

Report to the Transport for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: 21 June 2010

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Subject: Bus Rapid Transit for South East Hampshire

1. Summary

1.1 This report provides an update on the progress being made with Phase 1 of the Bus Rapid Transit scheme (Fareham to Gosport) and seeks endorsement for the work necessary to deliver a wider network in South East Hampshire to address the dual pressures of growth and congestion..

1.2 The following decisions are sought:

- (i) that the proposed vision and objectives set out in this report be adopted as the guiding principles for the future development of the South East Hampshire Bus Rapid Transit;
- (ii) that the development of an operational agreement with the bus operators, to determine high levels of service and reliability be supported;
- (iii) that the feasibility work undertaken to date on defining options for the wider Bus Rapid Transit network be noted and approved;
- (iv) that work to progress future elements of the network in a timely fashion to be ready when funding opportunities arise for implementation be endorsed.
- (v) that work on establishing a suitable brand for the promotion of Bus Rapid Transit be supported.

2. Reason

2.1 "Towards Delivery" adopted by Transport for South Hampshire in 2008 detailed a strategy for addressing the future transport challenges associated with the planned growth in the sub region. A key element of this strategy is the development of an integrated public transport system that will improve travel choices for the existing communities and meet the travel demands associated with future growth. A Bus Rapid Transit

system (BRT) offers a realistic and achievable opportunity of delivering such a system.

3. Other Options Considered and Rejected

3.1 A broad assessment of other public transport system options has confirmed that BRT is regarded as the most achievable system capable of providing a positive contribution to address the future transport challenges associated with planned growth in the sub region. Not to progress with the implementation of any integrated public transport system would seriously undermine the viability of such economic growth.

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**