

Appendix 1

Solent Transport Review

Delivery Report – Work in Progress

What Solent Transport has achieved in the past 5 years – 2001 – 2006

In 2001, when the first Local Transport Plan was published, Hampshire County Council, Southampton and Portsmouth City Councils had different political party control, working separately to their own priorities. The transport operators in South Hampshire were working independently towards their own goals. Politicians and officers realised the benefits of working towards the same goals and objectives to help improve access and congestion across the Solent area. The concept of a partnership, Solent Transport was launched, being the first in its kind in the UK to come together in this way to deal with transport issues in an integrated manner. *“A Partnership that brings together those who have a responsibility or interest in all aspects of transport planning and provision in South Hampshire, was acknowledged as the way forward to deal with the formal launch of the Solent Transport partnership in March 2003.”* Hampshire Annual Progress Report (2003) Hampshire County Council

Solent Transport is now working towards a better integrated transport systems across South Hampshire including road, rail, sea and air. GOSE have recognised that the *“The Solent Transport Partnership - is a good example of private/public partnership and could be extended to other sub regional areas.”* Government Office South East (2004) Regional Planning Guidance 9. This unique partnership of local authorities and transport operators meets regularly to discuss and develop ideas, setting short and medium term goals. This has led to a combined shared vision which is shared by all of the partners

including the authorities with their differing political view points.

Thanks to the way that Solent Transport has been assembled, a strong working relationship has been formed with the transport operators in the area. This includes the bus and rail operators, Southampton Airport, the ports of Southampton and Portsmouth together with the Highways Agency. By working together it has enabled the partners of Solent Transport to continuously and successfully deliver a holistic approach to the transport solutions needed. *“It’s been hard work, but now we could not imagine being without it. Cross boundary transport needs cross boundary organisation”* Iain Reeve, Local Transport Today (March 2005). It has also given the Stakeholders the power to be able to influence the development of the Sub Regional Transport Policy through conferences and meetings.

On the 13th March 2003 the Stakeholders of Solent Transport signed a charter, This agreement shows that the partnership will seek to develop an integrated and seamless transport system for the sub-region which is affordable, reliable safe and efficient that:

- Provides high quality facilities that are accessible to all users;
- Makes the best use of the transport network, harnessing the benefits of new technology, to manage the demand for movement and to provide a transport system that is attractive to passengers and freight operators
- Offers substantial travel choices by reducing dependence upon private vehicles, to provide good quality of life for present and future communities in social, economic and environmental terms.

Solent Transport, has engaged consultants to produce the Solent Strategic Transport Model. The model predicts the level of growth across the transport network within South Hampshire up to 2026. The model is being used to test the number of different schemes and initiatives to determine their effect on congestion levels and traffic flow. The model has been useful in predicting the impact of future growth in South Hampshire including the proposed Strategic Development Areas (SDA's) as part of the South East Plan.

Partnership for Urban South Hampshire

The Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) has been established to respond at a strategic level to the South East Plan. PUSH comprises Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils and the eight other councils which cover the strategy area: East Hampshire, Eastleigh, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, New Forest, Test Valley and Winchester to. By working together, PUSH has advised the South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) on the sub-regional strategy for South Hampshire. The overall vision for PUSH is to achieve a higher

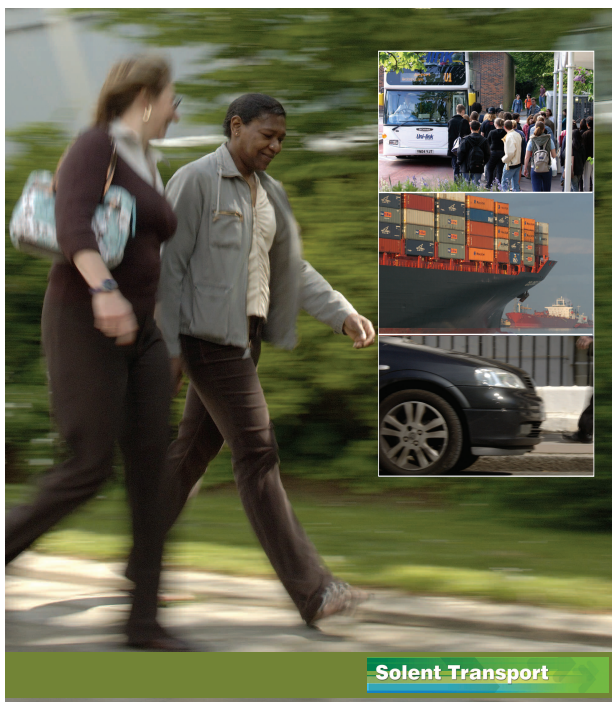
economic growth for South Hampshire, provided that it is accompanied by the necessary investment in infrastructure. The Solent Transport partnership complements PUSH, being well placed to plan the transport interventions needed for the future. Members of the Solent Transport Partnership have contributed to the South East Plan and the second Local Transport Plans (LTP2 of Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton) by developing a five year plan and a longer term strategy (the Solent Transport Strategy).



Solent Travelcard

The Solent Travelcard has been a huge success; introduced in March 2004, it is a travelcard allowing bus travel throughout the Solent area for just £5.00 per day or £20.00 per week. This entitles the passenger to purchase just one ticket with any bus operator and travel on any bus throughout the Solent area for the price of the one ticket at any time. Due to its success, the Travelcard area has now been expanded. To the north the area now covers Winchester, Kings Worthy, Ampfield and Owslebury as well as extending westwards to Marchwood, Hythe and Calshot. Since its launch in 2004 the Travelcard still remains at its introduction price of £20.00 per week but has risen to £5.50 per day. Talks have also taken place to extend the Travelcard to include the Ferry companies and South West Trains (within the Solent Area), however this is still being negotiated. Ticket sales for the Travelcard have been steadily rising from the start, in March 2004 to May 2004, the quarterly usage was recorded at 10,700. The figures for November 2005 to February 2006 have increased to over 27,000 per quarter and these figures still continue to grow.

Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 Solent Transport Strategy





Chandlers Ford Railway Station

Chandlers Ford Railway Station reopened in 2003 after a 34 year closure, funded in part by the continuing residential development in Chandlers Ford. The new station was conceived to help reduce congestion levels on the local network brought about by the new developments. The Station provides an alternative to the car for travellers from Chandlers Ford, giving direct links to Southampton Romsey and further afield. The station features a ticket office and toilets, canopies and safe parking for cars and bicycles.

The station was opened by personality Charlie Dimmock, at a gala day involving the local community groups and residents.



Appendix 1

Members of Solent Transport.

Hampshire County Council
 Southampton City Council
 Portsmouth City Council
 Isle of Wight Council

The AA
 Associated British Ports (ABP)
 First Great Western
 First Hampshire & Dorset
 Freight Transport Association
 Government Office South East – (GOSE)
 Hampshire Economic Partnership
 Highways Agency
 Network Rail
 Portsmouth Commercial Port
 Red Funnel
 Solent Blue Line
 South East England Development Agency – (SEEDA)
 South East England Regional Assembly – (SEERA)
 Southampton International Airport
 South West Trains
 Stagecoach
 Strategic Rail Authority (2003 – 2005)
 Wessex Trains (2003 – 2005)
 Wightlink