

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Update note for Growth and Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee 14th July 2011

Project Sponsor: Tracey Dow (Highways & Transport)
Project Manager: Jayme Radford (Highways & Transport)

Purpose of this briefing note:

1. On Wednesday 25th May, a presentation on Community Transport was given to the Committee to introduce the Community Transport project and provide the Committee with an overview of Community Transport service provision in Oxfordshire.
2. This briefing note aims to update the Committee on the progress made since the last meeting in developing a Community Transport Strategy for Oxfordshire.

Progress to date:

3. Since the 25th May presentation, a Project Team has been set up, incorporating staff from Environment & Economy, Social & Community Services, and Children, Education & Families. The project team is also supported by a member of the Policy Unit. An initial Project Team meeting was held on 23rd June, 2011.
4. A Scrutiny Members' Working Group has been formed to contribute to the development of the strategy. An initial meeting was held on 30th June, 2011.
5. Research is being undertaken to understand best practice across the country, and initial reviews of existing Community Transport service provision across Oxfordshire have been conducted. This information has been detailed and presented to both groups in a draft Project Implementation Plan (PID). The development of the PID is being guided by Scrutiny members and the Project Team.

Next steps:

6. The Project Manager is arranging for providers and others to meet with the Scrutiny Members' Working Group and members of the Project Team. There is a general consensus that this will be beneficial for the development of the Oxfordshire Strategy. These organisations are likely to include the *Community Transport Association*, *HCT Group* and *Third Sector Services*.

7. Members of the Project Team are currently in discussions with the five district councils to gauge an understanding of funding allocations for the 2012/2013 financial year.

8. The Project Manager will aim to finalise a PID and Project Plan for development of the Strategy by August, 2011. This will require sign-off from the Environment & Economy Leadership Team.

9. It is envisaged that an overarching Community Transport Strategy will be in place by January / February 2012 (*date to be confirmed as the Project Plan develops*). The strategy will set out a clear aspiration for Community Transport across Oxfordshire, and include an Action Plan for taking the Strategy forward.

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