

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Development Plan Team
County Hall
182 Galgorm Road
Ballymena
BT42 1QF

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

2 December 2019

Dear Sir / Madam

Mid & East Antrim Borough 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.

The 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.

We would emphasise the vital role that developer contributions have 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.

The control of car parking is probably the single biggest lever which can be used to influence travel behaviour. 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.

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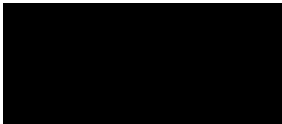
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We believe that there is a need to identify more meaningful indicators and targets associated with the strategy, which will assist in monitoring and determining the impact of land use on the transportation network, and ultimately influencing it's sustainability.

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



Robin Totten
Head of Strategic Planning & Business Change