

**Report to the
Transport for South Hampshire Joint Committee**

Date: 5 February 2013
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Subject: Local Sustainable Transport Fund Update

Purpose of the Report

To update Members on delivery of the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) grant across Southampton, Portsmouth and South Hampshire.

Recommendation

- (a) That the Joint Committee note the progress made regarding the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.**

Introduction

1. Since the last update in September, progress has been made across all the key delivery areas:
 - (a) scheme delivery;
 - (b) marketing and communications;
 - (c) monitoring and evaluation; and
 - (d) budget and finance.

Scheme Delivery

2. Good progress is being made in delivering schemes across the region. Particular highlights include:
 - (a) Team GB Gold Medallist and Hamble resident Dani King launched a cycle to school initiative at three schools in Hamble;
 - (b) public transport improvements at Fareham and Gosport stations including new bus stops, real time information and improved pedestrian wayfinding, linked to the 2nd phase of the successful Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor;
 - (c) implementation of real time information on bus services across Southampton;

- (d) agreement with bus operators to provide up to three months subsidised public transport for job seekers whilst looking for work and for a short period when starting a new job.
3. A project manager has been appointed to facilitate delivery of the proposed public transport Smartcard. He will work with bus and ferry operators across the region to deliver the scheme.

Marketing and Communications

4. An LSTF Marketing Coordinator has been appointed. Her principal role is to ensure coordination across all the ongoing LSTF projects. Specifically in relation to Transport for South Hampshire (TfSH), she is developing a high level marketing strategy to support delivery of tactical marketing campaigns by each of the three local authorities.
5. Vicky has a strong background in marketing with recent experience in marketing the benefits of behavioural change campaigns, which is particularly relevant for all the LSTF projects.

Monitoring and Evaluation, and Risk Management

6. Officers are working with the University of Southampton to prepare a high level monitoring and evaluation programme designed to measure the impacts of both the overall programme as well as specific components. A full update can be provided at the next meeting.
7. Baseline research has recently been completed to understand attitudes to transport and travel across South Hampshire and Portsmouth. This compliments research undertaken in Southampton in late 2011 and provides a comprehensive baseline against which changes in perception and attitude can be measured.
8. The Department for Transport (DfT) have issued final guidance on the requirements for monitoring and evaluation of larger LSTF projects across England. The intention is to minimise the burden on authorities whilst ensuring sufficient rigour to show value for money and what has been delivered.
9. In addition, the Department are looking to undertake a series of national case studies in order to evaluate the impacts of the LSTF programme on achieving key initiatives such as congestion reduction, modal shift, carbon reduction and employment growth. TfSH has been asked to lead a national case study exploring the impacts of the LSTF programme on reducing carbon emissions.
10. Members are asked to confirm whether they would be interested in receiving a detailed presentation on the Monitoring and Evaluation programme at the next meeting.

Budget and Finance

11. DfT have recently updated guidance on use of the LSTF funds to allow authorities limited freedom to defer funds which cannot be spent in 2012/13 into 2013/14. This applies to both capital and revenue funds.
12. On the 18 January 2013, the DfT confirmed our deferral requests for £94,000 capital and £562,000 revenue.

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background papers

The following documents disclose facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and has been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report.

NB the list excludes:

1. Published works.
2. Documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.

TITLE

LOCATION

None