Travel to School Initiative (TTSI) Update

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TTSI Update

Where are we now:

- £95m investment in over 17,000 schools
- 69.4% of school with travel plans
- On target for 2010
- March 2009 – 85%?

Hard to reach schools

- Not anti-car
- Encourage healthy options
- Environmental benefits
- Safety aspects

Cross - Govt initiatives

- National Healthy Schools
- National Public Health Observatory
- Obesity Strategy
- Carbon Reduction
- Sustainable Schools

STPs & Modal Shift

- STP doesn’t guarantee shift, however:
  - Schools have capital investment – reduces barriers
  - Introduces ethos of sustainable travel
  - Good habits into adulthood

Positive Modal Shift

- North West 28% primary, 80% secondary
- Norfolk STP schools 60%
- Oxfordshire 8%
- Bromley 16%

Positive Modal Shift

- Buckinghamshire- ‘Go for Gold’ primary reduction in car use 21.6%

Potential 14,700 fewer trips per day

School Travel Plans

- Living documents
- Regular reviews
- Inform Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategies (SMoTS)

Duty to promote sustainable travel

- Section 508A EA 1996- (EIA 2006)-
- Assess travel & transport needs
- Audit infrastructure
- Produce each year a -

  Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (SMoTS)
- Promote sustainable travel & transport

Sustainable Modes of Travel

Definition:-

"Those which the LA considers may improve either or both the physical well-being of those who use them and or the environmental well-being of the whole or part of their area"

Duty to promote sustainable travel

1. **Assess the school travel and transport needs of children and young people**

- Based on school and college travel plans
- Needs to be current and account for developments

Duty to promote sustainable travel

2. Audit the infrastructure to support sustainable travel

- Should include LTPs, road safety plans, transport asset management plans, walking and cycling routes
- Should cover supporting initiatives e.g. cycle training and road safety
- Other factors influencing travel choices and behaviour
- STPs will have valuable data to offer on barriers to travelling – unsafe roads, speed issues, crossing points

Duty to promote sustainable travel

3. **Produce Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy**

- To include vision, assessments and work programme for improving accessibility to schools

Duty to promote sustainable travel

4. Promote sustainable travel and transport to and from schools

- Through LTP LAs will already illustrate how it promotes various modes of travel
- Opportunity to promote benefits of sustainable travel e.g. children's health and well-being

Funding

- LAs allocated an amount to go some way towards meeting the cost of fulfilling the duty

- Funding guaranteed until end of CSR (2011)

Evaluation of SMOTS - 2007

- 24 LAs:
  - Metropolitan
  - Unitary
  - Shire
  - London

Evaluation Criteria

- Improve accessibility
- Provide user friendly information
- Informed by STPs
- Include monitoring and revision proposals
- Consider DDA, SEN, Equal Opps
- Marketing

Evaluation of SMOTS - 2007

Key findings:

- **Overall quality good- areas for improvement**
- **Need to be more inclusive –SEN & PWD**
- **Balance need to be strategic with meeting needs of stakeholders**
- **Must relate to and be linked with STPs**

SMoTS Summary

- Hertfordshire
  www.hertsdirect.org/schooltravel

Evaluation of SMoTS

- www.teachernet.gov.uk/travelstrategy

- Good examples of interactive maps showing school locations, cycling and walking routes, schools with a STP and links to travelling website

Summary

- SMOTS are at the centre of school travel planning within an LA and provide a framework on which to develop sustainable options for school travel that contribute to meeting wider aims - children’s health, well-being, cutting emissions and controlling congestion

- Extended Rights To Free Travel
  - Evaluation

Transport Select Committee

- Remit - assess STPs, sustainable travel, EIA 2006, public transport/congestion, joint working - education, health and transport authorities, Yellow School Bus Commission Report
- Remit extended to cover 14-19, post 16 transport and concessionary fares

TTSI Update

Transport Select Committee

- Positive representations made about STPs, sustainable travel, SMoTs and collaborative working between healthy schools, physical activity and sustainable agendas
- Sarah McCarthy-Fry and Paul Clark gave oral evidence on 26 November 2008

Yellow School Bus Commission

- Formal joint Government response after TSC report

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