



Delivering Safe, Sustainable
and Efficient Freight for
Tyne and Wear

Tyne and Wear Freight Partnership

Welcome to the August 2011 issue of the newsletter for the Tyne and Wear Freight Partnership

This is the Partnership's first newsletter of the 2011/12 year. Although we have made some small organisational changes to the way the Partnership is run for this year, we intend to continue to deliver a high-quality service, promoting sustainable freight transport in Tyne and Wear.

The Freight Partnership is operated under the remit of the Tyne and Wear Local Transport Plan (LTP), with technical support and operator liaison provided by Aecom.

New LTP for Tyne and Wear

The third Tyne and Wear LTP took effect on 1st April 2011. LTP3 explains how we intend to improve our transport system, covering all the forms of transport that are used to move people and goods around the region. It comprises a Strategy Document setting out our policies for the next 10 years (including our proposals for freight), with an associated three-year Delivery Plan. Further Delivery Plans will be produced from 2014 onwards.

You can view the new LTP at <http://www.tyneandwearltp.gov.uk/documents/ltp3/>

7th September - Special Operator-Focused Meeting!

The next meeting of the Partnership will be a special meeting aimed particularly at operators (although of course, all other Partnership members are also welcome).

We will have three presentations that should be of great interest to operators. These will cover the Tyne Tunnel 2 project, that is now nearing completion, Newcastle's Freight Consolidation Centre proposals and advice on fuel saving for operators.

In addition, because we know operators can find it difficult to attend daytime meetings, we have scheduled this meeting for 6pm, with a buffet tea available from 5.30pm.

The meeting will be held on 7th September in the Leazes Room at Newcastle Civic Centre. Please add it to your diary!

Newsletter - August 2011



LTP TYNE AND WEAR





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Newsletter - August 2011

2011 / 2012 Action Plan

The tasks to be undertaken by the Partnership in 2011 / 12 are listed on the website at http://www.tyneandwearfreight.info/action_plan/action_plan.aspx. They comprise a programme of measures that build on previous initiatives (such as updating our suite of freight destination maps) and also incorporate a number of new innovations, such as our Fleet Recognition proposals.

Fleet Recognition

Fleet Recognition Schemes are free, voluntary schemes that are designed to encourage good practice in operational and environmental performance for operators of goods vehicles. In some cases, they may also include bus and coach fleets.

Individual vehicles are assessed and the overall fleet performance rated, with help and advice for operators wishing to gain a higher rating. There are schemes operating in South Yorkshire, London and Devon and we are assessing the merits of the various schemes (as well as international examples) to consider if a Tyne and Wear scheme would be feasible and attract operator support.

June Meeting

The June meeting of the Partnership was well-attended and included a fascinating and thought-provoking presentation by Keith Ross of Network Rail about bridge strikes and the dangers they pose for both road and rail traffic. You can view his presentation at <http://www.tyneandwearfreight.info/news/pdfs/PresJune2011BridgeStrikes.pdf>



LTP TYNE AND WEAR





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Newsletter - August 2011

Those bridges most often (or most recently) struck in Network Rail's LNE region are as follows:

A1058 Fisher Lane, Cramlington
Albert Hill, Darlington
Albert Road, Middlesbrough
Old Fold Road, Felling
A67 Parkgate, Darlington
Lobley Hill Road, Gateshead
Water Street, Elswick
Sheepfold North, St Peters
Oxbridge Lane, Stockton
Chester Low Road, Plawsworth

Neasham Road, Darlington
Parkside Road, Darlington
Boundary Road, Middlesbrough
A67 Oak Tree, Dinsdale
Wellington Road, Dunston
A173 Guisborough Road, Brotton
Durham Station, Durham
Forest Lane, Yarm
Cross Lane, Gateshead

Tyne Tunnel News

The TT2 project continues to progress and vehicles are now currently using the new tunnel that was built as part of the New Tyne Crossing project. The second phase of the project, which is currently underway, involves the full refurbishment of the original, 1967-built vehicle tunnel. This is expected to be completed in December 2011 when both vehicle tunnels will be open to traffic.



Councillor David Wood, Chair of the Tyne and Wear Integrated Transport Authority (the New Tyne Crossing promoter) makes his address during a mid-river meeting of civic dignitaries in July 2010



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Newsletter - August 2011

Website

The Partnership website continues to be well-used. The most popular pages are:

- Restriction map
- Freight map
- Destination maps
- Interactive destination maps
- Lorry Parking
- News
- Events
- Knowledge network

Online Forum

Just a reminder that we now have an online forum on the Partnership's website, enabling discussion and comment about freight issues. You can access it at http://www.tyneandwearfreight.info/knowledge_network/knowledgenetwork.aspx after completing a short registration process.

Newcastle Freight Consolidation Centre

Clipper Logistics working in partnership with Your Homes Newcastle has created a Freight Consolidation Centre to serve the North East. The Freight Consolidation Centre, known as **The hub**, is located in Newcastle to provide retailer support to Eldon Square, the Metro Centre and Newcastle City Centre in the first instance.

The benefits of the hub will be two fold; retailers can increase store selling space, save on staffing costs, and benefit from flexible delivery patterns as well as packaging removal and recycling. The hub can also offer pre-retailing services and off site storage facilities.

The local economy and environment also benefits as the act of freight consolidation minimises vehicle journeys and mileage therefore reducing emissions and congestion; leading to improved air quality, a balanced approach to road users providing a positive environment for business and, ultimately, a vibrant local economy.



To find out more email thehub@clippergroup.co.uk



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Newsletter - August 2011

Get Involved!

If you would like to get involved with the Partnership you are welcome to come along to the next meeting which is scheduled for September 7th 2011 in the Leazes Room at Newcastle Civic Centre.

Reception is at 17:30, with a buffet tea provided, with the main meeting starting at 18:00.

The agenda for the meeting is available at
<http://www.tyneandwearfreight.info/events/events.aspx>

Future quarterly meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

Wednesday 7 December 2011

Wednesday 7 March 2012

For more information please contact John Bourn by email on john.bourn@newcastle.gov.uk or alternatively call John on 0191 277 8972.



LTP TYNE AND WEAR

