

## 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide information on new funding won by SBC to help deliver “soft measures” to increase walking and cycling in the borough.

## 2. BACKGROUND

In January 2017 SBC secured £1.5m through a competitive bidding process to deliver a series of walking and cycling campaigns over the next three years.

The programme aims to facilitate greater numbers of people to walk, cycle or use other sustainable modes of transport under four key themes:

- Smarter Travel for Slough Business
- Supporting Sustainable Access to Jobs , Education & Training
- Smarter Travel for Schools
- Sustainable and Healthy Travel for Residents

The programme outputs are ambitious and the aim is to set up a dedicated temporary structure comprising of several fixed term posts with the remit of delivering the objectives under agreement with the DfT.

### Dept for Transport Headlines

**Thursday 26 January 2017**

#### **£64 MILLION GOVERNMENT FUNDING TO ENCOURAGE MORE CYCLING AND WALKING TO WORK**

Thousands more people will be encouraged to cycle and walk to work thanks to a £64 million government investment, Transport Minister Andrew Jones today (26 January) announced.

The funding will support local projects over three years from 2017 - 2020 and form part of a wider government package of more than £300 million to boost walking and cycling during the current parliament. By 2040 the government aims to make this part of everyday life and walking and cycling the natural choice for shorter journeys.

The money will deliver:

- more safety and awareness training for cyclists
- extra secure cycle storage
- bike repair and maintenance courses
- road safety measures
- mapping information for pedestrians
- real time bus information through smart phone apps or information at bus stops
- increased focus on car sharing clubs

The funding will also target those looking to get back into work because access to transport and the cost of travel often restricts where people can look for work and their ability to attend interviews. They will also benefit from discount bus travel and bike loans.

**Transport Minister Andrew Jones said:**

“We are committed to improving how people travel and this investment will ensure that people’s journeys are cheaper, safer and better for the environment. It will help people to become more active and better transport planning will reduce congestion on our roads – particularly at peak times.

“This investment will also help people access jobs, education and training - specifically targeting those looking to get back into work, as part of our relentless drive to make this a country that works for everyone.”

The funding could lead to:

- 95 million fewer miles in car journeys
- 99,000 extra walking trips per day and;
- 40,000 extra cycling trips per day

**Stephen Joseph, Chief Executive, Campaign for Better Transport said:**

"We strongly welcome this announcement of the access fund projects and the new cycling and walking to work fund. The evidence suggests that these kinds of projects can remove barriers to work, help local communities and businesses and also tackle local transport problems by giving people attractive alternatives to car use. We look forward to working with the Government, the authorities involved, and other organisations to develop and learn from these projects."

All English transport authorities (outside London) were invited to bid for the funding. The following 25 successful local authority bidders will each receive a share of the £60 million Sustainable Travel Access Fund for 2017-20:

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Award (£m)</b>
East Sussex County Council	1.2
Isle of Wight Council	1.35
Herefordshire County Council	1.5
Sheffield City Region Combined Authority	7.5
Lancashire County Council - Joint bid with Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	1.94
Norfolk County Council	1.488
North Yorkshire County Council	0.974
Plymouth City Council	1.497
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council joint bid with -Thurrock Council and	3.322

Essex County Council	
Lincolnshire County Council	0.975
Blackpool Council - Consortium bid with Buckinghamshire CC, Hertfordshire CC, North East CA, Stoke on Trent CC, West Sussex CC, Hampshire CC, Leicester CC, North Lincolnshire Council and Surrey CC	7.498
Devon County Council	1.5
Brighton and Hove Council	1.485
Bristol City Council (West of England)	6.901
<b>Slough Borough Council</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Tees Valley Combined Authority	3.323
York, City of	1.312
Kent County Council	1.452
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	0.682
North East Lincolnshire Council	1.388
Nottingham City Council - joint bid with Derby City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council	2.735
Leicester City Council and Leicestershire County Council	3.195
Nottinghamshire County Council	0.845
Southampton City Council (joint bid with Hampshire County Council)	2.294
Luton Borough Council (joint bid with Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council)	2.128

The Cycling and Walking to work Fund offers £3.8 million to be invested in three city regions over the next twelve months to connect people with employment and apprenticeships:

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Award (£m)</b>
West Yorkshire Combined Authority	1.5m
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	1.5m
Liverpool City Region	0.77m

#### **Elements & Work Packages for Slough**

We propose a package of 4 interlinking **Elements** that will build on and extend the benefits already secured by LSTF investment in Slough since 2012/13 and which will complement current and proposed capital investment.

The proposed programme is a complementary and mutually supportive package. As Slough is a compact urban borough the spatial focus varies between the elements. For **Element 1 (Smarter Travel for Slough Businesses)** the focus is on the town centre, Slough Trading Estate and other adjacent employment areas SL1 postcodes.

**Element 2 (Supporting Sustainable Access to Jobs and Training)** is relevant to these same areas as well as to Langley (East Berkshire College and Langley station) and to Colnbrook/ Poyle (communities closest to jobs and training at Heathrow) SL3 postcodes.

**Element 3 (Smarter Travel for Schools)** covers the Borough as a whole.

#### **Element 4 (Targeted Marketing of Sustainable and Healthy Travel)**

To maximise the benefits of the programme and to continue to embed a sustainable travel culture in Slough, we will deliver a targeted programme of activities to market and promote sustainable and healthy travel for Residents in Wards with poor health indices as well as new residents. We will engage community groups and local champions to reach out to these groups in partnership with Slough Public Health department. In addition, new capital schemes (such as those funded by LGF) will be promoted to residents and businesses. Annual sustainable travel events such as Skyrides will also be promoted.

#### Objectives:

- Up-skilling the Slough workforce by enhancing access to local jobs and training.
- Increase cycling and walking in Slough to improve personal health.
- Encourage a switch from car use to sustainable travel for work and school trips to help offset the adverse effects of road traffic in Slough.
- Promote sustainable travel opportunities offered by LGF and other capital schemes in Slough.

#### The package includes:

1. Engaging with 30,000 local employees
2. Improving access to job and training opportunities for residents
3. Engaging 15,000 students on sustainable travel
4. Targeted marketing of sustainable and healthy travel for residents

### **3. LAF Action**

- Could the LAF provide advice on how the Access Fund objectives are reached?
- Any additional groups that could be engaged in the process?
- Ideas for engagement with young people?