

Surrey Transport Plan

Introduction

October 2017



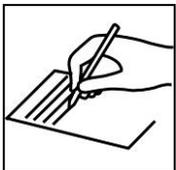
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Surrey Transport Plan, 2011-2026

Introduction

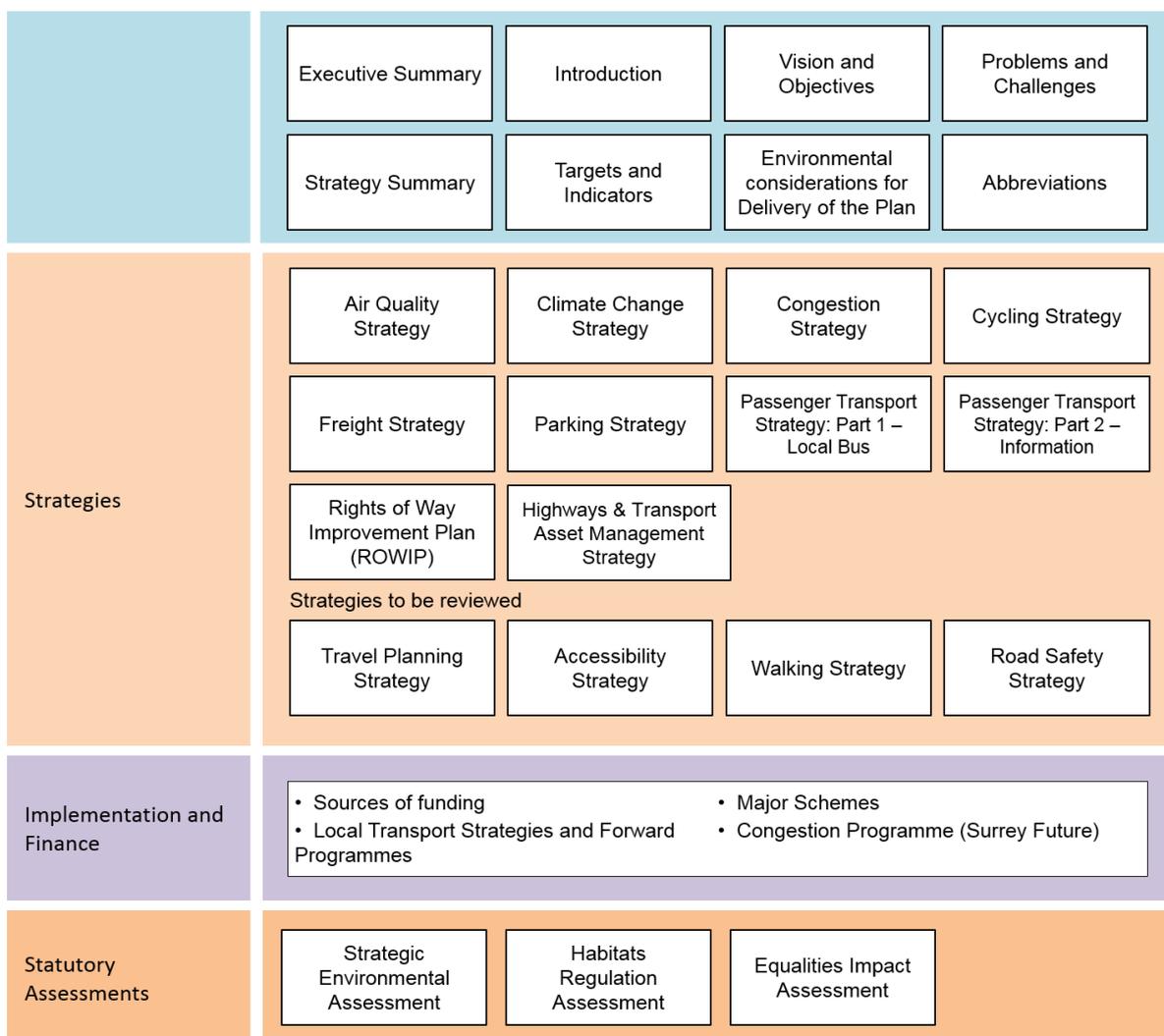
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1 The Surrey Transport Plan

- 1.1 This [Surrey Transport Plan \(STP\)](#) sets out the strategy to help people to meet their transport and travel needs effectively, reliably, safely and sustainably within Surrey, in order to promote economic vibrancy, protect and enhance the environment, improve the quality of life, and reduce carbon emissions.
- 1.2 The Surrey Transport Plan is the county's third Local Transport Plan (LTP). It is a statutory document. The Plan comprises strategies, sections on the overarching vision and objectives, transport problems in Surrey, the indicators and targets, implementation programmes and the statutory assessments.
- 1.3 Figure 1.1 illustrates the structure of the Surrey Transport Plan and the arrangement of sections within it. Local Transport Strategies and Forward Programmes, containing lists of schemes designed to improve transport in each borough and district, are being developed as the financial resources at the county council's disposal are determined.
- 1.4 The Surrey Transport Plan has been developed in consultation with a broad spectrum of stakeholders and the public.
- 1.5 An explanation of key [abbreviations](#) and acronyms used in the Surrey Transport Plan is available.
- 1.6 Along with every transport authority in England, we produced our first LTP in July 2000. This covered the period 2001/02 to 2005/06. Our second LTP covered the period 2006/07 to 2010/11. This third LTP, the Surrey Transport Plan, covers the period from April 2011 to March 2026.
- 1.7 The Surrey Transport Plan has been prepared in several stages.
- 1.8 Draft strategies and the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Scoping Report were published during 2010 for consultation with a broad spectrum of stakeholders and the public. Responses received were taken into account in the revision of the strategies and in early 2011, the Strategic Environmental Assessment and publication drafts of the strategies were published for a further consultation. The Surrey Transport Plan takes into account the further responses received and the findings of the Strategic Environmental Assessment, the Habitats Regulations Assessment and the Equality Impact Assessments undertaken. This is described further in section 8 below.

Figure 1.1: Structure of the Surrey Transport Plan



- 1.9 Surrey’s first and second LTPs were successful in obtaining funding, delivering transport programmes and meeting targets. The Surrey Transport Plan now builds on this record of success. It has an important role in attracting Government funding. It is the foundation for LTP Integrated Transport and Maintenance capital funding. It provides a framework for Major Transport Scheme bids, and Local Sustainable Transport Fund bids. It also has a key role in attracting developer contributions to mitigate the impact of new developments.
- 1.10 This document outlines the background to the Surrey Transport Plan and the wider context for the production of the plan.

2 Flexible, customer focused web-based approach

- 2.1 The first and second LTPs were produced as glossy printed documents that were costly to produce and in which various elements became out-of-date during the five-year periods of these plans.
- 2.2 This Surrey Transport Plan has been produced more cost-effectively as a web-based resource. It consists of a number of web pages from which relevant documents can be downloaded. There are numerous links between web pages and between the downloadable documents and related web pages. There are also links to appropriate [online functions and services](#) provided by the county council and partners, such as parking permits and bus timetables. Search engines are able to discriminate between subject matter available on the web pages.
- 2.3 The greater flexibility afforded by this approach means that the various strategies and implementation programmes that make up the Surrey Transport Plan have been and will be produced to different timescales. Only where necessary were strategies updated or developed for the Surrey Transport Plan in April 2011. Local Transport Strategies and Forward Programmes will be reviewed every three to five years as necessary as part of a rolling programme. This approach enables LTP-related work to be programmed more efficiently.
- 2.4 The Surrey Transport Plan is thus more flexible and customer-focused than previous LTPs, in that it is a searchable resource, has linked web pages and documents, and is kept up-to-date.

3 Shared responsibility is essential

- 3.1 The provision of an integrated transport system for Surrey and the tackling of transport problems relies on partnership working and shared responsibility involving many organisations, businesses, and individuals, together with the county council.
- 3.2 The Surrey Transport Plan will help deliver the wider objectives of the Surrey Corporate Strategy. The role of the Corporate Strategy in defining the wider context for the Surrey Transport Plan is described in the next section of this document.

4 Links with other Surrey plans

Confident in our Future Corporate Strategy 2016-21

- 4.1 The ['Confident in our Future' Corporate Strategy 2016-21](#) sets out the county council's vision and objectives for the county over the next five years. It is a high-level document that tells our residents, Members, partners and staff about where

we see the Council in five years time, what we want to have achieved by then and how we will get there.

- 4.2 The changes and improvements to be made over the next five years are all designed to achieve better outcomes for Surrey and its residents. The following ambitious goals have been set:
- Wellbeing: everyone in Surrey has a great start to life and can live and age well
 - Economic prosperity: Surrey's economy remains strong and sustainable
 - Resident experience: residents in Surrey experience public services that are easy to use, responsive and value for money.
- 4.3 The Surrey Transport Plan has a key role in helping to deliver these goals.

The Surrey Local Economic Assessment (December 2010 and June 2013 Update

- 4.4 The county council was required to prepare an assessment of the economic conditions in the county by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009. The purpose of the Local Economic Assessment is not to be an economic strategy or a new policy, rather it is to provide a comprehensive and robust assessment of the local economy, integrating economic, social and environmental issues. An update to the 2010 work was published in June 2013. This evidence has been used to inform the development of the Surrey Transport Plan.

5 Planning Policy Context

- 5.1 National planning policy guidance is set out in the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF), March 2012, and [National Planning Practice Guidance \(March 2014\)](#). The development plan for Surrey consists of the emerging and existing local plans prepared by the 11 borough and district councils, and the following documents prepared by the county council:
- The [Surrey Waste Plan \(2008\)](#)
 - The [Surrey Minerals Plan Core Strategy Development Plan Document \(2011\)](#)
 - The [Primary Aggregates Development Plan Document \(2011\)](#) and
 - The [Aggregates Recycling Joint Development Plan Document \(2013\)](#)
- 5.2 It is the responsibility of the borough and district councils through their local plans to decide the level of housing and employment which is appropriate for their area supported by a robust evidence base.

6 District and Borough Local Plans

- 6.1 The Surrey Transport Plan complements and supports the local plans prepared by the borough and district councils. This reflects the Guidance on Local Transport Plans (DfT, July 2009) that transport and spatial planning are to be closely integrated:
- 6.2 “Both need to be considered from the outset in decisions on the location of key destinations such as housing, hospitals, schools, leisure facilities and businesses, to help reduce the need to travel and to bring environmental, health and other benefits.” (chapter 3, para 25)
- 6.3 Each of Surrey’s 11 borough and district local planning authorities is required to produce a Local Plan under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The plan provides the spatial vision and sets out the authority’s policies relating to the development and use of land in their area. The local plans are submitted for examination to an independent Planning Inspector who must consider whether they are justified, effective and consistent with national policy before they may be adopted by the local planning authority.
- 6.4 In preparing a local plan, the local planning authority must have regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State. This includes the policy and guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Policy Guidance (PPG).
- 6.5 The borough and district councils in Surrey are at varying stages in the process of preparing their local plans. An important component of each local plan is an Infrastructure Delivery Plan. The county council is working towards agreeing physical transport measures for each Infrastructure Delivery Plan, working in partnership with the responsible borough or district local planning authority. The intention is that such measures can subsequently be implemented to enable development and assist in the mitigation of the impacts of new development, as and when appropriate developer funding becomes available.
- 6.6 In addition, proposed major developments in adjoining local authority areas that create a significant impact in Surrey will need to fund transport infrastructure to mitigate the impact in Surrey.
- 6.7 The county council will continue to give advice to local planning authorities and applicants on transportation issues relating to development proposals and to assist in negotiating developer contributions. Further information is provided in the [Transportation Development Control Good Practice Guide \(Surrey County Council\)](#).

7 National policy context

White Paper: Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon – Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen

- 7.1 The [White Paper](#) (DfT, January 2011) sets out a vision for a sustainable local transport system that supports the economy and reduces carbon emissions. Local action is considered best placed to deliver a needed short term boost to growth and early reductions in carbon. This is because it is the short-distance local trip where the greatest opportunity exists for people to make sustainable travel choices. Around two out of every three trips we make are less than five miles in length, many of which could be cycled, walked or undertaken by public transport. The role of local communities in identifying transport needs and shaping transport responses in their own areas is stressed. The White Paper also underlines the importance of travel by car and rail for longer-distance journeys.

National Planning Policy Framework

- 7.2 The [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies for England. Transport policies have an important role to play in facilitating sustainable development but also in contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives. The NPPF is supported by more detailed evidence by the web-based Planning Policy Guidance (PPG), which includes advice on travel plans, transport assessments and transport statements.

8 Consultation

- 8.1 Extensive consultation and close partnership working are at the heart of the Surrey Transport Plan and our approach to transport in the county.
- 8.2 Section 3 above sets out the vital role of partnership working for the provision of an integrated transport system and the tackling of transport problems in the county.
- 8.3 In the development of the Surrey Transport Plan, each of the draft strategies was published for consultation on a webpage on the county council's public website. Consultations were also undertaken on the Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report and on the draft strategies together with the associated Environmental Report. Each consultation document could be downloaded in PDF format to allow interested parties to read and respond to the document.
- 8.4 As each consultation document or group of consultation documents was published, an email alert was sent out to all statutory stakeholders, other identified key stakeholders and individuals who had signed up to receive such alerts on the webpage. A wide range of community sector organisations received the email alerts. [The list of statutory and other identifiable consultees is available](#)

[on Appendix A of the STP Consultation Report](#). A press release also accompanied the start of the first consultation activity.

8.5 All consultation responses received have been considered in the revision of the draft strategies and other sections of the Surrey Transport Plan.

8.6 A consultation report summarises the representations received and how consultation has helped shape the Surrey Transport Plan. The level of interest in the development of strategies and programmes for the Surrey Transport Plan has been very encouraging.

Other forms of consultation

8.7 Various other sources of consultation information have also been used to inform the development of the Surrey Transport Plan, including the following:

- The annual [National Highways and Transport Survey](#) in which the county council has participated since 2009. Carried out to seek public opinion on a wide range of transport issues, likely to be repeated in future years
- Using findings from the quarterly Joint Neighbourhood Survey of residents and the former 2008 Place Survey of Surrey residents
- Engagement with partners such as the borough and district councils, business representatives, transport operators and other stakeholders
- Transport for Surrey Partnership conference involving partners and stakeholders in strategic transport issues including development of the Surrey Transport Plan
- Direct engagement with single interest groups, particularly in developing strategies
- Engagement with English Heritage, the Environment Agency, Natural England and other stakeholders in the preparation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment – see section 9 below
- Local consultation carried out in the development and implementation of local highway schemes, involving the public and representatives of town and parish councils, residents associations and amenity groups. You can view roads and transport consultations in your local area, and other Surreywide highway related consultations on our [Roads and transport consultations webpage](#).

8.8 Consultation and participation will continue to inform the revision of strategies and the implementation programmes, as described in section 2 above.

9 Statutory Assessments

- 9.1 The development of the Surrey Transport Plan has been informed by a number of different forms of assessment, in line with the requirements of European and domestic legislation, and Government guidance to transport authorities.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 9.2 The requirement for strategic environmental assessment (SEA) of the local transport plan derives from a European Union Directive, which requires that a systematic assessment and evaluation be undertaken of the impacts that certain plans and programmes may have the potential to have on the environment, and that the findings of that work be taken into account in the decision making process relating to the proposed plan or programme.
- 9.3 As part of the SEA process, the Council produced an Environmental Report (January 2011). This examines the implications of the different strategies and measures within the Plan for a range of environmental criteria. The assessment offered a critique of the proposals under consideration and make recommendations for changes. The SEA process has informed the development of the Surrey Transport Plan. In response a document has been prepared which sets the environmental considerations that will be taken into account in the delivery of the Surrey Transport Plan. Changes have also been made to the Surrey Transport Plan strategies.
- 9.4 A consultation on the strategies and the associated Environmental Report was carried out in early 2011, after which the Environmental Report and the strategies were revised. An Environmental Statement summarising how the SEA process has been taken into account in the development of the published Surrey Transport Plan will be available in due course.

Habitat Regulations Assessment

- 9.5 The requirement for appropriate assessment of the impacts of plans and projects on sites of European importance for nature conservation derives from a European Union Directive (92/43/EEC), and is implemented in England through the Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010. The Habitats Directive and Regulations require that, before a decision is made to implement a plan or project, the competent authority must ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of a European site of nature conservation importance. If the plan or project would cause adverse impacts that could not be mitigated or compensated for it must not be allowed to proceed.
- 9.6 The requirement for appropriate assessment applies to three types of nature conservation sites, Special Protection Areas (or SPAs) designated for wild birds, Special Areas of Conservation (or SACs) designated for rare habitats and/or species, and important wetland sites protected under the international Ramsar Convention.

- 9.7 An assessment has been made for the Surrey Transport Plan in line with the requirements of the Habitats Directive and Regulations.

Health Impact Assessment

- 9.8 The Government's guidance to local transport authorities required that a health impact assessment be undertaken as part of the local transport plan preparation process. For the Surrey Transport Plan that requirement has been addressed through the SEA process, which included an assessment criterion for impacts on the welfare, health and well-being of the human population of the county.

10 Equalities Impact Assessment

- 10.1 Surrey County Council is committed to embedding [equality and diversity](#) in all that we do.
- 10.2 In the context of the Surrey Transport Plan, the county council wants to make sure that our services are available and inclusive for everyone. To help us do this, we undertake Equality Impact Assessments (EqIAs) on our services and policies to find out whether we are meeting everyone's needs. The purpose of an EqIA is to improve the work of Surrey County Council by anticipating the consequences of a policy, function or project on the equality groups, and making sure that, as far as possible, any negative consequences are eliminated or minimised, and opportunities for promoting equality are maximised. By carrying out EqIAs we are able to identify where we might need to change our priorities or provide a service in different ways.
- 10.3 When carrying out EqIAs, Surrey County Council includes all the groups of people protected under the Equality Act 2010 and considers whether we are acting in a way that is compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998. The protected characteristics outlined in the Equality Act are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex and sexual orientation. In addition, the EqIAs address the impact on people with caring responsibility who are associated with a person with a protected characteristic.
- 10.4 EqIA screening assessments have been undertaken for each of the Surrey Transport Plan strategies, and are available on request through the Surrey Transport Plan email address: surreytransportplan@surreycc.gov.uk.