



ECONOMY REGENERATION AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Tuesday 20 JUNE 2023

REPORT TITLE:	APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO ACTIVE TRAVEL WORKING GROUP
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to enable Economy, Regeneration and Housing Committee to review the continuing need for the Active Travel Working Group and, subject to that, to appoint Members to serve on it.

The Wirral Plan 2021-2026 sets out the Council's vision to secure the best possible future for our residents, defined by the community prosperity we create and supported by our excellent people and services. This proposal directly supports the following key themes within that plan:

- A prosperous inclusive economy where local people can get good jobs and achieve their aspirations; and
- Safe, vibrant communities where people want to live and raise their families.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough and is not a Key Decision.

RECOMMENDATION

Economy Regeneration and Housing Committee is recommended to approve that the Monitoring Officer be authorised as proper officer to carry out the wishes of the Group Leaders in allocating Members to membership of the Active Travel Member Working Group and to appoint those Members with effect from the date at which the proper officer is advised of the names of such Members.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 The work of the group will enable this Committee to make appropriate decisions and recommendations which will support the delivery of increased levels of sustainable travel as set out in the emerging Local Plan and to support actions required to address the Climate Emergency and the target in the Cool2 Strategy to 'a complete transition to fossil fuel free local travel by around 2030

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 This Committee could resolve to vary the numbers of Members or not appoint Members to it.
- 2.2 It is considered that the Working Group will assist the Council in actively working to deliver ambitious inclusive walking and cycling projects as required to secure a positive outcome in delivering increased levels of sustainable travel as set out in the emerging Local Plan and to support actions required to address the Climate Emergency and the target in the Cool2 Strategy to 'a complete transition to fossil fuel free local travel by around 2030'.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The following is a body retained or created in 2023/24 to assist the Committee in its work, with the membership for 2023/24. The Terms of Reference are attached as Appendix 1.

Active Travel Member Working Group

- 3.2 A working group currently comprising 8 members tasked with securing a positive outcome in delivering increased levels of sustainable travel as set out in the emerging Local Plan. This development of the Local Plan is also within the wider context of the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency and the target in the Cool2 Strategy to 'a complete transition to fossil fuel free local travel by around 2030'.
- 3.3 The working group has an advisory role in the development of active travel schemes. The group will advise on the direction of active travel policy and delivery across Wirral. This is with a view to aiding greater understanding across the Council of issues associated with the implementation of active travel initiatives. The group will take account of the wider context of the potential for sustainable transport projects to contribute to:
- health and well-being;
 - tackling the climate emergency and improving air quality;
 - improving accessibility;
 - reducing congestion by encouraging active travel modes especially for shorter journeys;
 - achieving value for money;

- helping economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic;
- tackling transport poverty and inequality of access; and
- inclusive economic growth.

3.4 Current Membership

Councillor Tony Jones
 Councillor Liz Grey
 Councillor Ian Lewis
 Councillor Andrew Gardner
 Councillor Judith Grier
 Councillor Harry Gorman
 Councillor David Mitchell
 Councillor Orod Osanlou

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The establishment of the Active Travel Working Group is in compliance with the Council's Constitution. This group will not take any decisions but inform the deliberations of this Committee.

5.2 The size of the Working Group is currently set at eight members. In addition, Members of other Committees may be invited to attend as and when appropriate at the discretion of the Chair of the Working Group.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

6.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report as the Working Group is arranged and serviced using existing staff resources.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 As the Active Travel Working Group is a non-statutory meeting, no risks have been identified from the recommendations.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 It is for political groups to decide how they wish to allocate their places on working groups.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity.

9.2 There are no equality implications arising directly from this report.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are none arising directly from this report

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference for the Active Travel Member Working Group

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The Council's Constitution

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Economy Regeneration and Development Committee	13 June 2022
Economy Regeneration and Development Committee	8 June 2021
Economy Regeneration and Development Committee meeting of 4 March 2021 – Proposal to establish an Active Travel Working Group.	4 March 2021