

|                         |
|-------------------------|
| Local Members' Interest |
| N/A                     |

## **Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

### **Executive Response to the Final Report and Recommendations of the Working Together to Address the Impact of Heavy Goods Vehicles/HCVs on Roads in Staffordshire**

#### **Recommendations**

1. That the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee receives the formal response of Portfolio Holder to the recommendations of the 'Working Together to Address the Impact of Heavy Goods Vehicles/HCVs on Roads in Staffordshire' Scrutiny Review.
2. That the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee considers the content of the accompanying action plan.
3. That the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee monitors the action plan and implementation of the agreed recommendations on a six monthly exception basis, until all recommendations have been fully implemented.

#### **Report of Cllr Mark Deaville, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

#### **Summary**

##### **What is the Select Committee being asked to do and why?**

4. The Portfolio holder recognizes the work of the Member Working Group and welcomes the conclusions and recommendations of their report. Having reviewed the 24 recommendations it is noted that 11 of the recommendations will have been completed by the end of 2016 and a further seven are the subject of on-going 'business as usual' activities. The remaining six recommendations have significant resource implications and have been placed on-hold this financial year but will be considered for funding in 2017/18 alongside other priorities as part of the annual budget review process. In terms of the specifics of the HCVs using the A515, some heavy goods traffic will need access to drop off/pick up in the communities along the route as well as communities served off the A515. However, there is also potentially other heavy through traffic, but we need evidence to understand this much better to put the right solution in place. We will work with the local parish councils and local councillors to develop this evidence base. Clearly any through HCV traffic should be encouraged to use the most appropriate route which minimises the impact on Staffordshire's communities. We will also work with the local parish councils to consider any interim solutions.
5. In view of the above the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee are asked to receive the formal response to the final report and recommendations of the 'Working Together to Address the Impact of Heavy Goods Vehicles/HCVs on Roads in Staffordshire' Scrutiny Review and to make arrangements to monitor the plan for

implementing the agreed recommendations – to make sure that action is taken and delivers the intended outcome.

## **Report**

### **Background**

6. The Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee nominated a Member Working Group to undertake a review into the impact of HGV traffic on Staffordshire's roads as a result of two petitions that were submitted to Full Council in May 2015. The aim was to hear evidence from a range of organisations and then to suggest a number of recommendations which aimed to minimise the impact of HGV traffic on impacted communities.
7. The findings and recommendations of the Scrutiny Working Group were endorsed by the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee at their meeting on 24 May 2016. The report was then submitted to Portfolio Holder with a request for his formal response. All of the recommendations were agreed.
8. Attached as an Appendix to this report is a table setting out:
  - a. each of the agreed recommendations;
  - b. the organisation/lead Member or officer;
  - c. the action proposed (or already taken) in response to the agreed recommendations; and
  - d. a deadline for completion.

### **Community Impact**

9. A formal community impact assessment has not been carried out at this time but it is recognised that all forms of traffic impact on communities living close to the highway. As the freight strategy is developed careful consideration will need to be given to ensure that any particular routing developed does not solve one community problem but create another. This is particularly true of HCV's using the Staffordshire primary route network and when implementing local solutions we need to ensure that HCV traffic is not diverted onto less suitable roads with corresponding adverse impact on local communities.
10. Staffordshire County Council and local planning authorities will need to continue to work closely together as local plans are developed so that HCV traffic that is generated as a consequence of economic growth is considered on a whole county basis in terms of the available highway network and the communities living along those networks.

### **Contact Officer/s**

**Name:** Clive Thomson, Commissioner for Transport and Connected County

**Telephone No.:** 01785 276522

**Address/e-mail:** clive.thomson@staffordshire.gov.uk

### **List of Appendices/Background papers**

**Appendix A** - Executive Response Action Plan

Minutes of meeting of the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee held on 24 May 2016

Working Together to Address the Impact of Heavy Goods Vehicles/HCVs on Roads in Staffordshire' Scrutiny Review Report