

BMTP Update :

For the Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan

Issue 2: June 02

Belfast's Transport Vision

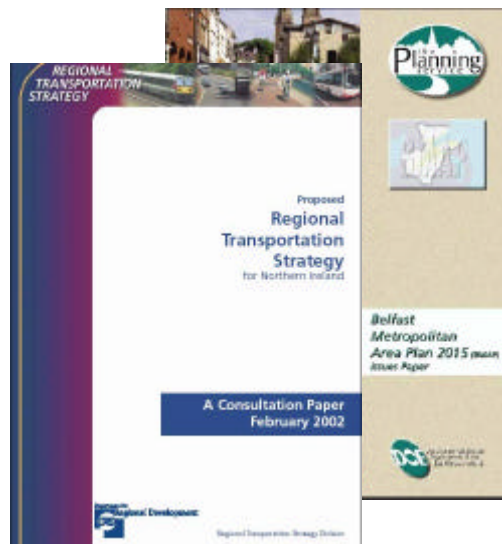


Progress Update

Since the publication of the First Issue of the BMTP Update in January 2002 good progress has been made on the Plan's development and other related issues.

- On 4 February 2002 the Proposed Regional Transportation Strategy (RTS) was published for consultation and the final document, along with the Regional Development Strategy, will provide the framework for developing the BMTP. The consultation period ended on the 16 April and the RTS is expected to be debated by the Assembly before the summer recess. Further information on RTS is available at www.drdni.gov.uk/rts

- The Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan (BMAP), which is being developed in parallel with the BMTP, has now completed a comprehensive period of public consultation following publication of an Issues Paper in December 2001. Transportation submissions which have been received, will also guide the BMTP process. Further information on the BMAP is available at www.doeni.gov.uk/planning/bmap.htm



- A presentation on the BMTP was given to the DRD Assembly Committee on 1 May 2002. A series of joint BMTP/BMAP update presentations to the 6 District Councils are planned for June/July 2002.

- Within the overall structured approach to BMTP's development, the second significant milestone of outlining a long-term transport strategy for the Belfast Metropolitan Area is now well underway. Two workshops have been held with the Key Stakeholders Group, comprising individuals selected from each of the 20 BMTP Reference Groups. These workshops concentrated on the Strategy Development and the identification of long-term integrated transport solutions. The work on developing the strategy has also included the important tasks of defining the study objectives and the Metropolitan Transport Corridors (MTCs).

BMTP web site

The Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan has recently gone live on the internet with a web-page. The site can be found at: www.drdni.gov.uk/bmtp

It contains up to the minute news on the progress of the plan including;

- Electronic issues of the BMTP Update
- Timetables and Processes
- Reference Group feedback
- The BMTP Problem Statement
- A map of the Study Area



BMTP Objectives

After consultation and taking account of guidelines outlined in the Regional Development Strategy and the Proposed Regional Transportation Strategy the following Core Objectives have been adopted for BMTP,

1. **Protect Belfast Metropolitan Area's (BMA's) natural and built environment**
2. **Improve health in the BMA**
3. **Improve safety and security in BMA**
4. **Support Sustainable Economic Growth in the BMA**



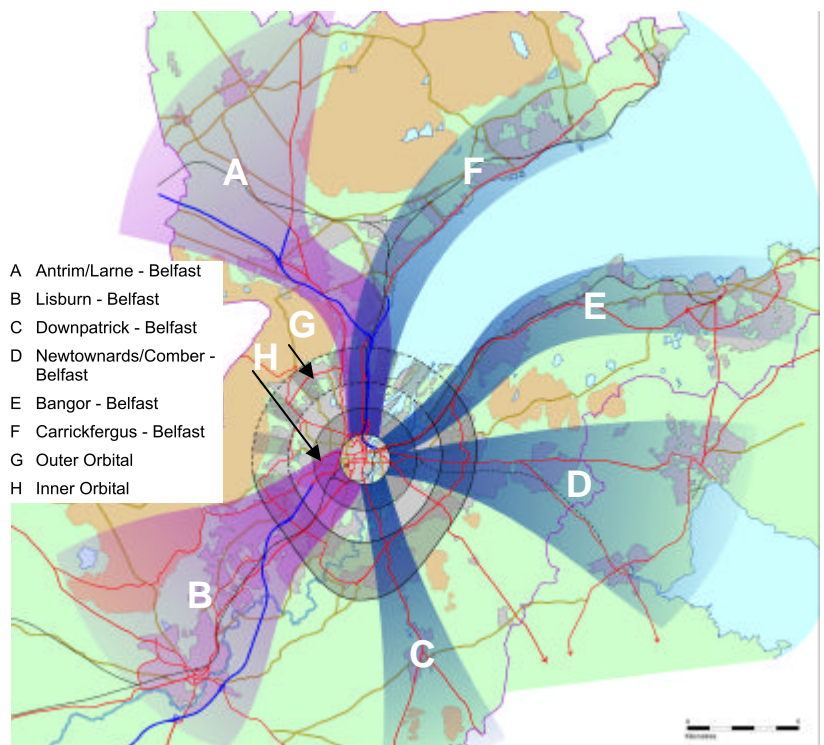
5. **Improve access to Regional Gateways and Tourist locations in BMA and its hinterland**
6. **Help promote a more inclusive society in the BMA**
7. **Support the revitalisation of BMA's urban areas**
8. **Improve integration between transport modes, land use and Government Policies**

Metropolitan Transport Corridors

An important element of the work of the Regional Development Strategy and the Regional Transportation Strategy is the definition of a Regional Strategic Transport Network (RSTN). Within the BMA this is made up of a number of Metropolitan Transport Corridors (MTCs).

The MTCs therefore represent the strategic transport network for the area providing for longer-distance strategic movements, linking urban centres and forming the main development spines around which the future land use pattern will be planned.

These corridors do not represent a single road or route but may comprise of a number of individual roads and bus and rail networks.



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