

The Third Leicestershire Local Transport Plan (LTP3)

A briefing for Leicestershire Community Forums

January - March 2010

Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to give members of Community Forums an introduction to how Leicestershire County Council is developing the third Leicestershire Local Transport Plan (known as LTP3) and to outline the next steps.

We are keen to engage with a wide range of Leicestershire residents, businesses and organisations in putting together LTP3 and, as outlined below, members of Community Forums will be provided with further details and more opportunities to comment on, and get involved in, the development of LTP3 during 2010.

What is a Local Transport Plan (LTP) ?

An effective transport system gives freedom of choice, enabling people to safely get to and from work, education, healthcare, shopping and social activities. It should also reduce any negative effects of transport (eg noise, pollution) and support the economy.

Local authorities are required by government to outline how they plan to deliver an effective transport system by producing a Local Transport Plan. The current Leicestershire Local Transport Plan and Central Leicestershire Local Transport Plan (LTP2s), which overlap in places, cover the period from April 2006 to the end of March 2011.

They prioritise how budgets are spent by identifying priority areas of work. This includes public transport, road safety and maintaining roads and pavements (for more information on transportation issues in the County and Central Leicestershire please visit www.leics.gov.uk/roadsandtransport or www.leicester.gov.uk/transport-streets.asp).

Developing LTP3

There will be two, non-overlapping LTP3s, one covering the administrative area of the County the other the administrative area of Leicester City. Recognising the important interactions between the County and City, officers are discussing how best to ensure that the two plans align.

The County Council is currently in the early stages of developing its next Local Transport Plan (LTP3). LTP3 must legally be in place by 1 April 2011 and it will outline Leicestershire's longer term transport plan to 2026.

We will combine our knowledge, research (including results of recent residents' surveys) and the views of Leicestershire residents, organisations and businesses to develop a clear picture of Leicestershire, its transport needs and requirements. We will then use this information to develop LTP3.

The Leicestershire LTP3 will show how Leicestershire's transport system will:

1. Support economic growth
2. Reduce carbon emissions
3. Contribute to better safety, security and health
4. Promote equality of opportunity
5. Improve quality of life and a healthy natural environment

Government requirements for the format and content of LTP3s is less restrictive than on previous occasions, enabling us to develop Leicestershire's LTP3 to better suit the county's needs.

Leicestershire's LTP3 will, unlike previous LTPs, be more about setting out our vision for the county's transport system, identifying what it is for and the steps we intend to take to support wider goals, as opposed to talking about solutions and specific schemes. It will, in broad terms, contain a long term strategy including a series of high level objectives, identifying how the County Council will address wider priorities (outlined above).

It will also contain more detailed delivery plans, which may be area-based e.g. on a district basis or may, alternatively, focus on topics e.g. cycling, increasing bus usage etc.; whatever the basis, the plans may still not go down to identifying specific scheme details.

This broad structure reflects the increased flexibility in the government's guidance for these LTPs.

We will also be undertaking a wide range of engagement and consultation activities during 2010, so that Leicestershire residents, businesses and organisations can express their views and help shape this important area of work. Members of Community Forums will be invited to comment on the draft delivery plans during the Summer/Autumn 2010 round of Community Forum meetings.

For further information

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