EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

<u>CABINET</u>

<u>11 May 2023</u>

Report by Director of Environment

EAST RENFREWSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY MAIN ISSUES CONSULTATION – TRANSPORT SURVEY

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Cabinet on East Renfrewshire's Local Transport Strategy (LTS) and seek approval to commence consultation with community and stakeholders to support LTS development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Cabinet is asked to:

- a) Note background to LTS Main Issues Consultation; and
- b) Review and approve the Transport Survey (Appendix 1), which will be utilised to support community engagement.

BACKGROUND

3. East Renfrewshire Council (ERC) is developing a new LTS. The LTS will replace the previous LTS (2008-2011)¹, setting out the vision for transport in East Renfrewshire and establish a framework for transport decision making and investment over the next 10 years.

4. Although there is no statutory requirement for local authorities to have an LTS in place, Local Transport Strategies have a statutory basis in the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001. This sets out how local authorities intend to deliver on national objectives at a local level, and provides a delivery plan for meeting local challenges and objectives.

5. The LTS follows publication of National Transport Strategy 2² (approved 2020) and the new Regional Transport Strategy for the west of Scotland³ (approved 2023). These strategies outline ambitious visions for delivering sustainable, inclusive, safe and accessible transport system for a healthier, fairer and more prosperous society.

6. The LTS will therefore consider how local transport and access priorities align with national and regional strategies in addition to local policy outcomes, such as East Renfrewshire's Community Plan⁴ and Local Development Plan 2⁵ objectives.

¹ <u>https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/8505/Local-Transport-Strategy-2008-</u>

^{2011/}pdf/East_Renfrewshire_Local_Transport_Strategy_2008-2011.pdf?m=638053333942000000 ² https://www.transport.gov.scot/media/47052/national-transport-strategy.pdf

³ <u>https://www.spt.co.uk/media/orfnvtvd/spt_regional-transport-strategy-2023-2038-final-draft.pdf</u>

⁴ https://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/community-planning-partnership

⁵ https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/ldp2

7. The 'Main Issues' is the first stage of LTS development and will gather evidence, facilitate community & stakeholder engagement, seek feedback on future priorities and help shape future policy options. This will determine how ERC responds to transport problems and challenges, such as the realities of climate change and development of transport networks.

REPORT

8. Transport – the movement of people and goods – is fundamental to society and key to overall wellbeing and prosperity. As well as providing access to opportunities, transport can also act as a barrier reflecting inequalities faced by some communities.

9. Transport systems (and associated demands on space) influences how environments are shaped and how people move around. These travel choices can result in transport problems, which in turn can have societal consequences.

10. Future LTS objectives must therefore recognise social, environmental and economic contributions of transport and reflect principles such as sustainability, equality and net-zero. East Renfrewshire Council have produced a draft 'Case for Change' report⁶ which draws on national, regional and local policy objectives, as well existing evidence, issues, opportunities and experiences relating to transport in the area. This also considers preliminary Transport Planning and Strategy Objectives for the purposes of community and stakeholder engagement.

11. The Main Issues Consultation provides a mechanism to share information and gather feedback. This is considered critical in shaping future LTS priorities, not only to address key transport problems and challenges, but also to ensure shared priorities meet the needs and aspirations of local communities.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

12. An £80,000 grant has been awarded via the Sustrans' Places for Everyone programme to support LTS development and associated appraisals.

CONSULTATION

13. Findings of previous community and stakeholders consultation and engagement is summarised within the draft Case for Change report¹.

14. Subject to cabinet approval, the LTS Main Issues consultation will last approximately 12 weeks. The transport survey - both a public and dedicated Citizen Panel surveys - will be live for a period of approximately 8 weeks. The survey will be the primary data collection method as part of the Main Issues community outreach. Responses will be collated, analysed and included as part of the final Main Issues Case for Change report to inform LTS policies and priorities.

⁶ Draft Case for Change report - <u>https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/8684/Local-Transport-Strategy-</u> <u>Full-case-for-change-report-draft/pdf/East_Renfrewshire_LTS_Case_for_Change_-</u> _consultation_draft_V2.pdf?m=638106677183570000

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

15. The LTS Main Issues consultation seeks to engage with a diverse range of individuals and organisations. Specific effort will be made to reach out and engage stakeholders and community networks. This may involve representatives groups, such as community councils, groups, forums etc. and include written correspondence and remote or in person workshops.

16. It should be noted that initial LTS 'Main Issues' discussions with services and elected members has already commenced.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

- 17. The 'Main Issues' is the first stage of LTS development. Subsequent stages include:
 - Developing the LTS (summer-autumn 2023); this will outline LTS policies and high level actions for further consultation
 - Delivering the LTS; following approval of strategy, develop plans on how key priorities will be delivered. Draft delivery framework(s) due early 2024.

18. Future financial implications associated with a new LTS, such as capital and revenue requirements, are key considerations, but remain largely unknown at this stage.

19. An integrated Equality, Fairness and Rights Impact Assessment will be undertaken to support LTS development in line with the Council's Equality Duty of Care.

20. A Climate Change Impact Assessment will be undertaken to support LTS development. It should be noted that the development of an LTS and associated plans are key actions within the emerging Climate Action Plan for East Renfrewshire.

CONCLUSIONS

21. This will set out the vision for transport in East Renfrewshire and establish a framework for transport decision making and investment in the area over the next 10 years.

RECOMMENDATIONS

22. The Cabinet is asked to:

- a) Note background to LTS Main Issues Consultation; and
- b) Review and approve the Transport Survey (Appendix 1), which will be utilised to support community engagement.

Director of Environment

For further information contact: Gillian McCarney, Head of Environment (Chief Planning Officer) <u>Gillian.McCarney@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk</u>

April 2023

Appendix 1

East Renfrewshire Transport Survey

This survey asks about your experience of using various types of transport in East Renfrewshire, including your travel habits and priorities for the future. Your answers will help support the development of the new Local Transport Strategy for East Renfrewshire.

The survey covers a number of different types of transport – we would like you to complete as many questions as you can, but feel free to skip any that do not feel relevant to you. You can also complete the survey online at **www.bit.ly/ER-TS**. Remember your responses are **completely confidential**.

Questions? Call Engage Scotland on 0800 433 7212 or email <u>survey@engagescotland.co.uk</u>

1 Which of the following best describes your perspective when answering the survey?

□ I'm answering primarily as an East Renfrewshire resident

l'm answering primarily as someone who doesn't live here but travels through East Renfrewshire regularly

^J I'm answering primarily as a business or employer that operates in East Renfrewshire

^J I'm answering primarily on behalf of an organisation (please state which in the box below)

J Other

Getting around in East Renfrewshire

2 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the transport system in East Renfrewshire is adequate for your needs?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree

Active travel

This section asks about active travel in East Renfrewshire. Active travel is making journeys by physical means such as walking, wheeling or cycling. Note that 'wheeling' includes wheelchair, mobility aids, etc.

3 Thinking about <u>active travel</u> in East Renfrewshire, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither/ nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Most of my daily needs can be accessed within 1 mile of my home (c.20 minute walk)						
It is easy to walk, wheel or cycle for shorter journeys (i.e. 1-3 miles)						
I feel safe and secure when walking, wheeling or cycling in my neighbourhood						
Walking, wheeling or cycling are viable alternatives to the car for shorter, everyday journeys						

4 Thinking about <u>walking or wheeling</u> in East Renfrewshire, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following? Note that "wheeling" includes wheelchair, mobility aids, etc.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither/ nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Good quality local parks/greenspaces are easily accessed by walking or wheeling						
It is easy to access and move around my local town centre by walking or wheeling						
l am happy for my child (or children generally) to walk or scoot to school						

5 Thinking about <u>cycling</u> in East Renfrewshire, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither/ nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Good quality local parks/greenspaces are easily accessed by bike						
It is easy to access and move around my local town centre by bike						
I am happy for my child (or children generally) to cycle to school	e 🗌					

Public transport

6 Thinking now about <u>public transport</u> (bus or train) in East Renfrewshire, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither/ nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Public transport is reliable						
Public transport is affordable						
Public transport is pleasant to use						
I feel safe on public transport						
Public transport offers a viable alternative to the car for shorter journeys						
Public transport offers a viable alternative to the car for medium to longer journeys						
I know how to purchase the best tickets if I'm using more than one operator or type of public transport						

7 If you have experienced difficulties using public transport, please tell us a little about these.

8 To what extent do you agree or disagree that <u>bus services</u> in East Renfrewshire meet your needs (e.g. for work, education, shopping, visiting friends & family)?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree

9 If bus services in East Renfrewshire do not meet your needs, why is this? Please select the TOP THREE reasons

	Top reason	2 nd reason	3 rd reason
Buses are too expensive			
Buses don't go where I need to go			
There are no bus services in my local area			

Buses are not frequent enough/not at the times I need		
I can't use the same ticket to travel with different bus operators/services		
Buses are not reliable		
It's not a pleasant experience on buses		
I don't always feel safe on buses		
There aren't enough seats available on buses		
Bus journeys take too long		
I'm concerned about using buses due to Covid-19 or virus transmission		
Other (please write in below)		

10 To what extent do you agree or disagree that <u>train services</u> in East Renfrewshire meet your needs (e.g. for work, education, shopping, visiting friends & family)?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree

11 If train services in East Renfrewshire do not meet your needs, why is this? Please select the TOP THREE reasons

	Top reason	2 nd reason	3 rd reason
Trains are too expensive			
Trains don't go where I need to go			
There are no train stations/services in my local area			
Trains are not frequent enough/not at the times I need			
I can't use the same ticket to travel with different train operators/services			
Trains are not reliable			
It's not a pleasant experience on trains			
I don't always feel safe on trains			
	I	I	I

There aren't enough seats available on trains		
Train journeys take too long		
I'm concerned about using trains due to Covid-19 or virus transmission		
Other (please write in below)		
	· · ·	

Car travel

12 Thinking now about <u>travelling by car</u> in East Renfrewshire, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither/ nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree	y Don't know
l rely on my car for day-to-day journeys						
It's easy and convenient to travel by car						
l feel safe when travelling by car						
Parking at local destinations meets my needs						
It's easy to charge an electric car in my local area						

13 If you have experienced difficulties travelling by car in East Renfrewshire, please tell us a little about these.

r	

14 To what extent do you agree or disagree that <u>taxi services</u> in East Renfrewshire are accessible and adequate for your needs (e.g. for work, education, shopping, visiting friends & family)?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree

15 Please use the space below for any further comments about travel in East Renfrewshire.

Your travel habits

This section asks about your travel habits, and how much you would be able to change your travel habits to help us meet current and future transport challenges.

16 Have you made more or less use of the following modes of transport over the last 12 months?

	Much more	No change	A little less	Don't know
Walking				
Cycling				
Train				
Bus				
Private car				
Taxi				
Community / Volunteer Transport				

17 Do you do more or less of the following now compared with before COVID-19?

	Much more	A little more	No change	A little less	Much less	Don't know
Work from home						
Shopping online						
Use local shops and facilities						
Use local amenities such as parks and greenspaces						

18 Thinking about the <u>environmental impact of your travel</u>, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following?

Strongly	Agree	Neither/	Dicagroo	Strongly disagree	Don't
agree	Agree	nor	Disagree	disagree	know

l consider environmental or carbon impact before planning a journey			
Environmental or carbon impact influences the type or number of journeys that I make			
The available travel options limit whether I can reduce my environmental or carbon impact			
Cost/finances limit how much I consider the environmental or carbon impact of my travel			

Changing your travel habits

19 Thinking about the journeys you have taken by car or van in the last 4 weeks, how many of these could you have <u>walked</u>?

Most of these journeys
Some of these journeys
None of these journeys
Don't know

20 Thinking about the journeys you have taken by car or van in the last 4 weeks, how many of these could you have cycled?

Most of these journeys	
Some of these journeys	
None of these journeys	

Don't know

21 Thinking about the journeys you have taken by car or van in the last 4 weeks, how many of these could you have <u>taken public transport</u>?

Most of these journeys
Some of these journeys
None of these journeys
Don't know

22 Thinking about shorter everyday journeys that you would usually take by car, what would encourage you to <u>walk or wheel</u> more of these journeys? Please select the TOP THREE

1		I	
Top reason	2 nd reason		3 rd reason

Nothing would encourage me to walk/wheel more		
More traffic-free routes and off-road shared paths		
Less / slower traffic		
Better pavement surfaces		
More space for pedestrians in towns and cities		
New or improved road crossings		
Better maintenance of walking routes (i.e. regular clearing of leaves, drainage, defects)		
Better lighting on walking routes		
Better signage, better information on walking routes		
Other (please write in below)		

23 And what would encourage you to <u>cycle</u> more of these shorter, everyday journeys? Please select the TOP THREE

	Top reason	2 nd reason	3 rd reason
Nothing would encourage me to cycle more			
More traffic-free routes and off-road shared paths			
Better road surfaces			
Better pavement surfaces			
Less / slower traffic			
More segregated on-road cycle lanes			
More non-segregated on-road cycle lanes			
New or improved road crossings			
Better maintenance of cycling routes (i.e. regular clearing of leaves, drainage, defects)			
Better lighting on cycling routes			
Better signage, better information on cycling routes			
Secure cycle parking in your local area			

Incentives to buy or lease a bike or electric bike		
Cycle training		
Other (please write in below)		

24 Thinking now about longer journeys that you would usually take by car, what would encourage you to <u>use public transport</u> for more of these journeys? Please select the TOP THREE

	Top reason	2 nd reason	3 rd reason
Nothing would encourage me to use public transport more			
More public transport services in your area			
More frequent bus services			
More frequent train services			
More reliable bus services			
More reliable train services			
More flexible services (i.e. better connections between different services, simpler ticketing)			
Better experience on-board buses			
Better experience on-board trains			
Better and more up to date passenger information			
Other (please write in below)			

25 Do you have any other comments on how we could encourage more walking, cycling or public transport use for everyday journeys?

Transport issues for East Renfrewshire

We have identified some of the transport issues we need to address, based on our available evidence. This section asks for your views on these, and any other transport issues that you think should be addressed.

26 What transport issues affect you most in your everyday life?



27 Which of the following transport issues are most important to you? Please select the TOP THREE

	Top reason	2 nd reason	3 rd reason
Equal access to transport, issues for disadvantaged or vulnerable groups			
Addressing car traffic and associated environmental impacts (such as emissions)			
Road safety concerns			
Condition and management of local roads			
Access to public Electric Vehicle charge points			
Quality of walking and cycling routes			

Frequency and reliability of public transport services in East Renfrewshire		
Integration of public transport services (ie. 'joined up' ticketing / fares)		

28 Please tell us about any other significant transport issues that are not covered at Question 27 that you would like to see addressed.

Transport goals for East Renfrewshire

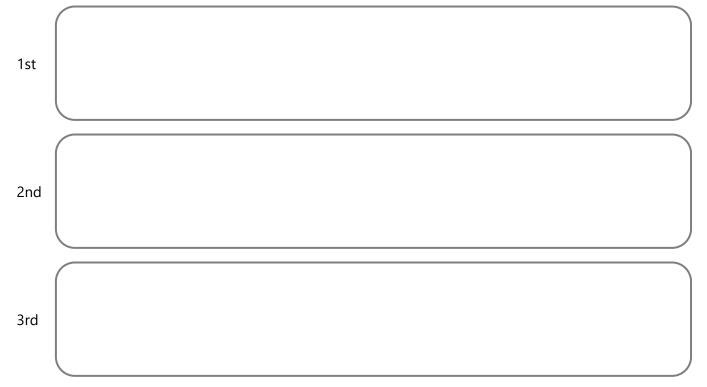
29 Based on our review of evidence, we have identified the following overall goals for transport in East Renfrewshire. These overall goals will shape our future transport strategy.

How important or unimportant do you think these are for East Renfrewshire?

	Very important	-	•	Not at all important	
Reduce carbon emissions and other harmful pollutants					
Enable more walking, cycling and wheeling					
Improve public transport connectivity and accessibility					
Support liveable, resilient and connected communities					
Sustainable management of local roads and paths					

30 Are there any other goals that you think we should have for transport in East Renfrewshire? Please write in below.

31 If you could change three things to improve transport in East Renfrewshire, what would they be? This could be a specific project or a concept like cheaper public transport, better road crossings, better routes to school, etc Please write in below.



Future transport priorities

For each of the goals listed at Question 29, we have identified potential priorities. We would like your views on whether these are the right transport priorities for East Renfrewshire.

32 We have identified the following priorities to '<u>Reduce carbon emissions and other harmful pollutants'</u>. To what extent do you agree or disagree with these?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither/ nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
A 'net-zero' transport system supporting ultra-low emission vehicles and alternative fuels						
Supporting remote working and access to services to reduce the need to travel						
Shift to more sustainable transport by supporting behaviour change and management of car demand						
Reallocate road space to support active travel and public transport						

Introduce shared transport options such as car clubs			
and public bike hire		1	

Are there any other issues or priorities that we should include in relation to reducing carbon emissions and other harmful pollutants?

33 We have identified the following priorities to '<u>Enable more walking, cycling and wheeling'</u>. To what extent do you agree or disagree with these?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither/ nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Develop local networks to make active travel safe, comfortable and accessible for all ages and abilities						
New infrastructure and facilities to support more use of active travel						
Manage active travel paths, lanes, etc to ensure they are fit for all ages and abilities, all year round						
Improve access to bikes and e-bikes, and cycle training						
Improve connections between active travel facilities and public transport						

Are there any other issues or priorities that we should include in relation to enabling more walking, cycling or wheeling?

34 We have identified the following priorities to '<u>Improve Public Transport connectivity and accessibility'</u>. To what extent do you agree or disagree with these?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither/ nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Ensure accessible, affordable public transport services						
are available across East Renfrewshire						

New or improved public transport connections across East Renfrewshire (esp. east-west), improved bus reliability			
Better integration of public transport services, e.g. smart ticketing, equitable fare structures			
Support local community transport where other public transport options are not feasible			
Sustainable management of park & ride facilities			

Are there any other issues or priorities that we should include in relation to improving public transport connectivity and accessibility?

35 We have identified the following priorities to '<u>Support liveable, resilient and connected communities'</u>. To what extent do you agree or disagree with these?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither/ nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Lower speeds including 20mph on residential streets						
Traffic Management Zones to reduce dominance of vehicle traffic						
Develop '20 minute neighbourhoods' to improve local access to services, facilities and natural space – including more active school travel						
'Mobility Hubs' to promote more sustainable travel and improve mobility options in towns and cities						
Improve the quality of environment in town and neighbourhood centres						

Are there any other issues or priorities that we should include in relation to supporting liveable, resilient and connected communities?

36 We have identified the following priorities to achieve '<u>Sustainable management of local roads and paths'</u>. To what extent do you agree or disagree with these?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither/ nor	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
Ensure local roads and paths are in good condition for all users						
Improve road safety to support Scotland's 'Vision Zero' of no-one being killed or seriously injured on Scotland's roads						
Surface water management and 'green infrastructure' to help adapt to climate change						
Improve public and community access to Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure						
Ensure new housing and other development is accessible by active travel and public transport						

Are there any other issues or priorities that we should include in relation to sustainable management of local roads and paths?

37 What would be your top priority for transport in East Renfrewshire? Please write in below.

About you

We need the following information to make sure that the survey has included a mix of different people, and to allow us to look at any differences in views across age groups, etc. Your information will remain **completely confidential**.

38 How do you identify?

Female	Male	In another way	Prefer not to say

39	What is your age?					
	Under 18		60-74			
	 18-24		75-84			
	25-34					
			85+			
	35-44		Prefer not to say			
	45-59					
40	Do you have a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?					
	Yes	No	Prefer n	Prefer not to say		
			[
41	What is your employment status?					
	Employed full-time		Retired			
	Employed part-time		Not working due to sickness/disability			
	Self employed		Looking after home and family			
	Unemployed		Other			
	Student					
42	Please write in your home postcode below. This will only be used to analyse survey results.					
	Home postcode					
43	Would you like to enter the prize draw? Would you be happy for the Council to contact you again f transport-related research?					
			Yes	Νο		
	I would like to enter the prize draw					
	I am happy for the Council to contact me again for					
	transport-related research	7				
	If you have ticked 'yes' above, please provide your name and telephone or email.					

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP

Please return your completed form in the envelope provided (no stamp is needed). Your information is strictly confidential and will be processed and held in accordance with the Data Protection Act.