



A New Mobility Culture for Merseyside

Preferred Strategy Public Summary for Consultation

September 2010

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN
MERSEYSIDE



Public
Transport



Goods



Walking



Cycling



Traffic

The Third Local Transport Plan

“Over the past decade, the Merseyside Transport Partnership, which is made up of Merseytravel, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Councils, has worked hard to provide a modern and extensive transport network for Merseyside. There has been major investment in the bus network; road and railway links have been improved; the time spent sitting in traffic jams has been cut; and we have helped companies deliver goods efficiently across the region and beyond. Initiatives such as WorkWise have helped many people to access employment and many people are now using greener alternatives to the car.

The time has now come to prepare the region’s next Local Transport Plan. Although the current economic climate is uncertain. In the future we expect there will be more jobs, new housing developments and we will all benefit from the latest technology. Our transport system must change as the world around it does, to help us lead healthier, greener lives.

Earlier this year we asked everybody in Merseyside for their views on what the transport system, that will help the region achieve its full potential, should look like. Now, we need to come up with a plan for putting these suggestions into action.

We want to hear your views on our ideas. Over the next few pages, we have set out our vision, our goals and the strategy that will help us achieve these. Transport affects us all and we look forward to hearing what everybody in Merseyside has to say about it. You have until 30th November to return your completed questionnaire to us.”

Neil Scales, Chair of Merseyside Transport Partnership

What is Transport?

The Local Transport Plan is not just about public transport.

Buses and trains are vital ways of getting from A to B and they can help towards cleaner air by reducing the numbers of cars on the road and cutting congestion. But Merseyside’s transport network is wider than this; the next Local Transport Plan will include ideas on how to get more people walking and cycling, how to move goods around the region more efficiently and how we can keep roads well maintained.

Merseyside’s Third Local Transport Plan will start in April 2011 and will look at the region’s transport needs until 2024. We will also prepare a number of shorter term action plans to help us achieve our vision, with the first of these covering until 2015.

Did you know?

Around 4 million trips start or end in Merseyside every day – that’s the equivalent of three trips per resident.



Our Vision

Transport for the future

Transport will help Merseyside achieve its aim of becoming a thriving international city region by 2030.

Government believes that transport plays an important role both in supporting the economy and cutting carbon emissions. We agree with this and also believe good transport can have a real impact on improving people's health and wellbeing.

A good transport system can help improve people's lives. It helps them to reach work, school and training; to get to the shops, doctors' appointments and other essential services; and to make the most of their leisure time. Walking and cycling makes people more active and improves health.

Investment in transport will support the growth of Merseyside's economy and make it a better place to visit. It will help our region compete internationally and we will be better able to deal with future challenges, such as climate change and increasing oil prices.

Getting around in greener ways, such as by bus, by train, on foot, by bike or in low emission or electric vehicles, will reduce Merseyside's carbon footprint. It makes air cleaner and cuts noise levels.

Did you know?

People walk a quarter of all journeys in Merseyside.



A new mobility culture

More than half of people in more disadvantaged areas of Merseyside do not have access to a car. Elsewhere in the region, just 25% of households do not have access to a car.

Transport is essential to get from A to B. A poor transport network can affect people's lives – people may not be able to get to work, training courses or school and may feel increasingly isolated.

Our transport system needs to change to deal with these problems. It also means finding new ways to move around that help us reduce our carbon output and promote more active lives. We need to create a new *mobility culture* for Merseyside, so people can get where they want to, when they need to and have more choices about how to get there.

This approach will help us to build a transport system that will achieve this vision for Merseyside.

A European comparison

People in Hamburg, Germany earn 50% more than people in Liverpool, yet make significantly more trips by public transport and bike.

Did you know?

Each year, the average Merseyside resident makes 110 bus journeys and 29 trips on the local rail network.

Our goals

Our transport system must meet the needs of a growing and successful Merseyside. We have set ourselves six goals to help us achieve this.

1. Make sure our transport system supports wider plans for the region.

The next Local Transport Plan can help Merseyside to become a thriving international region. We need to make sure that people in Merseyside support our plans and understand how transport fits into our everyday lives.

2. Provide a transport system that is clean and helps cut our carbon footprint.

Transport causes a lot of pollution. Cleaner, greener transport, such as walking, cycling, taking public transport or using low emission or electric vehicles, will help tackle climate change.

3. Help improve the health and wellbeing of people in Merseyside.

People in Merseyside generally have poorer health than in other areas of the UK. Four in ten people in Liverpool are overweight. Walking and cycling is an easy way to incorporate exercise into people's daily lives and make the air cleaner.

We must do all we can to cut the number of people killed and injured in road traffic accidents on Merseyside's roads each year, by introducing more low speed zones and working with schools to teach children about road safety.

4. Make sure everybody can get to where they need to go, when they need to go.

Transport plays an essential role in everyday life – helping people get to work, school and the shops, as well as meet up with friends and family.

Many take this for granted, but there are some areas of Merseyside where people who do not have access to a car struggle to get from A to B. This prevents them from making the most of the opportunities that are available to them and can contribute to high levels of unemployment.

5. Grow Merseyside's economy by helping goods and people move around the region.

Congested roads make it more difficult and expensive for businesses to move goods across the region. Transport is essential for Merseyside's economy, and improving our transport network will help the region develop.

6. Keep our roads and rail network well maintained.

Making sure our roads and railways are well maintained will help people and goods move around the region smoothly and mean we get the maximum benefit from our transport network. This has become more difficult in recent years, as traffic levels and the weight of lorries have increased and our network has been exposed to more extreme weather conditions.

Did you know?

Just over one in six vehicles on Merseyside's roads are carrying goods.

Long Term Strategy

A time for change

We are preparing the next Local Transport Plan in uncertain times. We do not yet know exactly how much money we will have to spend and the Government is still finalising its policies and budgets.

We know that our funding will be cut and we will not be able to afford for some of our major projects to go ahead in the foreseeable future.

In the same way, we cannot afford to tackle congestion by building major new roads over and above those planned. Instead we must make those we have, work as efficiently as possible, encourage people to walk, cycle and use public transport, and make it easier for businesses to transport goods using rail.

It is hard to predict what Merseyside will look like in 2024. To achieve the best for Merseyside, we will need to be flexible and make the best use of the money that will be available.

What we need to do

- Maintain our roads and railways to a high standard
- Help Merseyside to be successful in the future and create jobs, supported by a transport system that does less damage to the environment and helps climate change
- Support people in more disadvantaged communities, to make sure everybody in Merseyside can get safely from A to B
- Improve people's health and wellbeing and reduce accidents on the road

How we are going to do it

- Make the best use of new technology such as smart cards to speed up the process of paying for the bus or train
- Continue to encourage people to consider walking, cycling or using public transport
- Work with planners to make sure new buildings are easy to get to by all forms of transport
- Make the most of the money that is available to us, working with other organisations, such as education providers, businesses and health services, to pool our resources
- Prioritise our work to make the most of the funding that is available to us

Did you know?

Since 2006, there has been a 14% increase in cycling in Merseyside.

Our actions

To support our long term strategy, we will aim to do the following in the period to 2015.

We will focus on:

- Making sure we have enough funding to maintain our roads and railways to a high standard and keep them running during poor weather.
- Making sure that local authority planners, and private developers properly consider transport in their plans to build new houses, offices, shops and public services.
- Working with communities, bus operators and taxi operators to improve public transport and make sure more people know what is available.
- Using new technology to make it easier to find information on travel and introduce smart cards to speed up the process of paying for the bus or train
- Helping businesses to move goods around Merseyside, including improved access to the Port of Liverpool and encouraging the transport of goods by rail.
- Cutting carbon emissions, improving air quality and reducing reliance on oil.
- Where necessary, investing in making targeted improvements to our road and rail network in ways that help Merseyside's economy.
- Improving health and promoting walking and cycling and encouraging people to consider alternatives to the car.
- Reducing road traffic accidents by introducing more low speed zones, which will also help get more people cycling and walking.
- Planning for the future so we can adapt to changes in Government priorities or the economy.

Did you know?

More journeys take place around 3pm each afternoon than any other time in the day.

Next Steps

We want to hear **YOUR** views on transport in Merseyside.

Transport affects us all and it is crucial that we involve as many people as possible in planning for the future. Your views will be used to help shape the region's next Local Transport Plan (LTP3), which will be in place by April 2011.

You can have your say by filling in the enclosed response form and returning it in the freepost envelope or by filling out an online form at www.TransportMerseyside.org. This public consultation runs until 30th November 2010.

If there is no envelope attached please send the complete form to;

LTP3 Preferred Strategy Consultation
Freepost RLUB-HJZA-RZSZ
Merseyside LTP Support Unit
24 Hatton Garden
Liverpool
L3 2AN

If you wish to respond in more detail, there is a more in depth stakeholder consultation document 'The Preferred Strategy' available at www.TransportMerseyside.org. You can request a copy by emailing info@TransportMerseyside.org or calling **0151 330 1294**.

We can provide this information in other formats and languages if you ask.

Your contact details will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and not used for any other purposes than for this consultation. Your name and details will remain confidential unless you give us permission to make them public. However please note that all representations will be made publicly available and therefore, cannot be treated as confidential.



The Preferred Strategy is available on the Local Transport Plan website: www.TransportMerseyside.org



The Merseyside Transport Partnership



Sefton Council

