

BRIEFING NOTE

TO: ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL

DATE: 4 January 2010

RE: PROGRESS REPORT OF THE INTEGRATED TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

Purpose

This briefing note sets out a summary of the second meeting of the Integrated Transport Working Group and informs the Panel of the planned future work of the group.

Summary of Progress to date

Membership

The membership of the group is:

Councillor A Harris – ESPP (Lead Member)

Councillor C Bott – ESPP

Councillor B Douglas-Maul – ESPP

Councillor D Anson – RSPP

Councillor D Pitt – RSPP

Councillor I Shires – RSPP

Summary of third meeting

At its meeting on 17 December 2009, the group met with officers from the Council. The group were presented with a map of Walsall town centre for member's consideration throughout the meeting. Key issues identified were as follows:

Bradford Place

- Work needed to be done to ensure that Centro were fully aware of the work of the ITWG and considered the group in their work
- Bradford Place was not a permanent solution but the need for an interim solution at Bradford Place was agreed.

Transport to the Manor Hospital

- Members considered that there was sufficient demand for public transport to the hospital
- Community transport and subsidisation from the PCT and hospital were discussed as viable alternative to commercial public transport

Signage around town centre

- 3 different types of signs and 24 locations had been identified to identify routes for interchange between modes of transport in the town centre.
- The group agreed to include ward Councillors in the discussions about signage.

To conclude the meeting, Members agreed the following:

- We strongly recommend that Centro liaise with officers to explore the feasibility of a full time bus service to the Manor Hospital from the town centre (and other routes).
- The working group endorse the work of officers on the signage in the town centre and recommend that this is moved forward at a reasonable pace.
- We reaffirm the view that the future interests of the town, both economically and socially, are best serviced by fully integrated transport and all our efforts shall be targeted to this objective.

Recommendations

That the Environment Scrutiny and Performance panel note the progress made by the Integrated Transport Working Group.

Author

Nikki Ehlen
Performance and Scrutiny Team
Corporate Performance Management
☎ 01922 65 2824
ehlenn@walsall.gov.uk