

Report 06.646

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Committee Passenger Transport

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Regional Passenger Transport Plan

1. Purpose

To provide an update on progress with developing the Regional Passenger Transport Plan (the Plan).

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report **do not** trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

At its meeting on 5 October 2006, this Committee approved a draft Plan for consultation, and delegated to the Committee Chair the power to approve any minor amendments.

Some minor amendments were subsequently made, and a revised version was distributed to Committee Members for comment and ultimately approved by the Committee Chair.

The draft Plan has now been printed and the consultation process will start shortly. A copy of the printed version of the draft Plan will be available at the meeting.

The Plan will form part of the Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS), and a draft RLTS has been prepared by the Regional Land Transport Committee. The consultation processes for the draft RLTS and the draft Plan are being run together. Submissions on both documents close on 16 February 2007.

4. Comment

Once the submission period closes, submissions will then be heard and considered. Submissions on the RLTS will be heard by a hearing panel established by the Regional Land Transport Committee. Hearings of

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submissions on the Plan will be heard by a hearing panel established by the Passenger Transport committee.

Parts of the Plan are dependent on what is in the RLTS, and any change to the RLTS as a result of the consultation process may therefore have a flow-on effect on the Plan. For this reason, the RLTS submission hearings and decision making process needs to take place before those of the Plan.

The RLTS submissions hearings are likely to be held in March/April. The Plan submissions are therefore likely to be heard in April. The exact dates will depend on the number of submissions received on both documents.

The appointment of a hearing panel for the Plan, and the terms of reference for that panel, will be considered at the next meeting of this Committee (likely to be in February). At that stage some indication of submission numbers will be known, and thus we will have some idea of the length of time required for hearings.

It is appropriate at this stage that the policy positions set out in the Plan be adopted on an interim basis pending finalisation of the Plan.

5. Communication

The Plan will be widely distributed along side the Draft RLTS. A document summarising the Plan and the RLTS will be distributed to all households in the region. A number of public meetings have also been planned throughout the region.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. **Receives** the report.
- 2. Notes the content of the report.
- 3. Adopts the policy positions set out in the draft Plan on an interim basis pending finalisation of the Plan.

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