

INTRODUCTION

LTP2 has an important role to play in supporting the objectives of the Yorkshire and Humber Region, and also locally in delivering the long-term vision contained in Community Strategies developed by each of the five district LSPs.

All of the Community Strategies contain six similar themes which together set out the long-term Community Vision for West Yorkshire. These include:

1	promoting and regenerating local economies, with continuing growth;
2	access to jobs, and an improved quality of life;
3	continuous learning and development opportunities;
4	safer, healthier people able to get help when in need;
5	strengthened, cared for communities; and
6	a better local environment cared for in a sustainable way.

Improvements to the local transport system through LTP2 (and future LTPs) are required to support the overall long-term Community Vision for West Yorkshire.

This Community Vision is reflected in the seven 'shared priorities' agreed by the Government and the Local Government Association (LGA) in 2002. These are:

1	raising standards across our schools;
2	improving the quality of life of children, young people, families at risk and older people;

3	promoting healthier communities by targeting key local services, such as health and housing;
4	creating safer and stronger communities;
5	transforming our local environment;
6	promoting the economic vitality of localities; and
7	meeting transport needs more effectively.

These priorities are important for the Partnership. They reinforce the need to continue to develop transport through partnership working as well as co-ordinated planning with other sectors and Government Departments, for example the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), health, education, environment, trade and industry departments.

The seventh shared priority has been updated by the Government and the LGA to:

"improving access to jobs and services, particularly for those most in need, in ways which are sustainable: improved public transport; reduced problems of congestion, pollution and safety."

This shared priority for transport is informed by the recent Government transport related White Papers and in some cases, detailed national transport strategies (for walking, cycling, motorcycling, safety and air quality). These strategies provide direction for the Partnership's long-term strategy for transport, and the types of schemes and priorities that will be implemented to contribute to national objectives.

The DfT's and LGA's shared priorities for transport are:

- delivering accessibility;
- air quality;
- effective asset management;
- tackling congestion;
- safer roads; and

CONNECTIVITY

THE WIDER STRATEGIC NETWORKS

West Yorkshire is generally well connected to the wider strategic transport network. It is located at the centre of the Trans European Network Route 10 with good links:

- to north and south by road (the A1, M1, A1(M)) and by rail using the East Coast Main Line (ECML); and
- to east and west by road (the M62, A63) and by rail (the Trans-Pennine and Caldervale lines).

West Yorkshire also has an international airport, Leeds Bradford International Airport (LBA), and is within a reasonable travel distance to Manchester Airport and the new Robin Hood Sheffield-Doncaster Airport.

The main transport corridors (as shown in Figure 1.1 and Table 1.1) carry a mix of local, sub-regional, regional and national trips including freight movements. Maritime ports are located to the east and west.

A challenge for the national, regional and local authorities is to develop a strategic transport network that is fit for purpose to cater for these different trip needs. This need is emphasised in the report of the Northern Way Steering Group, Moving Forward: the Northern Way as well as the RSS and RES and will also support the development of the City Region.

As the strategic network is outside the direct responsibility of the Partnership we will continue to work with other agencies including the Highways Agency (HA), Network Rail, DfT and long distance rail franchisees to ensure that measures delivered by LTP2 complement the improvements on the strategic transport network being delivered by others.