

Coventry Partnership Transport Theme Group
Wed 13th May 10:00 – 12:00
Committee Room 3 Council House

Present:

Cllr John McNicholas	Chair
Nigel Mills	Coventry City Council
Graham Aylott	Chamber of Commerce
Moriah Priestley	Coventry City Council
Graham Hine	University of Warwick
Martin Trewinnard	Coventry City Council
Chris Skinner	Coventry City Council
Cllr Andrew Williams	West Midlands ITA/Centro
Mike Barnes	
Bernard Delaney	National Express Coventry
Duncan Ashlee	Ring and Ride
Andrew Page	Centro
Karen King	Community Transport
Jennifer Langan	Coventry City Council

Apologies:

Keith Waller	University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire
Karen Kelly	University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire
Peter Maggs	Ring and Ride
Cllr Gary Ridley	Councillor
Nigel Wain	Coventry Partnership
Esther Higden	PCT

1. Welcome & Introductions

Cllr McNicholas welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made.

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted as above.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed upon and there were no matters arising.

4. Coventry Partnership Community Cohesion Strategy

It was decided to set up a sub-group to look into the Coventry Partnership Community Cohesion Strategy, concerning how different groups can access transport. It also needs to look at how new comers to the city, whether moving or visiting, can learn which modes of transport they need/can access.

The group will contain-
Cllr John McNicholas
Moriah Priestley
Cllr Andrew Williams
Bernard Delaney

Mike Barnes

5. Transport Theme Group – Draft Action Plan

Nigel Mills led the group through the Draft Action Plan highlighting the key areas.

There were a few issues raised from the discussion –

- Is the strategy specifically aimed at increasing accessibility? Improvements need to be made to mainstream public transport to increase accessibility as Ring & Ride does not have the capacity to guarantee people travel to work, for example.
- The LDF Core Strategy is no longer open to consultation – The group was made aware that the City Centre Area Action Plan will be due for consultation in September 2009.
- The NDC regeneration area was included in the list of ongoing major developments – Canley Area Regeneration was not and needs to be included.
- Actions for Partnership Working and Community Cohesion need to be written into the Plan.
- The Government is leading on city-wide 20mph zones – discussion needs to be had on whether this is something the group would like to push for. It links to Health & Wellbeing Theme Group and helps achieve NI198.
- List of strategies to consult upon represented a large workload, though it would be staggered over several years – it was noted that the list was swamped by CCC strategies and partners were urged to bring forward non-council strategies. It was suggested that the Older Person's Strategy (a joint PCT/Council Strategy) should be included.

6. Centro's 20 Year Strategy

This item was postponed prior to the meeting.

7. Coventry 2009/10 Transport Capital Programme

Nigel Mills gave a presentation detailing the 2009/10 Transport Capital Programme for the City Council. Issues raised were –

- It is the West Midlands Local Transport Plan (LTP) that drives the outcomes.
- Personalised Travel Plan projects give the public an opportunity to suggest future transport schemes – but this is not the main aim of the projects.
- There is no duplication between the Smarter Travel Earlsdon PTP project and Routeforward as they have different objectives. Routeforward trains individuals with learning difficulties access transport independently and involves high levels of one-to-one care. A PTP project is a blanket marketing scheme over a large area to share information and advertise transport options to everyone in that area (with a target of reducing single-occupancy car use).
- LTP money cannot be used to fund Routeforward as it is a capital fund and cannot be used to fund revenue projects.
- All the major project schemes are in the RFA (Regional Funding Allocation) at the moment. There are problems in that RFAs are slow to develop and this can result in hold ups and underspends. NUCKLE is most developed scheme and could begin in two years time – could it be fast tracked as being 'ready to go'?

8. Accessibility Planning Update

Nigel Mills gave a presentation explaining what accessibility is, how it done and what the City Council is doing. Issues raised were –

- Access to Leisure Facilities includes access to open spaces and broad social activities. It is also commonly known as Access to Social and Community Facilities.
- Access to Shops is often classed as access to fresh food – however in Coventry, 'defined centres' are required just to have a food element as a minimum.
- A petition of >2000 signatures of University of Warwick students had been submitted aimed at bus operators protesting at fare increases. This mainly refers to travel to and from Leamington. It was noted that Student Term Bus Passes represent good value and that this needs to be promoted more (PTPs?). Bernard Delaney will respond to the petition.
- Green Travel Plans are being used to help employees get to remote sites of employments operating shift working – for example running 'work buses'.
- Target for University Hospital access in 35 minutes travel time from Tanyard Farm – Accession shows this is actually 50-55 minutes on a weekday. A more realistic target needs to be set.

9. Communications

No Issues were raised.

10. Items for future meetings

Partner colleagues were encouraged to bring non-council issues to the group. The format is informal – there is no template for reports and Agenda is set a week before the meeting. Any items should be sent to Nigel Mills or Nigel Wain two weeks before a meeting.

11. Any other business

- A Deputy Chair needs to be elected and this will be included on the Agenda for the next meeting.
- Future meetings – the July 22nd meeting falls within Coventry Week and should be moved forward. Meetings will continue to be held in committee rooms unless partners volunteer their facilities.
- Graham Hine highlighted that June 9th is National Lift Share day.