

Committee(s): Streets and Walkways Sub Committee – For Decision Operational Property and Projects Sub Committee – For information	Date(s): 23 May 2023 5 th June 2023
Subject: Liverpool Street Area Healthy Streets Plan – draft for consultation	Public
Report of: Director of the Environment Department	For Decision
Report author: Maria Herrera and Philip Carroll, Environment Department	

Summary

This report sets out a proposal to consult on a Healthy Streets Plan (HSP) for the Liverpool Street area.

A draft HSP has been developed following engagement with key stakeholders in the area. It includes an analysis of the public realm and transportation networks and identifies current issues and pressures for change. The plan sets out proposals to improve the connectivity, safety and walking experience in the area including opportunities arising from upcoming developments.

Subject to approval, the draft HSP plan will form the basis of a public consultation planned to start in June-July 2023. The responses from the consultation will enable a final HSP to be prepared for Committees in the autumn of 2023. The final Plan will include an outline of proposed projects and an indicative programme for implementation, informed by the development pipeline and potential funding sources.

Subsequently individual projects will be initiated as funding becomes available and will be subject to a detailed design process further consultation and relevant committee approvals.

Recommendation

1. Approve the draft Healthy Streets Plan for public consultation.
2. Approve an allocation of £15,000 for fees to undertake the public consultation exercise, as described in the Issues Report - Crossrail Liverpool Street Urban Integration (Phase 2) also part of this Committee's agenda.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of City Operations, in consultation with the Chairman of the Streets and Walkways Sub-Committee, to approve the (non-statutory) public consultation content and then proceed with the consultation.

Main report

Background

1. The Transport Strategy proposes a series of Healthy Streets Plans (HSPs) to develop an integrated approach to public realm improvements and traffic management for different areas of the Square Mile.
2. Healthy Streets plans are currently being developed and have been adopted for the following areas:
 - City Cluster area (adopted 2021)
 - Fleet Street area (in progress, for consultation spring 2023)
 - Barbican and Golden Lane area (in progress)
 - Smithfield area (in progress)
3. The City Corporation has identified the need for a comprehensive public realm and transportation framework to help inform the overall vision for the Liverpool Street area in a changing development context. The need for the vision has highlighted several emerging developments within the area, including the potential redevelopment of Liverpool Street Station, public realm enhancements within the Broadgate Estate and other development sites in the pre-application planning process. As a result, the Healthy Streets Plan is proposed to be adopted for the Liverpool Street Area to ensure a coordinated approach is taken for the streets and public spaces in the area.
4. The extent of the Liverpool Street Area Healthy Streets Plan (See appendix 1) has been defined to encompass the vicinity of the station and the boundaries created by Bishopsgate, London Wall, and Moorgate, including Finsbury Circus.

Progress to date

5. The draft HSP sets out an integrated approach to improving the public realm and managing traffic to support delivery of the following Transport Strategy outcomes:
 - The Square Mile's streets are great places to walk and spend time.
 - Street space is used more efficiently and effectively.
 - The Square Mile is accessible to all.
 - People using our streets and public spaces are safe and feel safe.
 - More people choose to cycle.
 - The Square Mile's air and streets are cleaner and quieter.
 - Delivery and servicing are more efficient, and impacts are minimised.
 - Our street network is resilient to changing circumstances.

6. The draft plan is structured around the street hierarchy as defined by the Transport Strategy. The proposals in the plan aim to improve the safety and comfort for people walking and cycling, alongside an improved network of walking routes to and from the station. Potential improvements include pedestrian priority streets with timed restrictions for motor vehicles, improved crossings, and public realm improvements, including widened pavements, tree planting, and places for people to rest. The draft outline of the plan has been presented to high level stakeholder groups and they are supportive of the objectives of the plan.
7. A series of strategic proposal maps have been developed for the document, and these are included as part of the draft HSP in Appendix 2. The intention is to develop these maps in further detail to communicate the proposals for the design and management of individual streets for the public consultation exercise.
8. Engagement with TfL (Transport for London) and Network rail is ongoing and will be key to facilitating the delivery of transformational change in the vicinity of the Station. The outcome of TfL's experimental scheme for the Bishopsgate Corridor will be known in time to inform the final version of the plan.

Public consultation

9. The consultation will present these opportunities for change and gather feedback from people who live, work, and visit the area, as well as businesses and other key stakeholders. It is proposed to undertake the consultation via a questionnaire on the City of London website and via a consultation platform (Commonplace) which has been used for similar projects.
10. The feedback from the consultation will help to establish the priorities and identify further changes that users might like to see in the area. The intention is to establish a framework to inform a delivery plan of proposed changes. Individual projects will then be initiated with a detailed design process, targeted consultation, and submission of Capital funding bids as required.

Communication Strategy

11. The Liverpool Street area working group has been established and this includes members of key organisations and local occupiers. The public consultation information will be publicised in City of London social media channels, local newsletters, and other relevant forums to ensure residents, Ward Members and visitors are able to provide comments on the Draft Plan.

12. A communication strategy will be produced at the next stage and additional staff costs are requested in this report to deliver the outputs and continue working alongside stakeholders.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

13. Transport Strategy – The Healthy Streets plan delivers against the following outcomes:

- The Square Mile’s streets are great places to walk and spend time.
- Street space is used more efficiently and effectively.
- The Square Mile is accessible to all.
- People using our streets and public spaces are safe and feel safe.
- More people choose to cycle.
- The Square Mile’s air and streets are cleaner and quieter.
- Our street network is resilient to changing circumstances.
- Delivery and servicing are more efficient, and impacts are minimised.

Financial implications

14. To date, the work has been developed by officers in the Environment Department. The next stage will require input from external consultants to develop the public consultation material and associated visual content. A sum of £15,000 is proposed to be utilised from the Crossrail Liverpool Street Urban Integration (Phase 2) project, also on this agenda, to cover the external fees.

15. At present external funding from TfL (Liveable Neighbourhood fund) is not available and future funding grants from TfL are unknown. Funding for the delivery of the projects within the Healthy Streets Plan is subject to other external contributions or City funding bids.

Risk Implications

16. The top three risks are as follows:

Risk	Description	Response
Public Consultation responses do not support the proposed changes.	Proposals have been reviewed with key stakeholders in the area, and further work will be undertaken to inform other street users on the objectives of the plan.	On-going communication with stakeholders is essential and will continue as the document is finalised prior to the public consultation. As individual projects get developed, a

		detailed consultation exercise will be undertaken in due course.
Lack of key stakeholder support.	The early discussions with stakeholders have shown overall support to deliver the proposed initiatives.	A communication strategy will be prepared to ensure stakeholders are kept updated and consulted at various stages of the process.
Funding is not secured for the delivery of projects.	Funding is uncertain at present, and subject to future capital bids and development contributions being secured.	Officers are working with stakeholders to review funding opportunities, alongside external contributions from section 278 highway projects in the local area. Liaison with TfL and Network Rail is ongoing.

Conclusion

17. The draft Healthy Streets Plan outlines a framework for the creation of an improved and welcoming street environment to support a key transport interchange. The outline proposals will ensure that the area functions successfully and provides a suitable environment for residents, workers, and visitors.

Appendix:

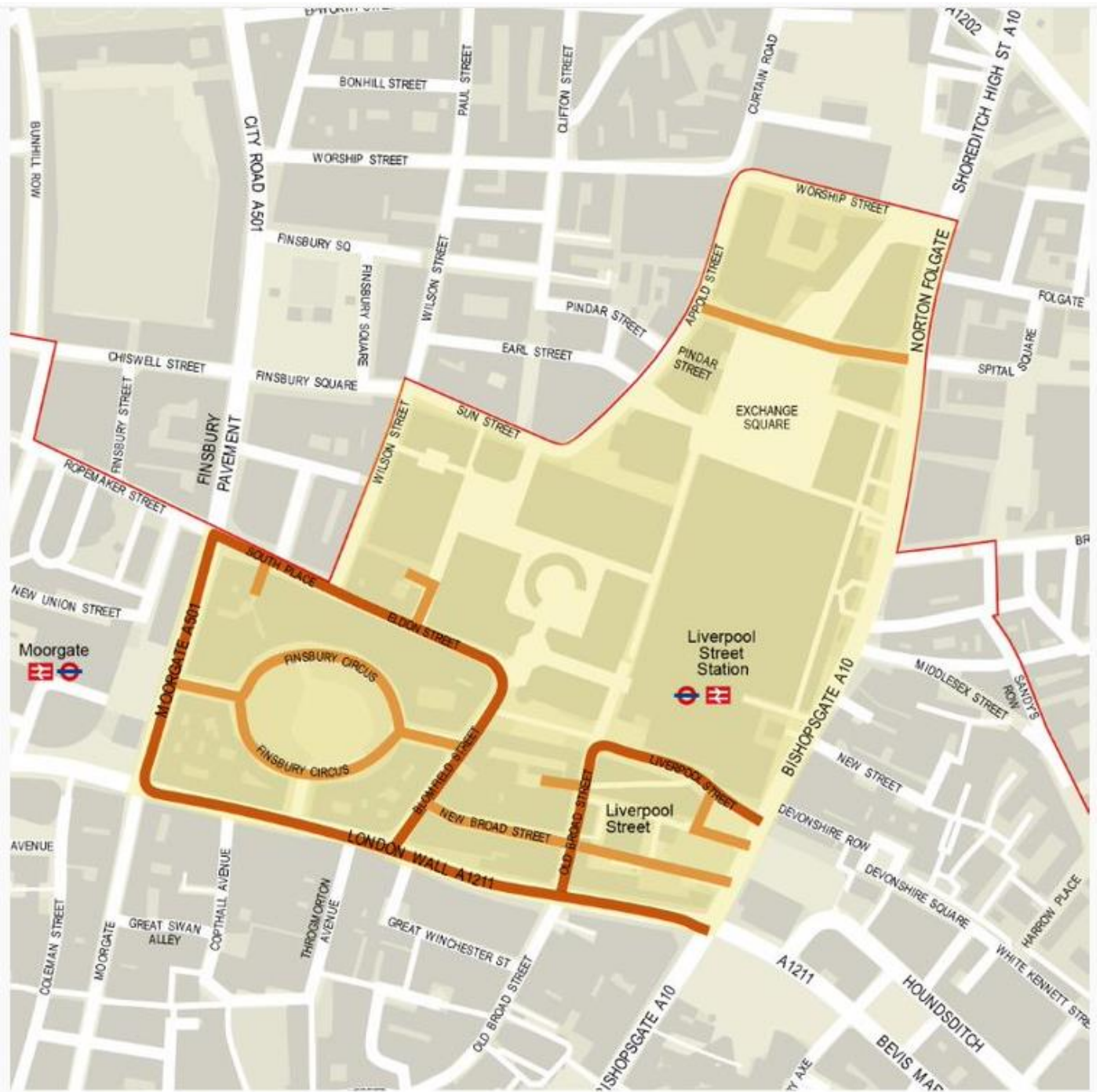
Appendix 1: Liverpool Street Healthy Streets plan area

Appendix 2. Draft Healthy Streets Plan

Other relevant documents:

- Issues report - Crossrail Liverpool Street Urban Integration (Phase 2) - also on this Committee's agenda.
- City of London Transport Strategy (adopted 2019)
- <https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/assets/Services-Environment/city-of-london-transport-strategy.pdf>

Appendix 1: Liverpool Street Healthy Streets plan area



- Key**
- City of London boundary
 - City of London Highway
 - Study Area