

Report title: Sustainable Travel Transition Year 2016/17

Wards affected: All

Strategic Director: Barra Mac Ruairi

Report Author: Andrew Whitehead

RECOMMENDATION for the Mayor's approval:

- 1) That the Mayor endorses the Sustainable Travel Transition Year (STTY) Fund for delivery in 2016/17 (as detailed in Table 1) and agrees to proceed with the proposals contained in this report.
- 2) That the Mayor agrees that Bristol City Council, through a formal legal agreement, will deliver the project in collaboration with Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Councils and agrees that Bristol City Council will be the accountable body in reporting to Government on behalf of the partnership authorities.
- 3) That the Service Director for Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, be given delegated authority within the legal agreement with the other Unitary Authorities to proceed with the proposed project (listed in Table 1) and is authorised to implement the option best suited to the local circumstances that brings the most benefit in terms of modal shift from single occupancy car use.
- 4) That the Service Director Legal Services be authorised to negotiate and complete an extension to the existing legal agreement, dated 19th November 2012, with Bath and North East Somerset, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset Councils to enable implementation of the STTY in 2016/2017.

Key background / detail:

1. On the 29th March 2016 the West of England unitary authorities submitted a bid to the DfT for the Sustainable Travel Transition Year (STTY) 16/17 fund, seeking a total of £2.2M revenue funding to deliver Smarter Travel Initiatives that encourage more people to travel sustainably.
2. Announced by the DfT in February, the STTY fund supports sustainable travel projects and provides a legacy for the Local Sustainable Transport Fund of which the West of England was a part since 2011.
3. The STTY is a bridging grant between the closure of the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (that ended on 31 March 2016) and a new Access Fund grant (that will be available from 1 April 2017). On the 24th May 2016 the Department for Transport (DfT) announced that Bristol (bidding with the West of England authorities) had been awarded £2.2M revenue funding for a new programme, the Sustainable Travel Transition Year.
4. It is proposed that the existing Local Sustainable Transport Fund delivery team is mobilised to deliver the project. All staff costs for administration and delivery of the

project are covered by the grant funding allocation.

b. Key details:

1. The West of England Programme called Travelwest TRANSITION focuses on improving and scaling up our most effective and established interventions from LSTF, with a vision for how they will support economic growth and access to work and skills now and in the future. The delivery of unprecedented levels of transport infrastructure investment in 2016/17 provides a hook to engage with people and businesses that will benefit from it and encourage behaviour change to enable us to realise the full benefits.
2. Bristol City Council is currently the accountable body (on behalf of the four West of England unitary authorities) in dealing with the Department for Transport on sub-regional transport programmes. It is recommended that this arrangement continues.