



Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
 Development Plan Team
 Civic Headquarters
 Lagan Valley Island
 Lisburn
 BT27 4RL

Translink
 Strategic Planning Division
 Lanyon Place Station
 East Bridge Street
 Belfast
 BT1 3PB

16 December 2019

Dear Sir / Madam

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council Draft Local Development Plan Strategy – Consultation Response

Translink welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Council's Draft Local Development Plan Strategy.

The draft strategy takes cognisance of up to date transport studies for the area and seeks to promote increased use of sustainable transport.

The draft strategy acknowledges the important role that public transport, and sustainable transport in general, has to play in realising the economic benefits of future development and managing its impact on the environment. It also acknowledges that the successful integration of transport and land use is essential to the objective of furthering sustainable development.

The Strategic Mixed Use developments identified within the strategy are in areas already experiencing high levels of traffic congestion. Extensive mitigation, by way of modal shift to sustainable transport, will be necessary if these developments are to be sustainable.

The draft strategy acknowledges the need to promote parking policies that will assist in reducing reliance on the private car and help to tackle growing congestion. The control of car parking is probably the single biggest lever which can be used to influence travel behaviour and it is imperative that appropriate parking restraint is at the centre of considerations in the design of future land use plans, if those plans are to be sustainable.

Provision of Park & Ride facilities is an important tool in providing attractive, viable public transport services, especially for large, lower density catchment areas. Translink welcomes the acknowledgement in the draft strategy of the role that Park & Ride has to play. Given its economic importance in connecting people to employment and the challenges of securing appropriate sites in suitable locations, we believe that, where appropriate, the strategy should permit the development of Park & Ride facilities and public transport interchanges on land identified for economic development.

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and NIR Operations Limited (NI021091), which is registered in Northern Ireland and has its registered office at Lanyon Place Station, 47 East Bridge Street, Belfast, BT1 3NR.

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As a key objective of providing Park & Ride facilities is to reduce congestion, and as most congestion occurs within settlement limits, we believe that the strategy should not suggest that Park & Ride facilities ideally be located within settlement limits.

The development of many of the existing Park & Ride facilities in NI have arisen due to emerging demands and opportunity sites. It is unlikely that the Department's Transport Plans will identify all potential sites and therefore we believe that the requirement for sites to have been identified in the Transport Plans should not be a limiting factor.

Also, given their transport benefits to the wider network, access for Park & Ride facilities should be permitted from Protected Routes, subject to compliance with appropriate standards. Precedents for this already exist elsewhere in NI.

Developer contributions have a vital role to play in establishing public transport services in the early phases of developments and in encouraging behavioural change and modal shift. It is therefore crucial that the strategy enables developer contributions to be secured for not just infrastructure but also for public transport services.

Finally, we believe that the Monitoring Framework needs to identify more meaningful indicators and targets that will assist in monitoring and determining the impact of land use on the transportation network, and ultimately influencing it's sustainability.

We look forward to working with the Council, in finalising the strategy and informing the Local Development Plan, with the aim of securing the sustainable growth of the region.

Yours faithfully

Head of Strategic Planning & Business Change