

WP 2. Transport Strategy Audit East Midlands Region

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Transport Strategy Audit East Midlands Region



Aim: to have a better understanding of:

- a) The **transport planning framework** in East Midlands
- b) The **real** transport issues impacting on economic growth and job creation potential in East Midlands Region, including impact of transport on environment and people's health, safety and security.
- c) The **current transport priorities** in the East Midlands
- d) Transport issues facing local transport authorities **into the future**
- e) Potential impacts of **research and technological developments** on addressing key transport priorities



Transport Strategy Audit East Midlands Region



Reviewed:

- Transport policy:
 - National – national transport policy framework
 - Local – local transport policy
 - No regional policy coordination or plans
- Roles and responsibilities:
 - National Government, Department for Transport, national agencies
 - Local transport authorities
 - Private sector
- Transport plans:
 - East Midlands - Local Transport Plans (LTPs) within national policy framework
 - Local spatial development plans



East Midlands Transport Priorities



1. Reducing Traffic Congestion
2. Improving Air Quality
3. Promoting Modal Change
4. Better management and coordination of Urban Freight
5. Meeting Climate Change targets
6. Improving Safety, security and health of citizens
7. Cross-cutting themes – promoting economic growth, reliable & efficient transport network
8. Tackling barriers to uptake of new technologies by local transport authorities



Local Transport Plan Challenges



- Regional transport planning framework, policies and structures have been abolished
- New sub-regional structures (Local Enterprise Partnerships - LEPs) have been created
- Emerging role for LEPs in strategic transport planning
- Local Transport Plans do not reflect this new sub-regional structure – more than one LTP for a LEP area
- Government investment in transport infrastructure is changing - funds to LEPs not local transport authorities
- LEPs are not democratically elected bodies (local transport authorities are)



Local Transport Plan Challenges



- Recognition that actions in current Local Transport Plans unlikely to achieve long term reduction in congestion, air pollution, etc.
- Public Sector funding cuts means have to “do more with less”, making best use of existing infrastructure and fewer capital infrastructure projects
- To widen use technology to address key priorities



Impact of Technology on Local Transport Plans



- Growing awareness of the potential for technology to address transport priorities within local transport plans
- However.....currently:
 - Limited understanding of potential innovative technological solutions available to address key transport priorities
 - Local transport authorities have limited understanding of research and technological capabilities in local universities and businesses
 - Local universities and businesses have limited understanding of the transport planning process
 - Little of the current research and technological development by local universities and businesses is directed at local user needs and transport-related problems facing the region



Potential Technological Solutions for Transport Priorities



Traffic Congestion

- Enhancing existing traffic management systems
- Improving infrastructure management
- Global real-time positioning, tracking, velocity and timing information
- Improving data collection, monitoring and modelling
- Active demand management measures (congestion charging, “pay as you go”, etc.)



Potential Technological Solutions for Transport Priorities



Air Quality

- Space and IT technologies to monitor and mitigate air pollution, carbon emissions, etc
- Trials of ultra low carbon vehicle technology
- Intelligent vehicles
- Vehicle guidance, command and control systems for low emission public transport
- Supporting low emission zones
- Rapid transit systems



Potential Technological Solutions for Transport Priorities



Modal Change

- Minimising perceived barriers to using public transport – improving safety, security, reliability of services
- Smart multi-modal integrated ticketing systems
- Parking guidance systems
- Interactive end-to-end journey planning
- Personalised journey planning
- On-line and SMS messaging travel information services
- Car sharing/pooling



Potential Technological Solutions for Transport Priorities



Urban Freight

- Better coordination, guidance, tracking and security of freight transport in urban areas
- Apps for sat navs and smart phones to guide freight traffic on approved routes and better management of network incidents
- Improving utilisation of freight vehicles
- Reducing driver burden – advisories, guidance, intervention, control



Strengthening the Triple Helix in the East Midlands



- Technology Solutions for Transport Priorities in the East Midlands - 14 December:
 - Collaboration and Innovation in the East Midlands
 - 40 Representatives from East Midlands SMEs, Local Authority Managers and Academics
 - East Midlands Innovations Directory launched
 - Triple Helix explored through presentations and workshop conversations



Strengthening the Triple Helix in the East Midlands



- Technology Solutions for Transport Priorities in the East Midlands - 14 December
- Four topics discussed:
 - Traffic Congestion
 - Air Quality and Health
 - Climate Change and Transport Resilience
 - Modal Change
- Two questions were posed to generate discussion:
 - What are the challenges facing policy makers, researchers and businesses in each of these topics?
 - What does each sector (i.e. policy makers, researchers and businesses) understand about the motivations of the others with regard to the 4 topics?



Strengthening the Triple Helix in the East Midlands



- Technology Solutions for Transport Priorities in the East Midlands - 14 December
- Key Messages from Workshop Conversations
 - There is a disconnect between the 3 sectors with gaps in knowledge about motive and process between them
 - SMEs are changing their approach to air quality through market pressure rather than regulation
 - Information and communication to present clear user benefits
 - If citizens don't "believe" in a problem (e.g. air quality) or that they can make a difference, then they will not buy into the solution
 - There was a need for clear and convincing evidence to inform decisions and choices
 - It would be essential to address culture change if any of the desired changes were to be implemented effectively.



Conclusions



- RTD has a potentially significant role to play in helping transport planners address key transport priorities
- A need to strengthen the relationship between academics, transport planners and business
- Achieve a better understanding and more effective transfer of RTD capability into the preparation and implementation of LTPs and the end user community



Conclusions



- Promote the transfer of knowledge and understanding of satellite and IT technologies to transport planners
- Achieve a closer alignment of research and end user needs and priorities
- Gaps between some local transport needs and RTD capabilities in the region
- Bring forward priority RTD projects that deliver innovative technical solutions to address real transport priorities on the ground