

Report to the Transport for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: 20 April 2011

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Subject: Response to Network Rail's London and South East RUS

1. Summary

1.1 The following decisions are sought:

- (i) That the officer submission to the consultation draft London and South East Route Utilisation Strategy (RUS), attached as Appendix 1 to this report, be adopted by the Joint Committee as the formal TfSH response to the consultation.
- (ii) That officers look to arrange an early meeting with the new Wessex devolved business unit of Network Rail to explore the scope for closer partnership working with the rail industry in line with the TfSH Rail Communications Protocol (June 2010).

2. Reason

2.1 This draft RUS sets out the rail industry's priorities for investment in new rail capacity over the next 30 years across all London termini, including routes into London Waterloo, looks at freight capacity across the South East and contains a specific 'Solent and South Hampshire' chapter, which intends to address a gap in level of detail on capacity issues within the 'Generation One' South West Main Line RUS, published in 2006.

2.2 This consultation is a key opportunity for TfSH to seek to shape and influence the final RUS document, in order that it more closely reflects the shared aspirations of the TfSH authorities.

3. Other Options Considered and Rejected

3.1 Taking no action, which would limit the ability of Transport for South Hampshire (TfSH) to influence long-term rail industry investment planning processes that seek to address shortfalls in passenger and freight capacity affecting South Hampshire.

4. **Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Decision Maker or Other Executive Member Consulted – None.**
5. **Dispensation granted by the Standards Committee – None.**
6. **Reason(s) for the Matter being dealt with if Urgent – None.**

Approved by: Date:

**Councillor M J Kendal - Chairman
Transport for South Hampshire Joint Committee**