

TYNE AND WEAR FREIGHT ACTION PLAN

Newsletter

JULY 2008

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2008 Freight Quality Partnership of the Year



Operator Face-to-Face Interviews

The Partnership have completed and reported the findings of a series of face-to-face interviews with operators. The purpose of the interviews has been to review the work carried out to date and inform future tasks. Overall, feedback on the Partnership was very positive and many constructive ideas were put forward on improvements that could be made.

The mapping work was considered to be helpful to operators, with the destinations being particularly useful. Ideas were put forward on the additional information that could be included on the maps (e.g fuel stations). It was suggested that more areas should develop similar maps. Lorry parking provision in the area was thought to be inadequate, validating findings from previous work. An opportunity to develop a new facility was identified – the Partnership will look to assess the feasibility of taking this forward over the coming months. A number of developments to the website were identified and a recommendation to provide links to webcams on the highways network has just been implemented. Signage across the network was generally thought to be good, but a number of areas were identified where it could be improved. Positive suggestions were also made on how communication with operators could be enhanced. Some of the tasks suggested could be implemented in the next 12 months, whereas others will require additional resource and be considered for inclusion in future work programmes.

Action Plan Year 4

The work programme for Year 4 has now been approved. Tasks to be carried out include:

- Task 1: Facilitate Quarterly Partnership Meetings
- Task 2: Newsletter – continue with quarterly updates and increase the circulation.
- Task 3: Website Maintenance, Review and Development
- Task 4: Loading and Unloading Arrangements – review existing arrangements in town and city centres.
- Task 5: Design Improvements to Loading and Unloading Arrangements – will take recommendations forward from Task 4.
- Task 6: Night Time (Out of Hours) Delivery Restrictions – review current restrictions and look at the potential for lifting a ban on a trial basis.
- Task 7: Develop Tailored Destination Maps – will enhance the detail on the existing maps to include company names and locations.
- Task 8: Embedding Destination Maps – delivery and promotion of maps to key sites at the destinations.
- Task 9: Maintain and Monitor the Truck Information Point (TIP) at Durham Services.
- Task 10: Promoting the Partnership – to include press releases, a new leaflet promoting the work of the Partnership and presentation of a paper at a conference.
- Task 11: Operator Consultation Evening Event
- Task 12: Private Sector Truck Parking Reciprocation Parking Pilot – assessment of the feasibility for lorry parking exchange programme between operators.
- Task 13: Rail Freight Further Assessment – building on the work carried out to date, focusing on the potential for increasing multi-modal traffic

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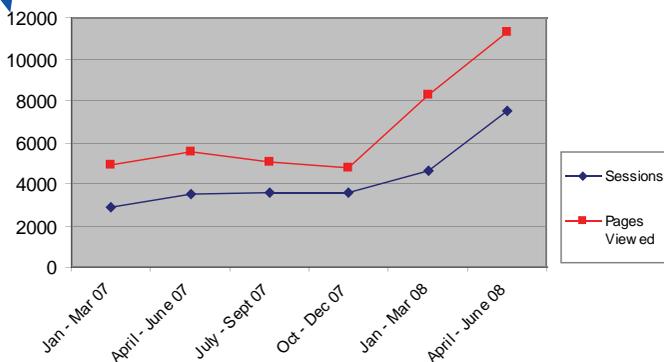
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2008 Freight Quality Partnership of the Year

Website Statistics



Promoting the Partnership

The success of the Partnership in winning the Freight Transport Association's '2008 Partnership of the Year' award was covered in the local and trades press, including the Sunderland Echo, Commercial Motor and Freight Industry Times.

There has also been a notable increase in the number of hits to the website since the Partnership won the award in March. The chart below shows that there were 7,500 sessions in the period April to June 2008 and around 11,000 pages viewed.

Progression of Year 4

As the freight destination maps now cover the majority of the large freight generators, we are now focusing on enhancing existing maps by denoting the location of individual companies at each site. The maps being developed are North Tyne Industrial Estate, Silverlink, Tyne Tunnel Trading Estate, Parsons, Crowther, Pattinson, Hertburn, Portobello and Rainton Bridge. The maps will also be delivered to the companies – this has been completed for Northumberland Street and Rainton Bridge. In the case of Team Valley, we are looking to engage with UK Land Estates to assist with the distribution.

One of the suggestions from the operator interviews was to include links to webcams around Tyne and Wear. Links have now been added to the webcams covering the Tyne Tunnel, Mouth of the Tyne and Tyne Bridge.



Truck Information Point (TIP)

A stand containing hard copies of the destination maps has been installed alongside the electronic Truck Information Point (TIP) at Durham Services. The maps are proving to be very popular – the most popular maps are for East Gateshead, Northumberland Street, Port of Tyne, MetroCentre, Eldon Square and Team Valley (South).

It has come to our attention that there have been some technical problems with the TIP. These have been reported to the supplier and they are working to resolve them.

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Consolidation Centre Feasibility Study

A progress note on the feasibility of a Consolidation Centre Study for Newcastle City Centre has been prepared by WSP. Such a scheme could reduce the number of deliveries to the area, resulting in environmental benefits.

The following tasks have now been completed:

- Review of the operation of existing consolidation centres.
- Review of existing servicing arrangements in Newcastle through consultation with retailers.
- Discussions with operators of other consolidation centres.
- Assessment of the benefits of a consolidation centre.

The survey has included a consultation with retailers to discuss deliveries and unloading arrangements. Meetings are now being held with potential operators to discuss the concept of a consolidation centre at Eldon Square. This will assist in preparing a more detailed proposal that could be presented to retailers.



New Tyne Crossing (Traffic Management Issues)

The Partnership are represented on the Strategic Partnering Forum for the construction of the New Tyne Crossing. It was agreed that the Partnership would communicate the latest traffic management issues to operators through the website and newsletter. Links to the New Tyne Crossing website have therefore been set up from the 'News' page of the Partnership's website (www.tyneandwearfreight.info). This includes information on planned closures and diversions.

Get Involved

You are welcome to attend the next meeting, which is to be held on **18th September 2008** at the **Faber Maunsell offices, First Floor, One Trinity Gardens, Broad Chare, Quayside, Newcastle (10.30am)**. For more information please contact **Michael Page** by email on michael.page@fabermaunsell.com. Alternatively call Mike on **0191 224 6512**.