

Durham City Transport Delivery Plan Statement of Consultation

June 2018

Altogether better



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1.1 The purpose of the Durham City Sustainable Transport Strategy 2016-2033 Feedback Report is to provide a summary of the key issues made in response to the draft DCSTS 2016-2033 document which was out for consultation as well as providing the council's response to this summary of the issues. All duly made representations submitted in response to the Draft Durham City Sustainable Transport Strategy (DCSTS) 2016 - 2033 document have been considered when preparing the Durham City Sustainable Transport Delivery Plan 2018-2035.

1.2 Consultation on the draft DCSTS 2016 - 2033 document was undertaken between, 24 June 2016 and the 5 August 2016 where we received a total of 67 direct consultation responses within that period.

1.1 Statement of Community Involvement

The council's Statement of Community Involvement describes how we will involve our local communities, our businesses and all other organisations in the preparation of the Durham City Sustainable Transport Strategy and on planning application decisions. It also sets out our advice on how County Durham town and parish councils and neighbourhood forums should seek to involve and consult on the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans. The council's Statement of Community Involvement can be accessed here:

1.3 <https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/3282/Statement-of-Community-Involvement>

1.2 Who was Consulted?

1.4 Throughout the consultation there were a number of stakeholders consulted with including:

- County Durham Residents
- Businesses
- Town and Parish Councils
- Area Action Partnerships

1.5 Furthermore, as well as engaging with the public, specific engagement events with key stakeholders (see table 1) to feed into the development of the Sustainable Transport Delivery Plan.

Table 1. Key Stakeholders	
Durham Bicycle User Group	St. Nicholas Community Forum
Go North East	Sidegate Residents Association
Durham Bid	West Rainton Green Group
Durham Green Belt	Her Majesty's Passport Office
Trust Pathways Cycle Lane	Durham Area Action Partnership
NHS	North East Combined Transport Activists Roundtable
Arriva North East	Durham Cathedral
Crossgate Community Partnership	Living Streets

Historic England	Regional Smarter Choices
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1.3 Methods of Engagement

Throughout the consultation, consultees were engaged through a wide-range of methods including:

Stakeholder Events: Stakeholder events and consultation events were undertaken to ensure a broad approach was taken to draft the delivery plan and set out the vision. In addition, a number of one to one meetings were held with stakeholders and a 'Vox Pop' exercise was carried out where a number of people were interviewed for their opinions at the beginning of the project.

Meetings and Consultation Events - Council officers attended a range of pre-existing organised meetings where presentations were made or information provided to inform local communities and interested parties that the council was consulting on the Issues and Options Report. Key meetings and consultations events included:

- Staffed consultation events which were located at Durham City Town Hall, Belmont and Framwellgate Moor Community Centre.
- Presentations to the Durham City Access for All group in Belmont and Learning Difficulties Forum in Fram.

Documents: The draft DCSTS 2016 - 2033 was available to view at locations in Durham City including: Clayport library; Belmont library; Newton Hall library; and Durham County Hall.

Internet: Throughout the consultation period, the DCSTS 2016 - 2033 was also available to view on our website at: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation>.

Direct: All key stakeholders were contacted directly through our consultation software and given a range of ways to comment on the document:

- **Mail:** Writing to: **FREEPOST SPATIAL POLICY**
- **Email:** to: spatialpolicy@durham.gov.uk
- **Response Forms:** Response forms were taken to public consultation events for members of the public or interested parties to provide representations directly. These were also left in libraries where there was a copy of the document.

1.4 Structure of Document

1.6 This document is broken into 6 sections which were the key issues which came from the consultation. These issues include:

- Issue 1: General Strategy Approach
- Issue 2: Walking and Cycling
- Issue 3: Public Transport
- Issue 4: Northern Relief Road
- Issue 5: Other Issues

2.1 Issue 1: General Strategy Approach

Issue 1: General Strategy Approach	
Summary of main issues raised by representations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overwhelming support for the introduction of the Sustainable Transport Plan. Some criticism that the objectives didn't follow through to the transport measures in plan. The issue of Air Quality in the city was raised a number of times. 	
Responses to main issues	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New logic maps have been included in delivery plan that show relationship between objectives and outcomes in the plan. There is also a new section included in delivery plan dedicated to Air Quality. 	

2.2 Issue 2: Walking and Cycling

Issue 2: Walking and Cycling	
Summary of main issues raised by representations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising the importance of safer pedestrian routes within the county. Needs to be more recognition of mobility issues within the strategy. Highlighted the need for a core network of cross city cycle routes. Rail station and bus station links need to be improved to encourage sustainable modes of transport. 	
Responses to main issues	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe pedestrian crossing points have been identified in all areas. Mobility issues now highlighted throughout the strategy. A core network of cross city cycle routes is a major challenge given space issues. Rail station links on Framwellgate peth have now been completed and the Council will look to improve links to the bus station and North Road in the future. 	

2.3 Issue 3: Public Transport

Issue 3: Public Transport	
Summary of main issues raised by representations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are filling up buses on relatively short trips between the university and city. There is a need to extend Nexus Pop-card to Durham. 	

Issue 3: Public Transport

Summary of main issues raised by representations

- More required on the rail network especially the Leamside line and more services from Chester-le-Street.
- The bus station re-development is not necessary.

Responses to main issues

- We are joint working with the university to improve student transport links.
- Pop card is now available but has been overtaken by contactless payments.
- Council always supports improved rail links but only has limited influence to influence national network.
- Bus station infrastructure is always relevant to bus service provision.

2.4 Issue 4: Northern Relief Road/Milburngate Bridge

Issue 4: Northern Relief Road/Milburngate Bridge

Summary of main issues raised by representations

- Some agreement with the Northern Relief Road but only for increased car capacity.
- Some agreed with reducing lanes on Milburngate Bridge but did not agree with the creation of a relief road.

Responses to main issues

- The replacement road space is to remove unnecessary through journeys from Milburngate Bridge.
- It is considered that removing space for cars without replacing existing capacity would create unacceptable congestion including for buses and taxis.

2.5 Issue 5: Other Issues

Issue 5: Other Issues

Summary of main issues raised by representations

- Too many taxis, ranks in wrong place, taxis should use a central booking number.
- Stricter parking restrictions should be used in city centre.

Responses to main issues

- It would be difficult to restrict the operation of taxis under one central booking number.

Issue 5: Other Issues**Summary of main issues raised by representations**

- There are already policies to reduce long stay parking in the city centre although the council only manage and operate 10% of the current stock of parking space in the city.