

# North Somerset Partnership Steering Group – Transport Environment Economy

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2009  
Winter Gardens, Weston super Mare

## Notes of Meeting

### Present

Andy Hicklin	Chair – Environment Agency
David Glynn	ALCA
Colin Medus	North Somerset Council (Transport Policy & Programmes)
Geoff Coombs	Barrow Gurney PC
Rosemary Dowie	TENONS
Simon Gregory	NSC (Economy & Regeneration)
Jess Harper	NSC (Economy & Regeneration)
Angela Hicks	North Somerset Enterprise Agency
Ed Bradley	Barrow Gurney PC
Jenny Ford	NSC (Economy & Regeneration)
Stella Milsom	Government Office South West
Karuna Tharmananthar	NSC (Development & Environment)
Peggy Tovey	Weston College

### Apologies

Kim Herivel	NSC (Adult Services & Housing)
Charles Walker	North Somerset Industrial Association
Nicky Sutton	Jobs Centre Plus

## 1. Notes of previous meeting and matters arising

- Change – Noted correction to David Glynn representing ALCA not Wrington PC
- Item 3 on Board feedback/ update – date Grant expected should read as June 2011.
- Rosemary informed group of Severn Tidal power event had been very successful with over 200 people attending.

## 2. Transition Towns

The Group welcomed Cara O Naiden from Transition Langport to present and discuss the basis beyond Transition Towns and the experiences so far of Langport.

A short film of Langport activities and celebration event was shown followed by questions and discussion about the concept, experiences and opportunities in North Somerset.

Transition Towns came out of permaculture work in Totnes in response to Peak Oil/ Climate Change concerns. Transition Towns works along 12 steps covering a variety of themes approached as locally decided.

Has links with a number of national indicators including Fuel Poverty and transport.

There are currently 23 Transition Groups in Somerset and has the support of Somerset County Council who are looking at how their services contribute to or could further support the aims of Transition Towns.

The Group was supportive of the purpose of Transition and spent considerable time discussing opportunities, issues and links with existing areas of work. Further discussion needed to agree what if anything this Group can do to support, promote, encourage take up across North Somerset. It was recognised that Groups have started or are starting and needs to be a balance between supporting grass roots up and top down encouragement from the NSP.

**ACTION: Further discussion/ agreement needed as to any role for the Group.**

### **3. Climate Change update**

Jess provided an update on progress around the 2 Local Area Agreement targets around Climate Change.

NI188 – initially around NSC activities to improve carbon reduction, Level 2 aimed for by March 2010, beyond that will require further support, contribution from partner organisation looking at risks and priorities.

NI 186 – is about carbon reduction for the area, which will require all to be involved in actions.

Discussion around links between college/ business and Environmental Technologies.

**ACTION: Kim, Angela and Peggy taking forward ideas around skills/ sector hub and services to local people.**

### **4. TravelSMART**

Colin introduced this project that started in September 2008, the analysis of what achieved now available.

Individualised Travel Marketing (ITM) works with households offering tailored information and support which enables people to walk, cycle and use public transport more often. Aims to address individual barriers that prevent greater use of sustainable travel focusing on enabling (not telling) people to change behaviour, when and where it suits them best

Contributes to a number of LAA/LTP targets & objectives including: tackle congestion and manage demand for travel by private car and improve air quality, health, carbon reduction.

Target population was 2,078 households, 1,900 contacted personally.

- 7% already active, a number of households sent rewards only
- 63% regular users, or interested in using sustainable modes, information, rewards and home advice sessions distributed or held. Included bus stop specific timetables.
- 30% not interested, but a number of eco driving packs distributed.

Funded by the South West of England Regional Development Agency Project with inkind support from Sustrans/ Socialdata. North Somerset input staff time and leaflets.

Key outcomes and conclusions

- 12% relative reduction in car-as-driver trips
- Greater than 7:1 Cost benefit ratio
- Estimated annual CO2 saving of approx 660 tonnes
- Greatest increase in use of sustainable modes between 9am and 3pm and greatest reduction of car-as-driver trips.
- Growth in trips by sustainable and active travel modes, with relative increases in walking 15%, cycling 36% and public transport 10%.
- 11% increase in average daily active travel time

Evaluation suggests that greatest modal shift occurred from car-as-driver trips to walking, however public transport gained 10 trips per person per year (10% relative increase). Cycling saw a 36% relative growth, albeit from a low baseline level. Changes are broadly in line with those measured in other recent Travelsmart projects.

### **Next Steps**

- Secure further funding to deliver more ITM work, the bigger area you cover the lower the cost per household
- Project can be carried out during new developments (Section 106?)

### **The West of England's Commuter Challenge ( Jam Busting June)**

A web-based challenge to incentives participants to reduce their reliance on the car for commuting journeys, and improve their health.

- JBJ receives support of many local businesses through prize donations
- Support offered to workplace coordinators
- Kickstarts a travel plan
  - GKN Aerospace Engineering
- Can reduce demand for parking
- Less sick days through healthier staff

### **Contributes to LTP targets / objectives**

- Increases number of cycling trips
- Tackles congestion and manages demand for travel by private car
- Improves air quality
- Shifts car drivers to bus passengers

Also Addresses:

- National Indicator 186 - Per capita carbon dioxide emissions in the local authority area
- Heart disease, high blood pressure, obesity and the most common form of diabetes

### **Who participates**

- Steady increase in participants – 3500 (2009)
- 23% of 2009 participants were lone car drivers
- 49% Male, 51% female

### **5. Reward Grant**

Need more time and further discussion with other delivery partnerships. Invite others to workshop at next TEE Group rather than all attending each others meetings.

Simon and Andy to invite other Partnership reps to January TEE Group meeting.

Request from Health and Wellbeing Partnership to be declined, with a request for reps from all groups to next TEE Group.

### **6. NSP Board / Executive Update**

No recent meetings, Stakeholder event had been held earlier in the week and initial feedback was positive.

Discussion around recap on group priorities at January meeting, to consider how to incorporate relevant actions from Stakeholder Event workshops and Chris Borne's Green Shoots paper, to avoid working to several action plans.

Notes from workshops requested from NSP Team, will circulate to all when received for information.

### **7. AOB**

None

### **8. Date of next meeting**

26<sup>th</sup> January 2010, The Campus, Weston super Mare.