

PLACE SELECT COMMITTEE
 SCRUTINY REVIEW OF AREA TRANSPORT STRATEGY

ATS STAKEHOLDER SURVEY – RESPONSES

2. Are you clear on the ATS process – do you understand how it works?

Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	8 years
Yes			
Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	6 years
No – have not attended a meeting for many years as it did not seem very well organised then. How it has developed since my last meeting I do not know. I did not understand how it worked when I attended.			
Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	2 years
I do understand it.			
Area Partnership:	Northern Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	4 years
Yes. You put your proposals forward. They are assessed and put forward to the meeting where discussion takes place on which to take forward. Usually the ones meeting the criteria the best i.e. safety etc. are at the top of the list. If there are only a few requests put in then they all move on to the next stage.			
Area Partnership:	Northern Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	4 years
I am clear on the ATS process, but it does not seem to work as advertised all the time. There is no feedback once a scheme has been submitted, no consultation on proposed solutions, and no updating of status/planning/implementation to the member that submitted it. In an election year forms are sent out in February, but members have no idea if they will be re-elected in May. The timing in election years should be post-election not pre-election. This year I chose not to complete a form as I did not know I would be re-elected, the date of the meeting was also not re-advertised post-election, so I was not invited and missed the opportunity to submit.			
Area Partnership:	Western Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	
Yes			
Area Partnership:	n/a	Involved for how long:	n/a
Yes			

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3. Do you attend ATS meetings? If so, are these managed well (e.g. invitations to meetings, circulation of papers, opportunity to speak)?

Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	8 years
<p>Yes I have attended, apart from the last 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is not enough notice given of the date of the meeting, which is difficult for a parish council / community group to be able to organise who can go. • The agenda is not sent out anywhere near enough in advance for a Parish Council / Community Group to be able to discuss beforehand. These organisations only meet monthly very often, if that. • The papers sent out are not very understandable, and need some interpretation as to what various columns mean. • The papers do not make clear what the options are for an organisation. For instance can they suggest alternatives, how much is already decided, do they need to bring agreement of funds available to match fund to the meeting. • There is no reference to the “marking system” on the papers for them to refer to before the meeting so there is a proper understanding of how a proposal is marked for when they get to the meeting. • The minutes of the last meeting are not sent out till the last minute. • Maps of locations that are shown on power points are not set into context as to where they actually are in relation to other estates / villages. • Whilst there are opportunities to speak in the meeting, the meeting can be overtaken by arguments between councillors, which is intimidating for some. Behaviour is not always of a high standard. 			
Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	6 years
<p>No. The last meeting, I attended was years ago. At that time we had to wait in a separate room while the agenda formulated.</p>			
Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	2 years
<p>I attended one where I submitted a proposal. And the second one I had to send apologies for but I submitted a proposal and discussed it with officers in advance so they could present it on my behalf. The one meeting I did attend seemed well attended and everything was fine. We get plenty of time to pull proposals together in the run up to the meeting.</p>			
Area Partnership:	Northern Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	4 years
<p>Usually I or my fellow Ward Member would attend. Notification of meeting sent out months in advance but not by meeting request where it would go into your diary. We missed the one just after the May elections due to this. Everything else is ok.</p>			
Area Partnership:	Northern Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	4 years
<p>I do attend ATS meetings, when I am made aware of them. Meeting notices are not sent using Outlook but via Email. Dates are set which often conflict with other meetings, using Outlook diaries would help to alleviate this.</p>			

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Area Partnership:	Western Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	
Yes. Fairly managed with reasonable opportunity to speak. The online submissions have changed the opportunity for some attendees to participate.			
Area Partnership:	n/a	Involved for how long:	n/a
No – I am no longer a member.			

4. ATS was set-up to provide communities with direct input on investment in transport schemes in their local area – do you think that the current scheme delivers this (please explain your answer)?

Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	8 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not necessarily. • Organisations do not necessarily understand just what they can apply for. • Match funding can be difficult if not impossible to find for some organisations. • The public are not aware of what sort of proposals to put forward via their councillor. • Very often there is only the funding available for feasibility studies for larger projects. Smaller one's that are more about sustainable transport, or just small local projects are not put forward. • The process is something of a mystery to most people. 			
Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	6 years
Having not attended for many years I find it difficult to answer. My recollection was that schemes accrued points for safety, predestination etc. It seemed to me that the public had little input – most input was by the borough councillors.			
Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	2 years
As far as I can determine, in our area, the community input comes through individual requests to parish, town and borough councillors, or through TRAs where they take part, hoping that those elected members or organisations will put forward their local concerns. This is rather imperfect but it is better than there being no mechanism at all for the community to raise local issues.			
Area Partnership:	Northern Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	4 years
Yes. Our residents I don't think understand it but seem ok when we explain what we are doing to improve things in the Ward.			

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Area Partnership:	Northern Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	4 years
It allows direct input, but see comments above on implementation or non-implementation. There is just NO feedback everything seems to disappear in to a black hole, and then it's a complete surprise if/when it is implemented.			
Area Partnership:	Western Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	
Inputs are reduced. The shift in transport strategy to the TVCA which in the current status with no declared strategy it is difficult for SBC to respond to questions relating to transport investment schemes.			

5. Is there anything in your view that would improve / enhance the ATS scheme?

Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	8 years
Clearer information well in advance, which includes : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What has happened, including minutes, but importantly updates on schemes previously decided upon. • Better notice given • Clearer layout and explanation, before the meeting, so matters can be discussed with others in a particular community group or parish council • Better explanation of match funding. Also <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding that not all organisations have access to match funding when decisions are made, as proposals can be excluded my people present at the meeting if none is offered. • It be built into the timescales that if a parish council is to match fund, they need to know how much to put aside when they begin their budget making in November. 			
Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	6 years
Make more transparent and give it more publicity for the public to be aware of its existence.			
Area Partnership:	Central Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	2 years
Being allowed to put forward schemes where there have been no casualties and having some chance of success. (I think you call those “environmental” schemes). A menu of possible things people might want to propose and how much those things might cost, broadly. So a list might say “Average zebra crossing costs £30k, average pelican crossing costs £100k, buying a mobile speeding van for the police costs £75k” etc so that people are realistic about what is achievable.			

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Being able to suggest schemes that go across ward or locality boundaries – the ring roads affect us all for instance. But currently, although technically we might be able to do that, there is nowhere in the process that says “Have you thought about making a joint proposals with other wards or forums?”

Area Partnership:	Northern Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	4 years
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I preferred the original system. Also it takes too long to go from one stage to another as schemes have to get worked up with limited staff.

Area Partnership:	Northern Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	4 years
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The system would be enhanced immensely if feedback to and consultations with the submitting member were available. I have an idea what my residents want/need, but have no way to influence what ATS thinks is correct. See above.

Area Partnership:	Western Area Partnership	Involved for how long:	
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The ATS must require TVCA representatives to attend, report and respond to questions.

Area Partnership:	n/a	Involved for how long:	n/a
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I support the move to allocating resources to where there is the most need rather than an area based allocation with decisions being made by unelected, unaccountable Area Partnerships. One concern/complaint I have is that there is little, if any, communication of progress in between the 6 monthly meetings even when you have a prioritised project proposal.