



Coventry Partnership Transport Theme Group

Wed Nov 19th 2008
Maple Room, Elm Bank

Present:

Cllr J McNicholas	Chair
Mike Barnes	RAWM
Nigel Wain	Coventry Partnership
Martin Trewinnard	Coventry City Council
Kathryn Bell	Coventry City Council
Karen King	Community Transport
Cllr Andrew Williams	Councillor)
Cllr Gary Ridley	Councillor)
George Parsons	CENTRO
Christine Eade	Routeforward Project Manager
Alison Porter	Physical Sensory Impairment Partnership
Esther Higden	NHS Coventry
Sam Price	Coventry Active

Apologies:

Bernard Delaney	West Midlands Travel
Des Rogers	Ring and Ride
Phil Brannon	Community Transport
Graham Hine	University of Warwick
Neil Ross	CENTRO
Stephen Docherty	C&W Chamber of Commerce
Dilip Chauhan	Coventry City Council
Lesley Kelly	Voluntary Sector
Andrew Page	Centro
Nigel Mills	Coventry City Council
Tony Lunt	C&W Partnership Trust
Peter Maggs	Ring & Ride
Pat Marlow	CEN
Keith Waller	UHCW
Sophie Thompson	Learning Skills Council
Andy Littlewood	Coventry City Council

1. Introductions & Welcome

Mike Barnes welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made.

2. Apologies

These were noted as above.

3. Minutes & Matters Arising

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and agreed.

Matters Arising /Actions:

Drop Kerbs –t Andrew Page to update the group on progress at the next meeting.

Action Andrew Page - Ongoing

City Centre Consultation – It had been agreed previously to organise a Theme group consultation session on the plans for the city centre . After discussion however it has now been agreed to defer the consultation until more details are available on the Transport implications for the city. A consultation paper should be available next year.

4. Local Transport Plan Progress -George Parsons Centro

George presented the progress on the delivery of the Local Transport Plan. See attached slides for details.

Key points are summarised below:-

- The LTP2 Strategy Framework supports Regeneration and addresses Congestion, Accessibility Road Safety and Air Quality. The Themes are to make the best use of existing networks, enhance public transport quality and investment to support regeneration.
- There has been improvements to the existing network through :- Smarter Choices, Red Route, Urban Traffic Management and Control Improvements, Park and Ride, transport Information and Managing Network Assets
- The quality of the public transport has been addressed by Quality Bus Networks, Bus Rapid Transit and Showcase Routes with regional improvements to the Metro and Rail
- Schemes such as New Street Station, Birmingham Airport support Regeneration aims.
- The LTP was submitted in Mar 2006, the delivery report covers 2006-2008
- Final version will be submitted to GOWM on 31st Dec
- Progress is broadly on track with:-
 - Tackling Congestion
 - Improving air quality
 - Sustainable Travel
 - Movement of Freight
- Challenges remain regarding:-
 - Road Casualities
 - Personal Security
- Mixed results or analysis not yet complete
 - Accessibility
 - Public Transport patronage
 - Economic Regeneration
 - Efficient Network Operation
 - Condition of the network

After the presentation there was a general discussion where the following points were made:-

The program management of the overall expenditure was being improved to find ways of avoiding delays by ensuring schemes were well planned and achievable when they are put forward and to find a way of streamlining the process for smaller schemes.

John asked for a future meeting to consider the implications of the Local Transport Bill- he suggested Trevor Errington be contacted to lead on this.

Martin highlighted the report prepared by Nigel Mills which looks at the LTP2 progress more specifically for Coventry.

John thanked George for his presentation.

5. Health in Planning and Transport Esther Higdon- see attached slides

Esther highlighted that many of the influences on health and equalities such as Employment, Leisure, Housing, Environment and Transport to access services were under the control of the Council. She also flagged the Obesity time bomb related to changing work and social influences leading to people taking part in less physical activity.

NICE have now published Physical activity and Environment recommendations which encourage involvement in development planning to prioritise physical activity, encourage cycling and walking, encourage use of open space, use of stairs and physical activity in schools.

Esther was now working on a health assessment for Coventry looking at the NICE recommendations. She was working closely with the Council planning teams to facilitate this work.

Kathryn highlighted the links between health and air quality and Esther agreed to get involved in the new round of air quality action planning next year.

During the discussions that followed there was full support for the work of Esther. It was agreed that it was easier and more cost effective to address health during the planning stage of new developments.

Christine highlighted the well being outcomes from the Routeforward project and the problem caused by poor walking access to the new City College which resulted in 4 extra special buses being needed as some vulnerable people were unable to walk from the bus stop.

John thanked Esther and agreed that it would be useful having a link to the NHS Coventry on the Theme group and looked forward to future progress reports.

6. DfT Travel Training Christine Eade

Christine reported that she was involved in a DfT review of travel training schemes to see how they could be embedded into mainstream. A discussion document was published in October and has been circulated to the group.

Christine is involved in the Travel Training Implementation Group.

The group is looking at developing NVQ s and quality assurances for Travel Training schemes.

Christine thought that Travel training schemes could become mandatory next year.

7. Partnership Board Transport Forum Alison Porter

Alison reminded the group that the forum had been held on 24th October involving representatives from the Older Peoples Partnership, Learning Disabilities Partnership, Physical and Sensory Impairment Partnership and Coventry Society for the Blind.

The forum focused on 3 main themes:-

Transport to the Hospital

Taxis

Ring and Ride

The key issues raised at the forum were:-

Taxi driver training and monitoring

Use of Ring and Ride to access the hospital and advance booking

How people receive assistance from car parks to the hospital.

A meeting to progress the issues has been arranged and further reports will be brought to the meetings.

8. Coventry Active Sam Price

Sam introduced the Coventry Active project which was a volunteer driving scheme to assist older people to access health and leisure facilities.

The scheme was originally funded by NRF and Community Transport but this runs out in Mar 2009. Sam is awaiting a response from a bid to the dept of health for additional funding

Currently the scheme has 457 registered users and 10 volunteer drivers.

The scheme has provided 802 trips and usage had doubled between Aug and Nov. 50% of the trips are for access to Health appointments. Passengers pay the cost of the mileage, including dead mileage.

The scheme benefits isolated older people and gives them the opportunity to get out and about.

The service needs funding of approx 35k per year if it is to continue and expand.

9. Routeforward Update Christine Eade see attached slides

Christine updated the group with progress on Promoting Independent Travel. Christine highlighted the On Route Transitions Programme and the development of a new assessment model. She also reported in the Summer School 08 where 25 young people were assessed and 13 are now able to travel independently to a new learning centre and showcased some real life examples where the interventions had made a difference.

Disappointment was expressed that as yet there had been no agreement on continuing the service after end Mar 09 although discussions are ongoing including the involvement of Scrutiny 2.

10. Forward Planning Event

The meeting agreed to hold a forward planning event in the New Year to take stock, review progress on the LAA/SCS and decide future priorities for the group.

Mike Barnes volunteered to join a sub group which would plan the event.

11. Items for future meeting:

Forward Planning -Review of Theme Group Plans and Membership

City Centre Transport Consultation

Accessibility Planning

Centro transport vision (Neil Ross)

LDF (Core Strategy will be available late summer)

Smarter Travel Evaluation

LTP

Implications of Transport Bill

PCT Health Assessment progress

12. Any Other Business

LDF

Martin reported that the core strategy was now available for consultation on the council web site. This was the next step towards producing a submission draft .The housing numbers were not yet agreed.

13. Future meeting dates:

4th Feb 08 13:00-15:00 (Note time)

25th Mar 10-12

13th May 10-12

22nd July 10-12

23rd Sept 10-12

25th Nov 10-12

Nigel Wain

Dec 3rd 08