

TYNE AND WEAR FREIGHT ACTION PLAN

NEWS
JULY 2007

Paper for Conference

A paper on the Tyne and Wear Freight Partnership has been prepared in order to raise awareness of the work carried out to date. It will be presented at the Transport Practitioners Meeting at the University of Manchester on 24th July.



**Fifth
Transport
Practitioners
Meeting**
Ideas into reality
The annual meeting place
for all transport engineers, planners
and urban transport designers
Programme
24-25 July 2007
University of Manchester

The paper outlines the policy context to the work, before setting out the process of establishing and developing the Freight Partnership. The work undertaken on providing routing information is explained, including the production of a freight map for Tyne and Wear and detailed tailored maps for individual destinations. Reviews of signage with respect to freight are then discussed along with the progression/implementation of the recommendations. The paper continues to look at the review of priority lanes in Tyne and Wear, the provision of lorry parking, assessment of rail freight and the communication techniques used by the Partnership.

A copy of the paper can be downloaded from the 'News' page of the website (www.tyneandwearfreight.info).

Operator Consultation

An important task being undertaken at present is to review with operators the tasks completed in the first two years of the Partnership. This is important in gauging views on current work and informing the future direction of the Partnership. A telephone questionnaire has been developed covering awareness of the partnership, mapping, signage, lorry parking, communication, additional tasks and potential for back-loading. 40 telephone interviews are to be completed and 15 site visits will be carried out. The target is for 75% of the interviews to be carried out with operators outside of Tyne and Wear.

Port of Tyne Signage

South Tyneside Council completed the implementation of signage to the Port of Tyne on the A185 in June 2007. Complementary signs on the A19 are to be installed by the Highways Agency by the end of the Summer.

Review of the Freight Map

The first version of the Tyne and Wear Freight map was produced in February 2006. The map is currently being reviewed in consultation with the five local authorities. This includes identification of additional key destinations, a review of preferred routes, highway restrictions and contact details.

Tailored Freight Maps

With the Tyne and Wear Freight Map as a starting point, these maps show a more detailed road network around the destinations, highlight preferred routes, include directions from the strategic road network and depict individual buildings. 11 maps were produced during Year 2 and were well received by the local authorities and representatives at the destinations. Maps are currently being produced for Portobello Industrial Estate, Tyne Tunnel Trading Estate, Rainton Bridge Industrial Estate, Silverlink, Cobalt and Middle Engine Lane. A map is also to be produced for Team Valley, which will require 2 sections (Kingsway North and South). The map to be produced for Washington will require 5 sections. In addition, further detailed maps are being produced for East Gateshead, Northumberland Street and Port of Tyne.

Abnormal Loads Route Map

A standardised and up-to-date abnormal loads map for Tyne and Wear is currently being produced. The map will show preferred routes by load category (wide, heavy and high) across the conurbation. It is envisaged that the map will be available for operators to view on the website, although local authorities will still be required to authorise any given route, based on the type of vehicle and the highway restrictions in place.

Mapping Highway Restrictions

At present, each local authority uses different methods of storing data to depict height, weight and width restrictions. A standardised map for Tyne and Wear is currently being produced to show all restrictions across the conurbation.

Signage to The Bridges Shopping Centre (Sunderland)

Work is currently underway to draw up a design specification for the provision of signage to the Bridges Shopping Centre from the inner ring road. The work is also reviewing existing signage on the inner ring road in conjunction with Sunderland City Council.

How Do I Get Involved?

The best way to get involved is to attend the Partnership meetings. The next meeting is to be held on **13th September (10:30am)** at **Faber Maunsell, One Trinity Gardens, Broad Chare, Quayside, Newcastle**. Your views are important to the success of the partnership and its actions. If you have any queries on the above, or would like more information please contact **Michael Page** by email on michael.page@fabermaunsell.com. Alternatively call Mike on **0191 224 6512**.