

FOREWORD



Welcome to City of York's Delivery Report for the first Local Transport Plan, which outlines what we have achieved over the last five years. Our key successes over the plan period were:

- Peak period traffic levels limited to 1999 levels and reduced at peak periods;
- Bus patronage up by 45%;
- An increase of 72% in the number of Park & Ride passengers to over 2.6 million in 2005/06;
- A 19% reduction in killed and seriously injured road casualties;
- Achieving the status of the UK's top cycling city in 2004;
- A 10% shift of trips by car to more sustainable transport modes at peak times;
- A doubling of the number of children cycling to school;
- A pioneering Traffic Management System; and
- Significant improvements in the condition of roads and footways with substantially higher customer satisfaction ratings.

In recognition of these improvements I was delighted that the city was presented with the Local Transport Authority of the Year award in 2003.

At the heart of the Local Transport Plan was a vision to develop a sustainable and integrated local transport system for the city. The plan included a combination of both 'soft measures' such as travel plans, safety training and marketing campaigns as well as infrastructure improvements, with over £80m spent by the council on improvements to the city's transport infrastructure over the last five years. This includes:

- A new 750 space Park & Ride site at Monks Cross with bus priority measures on Malton Road;
- Enlargement of the Rawcliffe Bar Park & Ride site and provision of direct access from the roundabout;
- Over 25km of new on and off road cycle tracks including the route to the Millennium Bridge;
- The enlargement of the A19/A1237 roundabout and provision of a pedestrian underpass;
- Upgrading of the city's bus routes, including the facilities for the **fttr**;
- Improvements to the York Station Interchange;
- Nearly 100 safety schemes including traffic calming and provision of signalised crossings;
- School Safety Zones at all schools;
- A traffic management system including linked traffic signals and Variable Message Signs; and
- Highway Maintenance to 100km of roads and 150km of footways.

By delivering key strategies we have widened travel choices including walking, cycling and public transport, and restrained the demand for car travel. The

decrease in car traffic and reduction in the number of people parking in the city centre has been achieved at a time when the economy of the city has grown. Over 10% more people are now using more sustainable methods to travel to the city centre at peak times with the associated health and air quality benefits.

It is heartening to see that the number of child casualties has reduced whilst the number of children cycling and walking to school has increased. The implementation of safe routes to school and school safety zones strategies, together with the provision of over 1,800 cycling parking spaces at schools and the nationally recognised cycle training has encouraged fewer parents to drive their children to school. I am particularly proud of our achievements increasing the number of children cycling to school – the challenge for the next five years will be to encourage these young people to continue to cycle when they move on to higher education and employment.

In addition to tackling road crash clusters, where we have achieved up to a 75% reduction in the number of casualties, we have developed a new approach to road safety that focuses on driver risk-taking behaviour.

The strong partnership that we have developed with bus operators has been one of the key reasons for the large increase in the number of people travelling by bus. The combined commitment of infrastructure improvements by the council with new buses and increased frequencies provided by the operators has been a winning formula which will be developed further over the next five years.

I am confident that the achievements of the last five years provide a good foundation for the future of York. We will build upon the successes of the first Local Transport Plan to ensure that York continues to be a vibrant city where people want to live, work and spend their leisure time.



Councillor Ann Reid
Executive Member for City Strategy

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