert insight on the challenges identified in the Outline Transport Strategy and how these might be addressed.

- f) **Written responses:** individuals and organisations will be encouraged to submit written responses to the Outline Transport Strategy

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