

To: Cabinet
Date: 13 July 2022
Report of: Scrutiny Committee
Title of Report: Growth Fund Cycle Routes

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To present Scrutiny Committee recommendations for Cabinet consideration and decision
Key decision:	No
Scrutiny Lead Member:	Councillor Dr Christopher Snowton, Scrutiny Committee Chair
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Louise Upton, Cabinet Member for Health and Transport
Corporate Priority:	Pursue a Zero Carbon Oxford
Policy Framework:	Council Strategy 2020-24
Recommendation: That the Cabinet states whether it agrees or disagrees with the recommendations in the body of this report.	

Appendices	
Appendix A	Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

Introduction and overview

1. The Scrutiny Committee met on 05 July 2022 to consider a report concerning Growth Fund Cycle Routes. The report, which is due for Cabinet consideration on 13 July 2022, seeks Cabinet approval for the variations to schemes to be funded from the £1 million Growth Deal funding. The Committee would like to thank Councillor Upton (Cabinet Member for Health and Transport) and Jenny Barker (Regeneration Manager) for attending the meeting to answer questions.

Summary and recommendations

2. Councillor Louise Upton, Cabinet Member for Health and Transport introduced the report. The initial cycling schemes, funded by Growth Deal funding, were approved by Cabinet in March 2020 however they were later found to be undeliverable due to local opposition or other approvals needed. This report sought Cabinet approval of the variations to schemes negotiations and the identification of revised schemes.

3. During discussion, the Committee noted that the Council needed to ensure clarity around public messaging related to the schemes and the reasons for the variations.

Recommendation 1: That the Council ensures all communications setting out the changes to the cycle route plans have clear messaging and explain the rationale behind the changes.

4. The Committee noted that the Growth Deal funding was for the development of off-road cycle routes and could therefore not be utilised for safer cycling routes on City roads, however it was advised that this was an area of work for development and was being reviewed. The Committee agreed that, going forward, it was important to ensure that, where appropriate, Council communications referenced other pieces of work such as Vision Zero to ensure public awareness of ongoing work.

Recommendation 2: That the Council ensures that Vision Zero is highlighted in its public communications, where appropriate, to ensure awareness.

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