

Consultation Questions LTP

1. Do you support the proposed amendment to the Regional Transport Planning (Wales) Order 2006?

Yes/No Yes

If no please explain the reason for your answer:

The Vale of Glamorgan Council (the Council) welcomes the proposed amendment.

2. Do you have any comments on the Guidance to the Local Transport Authorities – Local Transport Plan 2015 (Annex 1)

1.2.1. The Vale of Glamorgan Council would welcome the timescales that the WG is working toward for the delivery of the updated National Transport Plan (NTP) as it would seem necessary for the Council to have this higher level Plan to enable a view on what impact, if any, this may have on the delivery of its LTP.

1.2.3 Are there any plans to update the Wales Transport Strategy (WTS) 2008 to reflect any new aspirations?

1.2.6 The Council supports WG's proposed focus that targets investment in transport that will:

- Support economic growth and safeguard jobs across Wales, but with a particular focus on the City Regions, Enterprise Zones and local growth zones
- Reduce economic inactivity by delivering safe and affordable access to employment sites across Wales
- Maximise the contribution that effective and affordable transport services can make to tackling poverty and target investment to support improvements in accessibility for the most disadvantaged communities; and
- Encourage safer, healthier and sustainable travel.

2.1.3/2.1.4 The Council also supports the view that focus should be on updating and refreshing existing schemes rather than undertaking new work, and drawing on relevant sections of the current RTPs and using work undertaken as part of the LDP process.

2.1.7 However, the Council questions whether limiting the Plan to cover only issues that the Council is directly responsible for would inhibit the Council's aspirations for a complete transport network. For example, the Council has aspirations for Arriva to double the frequency on the VOG Line and would wish this to be reflected in its LTP. Likewise, the additional platform at Barry Railway Station and the new footbridge to access it, is also an improvement that may require additional funding and the Council would wish to see this listed within its LTP.

There may be many other improvements that may be linked to the Council's LDP but may not be within the direct control of the Council, such as the need to improve infrastructure as part of a development scheme. An example of this may be the Renishaw Site at J34 where improvements to the access to the Trunk Road may be required as part of the development. The Council believes that this would need to be reflected in its LTP to strengthen the case that the developer would need to provide funding for such improvements. The Council believes that if schemes such as this are not listed within its LTP, the developer may make a justifiable case not to consider funding the provision.

2.3.3. To rank transport intervention priorities may not be a simple task. The ranking of priorities may depend on when developments are delivered and the Council may not have control of these timescales.

2.5.1 Whilst the Council does not envisage any issue to consult with the City Region Board on its LTP, the Council queries why this is necessary as surely the City Region Board would be focussing on regional and national priorities rather than local ones? What will be the consequences should the Council and the City Region Board differ on the Council's priorities? What will the implications be if the Council aspires to schemes that the City Region Board has no interest in?

2.6.1 There is a growing emphasis on the requirement to monitor and evaluate transport interventions, but this work needs to be commensurate to the level and value of the scheme to ensure such work is focussed with measurable outcomes.

3.2.1 It may be difficult to provide a programme of any schemes that do not have funding already allocated to them as they will all be subject to funding sought by whatever source.

3.3. The Council does not envisage any issue with the timescales proposed, subject to the release of the NTP shortly.

5. The Council welcomes the template to assist local transport authorities to submit their LTPs in a consistent format.