

TRANSPORT BOARD

25th October 2019

Future Mobility

Purpose of Report

This report provides an overview of the key findings of research into Future Mobility Services across the Sheffield City Region.

Freedom of Information

Freedom of Information and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

‘The paper will be available under the Combined Authority Publication Scheme’

Recommendations

The Transport Board will receive a presentation on the draft final Report and are asked to:

- Consider the findings of recent research into Future Mobility in the Sheffield City Region
- Identify priorities within the recommended areas for action to be taken forward as part of a Transport Strategy Technology and Innovation Implementation Plan.

1. Introduction

- 1.1** The SCR Transport Strategy published in early 2019 included technology and innovation as a cross cutting theme. In July 2019 the SCR Executive commissioned Arup to undertake a review of Future Mobility Services across the Sheffield City Region to consider the opportunities related to future mobility trends and to identify unique transport technology assets in the city region that could support the delivery of the SCR Transport Strategy.
- 1.2** The Review of Future Mobility Services report identifies recommendations for the SCRCA as well the opportunities to engage the business community through partnership, procurement and collaboration.
- 1.3** The UK’s Industrial Strategy identifies the potential for the UK to lead the world in innovation in how people, goods and services move. The Government published the Future Mobility: Urban Strategy report in 2019 which sets out the principles the government will adopt to usher in an era of transformation in the transport sector.

2. Proposal and justification

- 2.1** The SCR Transport Strategy will be delivered through a series of Implementation Plans concerning Rail, Roads, Active Travel and Mass Transit. Two cross cutting themes are

identified in the Strategy – Technology and Innovation and Environment and Quality of Life which will require additional implementation or action plans.

- 2.2** In 2019 the Government published Future Mobility: Urban Strategy which sets out its response to transport trends and innovation as well as nine principles that will be adopted to secure benefits and reduce risks.
- 2.3** As part of the Budget 2018, £90m of funding was announced as part of the Transforming Cities Fund to create Future Mobility Zones. In May 2019 the SCR Executive submitted an Expression of Interest and unfortunately this was unsuccessful, however the bidding process highlighted the need for further work to develop our approach to technology and innovation in the transport sector.
- 2.4** The SCR Executive commissioned Arup to provide an overview of the drivers of change and key future mobility trends, a mapping of the work currently underway in the city region and recommendations to support the development of a work programme relating to transport technology and innovation in line with the Government's Principles. A draft Executive Summary of the research and recommendations is provided at Appendix 1. Arup will present an overview of key findings at the meeting.
- 2.5** The research identifies innovative mobility solutions that have already been delivered in the region including tram-train, clean bus technology, electric bus feasibility, integrated TravelMasters and ebike trials. It also identified key companies operating in this sector such as CPH2, the Floop, ITM power and 3squared. The report also identifies research and development assets such as Sheffield Robotics and Lab4Living.
- 2.6** A workshop with industry specialists provided information on the most significant disruptions and the timeframes in which these are likely to occur and industry suggestions for where Sheffield City Region and partners might focus attention.
- 2.7** The key trends that the report focuses on include data and digital lifestyles, integrated ticketing and mobility as a service, active travel and micro mobility, the future of the bus, mass transit, low emission vehicles, connected and autonomous vehicles and logistics.
- 2.8** The draft Report recommends five key moves for the SCR and 45 specific actions. The five key moves are:
 1. Publicise the great work already underway in the future mobility space in the SCR
 2. Create a transport data platform for the SCR
 3. Identify and realise opportunities to test future mobility technologies
 4. Foster an ecosystem of mobility technology companies
 5. Review changes to the governance and regulation of SCR's transport system to deliver future mobility solutions.
- 2.9** The draft Report notes that the successful adoption of future mobility technologies and services in SCR is reliant not only on technological advancement, but also on the governance and regulatory regime within which they operate. Innovation can be encouraged through a more outcome-based approach to procurement of goods and services. It is recommended that the SCR Combined Authority is clear on its role in regulation and shaping the market to secure the outcomes it wants for example safety, integration and carbon emission reductions. The opening-up of data also provides opportunities for the development of new services and solutions.
- 2.10** The Board is invited to consider the findings of the research, the proposed five key moves and recommendations. Feedback will be incorporated into the final report.
- 2.11** It is proposed that in the coming months an implementation plan is developed and further work is undertaken to develop the specific activities that can be undertaken in the short term.

2.12 The SCR Executive will examine sources of funding and the outcomes of the research will be used to strengthen any applications to future rounds of Government funding.

3. Consideration of alternative approaches

3.1 In place of an implementation plan it would be possible to develop a number of projects with a view to developing a wider plan at a later date. However, this would limit the ability to provide a framework for partners to engage with and might limit scope for responding proactively to new funding opportunities.

3.2 Given the lack of resources available to allocate specifically to this activity it would be possible to this delay work however the experience with the Future Mobility Zone bid suggests that we would need to be active in developing partnerships and proposals to secure resources.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

4.2 Legal

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

4.3 Risk Management

This work is developmental and therefore a risk assessment has not been conducted at this stage.

4.4 Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion

The research specifically reviewed how SCR might ensure that the benefits of innovation in mobility would be available to all parts of the city region and all segments of society.

5. Communications

5.1 No communications are planned at this stage.

6. Appendices/Annexes

6.1 Appendix 1 – Executive Summary of Review of Future Mobility Services Across the SCR

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Background papers used in the preparation of this report are available for inspection at: 11 Broad Street West, Sheffield S1 2BQ

Other sources and references: Future Mobility: Urban Strategy (2019) DfT