



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot  
Neath Port Talbot Council

## **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **Cabinet**

### **Report of the Head of Engineering & Transport**

#### **Matter for Decision**

**Wards Affected:** All Wards

#### **South West Wales Metro**

#### **Purpose of the Report:**

To update members on the work undertaken to date and to seek approval for the next phase of prioritised work-streams to develop an integrated transport system for South West Wales.

#### **Executive Summary:**

The South West Wales Metro Project, currently being led by the City and County of Swansea, has identified various work-streams that are moving forward. Such projects include the development of public transport including bus and rail and active travel. Initial feasibility has been undertaken with a view to identifying further pieces of works to shape the transport system for the region.

Initial work has focused on rail as it is intended that the rail network in the region will provide the backbone of the public transport system with other modes connecting to the rail network. From this initial work regional officers have identified several key areas for further investigation and would seek member endorsement to undertake these further studies, a list of the proposed studies can be found in Appendix A.

## **Background:**

It is widely recognised that at peak hours, congestion, on both our local and strategic road network is a real problem in the region. The South West Wales Metro project will look to create a modern, sustainable transport network to encourage the use of public transport, community transport and active travel modes to realise the capacity within the constrained road networks.

The improvement of transportation in South West Wales will not only improve the access to the economic centres, but will pave the way for a greater level of integration, not only of different transport modes but also between existing public transport services – allowing greater interconnectivity and accessibility to key destinations both within the Region and the rest of the UK.

## **Integrated Impact Assessment:**

A first stage Impact Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The first stage assessment, attached at Appendix B, has indicated that a more in-depth assessment is not required.

## **Valleys Communities Impacts:**

No impacts.

## **Workforce Impacts:**

There are no workforce implications other than Officer time.

## **Legal Impacts:**

No impacts.

## **Risk Management Impacts:**

There are no risk management implications associated with this scheme.

**Consultation:**

There is no requirement for consultation on this item.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended in consultation with the Leader and relevant Cabinet Member that, authority be given to proceed with the next stage of studies to shape the public transport system in the South West Wales Region.

**Reasons for Proposed Decision:**

To ensure that the necessary authority is in place to undertake studies into the priorities identified in Appendix A as the next phase of the South West Wales Metro.

**Implementation of Decision:**

The decision is proposed for immediate implementation.

**Appendices:**

Appendix A – South West Wales Metro – Proposed Feasibility Studies

Appendix B – Integrated Impact Assessment.

**List of Background Papers:**

None.

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