Congestion workshops - Clevedon – 15th March 2005

Participants' suggestions for curbing congestion:

1. **Change patterns of travelling for work/business purposes**
   a. "Avoid need for transport"
   b. Make it less necessary to go into congested areas to encourage people not to use cars.
   c. Flexi-time? Does it work?
   d. People set in their ways still work nine till five.
   e. Travel Plans - joint local authorities to take a lead, (they are) not 'green'
   f. Big companies to provide (staff mass-) transport
   g. Friday motorway problem: (introduce) 9-day fortnight - hour extra per day - 10th day only 50 % of the traffic - reduces number of trips people have to make to work.
   h. Schools could also change hours
   i. School run creates congestion: need to get children walking and cycling
   j. Reduce the number of cars per family
   k. One journey to Sainsbury's by car - worse than Internet shopping?

2. **Public transport as a contribution to the solution**
   a. (Attitudes towards) public transport can't change without (it being seen as a viable) alternative
   b. Public transport mix needed - (including the) rail network
   c. Improve reliability and user friendliness of buses
   d. Better infrastructure (needed) for bus routes - info, comfort in queues and on buses
   e. Link community transport to showcase routes
   f. (There is) no bus on the Avon ring road!

3. **Traffic management measures**
   a. Traditional attitude 'speed traffic up'- need to psychoanalyse why people (need to) do it.
   b. Address bottlenecks with minor schemes and traffic management measures.
   c. Understand the local constraints and design your measures accordingly - may (have to) include limitations on development plans
   d. (Institute) flexible speed limits depending on traffic conditions
   e. Improve road managements and signage e.g. zipping two lanes into one.
   f. 2+ lanes - forced up area - no one uses free lanes!
   g. Therefore (drivers) divert through Long Ashton

      h. (A) continuous bus lane will help

4.   **Parking**

      a. (Need a) flexible parking policy throughout the day

      b. Extend Park and Ride into the evenings for leisure purposes

5.   **Congestion charging**

      a. Congestion charges (are the) only way!

      b. Not sustainable in London!

Accessibility/Road Safety/Air Quality workshops
- Clevedon – 15th March 2005

Participants' suggestions for improving accessibility:

1. **Improving accessibility to services**

   c. To healthcare services:

      i. Local accessibility plans - don't make sense e.g. Healthcare facilities

      ii. Healthcare not local - e.g. major sports centre at Shepton Mallet

      iii. More discussion needed with healthcare planners

      iv. Regional health authority should contribute to the cost of misplacing services

      v. (Plans need to recognise the needs of) Ambulance services

      vi. (Publicise) travel info provided by NHS/Education providers

   d. Other priorities

      i. Negotiate with consumer service providers about the pattern of their delivery.

      ii. E.g. Portishead Post Office closing (and hospitals) - make alternatives attractive/available

      iii. One journey to Sainsbury's by car (is) worse than Internet shopping?

      iv. Job centres and food shopping (are priorities)

      v. Regeneration issue – (grant) mobile shops relief from business rates.

      vi. (Improve access from) J18 M5 to A38 (south of Bristol), via Cumberland basin and airport

   e. Public transport as an aid to accessibility

      i. (Provide) revenue support for buses -subsidised bus services

      ii. General subsidy - make it local - recommend at sub-regional and national level.

      iii. Improve/ publicise info about bus services

      iv. Rural bus stops need shelters and raised curbs

      v. Long Ashton: Park and Ride deterred by Showcase lane

      vi. Improve the city end of the Park and Ride (more flexible drop off points)

      vii. Reopen rural rail station(s)

   f. Community transport as an aid to accessibility

      i. A significant minority haven't got cars

ii. (Bring) services to the people: (not just) people to the services

iii. Community transport (should be developed more)

iv. Community buses (could provide valuable contribution)

v. (Straighten out the) strange rules where one community transport group can't cross (another's) boundaries

Participants' suggestions for improving road safety:

6. **Road Safety**

   a. Community responsibility to improve safety

      i. (Need to) change society's attitudes (towards safety)

      ii. All road users (should be) trained

      iii. (Publicity) campaigns (are) needed

      iv. 'Pedestrians come first' but that isn't how it works in e.g. Keynsham

      v. (Promote) 'Safer streets' (as in) e.g. Holland, Denmark

      vi. (Promote) 'Sharing People' (as in) e.g. America

      vii. Education and training (is the key)

   b. Children are a key concern

      i. Children are in danger

      ii. (Poor road safety) discourages people from letting them travel alone

      iii. More traffic - therefore safe walking, safe cycling needed

      iv. Parents (should be required to) park away from school

   c. Driving behaviour

      i. "Motorists not to blame for everything"

      ii. Make certain that motorists don't kill cyclists - no incentive to cycle

      iii. (Recommend) driving tests every five years

      iv. (Promote) 'Pride in driving'

      v. Horse riders - problem?

   d. Traffic measures

      i. Speed humps (need to) take account (of the needs) of emergency services

      ii. (We) don't maintain footpaths alongside main roads

Participants' suggestions for improving air quality:

7. **Air (and Noise) Pollution**

a. Air Pollution

    i. Air pollution (is caused by) congestion

    ii. Encourage people to switch their engines off

    iii. Improve awareness of subsidy schemes for conversion to LPG

    iv. (Promote) electric transport

b. Noise Pollution

    i. Protection to housing where traffic volumes are significantly increasing eg along A38

    ii. (Use) lower noise surfaces when resurfacing roads

Joint Local Transport Plan Consultation Event at Clevedon
- 15th March 2005

"Post-it" Comments from Stakeholders

1. Big picture – Strategic thinking

- Will disadvantaged individuals be lost amongst the 'advantaged majority' in rural communities?
- Are policies joined up - e.g. parking charge will deter commuters using rail at e.g. Yatton
- Integrated systems - on one ticket
- More flexible approach (needed) to rail/bus links
- The 'Big Plan' (Option C) - irrespective of what triggers funding.
- True consultation (needed) on transport issues before decision e.g. A4174, 2+car share etc.

2. Congestion

- No congestion charge!
- Park at Work charge - will hit the lower paid - company vehicles could not be sensibly controlled
- Our company operates a nine-day fortnight - (reduces car usage)
- An American 'buddy' system - promotion of this will cut journey time
- Avoid aggravating existing problems e.g. £1.5 million grant to airport for American service, which will increase travel.
- No money to alleviate the problems already being created by airport traffic.
- Improve traffic light management
- Traffic management on A369 e.g. at Abbott's Leigh
- Portbury, Pill and Easton in Gordano cannot access junction 19 and/or A369 during peak hours - 40mins or more queues.

3. Re-establish rail link to Portishead

- Portishead rail (would reduce problems)
- Re-integration of Portishead rail line will avoid pollution, ease traffic congestion and get people out of cars.
- If rail taken to Ashton roundabout and linked with Park and Ride this could address problem of A369 capacity.
- Has sufficient thought been give to Portishead rail line in cost/benefit terms?
- Publicise decision criteria - especially for the Portishead to Wapping Wharf railway line and Avonmouth, Henbury and Filton route.
- (Why) lack of government (support) for improved local rail services?

4. Contribution of buses to solution of traffic problems

- Practicality of showcase route Bristol to Portishead?
- Lack of revenue support for new vehicle standards for the Showcase Bus Routes?
- New bus and coach station (needed) for Weston-Super-Mare.
- Cleaning quality and regulation framework with the Traffic commissioner.
- Why no mention of community transport?

5. Air/Noise Pollution

- Home zones in deprived areas to reduce air pollution and accidents.
- What is pollution impact of buses running empty?
- Taxis running engines while parked (creates pollution)?

- Noise in North Somerset: Aircraft, HGVs, Speeding vehicles.
- Noise reduction: reduce speed, low noise surfacing, need good design to mitigate.
- Check road traffic and aircraft noise meets EU/government directives and if not deal with source.