
CambridgeshireTransportCommission

Independent Transport Commission
for Cambridgeshire

Sir Brian Briscoe
Prof Tony Travers

Final Report – July 2009

CambridgeshireTransportCommission

Process

- January 2009 – call for evidence
- 1000 responses to online survey and 130 letters and emails
- April - Report of evidence received published on website
- March to June – 15 Public Hearings in Cambridge and all Districts
- 119 witnesses and 53 different organisations.

Context

- Growth and traffic congestion
- Transport Innovation Fund Bid
- Regional and national role
- Park and ride, cycling and public transport achievements
- Constructive working relationships
- Recognition of need for action

TIF Proposals

- **Government grant of £517m**
- Public Transport - £300m
- Walking and cycling - £55m
- Road Access and Junctions - £108m
- Rail improvements – Ely to Cambridge
- Smarter Choices and Travel planning
- Congestion Charge

TIF - Public Transport

- Bus Priority dedicated routes - £150m
- Park & Ride – new, moved, expanded - £90m
- Guided Bus improvement and interchanges - £28m
- City Centre improvements – £20m
- Contribution to Hybrid Buses - £16m
- Improved real time information

TIF - Other

- Walking and Cycling - £55m
- Doubling of P&R parking
- Increased Parking at stations
- Access for Cambridge East and junction improvements
- Congestion charge - £18m capital, £11m running cost in Year 1, reducing to £7m pa, approx £40m revenue

Other Investments

- A14 Widening by Highways Agency
- Chesterton Station
- Developer contributions
- Operator investments in Hybrid Buses

Findings

- Many conflicting views
- Regional and national growth role
- Growing economy and increasing congestion
- Achievements in Park and Ride, cycling, public transport and planned modal shift
- Broad recognition that “Something must be done”
- Clear that locally available resources do not match the scale of the problem

Conclusions and Recommendations 1

- Case for national resources for transport investment is clear
- No alternative in centralised Britain
- Cambridgeshire needs TIF resources to sustain economy and environment
- Broad support – subject to detailed consultation, especially buses in town centre – for TIF investment proposals
- Improved bus, rail, cycling and walking, with park & ride and travel planning can hold congestion at bay – for a time

Conclusions and Recommendations 2

- Congestion charge should not be ruled out
- But the improvements must be in place before its introduction
- Our judgement is that 2017 is the earliest date
- Better measurement of congestion needed as a basis for triggering a consultation on its introduction
- Revised TIF Bid should invite Govt to commit resources on basis of undertakings to introduce charge if and when an agreed level of congestion is reached

Conclusions and Recommendations 3

- No Integrated Transport Authority, but more effective joint working between CCC, City C, SCDC and Greater Cambridge Partnership to develop and promote agreed community owned strategy
- “Partnership for transport” to develop measurements for congestion and seek community support for a trigger point, and concerted “travel planning”
- “Smart “ bus ticketing, routeing and dwell times
- Better information, spider maps, make it simple
- More and better communication between councils, media and public

Conclusions and Recommendations 4

- Cycling and walking need *vastly* better maintenance
- Support extended P&R arrangements
- Innovation – tunnels, ULTra, mini tram, voluntary charging – not ruled out for ever
- Community transport
- Alternative Financing not a real option
- Assurances to wider county on resources
- Charging consultation – discounts and exemptions

Conclusions and Recommendations 5

Why Government should support TIF bid

- ***Cambridge is a key centre*** for economic and housing growth
- Importance to national economy
- Supportive business community
- High cycle use and potential
- Positive trend in use of public transport
- Community understanding of sustainability challenge
- A centre of innovation

Thanks

- Venue management and Recording staff
- CCC staff
- Media
- Business community and GCP
- Maggie Smales
- James Wilson
- You

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Questions?