

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....10th August 2006

1. Title of Item/Report

Corporate Travel Plan

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to the proposed adoption of a revised travel plan for the Council, which set out actions that would deliver a shift towards more sustainable forms of travel for staff whilst at work and on their way to and from work.

It had been estimated that car commuting contributed almost 20% of all United Kingdom energy use, whilst cars traveling on business contribute a further 10%. The survey conducted as part of the development process for this travel plan revealed that 84% of those who were interviewed travelled to work by car of which 89% travelled alone.

Over 2.4 million business miles were claimed by staff in the year 2004/05, which apart from the cost to the Authority, had a significant impact on the environment. The aim of the travel plan was to offer incentives, provide alternatives and encourage a modal shift away from single occupier car journeys.

Evidence had shown that even the most basic travel plans could achieve reductions of 3-5% in the numbers of people travelling to work alone in the car (DfT "Making Travel Plans Work", 2002).

Nearly all of the significant new developments within the Borough were required to have a travel plan framework as a condition of the planning consent. As the single biggest employer in the borough it was right that this authority lead by example in adopting a travel plan that mirrored the aims of these local and national policies.

The Plan had been designed to deliver a range of benefits which should not be seen as anti-car:

-The Council would benefit from increased productivity and efficiency generated by a healthier, more motivated workforce;

-Council staff would benefit from improved health, cost and time savings, reduced stress and a general improvement in their quality of life;

-The local community would enjoy reduced congestion, reduced journey times, improved public transport services, energy savings and reduced overspill parking in residential areas, and

-The local environment would benefit from improved air quality, less noise and dirt, and the reduced impact of other national and global environmental problems such as global warming.

The two key factors in making a travel plan work were the financial incentives or disincentives related to travel and the availability of parking. This travel plan would establish infrastructures to support the modal shift as well as a range of incentives and disincentives to encourage positive action. The current policies in respect of travel and parking were heavily weighted towards the car driver such as free parking, car loans and allowances with very little recognition of more sustainable forms of transport. A review of these policies would be carried out in full consultation with trade unions and staff representatives.

RESOLVED that the travel plan entitled "Up and Running" attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be adopted as the Corporate Travel Plan for the Authority.

3. Reasons for the Decision

Travel plans are required as a planning condition for significant developments as a means to alleviate the growth in traffic volumes and to encourage more sustainable modes of transport.

As a major employer in the Borough this travel plan will support the delivery of elements of the Second Stockton on Tees Local Transport Plan 2006-2011.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

None

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

By no later than midnight on Friday 18th August 2006

Proper Officer  
15 August 2006