The Cheshire and Warrington Local Transport Body (LTB) is a strategic partnership that has been established with a primary goal to ensure that the sub-region’s transport investments support and enable economic growth and regeneration. It has been set up in response to Government guidance relating to the devolution of major scheme transport funding which will be incorporated into the proposed local growth fund.

The LTB brings together the three unitary local authorities (Cheshire East Council, Cheshire West and Chester Council and Warrington Borough Council) along with the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership. Its single strategic objective is

**To improve transport infrastructure to secure significant connectivity gains in the support of economic growth and prosperity.**

As well as supporting economic growth, it is recognised that transport investment must also contribute towards wider social and environmental objectives.

### 2. Role and purpose

The Cheshire and Warrington LTB proposes to fulfil a number of roles and functions over and above making decisions on devolved local authority major funds and support the Cheshire and Warrington growth agenda. Its role is set out below.

1. Strategic transport policy and a single high level Transport, Connectivity and Infrastructure Plan, covering all forms of transport;

2. Develop the transport and economic evidence base linked to land use and economic plans to support the development of transport priorities;

3. Develop an evidence-based programme of strategic transport investment and a prioritised list of schemes for investment within the available budget;
4. Work with the Local Authorities, the CWLEP and Government to develop a pooled 'Transport Investment Fund', including LTP, CIL, devolved Majors and Growing Places funds for example;

5. Work with Economic Development teams to identify other funding sources, including private sector funding contributions and investments;

6. Make decisions on individual scheme approvals, investment decision making and release of funding, including scrutiny of individual scheme business cases;

7. Manage the programme of transport projects and their development and implementation in accordance with this Assurance Framework, ensuring the programme delivers value for money;

8. Develop Memoranda of Understanding with key Agencies: Highways Agency, Network Rail, Airports, Freight and Logistics Organisations, Train Operating Companies to influence and support policy, priorities and investment;

9. Identify funding routes and lead on the development of funding bids LSTF, RGF, ERDF etc to support programme and deliver ambition;

10. Engage with local authorities in relation to its strategic projects and transport priorities, related strategic development control issues, Local Plans and regeneration proposals;

11. Engage with Government on consultations, innovative solutions and pilots; and


A detailed Assurance Framework has been prepared to set out full details of the work that the LTB will undertake. This will be made available on the LTB website once it has been approved by the Department for Transport.

**Transport Investment programme**

In order to achieve our strategic and wider objectives, the CWLTTB will develop an Integrated Transport Investment Programme of capital projects for the sub region.

The priorities will reflect projects that are deliverable in the short-medium term to take advantage of early investment funds being made available.

Initial estimates indicate a £1.5billion investment in a programme of transport improvements is required over a 20 to 30 year period to deliver our aspirations for economic growth and meet the ambitions set out in the Growth Conversation. The devolved major scheme funding will be an important first
element of finance available and the DfT has indicated that for the period 2015/16 to 2018/19 our sub region is likely to receive in the order of £21.8m. This will be contained within a single Local Growth Fund. Details about this fund are expected to be confirmed by the Government in June 2013.

This is matched by an equivalent funding envelope that will need to be developed in detail to support a Transport Investment Fund for the sub-region that will facilitate delivery of the identified transport investment priorities.

It is also recognised that, in addition to its own investment programme, the LTB will need to take a lead role in dialogue with Government and other agencies and businesses to deliver its strategic and wider objectives. As a result, the CWLTB will work closely with the Highways Agency (HA) and Network Rail’s (NR) to influence and bring forward projects from their investment programmes.

The LTB see improving connectivity as critical to delivering higher GVA and jobs growth in the sub region by providing better conditions for existing business and enabling new strategic investment sites to come forward. But this applies also to neighbouring areas that will influence our economy. As such, CWLTB will develop a good understanding of the role played by other national transport infrastructure and services beyond the sub-region that has a direct influence on the economy of the sub-region. This includes from Staffordshire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Wales and our motorways and trunk roads, Manchester Airport, Liverpool Airport, the Port of Liverpool our railways, including the proposed HS2, Northern Hub and Rail Devolution plans. Investment and development at these important transport gateways will be supported where it can be seen to benefit the sub-region.

Membership

The Membership of CWLTB is set out below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership of Cheshire and Warrington Local Transport Body</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chair – Non voting</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Michael Jones – CWLEP Lead on Infrastructure and Connectivity / Leader of CEC (Chair – casting vote only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Voting Members</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Jamie Macrae – Portfolio Holder for Prosperity and Economic Regeneration, CEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Herbert Manley – Executive Member for Prosperity (Regeneration), CWACC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Councillor Linda Dirir – Executive Member for Highways, Transportation and Climate Change, WBC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Pete Waterman – CWLEP Lead on Transport, Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership

**Advisers – Non voting**

Highways Agency – Ruth Moynihan, Asset Development Manager North West

Network Rail – Richard Eccles, Director of Network Planning

Department for Transport – Richard Perry, Deputy Head of Northern Engagement Team

**Associate Membership** – CWLTB will invite other parties to meetings in a non-voting capacity as appropriate. This may include representatives from,

- Neighbouring LTBs / Local Enterprise Partnerships / Local Authorities;
- Neighbouring Integrated Transport Authorities;
- Welsh Assembly Government / Taith;
- Train and bus operating companies;
- Local Ports and Airports; and
- Business and Community Sectors.

**Membership Review** – Membership of CWLTB will be confirmed on an annual basis at its first meeting in public from 1 July of each year as this would synchronise with the political calendar cycle of the constituent local authorities.

**Meetings of the Shadow LTB**

A shadow LTB was established in August 2012. It has guided tasks undertaken to far, not least to prepare ands agree the group’s role and remit now enshrined in the Assurance Framework.

The shadow LTB has also received reports and presentations on a number of strategic transport topics. These have included,

- Consideration of emerging sub-regional economic priorities and transport investment;
- Growth Conversation;
- Network Rail long term planning process;
- Rail devolution and franchising;
- HS2; and
- M6 junction 16 to 19 hard shoulder running and related Highways Agency projects.