

**LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN
(2016-2031)
Interim Consultation Report**

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THE HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Local Transport Plan (2016 – 2031) Interim Consultation Report

Contents Amendment Record

This report has been issued and amended as follows:

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1.0 Introduction

To inform and help shape our future transport policies and delivery programmes we are undertaking public consultation from 23rd November 2015 until 29th January 2016.

This report sets out interim consultation results, comprising a summary responses as of 11 January. A final report will be drafted and published after 29 January when the consultation concludes.

1.1 Our approach to consultation

A wide range of consultation and stakeholder engagement has been undertaken and has assisted in the development of our draft LTP Strategy and Policy. Key studies and consultation which have informed our strategy include:

- Transport requirements for growth – various consultations undertaken in development of the core strategy
- Buses and community transport - Passenger Transport Review and Consultation (2014)
- Parking – Car Park Charges Review (2015), Hereford City Centre Parking Study and Consultation 2014
- Spending and service priorities - Public Realm Annual Planning consultation (annual)
- Asset management and maintenance – National Highways and Transportation Survey (annual)
- Scheme specific consultations
- Budget consultations

1.2 LTP Consultation documents

Two consultation documents provided the basis for consultation; one document describing our strategy and another setting out the policies that we will aim to implement. The consultation also sought comments on a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the draft LTP.

Notification of the LTP consultation was distributed via e-mails, letters, press release and in social media. It was also placed in Herefordshire newsletters inviting individuals and organisations to take part. A list of these can be found below:

Internal

- Local councillors
- Herefordshire Council locality leads and employees
- NHS Herefordshire employees

External

- Parish Councils
- Bus Operators
- Herefordshire Transport Alliance
- Department for Transport
- Balfour Beatty Living Places
- West Mercia Police
- Association of Local Councils

- Diocese of Hereford
- Federation of small businesses
- MP for North Herefordshire
- MP for Hereford and South Herefordshire
- River Wye Preservation trust
- West Midlands Conservancy
- Bromyard & District Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 2gether NHS Foundation Trust Headquarters
- NHS England
- Department for Communities and Local Government
- County Association of Local Councils
- English Heritage
- Woodlands Trust
- Arriva Trains Wales
- Environment Agency
- Severn Trent Water
- Wye Valley NHS Trust
- Care Quality Commission
- Herefordshire and Worcestershire chamber of commerce
- Highways England
- The Coal Authority
- Welsh Water
- Welsh Government
- Sport England
- West Midlands Highways Agency
- West Midlands Ambulance Station
- Severn Trent Water
- Rail for Herefordshire
- Network Rail
- Department of Work and Pensions
- Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
- Department. for Culture, media & Sport
- Department of Food and Rural Affairs
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Herefordshire Primary care Trust
- British Waterways (Midlands & South Western Region)
- Neighbouring Local Authorities

Copies of the documentation and paper questionnaires were distributed to the following offices:

- Franklin House
- Ross-on-wye customer service centre
- Ledbury customer service centre
- Bromyard customer service centre
- Kington customer service centre
- Leominster customer service centre
- Hereford Library

All consultation materials are available for download from the Council's website (www.herefordshire.gov.uk/itp-consultation) with links to an on-line questionnaire.

1.3 Community engagement

Information was also provided to the following media to advertise and encourage participation in the consultation process:

- Hereford Times
- Hereford Journal
- Ledbury Observer
- Ross Gazette
- BBC Hereford & Worcester
- Free Radio
- Sunshine Radio
- Herefordshire Council's Twitter and Facebook accounts
- ITV Central News
- Transport Times

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2.0 Interim Response

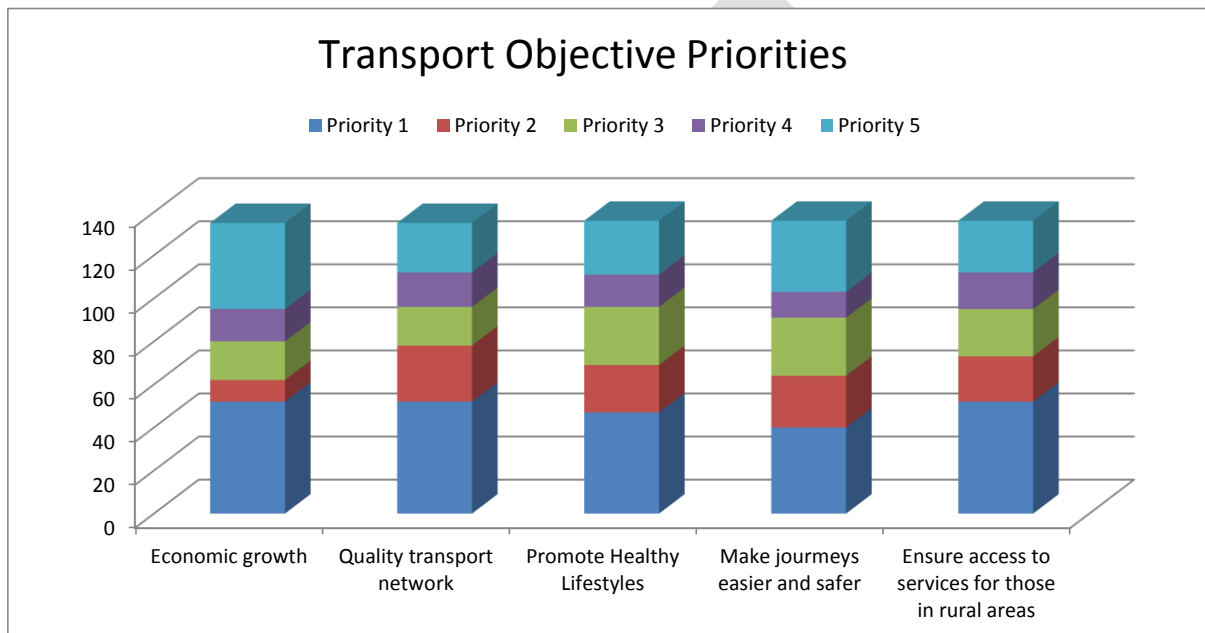
2.1 Returns

A total of 154 consultation returns have been received including: 143 completed online response forms and a further 11 responses via letters and e-mails.

2.2 Transport Objective Priorities

This question asked respondents to rank the LTP transport objectives in order of importance. The five LTP objectives were set out in the consultation document.

Figure 1: Transport Objective Priorities



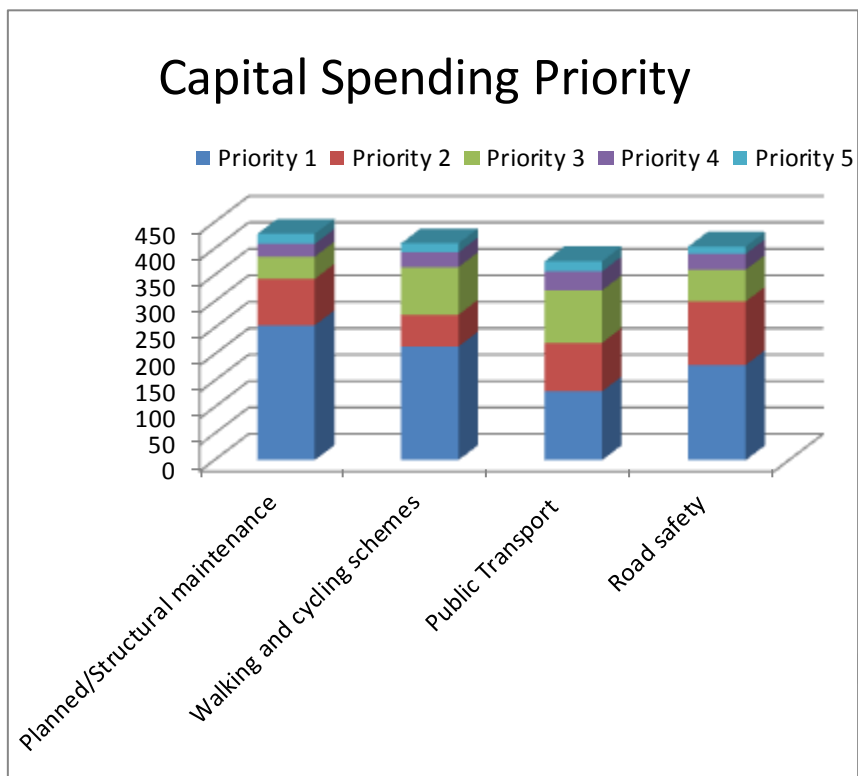
In summary the results indicate that:

- Economic growth, quality of transport network and rural access have all been rated as top priority objectives.

2.3 Transport spending priorities

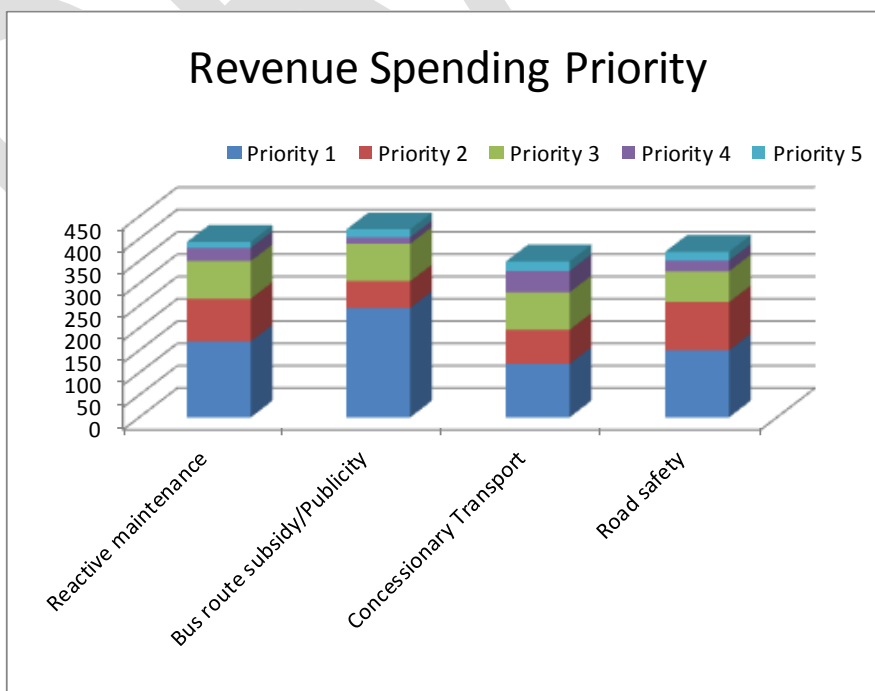
This question asked respondents to list their top five spending priorities for both capital and revenue funding. Respondents were asked to list their top five spending priorities in order of preference with one being the highest and five being the lowest.

Figure 2: Transport spending priorities for capital schemes



- Maintenance was the top priority followed closely by walking and cycling

Figure 3: Transport spending priorities for revenue schemes

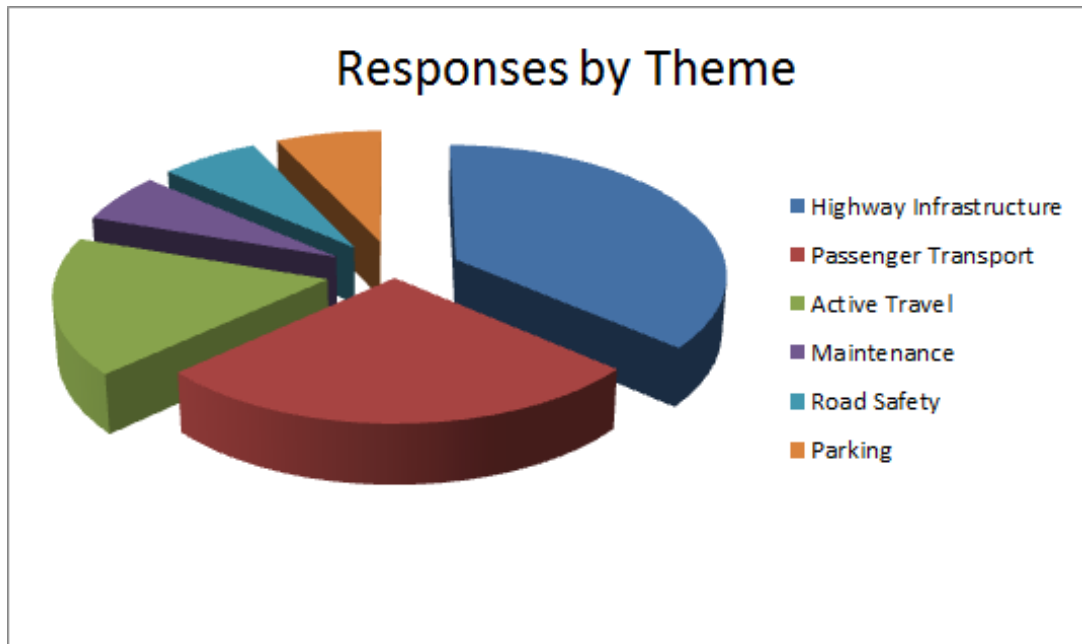


- Support for bus routes was identified as the top priority followed by routine maintenance.

2.4 Summary of free text comments provided on consultation form

So far free text comments have been provided from 85 online returns and 11 hard copy letters.

Figure 4: Free text responses by theme.



This chart provides an overview of the proportion of responses in relation to different transport issues and measures. The majority of free text responses relate to new highway infrastructure and public transport with further responses in respect of active travel, maintenance, road safety and parking.

A summary of the issues raised in relation to these measures is outlined below:

Highway Infrastructure

- Improve traffic lights in Hereford
- Congestion in Hereford
- Support for new bridge and Hereford Relief Road (HRR)
- Support for South Wye Transport Package
- Against new roads/Southern Link Road
- Upgrade A49
- Consider Eastern Wye crossing

Public transport (Bus and Rail)

- Against concessionary fares for OAP
- Against removal of services

- Improve public transport (bus/Rail)
- More money to be spent on public transport
- Poor bus links to Rotherwas
- Rural transport as a priority
- Comments on specific bus services

Maintenance

- More maintenance on PROW network
- Roads in a poor state
- Improve workmen supervision
- Support for cost effective asset management

Transport Safety

- Safety should be a priority
- Improve safety on A4110 Lawton Cross
- Cycling too dangerous
- More spend for road safety education
- Poor safety in Leominster (Corn St & Mill St)
- More speed limits

Active Travel

- Encourage sustainable travel
- Improve cycle infrastructure in Hereford City
- Improve walking and cycling infrastructure
- Improved transport to schools
- More money spent on active travel
- Reduce short distance car journeys
- Support active travel

Parking

- Against discouraging commuter parking
- Better peripheral parking
- Increase parking charges to use on buses
- Keep parking on city streets free
- More disabled parking
- Support for on street parking charges
- Support for Park & Ride
- Park & Share under used

Other

- Objectives should include reducing vehicle emissions
- Agree with all objectives
- Unrealistic expectation on rural communities
- Policies too vague
- Most policies will help

2.7 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

As part of the LTP development process Herefordshire is required to develop and consult on an SEA. Copies of the SEA report were made available from the same locations as the consultation drafts of the LTP. Questions relating to the SEA were also included in the consultation questionnaire. Below is a summary of the responses that we have received.

Figure 5: Do you agree with the approach taken by the SEA?

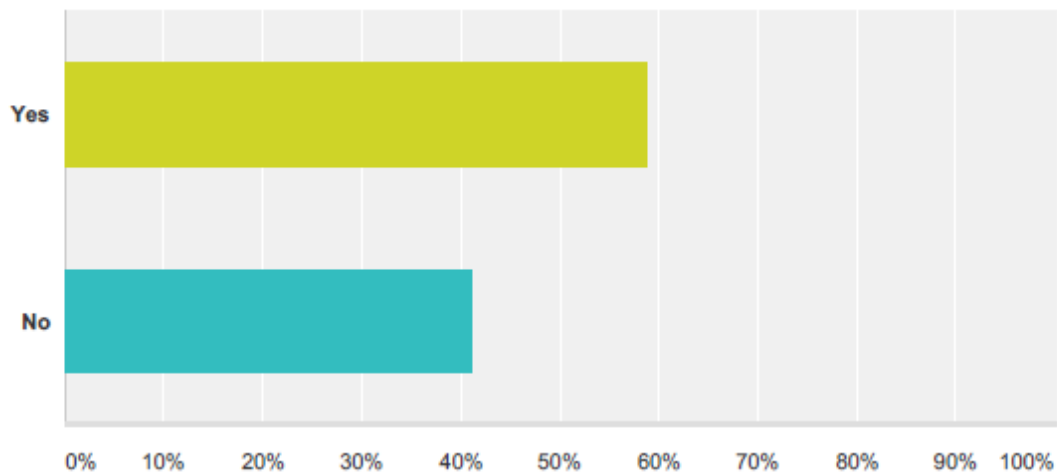
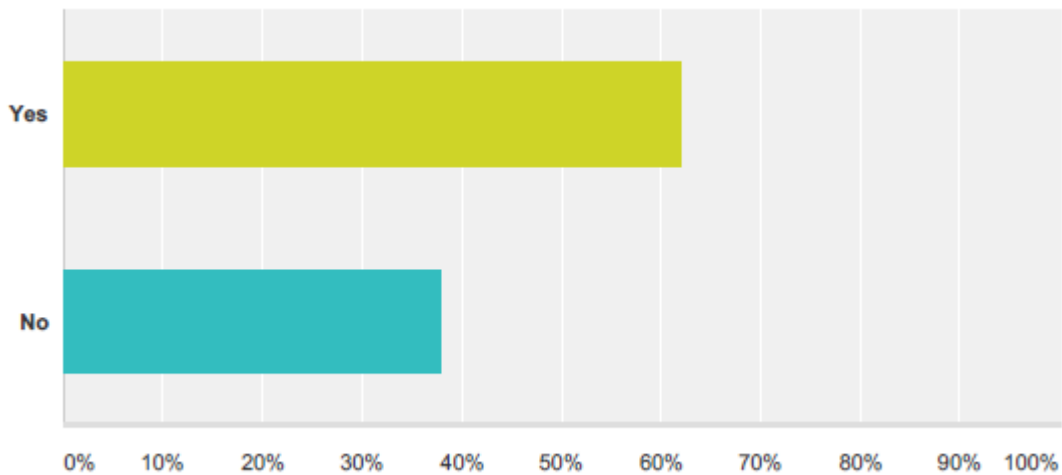


Figure 6: Do you agree with the findings in the SEA?



Appendix A- LTP Questionnaire

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LTP Consultation

Local Transport Plan objective

Welcome to the Local Transport Plan 4 consultation survey. We've identified these objectives and we'd like your views on their priority.

1. Enable economic growth - by building new roads linking new developments to the transport network and by reducing short distance car journeys. Please rate priority from 1-5 (1 being most important)

2. Provide a good quality transport network for all users – by being proactive in our asset management and by working closely with the public, Highways England and rail and bus companies.

3. Promote healthy lifestyles – by making sure new developments maximise walking, cycling and bus use, by delivering and promoting active travel schemes and by reducing short distance single occupant car journeys on our roads.

4. Make journeys easier and safer – by making bus and rail tickets compatible and easier to buy and use, by providing 'real time' information at well-equipped transport hubs, by improving signage to walking and cycling routes and by helping people feel safe during their journeys.

5. Ensure access to services for those living in rural areas – by improving the resilience of our road network and by working closely with all transport operators to deliver a range of transport options particularly for those without a car.

6. Do you have any further comments you would like us to consider?

LTP Consultation

Transport spending

We have set out our spending priorities and would like to understand your priorities for transport spending (1 highest, 5 lowest). The figures shown are current indicative annual allocations

7. Capital Schemes

Planned/structural maintenance £9.5M

8. Walking and cycling schemes £0.7M

9. Public transport (shelters, kerbs etc.) £0.1M

10. Road safety improvements and safer routes to school £0.4M

11. Revenue schemes

Reactive maintenance (highways, grounds, etc.) c.£6.5M/year

12. Bus route subsidy/publicity c.£1.1M/year

13. Concessionary transport c £1.3M/year

14. Road safety and sustainable transport promotions c £100k/year

15. Do you have any further comments you would like us to consider?

16. Do you agree with the approach taken for this SEA? If not, please explain why?

Yes

No

If 'no' please explain

17. Do you agree with the findings of the SEA? If not, please explain why?

Yes

No

If 'no' please explain

18. Do you have any recommendation for further indicators or parameters to include in the monitoring framework of the SEA?

19. Do you feel the performance indicators (Page 36 LTP4 strategy and delivery) will accurately reflect the true picture of Transport in Herefordshire? If no please explain why

Yes

No

If no, please explain

20. Which of the policies or schemes identified in LTP 4 will be most beneficial to you?

21. Do you feel you will be disadvantaged by the policies or schemes identified in LTP 4?

LTP Consultation

Strategic Highway Network

22. Do you agree with the extent of the proposed strategic highway network.

- Yes
- No
- Comments

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