

Transport Delivery Committee

Date	9 September 2019
Report title	Commonwealth Games Strategic Transport Plan
Accountable Director	Laura Shoaf, Managing Director, Transport for West Midlands
Accountable Employee	Anne Shaw, Director Network Resilience
Report has been considered by	Commonwealth Games Joint Transport Group, Birmingham City Council Corporate and Executive Management Teams, TfWM leadership team, the OC Board, Commonwealth Games Chief Execs Group, STOG, Commonwealth Games Strategic Board, WMCA Senior Leader Team, WMCA Programme Board.

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Transport Delivery Committee is recommended to: note the imminent publication of the Commonwealth Games Strategic Transport Plan.

1. Purpose

Games Strategic Transport Plan

- 1.1 In line with previous events of this nature, a Games Strategic Transport Plan has been prepared for publication. The intention is to publish the document in September 2019. This is for a number of reasons, relating to programming activity, securing early formal cooperation from partners, and learning from experience from other Games.
- 1.2 The purpose of the document is twofold. Firstly, it informs the public and businesses of our current approach to transport planning, giving confidence that we are joining up with relevant partners, and provides the opportunity to comment on our proposals. Secondly, it sets the framework for transport planning and cooperation; formally capturing the commitment by the relevant authorities to deliver the transport interventions that will be required.
- 1.3 The Plan is intended to provide a high-level view of transport preparations with more detailed operational planning to follow. For example, the Plan explains that there will need to be some restrictions placed on vehicles accessing and parking on roads in order to get people to events and to minimise the impact on local residents and businesses, but it is too early to identify the particular measures required on specific roads. This level of detail will come from future development work and we are committed to ongoing engagement with local residents and businesses as we turn to detailed operational planning.

Engagement

- 1.4 Following publication of the document, there will be a 12 week engagement period during which we will hold a number of public events which are being arranged with local authorities across the WMCA geography. We will ask whether we have the right guiding principles and how people want to be kept informed as we progress with our transport planning.
- 1.5 We are working with comms colleagues across the Games partnership and directly with local authorities to plan appropriate engagement activity and to ensure comms messages and activities are aligned.

2. Background

2.1 The document has been subject to months of drafting between TfWM, the Birmingham 2022 Organising Committee, Birmingham City Council and other relevant local authorities, DfT, DCMS, Network Rail, Highways England, and West Midlands Police. It has been approved by the Commonwealth Games Joint Transport Group (9 April), Birmingham City Council Corporate and Executive Management Teams (15 April and 30 April respectively), TfWM's leadership team (mid-April), the Birmingham 2022 Organising Committee Board (14 May), Commonwealth Games Chief Execs Group (30 May), STOG (8 July), Commonwealth Games Strategic Board (9 July), WMCA Senior Leader Team (21 August) and the WMCA Programme Board (30 August).

2.2 Network Rail, Highways England, Staffordshire and Warwickshire have written in support of the Plan.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this work – this activity is included in the agreed Games budget approved recently by HM Treasury.

4. Legal Implications

4.1 The Birmingham Commonwealth Games Bill is currently being considered by Parliament. At present, there is a requirement to produce a Games Transport Plan, which local traffic authorities must have regard to in order to facilitate preparations for the Games. The Bill requires the authority producing the Plan to consult with specific types of organisations listed in the Bill before it becomes statutory – these organisations will be engaged on this first version. The intention is that once the Bill has passed a second, final version will be subject to stakeholder consultation as required by the legal instrument and subsequently published. It is anticipated that the final version of this Plan – which will be submitted to the WMCA Board for approval when it is prepared – will become statutory under the Bill.

4.2 There is no duty to carry out a public consultation – we are engaging with the public as we recognise this is the first opportunity for the public to be engaged in Games transport planning.

5. Equalities Implications

5.1 The Games Strategic Transport Plan outlines how equality considerations will be taken in to account in transport planning. TfWM will be carrying out an Equality Impact Assessment on the Plan, as is normal practice for the organisation. We will also be taking into account equality consideration in designing the engagement activity.

5.2 Birmingham 2022 Organising Committee will also be preparing a Games-wide accessibility strategy.

6. Inclusive Growth Implications

6.1 The Games Strategic Transport Plan builds upon the objectives contained within Movement for Growth. We will use the opportunity of the Games as a catalyst for bringing about the change we wish to see; to help us deliver improvements capacity, efficiency, managing demand and providing sustainable transport. These measures will promote healthy and active lifestyles that support inclusive growth, benefitting residents and businesses for years to come.

7. Geographical Area of Report's Implications

7.1 Whilst the content will be most relevant to those areas hosting a Commonwealth Games event (Birmingham, Coventry, Sandwell, Solihull, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and – to a lesser extent – London), the impact of the Games may be felt across the WMCA geography and therefore the content of this report is also relevant to Dudley, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

8. Other Implications

8.1 None

9. Schedule of Background Papers

9.1 None – the Games Strategic Transport Plan is in the process of being finalised. It will be shared when it is submitted to the WMCA Board on 5th September, prior to the meeting of the Transport Delivery Committee on 9th September.