



Government Office for the South West
representing central government in the south west region

GOSW

Local Transport Act 2008

An Update for the West of England Partnership

12th December 2008





- **Policy - an evolutionary process**

Transport Act 2000 / LTP1

LTP2 Outcome Process / RSS Alignment

Towards a Sustainable Transport System (TaSTS)

The Local Transport Bill



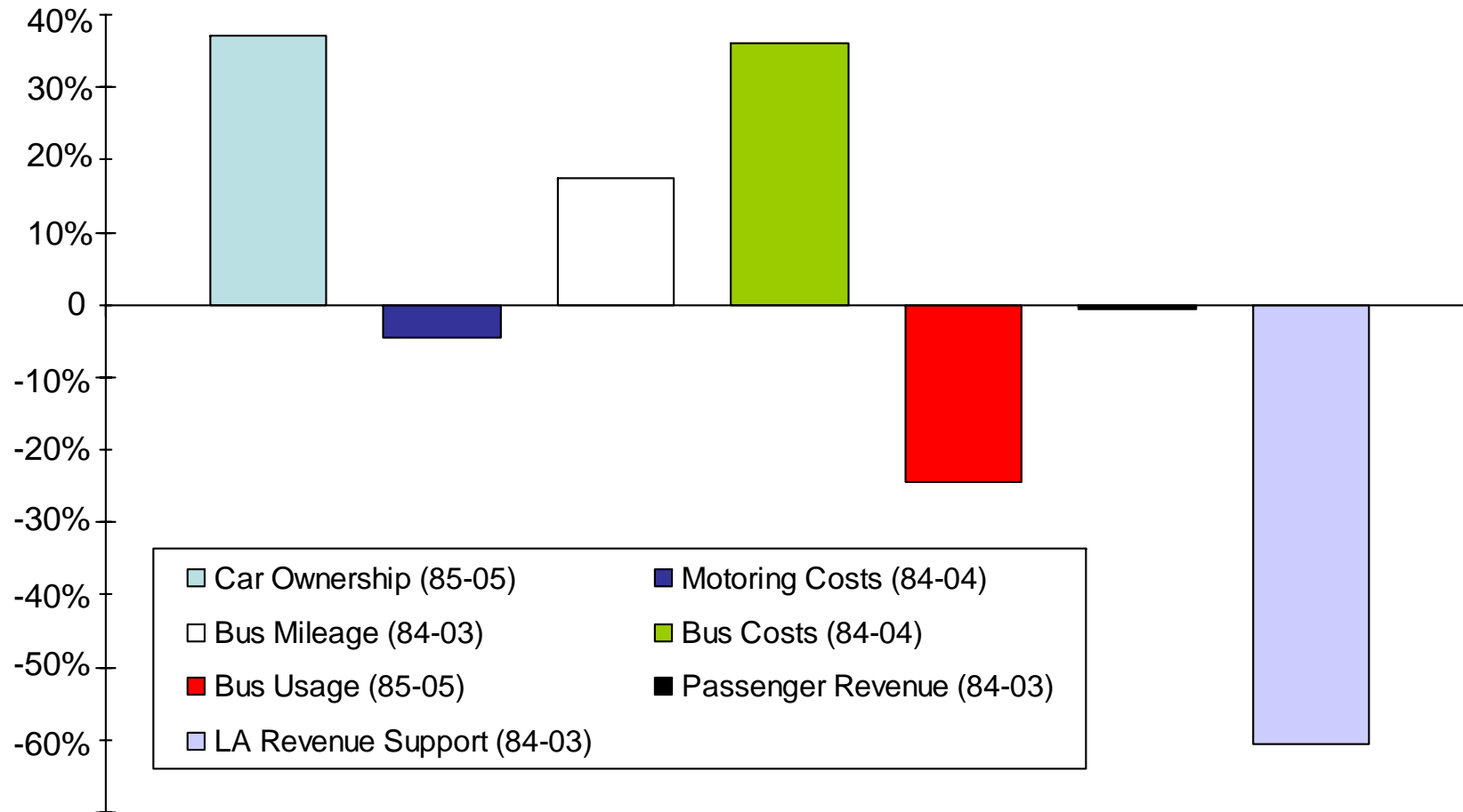


- So how are we doing ?





National Car vs. Bus Trends 1984 - 2005



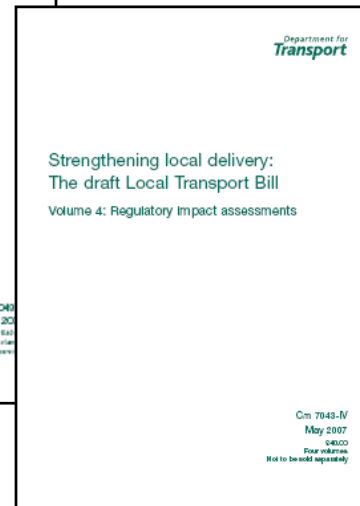
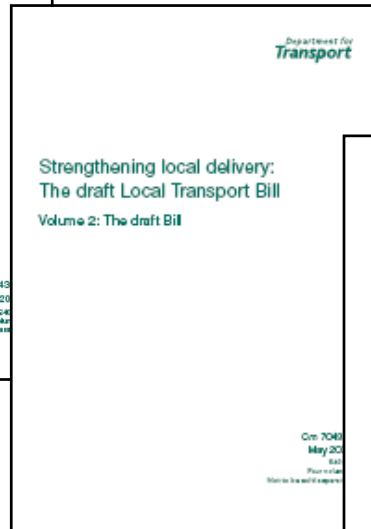
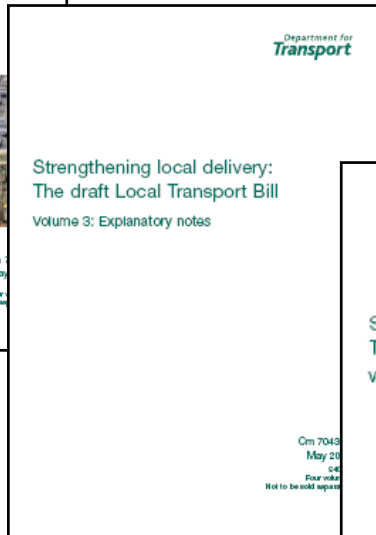


- Moving Forward – The Local Transport Bill





Developing the Local Transport Bill



May 07	Draft Bill published
Parliamentary pre-legislative scrutiny Consultation events	
Commons / Lords / Committee Stages	
18th Nov 2008	Final Commons Stage
26th Nov 2008	Royal Assent



Today's Context

- **Economy healthy?**, people travelling more, rail/plane/car journeys rising, but bus the exception to this boom
- According to National Statistics bus use has been in decline in every region outside London, including all the Passenger Transport Executive areas
- Congestion occurs in most of our biggest conurbations and is growing fast – but the bus is not attracting passengers – why?
- Putting Passengers First
12 December 2006





Purpose:

Tackling congestion and
improving public transport



Content: 3 Core Areas

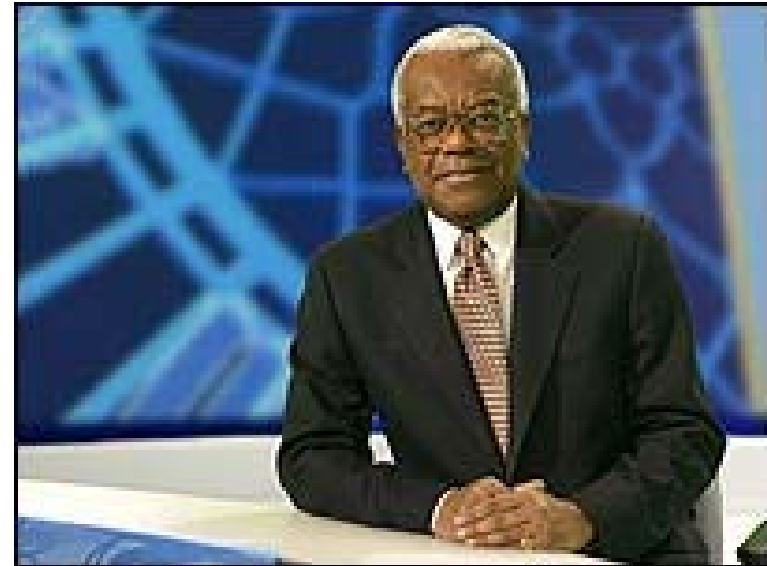
- Improving local bus services
- Reforming local transport governance
- Updating legal powers for local road pricing schemes





Headlines

- Partnerships
- Quality contracts
- Punctuality
- Community transport
- Bus subsidy
- Road Pricing
- Governance





Putting Passengers First – Voluntary and Statutory Partnerships

Department for
Transport

- Enhancements to the existing arrangements for voluntary and statutory partnership schemes between local authorities and bus operators
- Would extend the permissible scope of schemes to cover minimum frequencies and co-ordination of their timings and to possibly allow some control over maximum fares.
- Regulations to Provide full definition of content and options. Reg's will be prepared as soon as Royal Assent is received, with new power to be 'On the Shelf' and ready to use by April 2009.
- 'Admissable Objections' to be decided by the Traffic Commissioner





Putting Passengers First – Quality Contracts

Department for
Transport

- Making “quality contracts” schemes a realistic option by:
 - Replacing the ‘only practicable way’ test with a ‘proportionate - public interest criteria’ Reg’s to be published.
 - BUT Local Authority ‘owns’ the decision
 - The Secretary of State’s approval role replaced with a new advisory board chaired by Traffic Commissioner
 - The duration of contracts could be extended beyond the current limits under certain circumstances. Contracts could be area, sub-area, route based. Realistic date for new power – October 2009.





Community Transport

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Transport

We are also working towards:

- Giving more opportunity to the community transport sector through amending permit regulations – such as paid drivers, service registrations
- Could support more stable financial basis for local schemes, and contribute to BVPI 102.





Strengthening the Role of The Traffic Commissioner

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- Provision of a Statutory Footing for the Commissioners, with some additional powers for Senior Traffic Commissioner – such as Advisory Board Chair of QC decision body
- New powers to fine LAs not delivering bus punctuality requirements, new role in Quality Partnership Scheme as adjudicator for ‘Admissable Objections’.





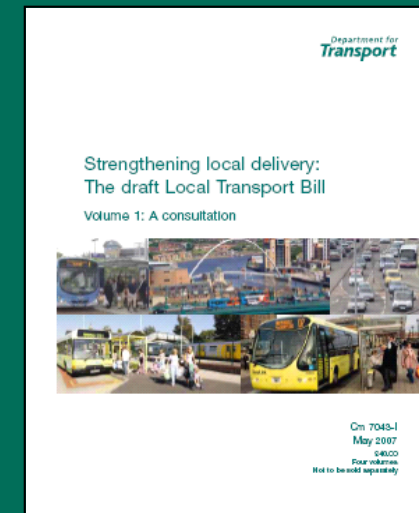
Local Road Pricing

Transport Act 2000 & Greater London Authority Act 1999

Working with Local Authorities considering road pricing

- Supporting development of local schemes
- Flexibility for local areas to meet local needs
- Ensuring consistency between local schemes

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NOT ABOUT NATIONAL ROAD PRICING



Governance & Transfer of Powers

Department for
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- Local reviews of existing governance arrangements
- Restructuring of existing / Creation of new ITAs
- Review might cover:
 - Roles & powers of councils / ITAs / PTEs
 - Membership / constitution / executive arrangements of ITA
 - Powers to direct
 - Changing boundaries, etc
- Different approaches in different areas
- Issue of guidance on reviews