



TEES VALLEY
COMBINED
AUTHORITY

TEES VALLEY MAYOR

Darlington Borough Council Communities & Local Services Scrutiny Committee

Transport Update



19 August 2021

Strategic Vision



Strategic Transport Plan vision

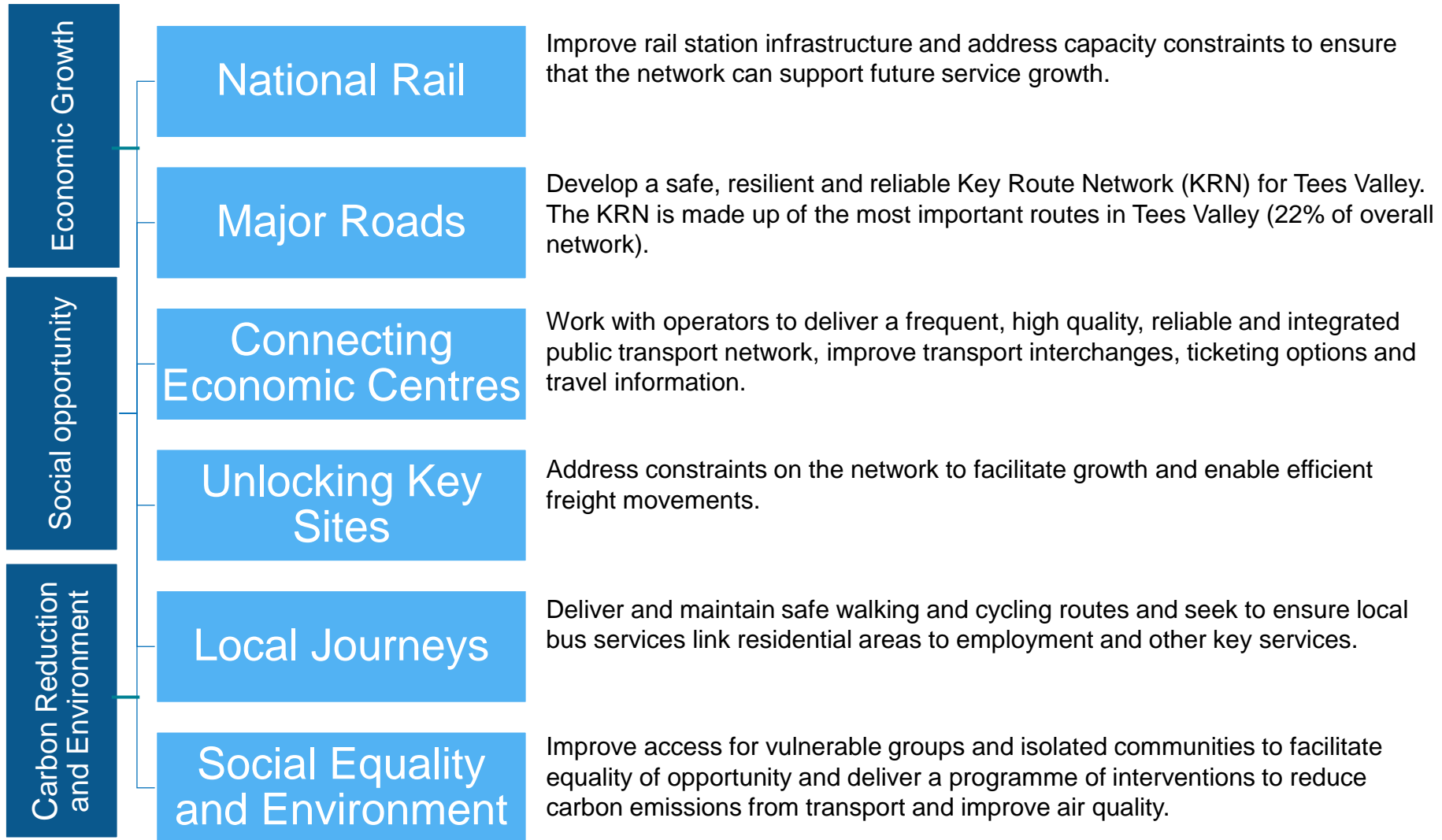
“To provide a high quality, quick, affordable, reliable, low carbon and safe transport network for people and freight to move within, to and from Tees Valley.”

To deliver three objectives:

- **Social Opportunity** – Helping people access employment, education, healthcare, culture, leisure and retail locations and improving public health and wellbeing.
- **Economic Growth** – Delivering the Strategic Economic Plan and the economic growth plans of Tees Valley local authorities, helping businesses to grow and flourish.
- **Carbon Reduction and Environment** – Reducing carbon emissions, minimising the impact of the transport network on the environment and supporting the legislative requirements to reduce air and noise pollution.



Strategic Transport Plan Themes



Strategic Transport Plan - Actions

- 32 high-level actions and interventions identified in the Strategic Transport Plan
- Good progress being made – RAG ratings reflect that we are 1 ½ years into a 10-year plan

Number of Actions and STP Theme	RAG Rating
5 National Rail	A / G
2 Major Roads	A / G
5 Connecting Centres	A / G
5 Unlocking Key Sites	A
7 Local Journeys	A / G
8 Delivering Social Equity and Protecting the Environment	A / G

National Rail – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Darlington Station***

- Secured £8.7m of funding from the DfT for Network Rail project development costs
- Continued to develop the station gateway elements of the project with planning applications submitted June 21
- Land acquisition strategy on-going and good progress being made

- ***Middlesbrough Station***

- Secured funding for delivery of whole scheme
- Phase 1 delivery (platform extension work) began Dec 2020 & completed May 2021

- ***Improved national rail services***

- Worked with partners to support preparation of Norther Powerhouse Rail Strategic Outline Case
- Middlesbrough Station investment will enable London service to commence in Dec 2021
- Worked collaboratively on response to ECML May 2022 proposals

- ***Influence Rail franchises***

- Worked closely with Train Operating Companies to lobby for service improvements and changes during COVID-19 to meet need

- ***Freight Infrastructure***

- Supported NR with Northallerton-Eaglescliffe W12 gauge clearance project development

Major Roads – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Darlington Northern Link Road***
 - Scheme developed and public consultation undertaken
 - Outline Business Case completed
 - Need to consider any emerging funding opportunities
- ***A689 Major Road Network Scheme***
 - Scheme developed and public consultation undertaken
 - Outline Business Case completed and submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) in March 2021
- ***A19 New Tees Crossing***
 - Outline Business Case prepared and submitted to the DfT
 - Funding decision awaited

Connecting Centres – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Improvements to key bus corridors***

- Nine key corridors identified including Darlington to Durham, Darlington to Middlesbrough (via Stockton) and Branksome to Red Hall (via Darlington)
- Site Assessment Reports completed and Whole Route Implementation Plans in development to identify proposed interventions

- ***Improvements to local rail services***

- “Pacer” trains replaced with newer trains
- Development work progressing on Billingham, Hartlepool and Eaglescliffe station projects

- ***Ticketing offer and information improvements***

- Provision of information through CTV and LGTV
- Discussions around ticketing strategy through Tees Valley Bus Partnership
- Potential for future improvements through national bus strategy and Enhanced Partnership

- ***Road network improvements***

- Progress made on development of Portrack Relief Road
- Development work on future highway improvements pipeline is underway

- ***Improved network management and live information***

- Delivery proposals developed for the Urban Traffic Management & Control (UTMC) system to commence late 2021

Unlocking Key Sites – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Teesside International Airport***
 - Proposal for redevelopment of Airport station being progressed
- ***Teesworks Master Plan***
 - Transport requirements are being identified through studies & development work on-going
- ***Additional and more frequent rail services***
 - Delivery is dependent upon investment in rail infrastructure capacity, including Darlington, Hartlepool and Middlesbrough station projects
- ***Infrastructure to unlock growth***
 - Identifying a pipeline of highway investments to ensure transport infrastructure isn't a barrier to economic growth
- ***Capacity and capability for freight movement***
 - Developing a holistic approach to rail programme to ensure passenger aspirations don't have detrimental impacts on rail-freight and requirements of Teesworks and Freeport fully considered
 - Developing major road schemes with full consideration of the needs of the freight and logistics sector to enable growth, e.g. A19 New Tees Crossing

Local Journeys – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan***

- Five priority corridors identified including Woodland Road / Outram Street / Duke Street
- £1.7m funding secured from Active Travel Fund 2 for Darlington / Middlesbrough schemes
- Pipeline of schemes across Tees Valley being developed
- Submission of Active Travel Fund 3 to further expand the network

- ***Sustainable transport improvements***

- Development work to improve rail stations as transport hubs
- Place-based approach adopted e.g.
 - Eaglescliffe station project creates new access and walking route
 - Hartlepool station project potentially creates better link with marina and integrates with cycling investment

- ***Bus Partnership***

- Informal partnership established bringing together bus operators and the public sector
- Tees Valley Enhanced Partnership proposed in response to national bus strategy

- ***Expand Community Rail Partnership***

- Existing partnerships working well e.g. Bishop Line
- Limited opportunity to expand provision in the period



Local Journeys – Progress in 2020/21

Continued.....

- ***Developing Leisure and Tourism***
 - Promoting new journeys, e.g. TPE to Saltburn
- ***Local Road Network Maintenance and Improvements***
 - Development of strategic highway improvement and maintenance pipeline
- ***Increase Road Safety***
 - Local Highway Authorities improving safety in scheme implementation e.g. LCWIP

Social Equality and Environment – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Access for vulnerable people***
 - Tees Flex refocused to provide access to COVID vaccination centre/support out-patient discharge
- ***Let's Go Tees Valley***
 - Delivery has continued with a focus on social distancing during the return to school / return to work between lockdowns
 - Delivery of a comprehensive programme of behaviour change activity
- ***Integrated sustainable transport***
 - Rail station audits undertaken and measures to improve transport integration being developed
- ***Tees Valley Wheels 2 Work***
 - Continued delivery of pilot scheme through 2020/21
 - Funding secured allowing scheme to expand over 2021/22 to 2023/24
 - All-electric fleet of vehicles as part of new contract
 - Providing access to opportunities for those for whom transport is a barrier

Delivering Social Equity and Protecting the Environment – Progress in 2020/21

Continued

- ***Tees Flex***

- Tees Flex service launched in February 2020 and has a very high customer satisfaction rating
- Operates across three zones including Darlington & Stockton.
- Increasing numbers of users despite COVID-19 – over 5,000 journeys in most recent 4-week period.

- ***Access for All***

- Improvements to accessibility at Eaglescliffe and Billingham stations with new footbridge / lifts
- Accessibility improvements incorporated into other station projects

- ***Electric vehicles***

- Project underway to appoint an electric vehicle charging infrastructure supplier partner and roll out delivery across Tees Valley
- A number of public car parks in Darlington identified

- ***Hydrogen***

- Tees Valley announced as UK's Hydrogen Hub and proposals being developed with the DfT



COVID Response in 2020/21

- ***Reactive response to the situation***
- ***Delivery of actions not identified in STP***
 - Managing £225k Travel Demand Management funding supporting efforts to identify potential transport capacity constraints with social distancing on public transport
 - Managing £2.78m of Additional Home to School / College Transport Funding provided to Councils and Further Education establishments to provide additional transport capacity
 - Supporting bus operators and local authorities with £350k of Supported Bus Funding and Local Transport Authority COVID-19 Bus Service Support Grant
 - Managing £0.43m of Emergency Active Travel Fund Tranche 1 funding to support LAs to implement measures to promote walking and cycling at the end of the first lockdown
 - Working collaboratively with bus operators and train companies to understand changes and ensure local needs were met
- ***Continuing to develop and deliver pipeline of projects to meet STP Priorities***

Future Funding

Current Transport budget

- Integrated Transport Programme (ITP) budget: £246m until 2028/29

Future devolved budget

- City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (was intra-city transport settlement) for 2022/23 to 2026/27 shared between 8 Mayoral Combined Authorities.
- £3.5m allocated to TVCA in 2021/22 to develop proposals
- ITP assumes £90.6m from 2023/24 – funding opportunity is significantly higher and allocations will be determined following our submission at the end of August 2021
- Funding pot includes Integrated Transport Block & highways maintenance

Leveraging Additional funding

- Over £27m of additional funding secured in 2020/21
- Seeking to leverage in c£500m of additional investment for major schemes such as Darlington Station / the A19 New Tees Crossing



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