



4.0 TRANSPORT PRIORITIES

In July 2002, the Government and the Local Government Association agreed on a set of seven shared priorities for raising standards across all service sectors for local government. These priorities are:

- raising standards across our schools;
- promoting healthier communities and narrowing health inequalities;
- creating safer and stronger communities;
- transforming our local environment;
- improving the quality of life of older people and children, young people and families at risk;
- meeting local transport needs more effectively;
- promoting the economic vitality of localities

The shared priorities are a focus for local authorities and the Government for improving public services.

Transport Shared Priorities

The shared priority for transport (i.e. the sixth priority detailed above) is sub-divided into four priority themes:

- Tackling Congestion;
- Delivering Accessibility;
- Safer Roads;
- Better Air Quality.

By addressing these themes in transport strategy development and implementation programmes in the

LTP2, the Council has ensured that national transport needs are met effectively at a local level. The detailed transport strategy in this section is set out within the shared priorities context.

Local Transport Plan 2 and the Bus Strategy

Travel by bus plays an important role across all of the shared priorities but particularly in tackling congestion and delivering accessibility. The influence that buses have on each of the shared priorities is covered in the relevant shared priority section. In accordance with the Transport Act 2000 the Council has produced an updated bus strategy to run concurrent with the LTP2. Accepting constraints on the LTP2 page numbers, a stand-alone document has been produced giving the opportunity to expand on text contained in the LTP2, for example details of bus shelter design, methods for calculating revenue support, etc. The more detailed text does not detract from, or alter the strategies that have been approved in, the provisional LTP2. The bus strategy is detailed in Annex 8.

Other Quality of Life Issues

The Council has taken every opportunity in developing local shared priority strategies to add value by improving the quality of life for the community as a whole. For example, improving cycle infrastructure will provide an affordable means of transport to access essential services (delivering accessibility), but also achieve health benefits and a quality of life improvement. The quality of life issues addressed by each shared priority theme is summarised at the end of each of the following sections.

