

City of Bristol December 2007

Local freight network

Context

Bristol is the largest urban area in the south west region of the UK with a population of some 400,000 people. Bristol acts as a regional centre for industry, commerce, education and culture and has a long established history as an important centre for trade. The city also serves as a major transport hub providing a gateway to the south west.

Objectives

Bristol's local freight network was established in 2003 in the form of a Freight Quality Partnership (FQP). The aim of the network is to promote and facilitate the efficient, economic, safe and sustainable distribution of freight in Bristol and the surrounding area.

Description of the action

The FQP was developed in order to address a range of freight issues and to work towards achieving the aspirations of local transport policy, which seeks to balance sustainable transport with economic vitality. It was therefore recognised that it would be beneficial to have a mechanism that allowed enhanced understanding between Local Authorities and the freight sector. Helping to stimulate best practice through the exchange of knowledge and experience and increasing efficiency through working together rather than in isolation. Bristol's freight network involves some 17 organisations including 4 neighbouring local authorities, a range of interest groups and hauliers and retailers. The network meets two or three times a year to discuss a variety of issues ranging from the FQP's own annual report and action plan to implementing freight initiatives and providing input for wider policy objectives. An early output from the network saw the production of a Lorry Drivers Atlas, which provides route guidance and information on height, weight and access restrictions. 5000 copies were distributed through the Road Haulage Association.



Further planning and expected results

Future actions include a new updated sub-regional version of the lorry driver's atlas, a review of road hierarchy in the sub region and consulting and providing feedback on the recent Transport Innovation Fund proposal.

Local partners

- Bristol City Council
- Bath and North East Somerset Council
- North Somerset Council
- South Gloucestershire Council
- Government Office South West
- DHL Exel
- Framptons Transport Services Ltd
- CEMEX
- Freightliner Ltd
- Royal Mail
- Freight Transport Association
- Road Haulage Association
- Business West
- Broadmead Board
- Avon and Somerset Police
- Bristol Port Authority
- Bristol International Airport
- Highways Agency

Contact

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