

Devon Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 – Panel Hearings

Environment Agency - Geoff Bateman Area Manager (Devon)

Issues / Concerns

- Congratulate Devon County Council on what it says in LTP1. Would be happy to see more of the same in LTP2.
- EA – Concerned with impacts on land, air and water and with climate change.
- Saved 1,000,000miles with video conferencing & other innovative soft measures at the Environment Agency.
- Agency's view is that "climate change could be happening".
- Work on excluding cars from urban areas elsewhere has been positive. Individuals then begin to question whether they need to make the journey.
- 25% of CO2 emissions are from transport.
- Concerns particularly with the rapid expansion of air transport.
- Rail – once confidence is lost in the transport system its very hard to regain it.
- Eden Project was a transport disaster that they turned around.
- Sustainability has social, economic and environmental pillars - We must endeavour to address all of these.

Recommendations

- Plan must be integrated with other plans and programmes.
- LTP must avoid transport solutions that harm environment or public health.
- Developing tools to monitor impacts of climate change – chemical, biological and statistical.
- Air quality – Can work with authorities in areas that need improvements.
- Air quality – Some simple work can be done like move a bus stop – move the air quality management area.
- Flooding – Due to roads interrupting the course of rivers.
- Flooding - move transport infrastructure away from the coast.
- Fiscal controls in place at present aren't affecting peoples personal travel behaviour.
- Support rail link improvements associated with the flooding at Dawlish.
- Communication – Not brought out well within the LTP. It needs to promote active engagement with people to make decisions for themselves.
- Congestion charging – is an example of a price focused issue that works. Environment Agency are working with major of London.

- New technology should be embraced to help improve traffic flows through phasing etc & therefore reduce congestion.
- Do some work focusing on the individual carbon footprint (each Devon household produces 3 tons of carbon dioxide per year assuming 9000 miles for one vehicle).
- 5th June – is world environment day. Coordinate some events to happen on this day.
- Consult with Defra - Farming techniques have changed changing resulting in run off from rains – causing issues on the highways.
- Must use SEA throughout writing the LTP.