

DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE FREIGHT QUALITY PARTNERSHIP AND STRATEGY

Report of the Director of Development and Cultural Services

SUMMARY OF REPORT

- 1.1 Derby City Council and Derbyshire County Council have worked in partnership with a number of other organisations to develop a Freight Quality Partnership, FQP. The FQP will form part of the Derby Joint Local Transport Plan. This report provides a summary of the consultations which have taken place and the key elements of the strategy that have been developed with the FQP.
- 1.2 Derbyshire County Council have formally adopted the strategy, subject to the City Council's formal approval and adoption. A copy of the strategy has been placed on deposit in the Members' rooms prior to this Cabinet meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the work of the Derby and Derbyshire Freight Quality Partnership.
- 2.2 To note progress on the development of the partnership strategy.
- 2.3 To approve and formally adopt the strategy.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3. To ensure the continued development and progress of the Derby and Derbyshire Freight Quality Partnership Strategy.

MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

- 4.1 The 1998 Government White Paper 'A New Deal for Transport – Better for Everyone', encouraged the development of freight quality partnerships to improve understanding of issues and problems at a local level. The Derby and Derbyshire Freight Quality Partnership was formed in March 2000 and comprises representatives from Derby City Council, Derbyshire County Council, other local authorities, private sector hauliers and environmental groups.
- 4.2 The Partnership produced a draft strategy, which set out policies for the sustainable movement of goods within the city and county. It was sent out for consultation during spring 2001 to 450 interested groups and organisations including parish councils, neighbouring authorities, Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions and the Highways Agency.
- 4.3 Comments received were generally encouraging and supportive. The main issues to arise which have now been incorporated into the strategy are:
- concern over freight vehicles travelling on unsuitable roads especially through villages
 - the identification of vehicle through routes
 - the need to include information on surface access to East Midlands Airport
 - the need to make reference to Planning Policy Guidance Note 13 Transport, the Regional Planning Guidance for the East Midlands and the Government's Ten Year Plan for Transport
 - the need for an action plan to be delivered and sub-groups to be set up to implement the strategy.
- 4.4 An amended strategy has now been produced and is attached as Appendix A to this report. At its Cabinet meeting on 30 April 2002, Derbyshire County Council adopted the strategy subject to adoption by Derby City Council.
- 4.5 There are five main elements within the strategy.
- Raising Education and Awareness. The partnership will gather, share and disseminate information on the movement of freight to promote understanding
 - Reducing Environmental Impact. The partnership will aim to minimise the adverse effects of freight on the environment and the residents of Derby and Derbyshire
 - Increasing the Amount of Goods Moved by Rail. The partnership will encourage wherever possible, freight to be carried by rail instead of road
 - Managing the Movement of Goods by Road. The partnership will promote efficiency and safety within road haulage

- Influencing Land Use Planning. The partnership will use the land use planning system to promote sustainability of freight movements within the area.
- 4.6 The partnership has produced an action plan based around the work areas of the five elements of the strategy. Sub-groups and working groups will be established to look at and progress each of these areas. One is already meeting to consider the production of a map showing useful information and contact numbers for freight operators.
- 4.7 The partnership intends to continually develop the strategy and review the action plan on an annual basis.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 £23,000 of the Local Transport Plan settlement for 2002/03 has been allocated to assist in the development of initiatives being progressed through the freight strategy.
- 5.2 There are proposals to provide consistent and more readily available information to the freight industry. Any other plans for investment will be developed in consultation with the Freight Quality Partnership.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6. None directly arising from this report.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7. None directly arising from this report

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

8. The strategy aims to:
- reduce the effects of vehicle exhaust pollution on health by promoting the use of greener fuels
 - reduce noise and visual intrusion on the environment
 - ensure vehicles use suitable, well signed routes
 - encourage modal shift from road to rail.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9. None directly arising from this report.