BEST ACHIEVINGCOUNCIL OF THE YEAR

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Please ask for: Sunita Mills

Date June 2 2011 My Ref LTP/consdata/let

Your Ref

Dear Mr Johnston

Plymouth's Third Local Transport Plan: Consultation Feedback

Thank you for taking the time to respond to the consultation for Plymouth's draft third Local Transport Plan on behalf of the Local Access Forum. The feedback we received has been helpful in shaping the final document which was adopted on April 11 2011.

We reviewed and considered all the comments and information received, and amendments were made to the plan where we felt there was a good case for change. The final Local Transport Plan and Implementation Plan (LTP3) are available to view at: www.plymouth.gov.uk/ltp2011-2026. A hard is available at local libraries across Plymouth and at First Stop Planning desk, Civic Centre.

In this letter we would like to take the opportunity to make specific responses to some of the points you raised. A record of all the issues, responses and changes made to LTP3 can be found on our website at: www.plymouth.gov.uk/ltp2011-2026consultation

The draft LTP3 included a commitment to formalise public rights of way as an ongoing programme of work, and this commitment has been further clarified in the final strategy. The Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan has been completed and is due to be published this summer.

The task of developing a network of primary routes for pedestrians is important and will be undertaken in order to inform implementation plans throughout the LTP3 period. It will enable our aspirations for pedestrians to be achieved, but is not the aspiration in itself.

We would disagree with your comment about the draft LTP3 being bereft of reference to walking – sustainable travel is a priority for the lifetime of the plan. Public rights of way are seen as part of the wider walking and cycling infrastructure and would not be referenced separately.

The LTP3 identifies the importance of encouraging sustainable tourism, and also makes reference to the Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan which covers an area that extends beyond the city's boundary. Plymouth Transport and Highways is a partnership between Plymouth City Council and Amey

As we are not aware of evidence to suggest that people coming to Plymouth as a walking destination is of particular economic importance, the LTP does not detail this any further.

In your response you suggested that there should be a free number to ring or an email address to report problems with pedestrian footways. Plymouth Transport and Highways has an email address and telephone number which can be used to report defects and problems with pavements and footways.

Tel: 01752 668000 (24hrs)

Email: plymouth.watchment@amey.co.uk

You can also report highway problems online by visiting www.plymouth.gov.uk/highwaysform

We accept to your comment about the low levels of usage of lybridge rail park and ride. However, we understand that this is due to the limited number of services that connect to Plymouth during the peak travel periods, rather than because the platform length is inadequate.

The poor gateway to the city that Bretonside provides is a well known concern to the public and the Council. However, significant investment in Bretonside is unlikely to occur, while uncertainty remains about the future use of the site. That said, the bus station has recently been repainted in bright colours, which has improved its appearance considerably.

We believe the LTP3 fully recognises the many impacts of noise pollution, and sets out a clear intention to identify and address noise pollution problems arising from transport in the city. Speed limits on the Parkway are within the remit of the Highways Agency rather than Plymouth City Council. However, we will work with the Highways Agency to understand if there are measures that could be implemented to reduce the disturbance from noise.

We would once again like to extend our thanks to the LAF for their contribution to the consultation process.

Yours faithfully

Sunita Mills
Transport Strategy and Spatial Development Controller
Plymouth Transport and Highways