

Respondent's Details

Name: Mr. David Munster

Please Return by 19 February 2010

Organisation (if applicable):

Greenway to Stay Campaign

To:

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I am responding: as an individual on behalf of an organisation

Is your response confidential? If so, please explain why (see Appendix 1 “Confidentiality of Consultations – Freedom of Information Act 2000”).

No

Provision is made throughout this questionnaire for you to provide additional comments. If, however, you wish to provide more detailed comments on any aspect of the consultation, please feel free to append additional materials and supplementary documents, clearly marked and cross-referenced to the relevant questions, as necessary.

Questions on Detailed Policy Proposals

Question 1 (page 15)

Do you agree that the Department should have the necessary authority to implement the Rapid Transit proposals?

Yes No

Comments:

We support the aim of improving public transport and reducing the use of cars by providing attractive alternatives. We believe that Rapid Transit should be introduced using existing roads.

Question 2 (page 16)

Do you agree that the Department should take land acquisition powers for the implementation of the Rapid Transit system?

Yes No

Comments:

We agree that the Department should take land acquisition powers for the implementation of the rapid transit system to provide Park and Ride facilities. However we do not agree that it should have power to acquire private gardens adjacent to the Greenway.

Question 3 (page 16)

Do you agree that the Department should have the power to purchase, lease and dispose of goods, services and facilities for the Rapid Transit system?

Yes No

Comments:

Question 4 (page 17)

Do you agree that a performance-based contract should be introduced for the operation of the Rapid Transit system?

Yes No

Comments:

Question 5 (page 18)

Do you agree that the Department should be responsible for:

- specifying Rapid Transit service requirements, quality-of-service and the fare levels;
- awarding the Rapid Transit contract; and
- monitoring and reporting on Rapid Transit operator performance?

Yes No

Comments:

Question 6 (page 18)

What are your views on the proposal to offer financial incentives to the Rapid Transit operator to grow the Rapid Transit market, introduce innovation and improve services?

Comments:

The service must be attractive or it won't be used. It is outside the remit of our group to comment on how this is achieved.

Question 7 (page 20)

Do you agree with the proposed powers to regulate passenger conduct on Rapid Transit Vehicles and in/on Rapid Transit premises?

Yes No

Comments:

Question 8 (page 21)

Do you agree that the dedicated public transport corridors on which Rapid Transit operates should be strictly enforced?

Yes No

Comments:

Parking facilities for local businesses along the route must be protected or alternatives provided

Question 9 (page 21)

Do you agree with the proposed powers for the Department to install, operate and maintain off-board ticketing machines?

Yes No

Comments:



Please make any further comments on the Detailed Policy Proposals here, ensuring that you clearly refer to any relevant questions or responses submitted above.

We are disappointed that in spite of it being widely recognised that both on the grounds of cost and loss of a valuable community amenity the Comber Greenway route is unlikely to be used money has still been spend carrying out detailed survey work along the Greenway.

We look forward to being fully involved in the further consultation that has been promised before a decision is taken on the final route for E-WAY

Questions on Integrated Impact Assessment

In considering these questions you should bear in mind that it is proposed that a further Integrated Impact Assessment screening exercise will be undertaken prior to the implementation phase of the Rapid Transit project.

Question 1

Do you have any views on the Integrated Impact Assessment Screening conclusion reached by the Department?

Yes No

Comments:

The timing of the further Integrated Impact assessment is critical. In our view the impact of using the Comber Greenway route needs to be compared to the impact of the Upper Newtownards Road route and the results taken into account when the route decision is made.

Question 2

Are there any particular equality issues that need to be considered in relation to the policy proposals contained in the Detailed Policy Proposals booklet?

Yes No X

Comments:

Comments on Equality Screening

We welcome your comments on any aspect of the draft equality screening document. Please bear in mind that it is proposed that a further screening exercise will be undertaken prior to the implementation phase of the Rapid Transit project.

Comments:

We do not agree with the outcome of the screening process that there will be no environmental impact and object strongly to the exclusion of environmental impacts from the full assessment\appraisal process

We also disagree with the conclusion that Health does not require a full Assessment \ Appraisal "at this stage". The health benefits of walking and cycling on the Comber Greenway will be lost if this route is chosen.

We also disagree with the exclusion of "Social Inclusion". Full Assessments in these 3 areas are required before the route for E-WAY is finalised.