

Joint Transport and Planning Sub-Groups Meeting

**Friday 23rd November 2007
Civic Hall**

Members present: Cllr Illingworth
Cllr Minkin

Officers present: Mike Darwin (Highways Devt Control)
Gillian Macleod (Highways Devt Control)
Chris Gray (Highways Devt Control)
Andrew Hall (Transport Policy)
Martin Sellens (West Area Planning Manager)
Rob Buchan (Central Area Planning Manager)
Paul Gough (Local Plans West)
Andrew Crates (Community Planner)

PG presented a paper providing explanation on the development of UDP Transport Policy. This followed the preparation of policy in the early 1990s, through the Public Inquiry process, the Inspectors findings and the policy that was finally adopted. PG acknowledged that the A65 has been in the forefront of peoples minds for many years.

PG outlined the requirements being set out in the draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for Yorkshire and the Humber. This proposes trebling the housing target for Leeds and raises issues of deliverability and the necessary infrastructure.

EM asked when can you say 'enough is enough' in terms of new development along the A65?

MD explained how Highways Development Control Officers assess applications. They consider the highway network in the near vicinity of the site for a given length in each direction. There comes a point where traffic from developments further afield has dissipated and the effects negligible close to the area around an application site. As such, each development is assessed taking into account the other developments and traffic generation known about at that point in time. Latest Government guidance states that new developments should be assessed by working out how many people trips there are likely to be, then work out how those trips can be made more sustainable, then deal with the car trips at the end. GM explained considerations in looking at existing junction capacity.

Jl said that he accepts congestion, but needs to have confidence that there will be ordered failure with public transport still able to operate. Jl circulated a paper requesting present and predicted traffic generations, directional and modal splits for a number of junctions.

AH set out the content of the Quality Bus Initiative (QBI).

AH explained that the Council's Saturn model was out of date and was being updated by consultants. Around £200k is being spent on the upgrade, with the model being expanded to cover the outer areas of the city. AH circulated a paper on the 'A65 corridor - LTP2 Policy' setting out traffic flows and peak flow data for the A65. AH also circulated a map of Leeds showing the PM peak across the strategic highway network.

A detailed discussion took place around the benefits of the QBI, potential for improvements along Leeds and Bradford Road and human behaviour regarding transport choices.

Members requested a future meeting with the appropriate officers do discuss the figures for the BHS site, once the data had been assessed.