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Policies into Action

Local Transport Plan

Third
Annual
Progress
Report

Executive Summary

July 2003







Significant progress continues to be made to deliver the York Local Transport Plan (LTP) covering the period 2001 – 2006. The principal goal is building a high quality integrated transport system to meet health, social, economic and environmental objectives. This is the third Annual Progress Report, which highlights progress in implementing the LTP strategies during 2002/03.

Delivery on the ground

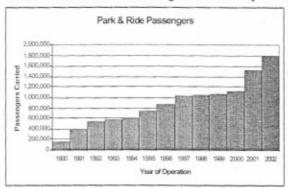
York continues to deliver a wide range of transport improvements across the city as part of the LTP. Last year saw 100% of the LTP capital programme allocation spent, with a significant number of schemes completed and many other projects under development.

Key achievements in 2002/03 include:

- 100% LTP spending of the 2002/ 03 transport capital programme;
- Delivery of 83 schemes, with 75 either under construction or designed;
- Significant investment in new public transport infrastructure, improved highways, pedestrian and safety schemes; and
- Delivery of dynamic traffic control and real-time passenger information systems with the Traffic Congestion Management System (TCMS) and Bus Location Information Sub System (BLISS).

Progress towards objectives and targets

The delivery of over 80 schemes in 2002/ 03 contributed to making good progress towards achieving LTP targets. Traffic levels continue to fall on the secondary road network, with overall traffic levels in the peak periods on target to remain at or below 1999 levels. Use of bus services and Park & Ride continues to increase, maintaining good progress towards the stretched targets set last year.



Additionally, the continued implementation of Safe Routes to School and School Safety Zones across the city has seen cycle usage for journeys to school increase significantly over the past 3 years.

Significant progress has been made in improving accessibility to public transport across the city, targeting four high frequency "Metro" routes for investment throughout the year. This investment saw the implementation of new raised kerbs to improve bus access for disabled people

and the introduction of attractive and user-friendly bus shelters. As a result, bus patronage continues to rise with a 17%

increase in passenger numbers since 2000/01. Good progress was also achieved on both the Urban Traffic Management Control (UTMC) system and Bus Location Information Sub System (BLISS). These government-funded pilot

projects continue to maintain York's position at the forefront of new transport-related technology.

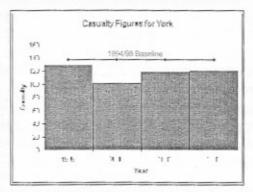
Pedestrians benefited from pavement widening on one of the city's busiest routes (from the station to the city centre)



and the provision of disability friendly improvements at 93% of crossings. These measures, together with the walking marketing campaign, have contributed to a 36% rise in pedestrian trips to the city centre, surpassing the 2006 targets four years ahead of schedule.

York's cycle network continues to be developed. A major new route has been constructed across Hob Moor and the Knavesmire, forming a significant part of the orbital route linking south east and south west York via the Millennium Bridge. Schemes to improve cycle parking were progressed in partnership with local schools. Cycle parking equipment was purchased for 9 schools in 2002/03. Such work has encouraged cycling to school, with the number of years 6 to 9 pupils

Accident reduction remains a key theme of York's transport strategy, with many of the schemes in the capital programme contributing towards improving road safety. Casualty figures for 2002/03 showed a 12.5% reduction in the number of people killed and seriously injured (KSI) and a 0.5% reduction in all casualties.



Child road safety has always been a clear focus for York, and last year saw for the first time all primary schools taking part in the child road safety training programme.

Key achievements in 2002/03 include:

- A reduction in traffic on York's secondary road network, with overall traffic levels on track to meet the LTP target;
- A continued increase in Park & Ride patronage, with an 18% increase in passenger numbers last year;
- Good progress towards the stretched target for bus use, with a 17% increase in total passengers across all the operators in York;
- Increased cycling activity to school (year 6 to 9 pupils), with a 50% increase in the number of children cycling to school compared to 1999 levels; and
- A significant reduction in the number of people killed and seriously injured (KSI), with a 12.5% fall in casualties compared to the baseline figure.

cycling to school

having increased

by 50% since

1999.

LTP spending programme

Robust resource planning, an effective management system and good forward planning have all contributed to ensure that the LTP programme is delivered in full. LTP funding totalling £6.9million was spent on transport improvements in York during 2002/03, with an overall total investment of £17.3million on transport improvements (including investment by bus operators, developer contributions, the LTP capital programme and the council's revenue expenditure) across the city. Opportunities to fund improved transport infrastructure as part of the development control process are also maximised.

Key achievements in 2002/03 include:

- The delivery of transport improvements totaling nearly £17.3million, with £6.9million of LTP expenditure;
- Securing additional funding in 2002 to enable the development of an enhanced programme for 2003/04.

Addressing the shared priorities for local government

Integrated transport is not an end in itself but an important means to sustain a vibrant economy, improve health, reduce social exclusion and contribute towards reversing climate change. Work continues

on the
development of
Masterplans for
Monks Cross,
Hungate, the
university and York
Central, to ensure
that sustainable
transport



York Central Site

measures are delivered as part of new development, whilst keeping car trips to a minimum. All of the city's large employers are developing travel plans, with 28% of employees across the city now covered. Increasing the mobility of socially excluded groups remains a priority, with the implementation of disabled friendly crossings, and improved bus services.

Key achievements in 2002/03 include:

- Continued support for concessionary travel, with an increased use of Shopmobility and Dial & Ride services, as well as take-up of concessionary travel passes;
- Further work to establish
 Masterplans for large development
 sites within the city, with one produced
 for Monks Cross and others being
 developed for York Central and
 Hungate;
- Further work undertaken with employers to encourage the development of travel plans, 28% of employees are now covered by a plan;
- The establishment of a Local Strategic Partnership ('Without Walls') to oversee the development of a Community Strategy for the city; and
- The launch of a car-sharing scheme (www.carshareyork.com) with other local organisations to reduce the level of car use in the city.

Consultation, partnership working and sharing best practice

The council continues to involve residents, businesses and stakeholders in developing transport policy and schemes and to maximise acceptance and approval of transport users.

Consultation continues to shape the design of specific schemes and helps identify transport priorities for the city and the LTP capital programme.

The council works in partnership with a wide number of organisations to develop new initiatives and schemes. Last year saw the development of the BLISS project in partnership with First York, the establishment of a car-sharing scheme with three of the largest employers, as well as ongoing work with local schools and the York Primary Care Trust.

York also values sharing its experiences with fellow professionals and other local

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authorities. Last year saw York host conferences on new traffic technology and home zones, as well as helping with workshops for the CTC's cycle benchmarking project and the newly formed English Regions Cycle Development Team. Over

the last year, the council has also had opportunities to learn from other local

authorities, including visits to other cities that are developing real-time passenger information and Park & Ride sites. In recognition of all the above work York has been awarded National Transport Local Authority of the Year for 2003.

Key achievements in 2002/03 include:

- Continued stakeholder involvement in developing LTP strategies and delivering the LTP capital programme;
- Effective partnership working on key projects, including the Quality Bus Partnership with local operators, as well as schools and the health sector:
- Continued dissemination of good practice with other local authorities, including the promotion of cycle planning and Park & Ride development;
- Learning from other local authorities to ensure the smooth delivery of projects (e.g. the development of BLISS); and
- Award for National Transport Local Authority of the Year for 2003.

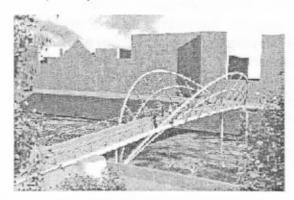
Working towards the next Local Transport Plan 2006 –2011

York continues to grow and develop as a city and has a strong regional role as an economic force. The future expansion of the university and development opportunities such as York Central will require innovative transport solutions to ensure that future travel needs are delivered in a sustainable way.

Work has commenced on the next LTP for 2006 –2011 which will build on past successes in delivering transport objectives and targets for the city, as well as public opinion.

A number of possible major transport schemes are currently being considered for York, including the development of transport links to the York Central site, as well as improvements to the York outer ring road. Further work on these and other ideas will be undertaken throughout 2003/04 in order to produce a provisional plan in summer 2004.

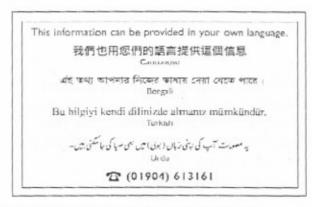
Extensive consultation will take place with local stakeholders in order to finalise the next plan by summer 2005.



Graphic showing a possible design for a new footbridge over the River Ouse

This report is available in large print and on audio cassette.

For copies please contact (01904) 613161



Copies of the Third Annual Progress Report are available on the City of York Council internet site, on CD-ROM and in printed format.

The full City of York Council Local Transport Plan "Policies into Action" was published in July 2000. Copies of this document and the first and second Annual Progress Reports are also available on the internet, on CD-ROM or in printed format.

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