

## **Glasgow City Region Metro - Feasibility study update noted etc.**

**8** With reference to the minutes of 6th October 2020 noting an update on the Glasgow City Region Metro project feasibility study, there was submitted a report by the Project Director providing a further update on developments that had taken place since August 2020, advising

- (1) that a project steering group chaired by the Chief Executives of Glasgow City and Renfrewshire Councils had met monthly since January 2021 to review programme progress updates and to discuss emerging issues and risks, and that the feasibility study's project initiation document and communications strategy had both been approved by the steering group;
- (2) of an update in respect of the publication of Transport Scotland's (TS) Strategic Transport Project Review 2 Phase 1 outputs, as detailed in section 4 of the report;
- (3) that a multi-disciplinary Metro project team had been established that continued to explore other sources of funding to progress the feasibility study and had been successful in obtaining £175,000 funding to undertake 3 specific consultancy commissions, with feedback awaited from a joint funding bid with Public Health Scotland for £300,000 from the Economies for Healthier Lives Programme fund, all as detailed in the report;
- (4) that Steer Group had been appointed as the feasibility study's transport specialist and Jacobs UK Ltd had been commissioned to support 2 work packages, namely, an Economic Narrative and a Transport Governance and Operator Model, as detailed in the report;
- (5) that the Metro project team continued to work closely with TS, its consultants Jacobs, and AECOM to progress a phase 2 work plan for evaluating the next stage of Metro;
- (6) of an update on the work that had been undertaken by the Metro Strategic Advisory Group, including engagement with stakeholders, as detailed in the report;
- (7) that the South-West corridor route had been selected as the initial test route to analyse potential routing options, map available data, identify set gaps and test sensitivity analysis on data sets, as detailed in the report; and
- (8) of the research and benchmarking work that had been undertaken and that further meetings were planned with UK Tram in order to explore developing networking and reference study contacts.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (a) noted

- (i) the close working and developing relationships of the Metro feasibility team with TS and its appointed consultants, and with Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and Glasgow's teams preparing the regional and local transport strategies; and
  - (ii) that regular update reports would be submitted to the Chief Executives' Group and this Cabinet on the progress of the feasibility study, including any potential proposals for approving additional funding; and
- (b) agreed that the Project Director and the Programme Management Office make representations to Transport Scotland with a view to ensuring that Inverclyde Council was recognised as an integral part of the Metro project.