

AP5.2 To ensure the plan references the proposed Metro system in North Wales. Wording in bold to be added to the end of Para 5.36.

5.36 The Plan is being prepared at a time of change with the focus on achieving growth and economic prosperity both at County level and at sub-regional and regional levels. Deeside is designated as an Enterprise Zone and the County is involved in a number of economic growth initiatives including Northern Powerhouse, the Mersey Dee Alliance, Growth Track 360 and the Growth Deal bid. A key part of the Enterprise Zone is the Northern Gateway Strategic Site (see policy STR3) and this is receiving transport infrastructure investment by Welsh Government along with a range of other transport improvements in the Deeside area to improve accessibility to employment opportunities. The sub-regional and regional initiatives, as well as the Deeside Plan, recognise the need for investment in transport to help deliver continued economic growth. In the longer term Welsh Government has announced plans for a Metro system for North East Wales involving a network approach across a range of transport modes and projects. **Future Wales The National Plan 2040 sets out in Policy 23 –“ North Wales Metro: The Welsh Government supports the development of the North Wales Metro and will work with Transport for Wales, local authorities and other partners to enable its delivery and maximise associated opportunities.” This will involve:-**

- **Enhanced and integrated rail and bus services across North Wales/Cheshire**
- **Enhanced Borderlands line with direct and faster services between Wrexham and Liverpool and integration with Merseyrail services**
- **Additional stations and potential extensions**
- **Upgrades of Wrexham General and Shotton stations**
- **Further rail extension and/or re-openings to be considered (Source: A Railway for Wales – Meeting the Needs of Future Generations, 2019)”**