

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Planning Transport and Environment Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel
MEETING DATE:	26th July 2012
TITLE:	Service led policy review and development: Travel to work
WARD:	ALL
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report:	
1. Draft Terms of Reference for Travel to work (Policy review & Development)	

1. THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The centre of Bath offers a wide range of employment with a high percentage of retail and hospitality such as restaurants and hotels. A large volume of people travel into the city every day/night to go to work using public transport and long stay car parks. It is important that we understand the needs and requirements of those business/ organisations/ individuals that travel into work to help to continually improve the travel options available whilst benefiting the local economy. The review investigations will therefore hope to provide a greater understanding of the current travel to work options available and how best that we can work together to ensure Bath & North East Somerset's future Travel Strategy reflect these, but also support the wider promotion of greener and cleaner travel choices for everyone.
- 1.2 It has been suggested and agreed at the March Policy Development & Scrutiny Chairs meeting that the PTE Panel would undertake a *Scrutiny Inquiry Day which would investigate the issues surrounding those who travel into Bath for Business. This would provide the opportunity to improve communications with other local business in the area and help to improving future travel plans.* However, after the agreed scoping meeting with officers it was felt that rather than duplicate the existing plans for a Transport Conference in September the Panel could undertake some smaller scale work which would add value to the overall findings for the Transport Vision/ Strategy.
- 1.3 It has been proposed that the Panel may wish to undertake this in the form of 'Service led policy/ review' work which will provide the opportunity for local organisations, businesses/ employees in Bath to share their ideas and thoughts on what would encourage them and their employees to take alternative methods of travel to work and provide the opportunity to identify and share what different types of local industry travel strategies already exist within B&NES.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel is asked to:-

- 2.1 Note the Draft Terms of Reference and agree the proposal to have a Service led Policy Review and Development investigation and make any further comments on the terms of reference
- 2.2 Nominate 2 Councillors from the Panel to act as key contacts to conduct investigations and bring their findings back to the Panel
- 2.2 Agree to undertake the review within the timescales set out in the terms of reference.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The enquiry day will be conducted within the resources available to the Planning Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel.

4 THE REPORT

- 4.1 The draft Terms of Reference details the purpose and key objectives of undertaking a Service led Policy Development Review investigation into the current travel work options available and how best that we can work together to ensure Bath & North East Somerset's travel Strategy reflects these.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

6 EQUALITIES

- 6.1 Equalities issues were considered by the Panel as part of their work in formulating the scope of this proposed investigation.

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 *Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel; Cabinet Member; Other B&NES Services; Stakeholders/Partners; Section 151 Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer*
- 7.2 Consultation has happened with relevant Service Officers. More detailed consultation will take place with local businesses/ residents during the course of this investigation.

8 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

- 8.1 *Customer Focus; Sustainability; Property, Health & Safety, Impact on Staff*

9 ADVICE SOUGHT

9.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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Background papers	<i>None</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	