

## Consultation Questions

### Consultation Response Form

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### Question 1: Do you support the proposed amendment to the Regional Transport Planning (Wales) Order 2006?

**Yes**

However, if local authorities are to be able to choose the collective area for joint working and then prepare transport plans jointly for that area, it would be helpful if the Guidance to Local Transport Authorities-Local Transport Plan 2015 encouraged joint working arrangements to mirror those to be established for other aspects of public service delivery notably local development plans and the Strategic Development Plans proposed in the draft Planning(Wales)Bill.

### Question 2: Do you have any comments on the Guidance to Local Transport Authorities – Local Transport Plan 2015 (Annex 1)

**Yes**

#### **If yes please detail:**

Natural Resources Wales has the following comments to make on the draft Guidance. They are proposed to help ensure integration of the environment and natural resource management with the transport planning process and to integrate the transport planning process with other strategic policy and delivery mechanisms thereby optimising economic, social and environmental outcomes.

#### **Paragraph 1.21**

It would be helpful to clarify the interrelationship between the National Transport Plan and the National Development Framework proposed in the draft Planning (Wales) Bill together with the relationship between joint transport plans and the Strategic Development Plans proposed in the draft Planning (Wales) Bill.

To ensure early consideration of environmental issues as part of wider social and economic decision making, thereby increasing the resilience of our natural resources for future challenges in relation to climate change for example, it would be helpful to highlight the role of the Natural Resources Policy and the Area Based Natural Resource Management Approach set out in the consultation on proposals for an Environment Bill `Towards the Sustainable Management of Wales' Natural Resources`.

The Active Travel (Wales) Act sets out a requirement on new road schemes to consider the needs of pedestrians and cyclists at the design stage of projects, it would be helpful if the Guidance document could make reference to the Active Travel (Wales) Act.

**Paragraph 1.2.6**

To help deliver multiple benefits and better outcomes for environmental, social and economic well being it would be helpful to refer to the Natural Resources Policy and the Area Based Natural Resource Management Approach.

**Paragraph 2.1.4**

It would be helpful to clarify the interrelationship between the National Transport Plan and the proposed National Development Framework and Strategic Development Plans.

**Paragraph 2.2.1**

The proposals for the Environment Bill require Natural Resources Wales to prepare a State of Natural Resources Report. This will help provide an evidence base for the National Transport Plan and Local Transport Plans.

**Paragraph 2.4.1/Table 3.1**

It would be helpful to include guidance in relation to the need to ensure the National Transport Plan and Local Transport Plans are informed by Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment and to amend the timeline set out in Table 3.1 accordingly.

**Paragraph 2.6.3/Annex 3 Monitoring and Evaluation**

The monitoring and evaluation plan should include impact and benefits in relation to the environment and natural resource management.

The evidence base and data sets should include the environment and natural resource management .This will help ensure that decision making in relation to national and local transport plans is integrated with proactive, long term and holistic decision making for our natural environment.

Natural Resources Wales would be able to assist with the identification and provision of the evidence base and data sets.

Responses to consultations are likely to be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here: