

Summary of the Consultation Results Report

From 8 July to 29 September 2010, the three Local Transport Authorities of Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council ran a consultation on a draft Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3) Joint South Hampshire Strategy.

The consultation was accompanied by a response survey and an online survey which posed a number of questions on the proposed vision, challenges, outcomes, policies and options for delivery. Respondents either used this survey, or provided their views on the main components of the draft strategy in a less structured format.

161 responses were received to the consultation, of which 68 were submitted by members of the public or sole traders, 69 were submitted by businesses and organisation representatives and 24 were submitted by members of the public. In addition, the three LTAs jointly held three workshops for stakeholders, which were attended by 144 representatives from 75 different organisations.

The full consultation results document summarises and presents analysis of the feedback that has been received on the draft Joint South Hampshire Strategy. This has taken into account all the responses to the consultation and stakeholder comments made at the three stakeholder workshops.

The main themes arising from the consultation are summarised below.

- There was widespread support for a vision statement, but the current vision was felt to not be inspiring enough, and contained too much jargon
- Respondents were generally in agreement with the six challenges, with Challenge 1 (securing funding to deliver transport improvements) and Challenge 5 (widening travel choice to offer reasonable alternatives to the private car) regularly being identified as being of high importance.
- Numerous respondents highlighted the need to ensure that the transport network plays a vital role in helping to support economic competitiveness and growth, through the provision of a well-maintained, resilient highway network, and that ensuring journey time reliability was important, especially for businesses.
- Some respondents felt that the challenges section did not adequately address the issues of poverty, deprivation and accessibility for those with mobility difficulties.
- A few respondents suggested that a new challenge was needed addressing the need to protect the environment and maintain/ improve quality of life.
- Most respondents were supportive of the seven proposed transport outcomes.

- Respondents identified that “Increased modal share for public transport and active travel” (Outcome 1) and “Reduced need to travel and reduced dependence on the private car” (Outcome 2) were their top priorities.
- Commenting on the proposed thirteen policies, respondents generally indicated that all the policies were important. Support for Policy G (active travel) and smarter choices initiatives and measures to improve public transport services (Policy H) was strongest. There was also considerable support for improved rail services (Policy J).
- Policy L (Public realm) was seen as important, but some respondents questioned whether this should be a priority in the short term, in light of funding pressures
- Policy I (water transport) was generally perceived by respondents as the policy with the lowest priority.
- It was felt that more reference needed to be made to freight, powered two wheelers, Town Access Plans, the connections between health and travel habits, and the important role of South Hampshire as a gateway to the Isle of Wight.
- Given the high value and importance placed on the local environment, it comes as no surprise that environmental stakeholders made numerous detailed comments and points highlighting the need to protect and enhance biodiversity through appropriate mitigation.