



Rochford District Council

To the Meeting of: TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE

On: 6 JANUARY 1999

Report of: HEAD OF CORPORATE POLICY & INITIATIVES

Title: DISTRICT TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Author: Shaun Scrutton

Report approved by

---

## Purpose of Report

This report outlines the arrangements for the preparation of the district transport strategy and seeks Members comments on the first draft of the document. (draft strategy to follow)

## Background

Members will recall that new arrangements have been introduced by the Government requiring Highway Authorities to prepare Local Transport Plans (LTP) that will provide a longer-term view of investment decisions on transport issues. Local Transport Plans replace the Transport and Policies Programme (TPP), and must provide a programme for at least a five-year period and clearly identify the investment priorities in each district.

The Highways Authority has published a draft Local Transport Plan and this includes a short statement by each district outlining the key transport issues that need to be addressed. However, a final plan must be available from July 2000, and the County is now actively seeking input from the districts.

The County Highways Authority has taken the view that an essential part of the LTP must be the preparation of district transport strategies that outline in some detail the needs and requirements of each district.

## District Transport Strategy

The County has issued guidance on the content of district transport strategies, and a copy is appended for Members information (appendix one). The guidance provides a framework for the content of the district strategy which will form a key part of the LTP when it is published later in the year.

County and District Officers have discussed the contents of the Rochford Strategy and a first draft of this document is appended for Member comment and approval.

Officers from the County Council will attend the meeting to present the proposals.

### **Consultation**

As Members will see from the timetable attached to appendix one, the timescale for the preparation of the final LTP is very tight. However, it is considered that a public consultation exercise should be undertaken during February and that the results of this be fed into the final version of the Plan for Members approval at Transportation and Environmental Services in March.

### **Crime and Disorder Implications**

Particular highway improvement projects have a direct relationship to crime and disorder issues, for example, new footpath lighting schemes. The Crime & Disorder Strategy includes dealing with speeding as one of its primary objectives.

### **Environmental Implications**

The Local Transport Plan must consider the environmental impact of proposals, particularly in respect of the reduction in the use of cars and the promotion of alternative means of transport.

### **Financial Implications**

No direct resource implications for the District arising from this report. The Local Transport Plan will inform the highway spending priorities for the next five years. It is essential that the district transportation strategy covers the key issues of concern for the district. A robust strategy document is essential to ensure that Rochford receives a fair share of the County highway budget.

### **Legal Implications**

None.

### **Parish Implications**

The priorities for highway projects will inevitably vary depending on the location within the district.

### **Proposed that this Sub-Committee RECOMMENDS**

That, subject to Member comments, the draft District Transport Strategy is accepted as the basis for a wide public consultation exercise prior to final agreement for inclusion in the Local Transport Plan as outlined in the report. (HCPI)

### **Background Papers**

Draft Local Transport Plan, July 1999