

TYNE AND WEAR FREIGHT ACTION PLAN

Newsletter

APRIL 2008

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Tyne and Wear wins Freight Quality Partnership of the Year

Last month the Partnership was successful in winning the Freight Transport Association's (FTA) 'Freight Quality Partnership (FQP) of the Year Award' at the Urban Logistics Conference in London. It topped a shortlist of nine FQPs, selected from 112 that are in place across England.

Theo de Pencier (Chief Executive of the FTA) praised the comprehensive work programme and recognised the engagement with stakeholders and drivers in developing policies to deal with key freight issues. The Partnership was credited with delivering relevant and tangible outputs and developing innovative ideas that are practical and relevant to goods vehicle operators. The extensive use of web-based media was also acknowledged.



Mark Wilson, of the LTP Core Team, said *'we are very pleased to accept this award on behalf of the Partnership. I would like to thank all of the partners for their hard work over the last three years - much of what has been achieved would not have been possible without the excellent level of joint working between organisations. We have identified a range of further tasks to carry out and look forward to taking the Partnership forward over the coming years'*. Jonathan James, Head of the Faber Maunsell Sustainable Transport Group, and Project Director said *'It has been a pleasure to work with so many enthusiastic partners from the freight industry and the local authorities. This is a true example of how understanding of problems and a partnership approach can lead to tangible benefits for the freight industry and that less nuisance and disruption to communities can result from better routing. It is also good to know that the partners also believe that the best is yet to come'*.



Tyne and Wear Freight Partnership installs the UK's first Truck Information Point

In February, the Partnership has installed the UK's first electronic Truck Information Point (TIP) on the A1 at Durham Roadchef Services (Junction 61). The TIP provides information for drivers entering and leaving the area, including traffic information, lorry parking, routes to freight destinations, and guidance from the Department for Transport's Freight Best Practice Programme. The TIP has been developed from the Partnership's website (www.tyneandwearfreight.info), but has been adapted to make the facility more user friendly and enable it to operate on a touchscreen basis. It has been implemented in conjunction with a stand, which holds hard copies of maps for key freight destinations. Signs to promote awareness of the facility have also been erected in the lorry parking area.

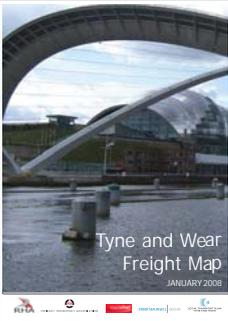
Mark Wilson, of the LTP Core Team, said *'we hope that the information point will be helpful in assisting drivers to plan their journeys more effectively. Use of the TIP will be monitored and surveys carried out with drivers - feedback will be used to inform future revisions to the facility. If successful, we hope to provide similar information points at other locations in the area'*.

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Tyne and Wear Freight Map - New Edition Complete!

A new and improved version of the Tyne and Wear Freight Map has been completed. The original map was launched in 2006 and identifies a suggested road freight network for the conurbation. It shows the key destinations for freight traffic and preferred routes to the destinations are depicted along with height and weight restrictions. The map also includes relevant contact details and best practice information. As part of the action plan for this year, a comprehensive review of the map has been carried out and 40 additional destinations have been added. The map has been reviewed by the respective local authorities and a final draft was circulated before Christmas. 3,000 copies of the map have now been printed and are being distributed. A web-based version of the map has also been uploaded on the website.

Website

The website is still proving very popular and that is borne out by the total number of hits to the site. Since the site was launched on 13th December 2006 it has received **91,940 hits** by **17,652 users**. Since 13th December 2007 there have been 25,306 hits by 4,432 individual users.

Year 4 (2008/09) Action Plan

Following on from the success of Year 3, a new programme of work has been outlined for the coming year. Highlights of the new programme include:

- Review of loading and unloading arrangements (town and city centres);
- Design improvements for loading and unloading;
- Review night time delivery restrictions;
- Further development of the tailored freight destination maps, showing the location of individual companies;
- Implement an additional Truck Information Point;
- Disseminating Fresnel lenses; and
- Progression of further signing improvements.

In addition, the Partnership will continue to meet quarterly, consult with the industry, communicate activity through the newsletter and press releases, embed and disseminate existing maps develop the website further.

Get Involved

You are welcome to attend the next meeting, which is to be held on **12th June 2008** at **Newcastle Civic Centre (10am)**. For more information please contact **Michael Page** by email on michael.page@fabermaunsell.com. Alternatively call Mike on **0191 224 6512**.