
From: Logan Cathcart [lcathcart@newtownabbey.gov.uk]
Sent: 02 June 2006 10:30
To: Sub Regional Transport Plan
Subject: fao Geraldine O'Neill - Response to Draft Sub-Regional Transport Plan2015

Good morning Geraldine

The above consultation document was considered by our Consultation Sub Committee on 18 May 2006, when it was agreed that the following be submitted as the Council's response

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Council welcomed the Draft Sub Regional Transport Plan 2015, subject to the following points:

- (a) the Council believes that additional investment is needed in the bus service, which should have less emphasis on profit making and more on reliability. The Council believes that a reliable, affordable bus service will encourage greater use and in turn help sustainability.
- (b) the Council welcomes the development of bus priority routes into city centres and the improvement in journey times which they create.
- (c) the Council welcomes the development of additional cycle paths and lanes, not necessarily for recreational use alone but also as an alternative route to work.
- (d) the Council welcomes concessions on fuel duty payments for public transport and hopes that this can be passed on through cheaper fares, thus making public transport more affordable and attractive.
- (e) the Council believes that proposals to introduce charging or a toll charge scheme at peak times would only result in greater congestion on alternative routes and minor roads.
- (f) the Council welcomes emphasis being placed on major bus corridors, such as Belfast to Londonderry.
- (g) the Council believes that the road maintenance programme has been left in a poor state and requires major investment prior to transfer to Local Authorities. The Council notes that £740 million, 80% of the total proposed indicative spend of £922.7 million is required now for the rural network and would question the impact which this might have on the long term road maintenance programme.
- (h) the Council believes that greater priority should be given to the street lighting programme as good light helps to reduce crime and accidents.
- (i) the Council believes that resident permit parking is required in areas affected by the displacement of cars from other areas.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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