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DRAFT SUB-REGIONAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2015 (SRTP)

Larne Borough Council has considered the above SRTP and supporting documentation and would comment as follows:-

Council welcomes the focus in the SRTP on the mode of transport. It is the Council view that this has led to a better balanced and integrated approach to improve sub regional transport. Council is particularly supportive of the following measures:-

The continuing commitment to Local Transport Studies to identify emerging need and prioritise future transport projects.

The linkage in the SRTP to Planning Service enabled by PPS 3 "Access Movement and Parking" and PPS 13 "Transportation and Land Use" to ensure that transport need and solutions are taken into account in all local development.

The informative work provided by Strategic Environmental Assessment on the impacts of the STRP.

Council would suggest that the initial projects to implement the SRTP are forwarded to Council for comment as soon as practical. Council would wish to see every opportunity taken to ensure that all statutory undertakers and public utilities integrate their work programmes to avoid disruption in the implementation of the SRTP.

Council has the following specific comments with regard to the Technical Supplement for the Borough of Larne:-

Need for bus services to serve new housing developments such as Walnut Hollow.

Need for buses to have cycle racks fitted to the front.

Need for consultation with elected representatives on proposed changes to schedules, routes and timetables.

Need for an integrated transport centre based at Larne railway station for road and rail users, to include park and ride facilities and lock up facilities for cycles.

Need for extended evening operating hours on Belfast – Larne rail service on Friday and Saturday evenings, to facilitate attendance at entertainment events in Belfast.

Need for car parking facilities at Ballycarry and Magheramorne stations
Need for improved busybus/flexibus service in the rural areas.

Need for a regional transport strategy taking account of ports, airports and centres of population.

Need to make public transport more attractive to encourage greater use.

Council acknowledges the comprehensive nature of the consultation exercise and is appreciative of the presentation made by officials from DRD to the Council meeting 05 June 2006