

Foreword

Transport services are an essential component of our daily lives.

They are therefore fundamental to all other public services areas such as health, education and economic regeneration.

This Progress Report for the 'excellent' - rated Derbyshire Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 represents a mid-term review of how we are progressing with the five core strategies of:

- Efficient maintenance and management
- Improving local accessibility and healthier travel choices
- Safer roads and communities
- Reduced congestion and a strong local economy
- Better air quality and environment.

The Local Transport Plan (LTP) provides an essential overall framework for the delivery of transport, seeking to improve our transport system and the quality of people's lives. Not only does it bring together different aspects of transport delivery, it also represents the work of many of our local partners.

Partnership and cross-boundary working is a key feature of the plan for Derbyshire.

The review has enabled us to do two things. Firstly, we have reported our progress during the period 2006-2008. This work spans transport schemes and services, influencing travel behaviour, and land use planning. We continue to achieve most of our targets in our LTP strategies through a combination of using LTP and other funding. Although there is concern that we have one target which is not on track in road safety, fortunately it looks as if the situation has improved this year.

Secondly, we have given equal weighting to taking a forward look to the remaining years of the Local Transport Plan and beyond. This has enabled us to identify areas for improvement, whether within the county council or through working with partners.

There can be no doubt that challenges lie ahead in keeping pace with increasing prices whilst still retaining and improving transport services, and influencing more sustainable travel behaviour. With this in mind, a major review has been undertaken of Highways and Transport Services in 2008. A new structure will aim to be more flexible and responsive; there will be a focus on strategy, data-led programmes of work and on managing the transport assets. A control centre will improve the co-ordination of planned and emergency works, whilst still achieving efficiency targets.

This will put us in a good position to adapt to the future demands of cross-boundary planning, data and customer-centred delivery, efficient use of resources and good performance.



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Cabinet Member for Environmental Services

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