

Report to: East Sussex Strategic Partnership (ESSP)
Date: 2 October 2009
Title: Development of 3rd East Sussex Local Transport Plan 2011-2026
Author: Jon Wheeler, Team Manager Transport Policy, ESCC
Purpose: To provide ESSP members with an overview of the process and programme for the development of the 3rd Local Transport Plan for East Sussex

Recommendation

That the East Sussex Strategic Partnership Executive Board:

1. Note the programme for the development of the 3rd Local Transport Plan for East Sussex , and
2. Agree to work with East Sussex County Council and contribute to the development of the long term strategy for transport in the county.

1. Introduction and Background

In September 2008, the Strategic Partnership considered a report on the draft 2008 Progress Report on Local Transport Plan 2006 - 2011 (LTP2). The report also highlighted the forthcoming requirement on the County Council to develop the 3rd Local Transport Plan for East Sussex (LTP3). This is now underway following receipt of final guidance from Department for Transport in July 2009.

LTP3 will cover the 15 year period 2011 to 2026, rather than the five year periods of the previous two LTPs, bringing it into line with the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Development Frameworks being produced by the District and Borough Councils. LTP3 will comprise two documents. The first will be a long term strategy for transport measures and investment in the county that examines the factors influencing travel behaviour and looks at local challenges which need to be overcome and the improvements needed to address them. This will be reviewable every five years. The second document will be a shorter term implementation plan giving details of the schemes, timetables and budgets for delivery of the strategy. This element will be reviewed on an annual basis.

The ESSP was involved in defining the second LTP and it is envisaged that LTP3 will be an integral part of the achievement of many of the objectives in Pride of Place, the Sustainable Community Strategy for East Sussex.

2. Context for LTP3

ESCC will look principally to the **National Transport Goals** for national priorities and to the **Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)** for county-wide priorities to influence and inform the development of LTP3. The National Transport Goals are:

- supporting economic competitiveness and growth,
- tackling climate change,
- contributing to better safety, security and health,
- promoting equal opportunities and
- improving quality of life and a healthy natural environment.

A number of other national, regional and local strategies will also help inform this process including:

- **Regional priorities** - deliver economic growth through improved connectivity of rail and road links, maintain the current asset and encourage shift to sustainable modes
- The need to reflect and support the **Local Development Frameworks**
- **East Sussex County Council’s Business Plan and T&E Departmental objectives**
- **Current LTP2 objectives** - improving access to services; managing demand and reducing the need to travel by car, improve road safety and reduce fear of crime, reduce congestion and improve network efficiency, protection of the environment and improve maintenance/management of the transport network
- **Climate Change Strategy for East Sussex**
- **Network Management Duties** – securing the expeditious movement of traffic
- **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**– LTP3 options must be tested against environmental objectives agreed with the statutory environmental bodies (SEBs)
- **Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)** – to assess whether there is an adverse impact of the LTP3 options on different groups and how these can be mitigated or whether there is opportunity to increase equality.
- **Helping improve health** and tackle issues such as child obesity
- **Integrating other specific strategies** such as the Community Transport Strategy which will be consulted upon as part of the LTP3 strategy
- **Integrating other relevant plans and duties** such as the Transport Asset Management Plan (TAMP), Air Quality Action Plans, Bus Information Duty and Local Economic Assessment (which is due to come into force in April 2010 through the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Bill)

3 LTP3 development Timetable

The programme for developing this plan is summarised in the table below

2009	
June - July	Establish process and programme for LTP3 development
July - Oct	Preliminary evidence gathering and Scoping Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
Oct - Feb	Generate, appraise and select transport options and undertake Stage B of SEA
2010	
Feb - Apr	Finalise draft LTP3 Strategy and Environmental Report
May/June/July	Consult on LTP3 Strategy and Environmental Report
Aug - Oct	Analyse responses and finalise LTP3 Strategy
June - Oct	Commence work on LTP3 Implementation Plan
Nov - Jan	Consult on LTP3 Implementation Plan
2011	
Jan – Feb	Analyse responses and finalise Implementation Plan
March	Report to Lead Member / Cabinet, submit to Government and publish

Over the next three months, the first stage of work is to generate and appraise the possible strategic options for potential inclusion in the long term strategy element of LTP3. These potential options will be appraised against the SCS objectives, national transport goals and the range of other strategies and policies outlined in the paragraph above. This will also be informed by appropriate evidence and engagement with a range of different groups within the East Sussex community (BME networks, disabled groups, East Sussex Residents' Panel) to understand some of their current issues.

The County Council sees the East Sussex Strategic Partnership, together with the Lead Member for Transport and Environment and Transport and Environment's Scrutiny Committee, as the most appropriate forum to 'test' the various options before defining the preferred option for inclusion in the LTP3 long term strategy and going out to full public consultation in late Spring/early Summer 2010.

Conclusion

The Strategic Partnership and the links to the Sustainable Community Strategy will be a key element of the development of the third Local Transport Plan. ESCC would welcome the opportunity to return to the ESSP in January and put before you our appraised options for inclusion in the draft strategy for your comments.