

APPENDIX 2

Peninsula Transport Consultation - Mid Devon District Council response

Question 1: How much do you support or oppose the Peninsula Transport vision of “Transforming transport across the Peninsula to enable our society and economy to thrive and our unique and outstanding environment to flourish”?

Strongly Support

This consultation was considered by Mid Devon District Council’s Economy Policy Development Group at its meeting of the 9th September 2021.

Mid Devon District Council supports the creation of a Regional Transport Strategy and wish to work closely with Devon County Council and Peninsula Transport with regard to the next stages of the plan’s development. Regional transport improvements are key to economic recovery and can play a vital role in responding to climate change. Whilst the District Council supports the Vision it would recommend that more explicit reference be made to the importance of tackling climate change and addressing inequalities.

Question 2: How much do we support or oppose the Peninsula Transport goals?

- ***We will improve connections between people, businesses & places***
- ***We will enhance the resilience of the transport network***
- ***We will deliver affordable, zero-emissions transport for everyone***
- ***We will help to improve the health and wellbeing of communities in the Peninsula***
- ***We will help the Peninsula to be a great place to live and work***

These goals are all strongly supported. In addition, it is suggested that reliable public transport digital/electronic information needs much improvement in the sub region and the role of intelligent transport systems should be considered in future plans.

Question 3: What are the transport challenges, opportunities and priorities you feel should be focused on in the next 30 years within the Peninsula Transport region?

Challenges:

- Rural transport disparity: limited public transport coverage, high cost and infrequency
- Journey time reliability: A need to make improvements to allow our businesses to compete effectively
- Barriers to the growth agenda with current infrastructure often at capacity
- How to encourage non-vehicular trips with a lack of adequate cycling/walking provision within and between local communities
- Rural Road Maintenance
- Sparsity of electric charging points
- Inequality issues more generally with regard to transport provision and access

Opportunities:

- To build back our local economy around greener transport solutions
- Provision of improved public transport serving our market towns and their rural hinterland
- To make a step change in pedestrian and cycle improvements in our Market Towns
- Improvements to our strategic highway network such as at J28 and J27 of the M5 Motorway, Cullompton Town Centre Relief Road, A361 Tiverton Link Road
- Reopening of Cullompton Railway Station
- To improve digital transport information and connected intelligent transport systems

Priorities:

- Support our businesses through improved strategic connectivity such as M5 enhancements including J28 upgrade to unlock strategic developments
- Cullompton Town Centre Relief Road and Tiverton A361 Link Road to unlock development and help regenerate our town centres
- Reopening of Cullompton Railway Station
- Greater cycle/pedestrian investment in our market towns
- Increased electric charging point investment
- Rural public transport investment
- Road maintenance investment

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the vision; the District Council would wish to be closely involved as the strategy develops.