



## PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION 5 NOVEMBER 2007

Report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Committee  
Report of the Corporate Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services

### Council's Travel Plan - Overview of Objectives and Priorities for 2007/08

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the Commission consider the objectives and priorities identified for the Council's Travel Plan project in 2007/8 and feed any comments back to the Project Team.

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 A paper was taken to Cabinet Part 2 in September 2007 outlining the objectives and priorities identified for the Council's Travel Plan project in 2007/8.
- 2.2 Approval was given by Council Cabinet to develop Journeyscope, the Council's Travel Plan in 2003 which was based on a report and research conducted by consultants.
- 2.3 The high level objectives of the Travel Plan in relation to staff were as follows:
  - To develop a package of measures aimed at minimising travel impacts on the environment, principally by encouraging adoption of alternatives to single occupancy car use.
  - To focus on commuter journeys and business travel
- 2.4 Whilst progress has been made in establishing Task Groups and developing objectives and defining specific actions, the project has not been able to fully accomplish its objectives due to considerable constraints, including funding, support on practical decisions and difficult H.R. implications.
- 2.5 Delivering an action plan for the Council's Travel Plan is a key outcome in the Corporate Plan under the priority "reducing the level of carbon emissions" and project resource has been identified in Corporate Human Resources, temporarily funded by the original travel plan resource, to manage the staff travel related priorities.
- 2.6 The priority for the next twelve months is to develop a package of measures aimed at encouraging staff to use alternatives to single occupancy car journeys. These potential measures include both new employee benefit incentives as well as reviews of existing policies and provisions, which are not considered to be consistent with our environmental objectives.
- 2.7 It is proposed to begin communication with staff and other stakeholders, raising awareness of high level objectives, highlighting some of the incentives that are being developed and identify some of the other measures under consideration.

- 2.8 An employee travel survey will be carried out later this year to benchmark commuting behaviour against the original survey done in 2001; to publicise some of the initiatives being worked on and gain feedback; and to enable us to measure carbon emissions associated with employee travel.
- 2.9 Appropriate consultation will be undertaken as part of the project. This will include consultation with trades unions and staff representatives on proposed changes to existing provisions, as well as the employee travel survey and follow-up activities associated with the survey.

**For more information  
contact:**

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**Background papers:**

Appendix 1 – Implications

**List of appendices:**

Appendix 2 – Council Cabinet Part 2 Report 19 September 2007

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

1. No new financial implications to meet development of an action plan. Further consideration will be given to possible initiatives and separate report will address these.

**Legal**

2. The Council, as an employer, has a duty to consult with employees and their representatives on any proposed changes to terms and conditions. Trade unions are aware of high level proposals and more detailed discussions will be undertaken at the appropriate time.

**Personnel**

3. None in this report

**Equalities impact**

4. Potential impact – every effort will be made to ensure fair and equal access to initiatives within the constraints of the project. The aim is to have a positive benefit by increasing viable travel choices for staff.

**Corporate objectives and priorities**

5. Producing an action plan for the Council's Travel Plan is key outcome 3.1f in the Corporate Plan 2007/8, under the Council's priority "reducing the level of carbon emissions".

It is an action in the Smarter Choices Strategy element of the Local Transport Plan, the Air Quality Improvement Action Plan, the Corporate Climate Change Programme and the Council's Environmental Policy.