

Wiltshire Council

Council

26 February 2019

From Councillor Ian Thorn, Calne Central Division

To Councillor Bridget Wayman, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Waste

Question (19-22)

What is the strategy for integrating road, rail and buses in the county? In particular, what is our strategy for rail in Wiltshire?

Response

Q: What is the strategy for integrating road, rail and buses in the county?

The Department for Transport (DfT) published 'Door to Door: A strategy for improving sustainable transport integration'¹ in March 2013 which focused on four core areas which needed to be addressed, including: *regular and straightforward connections at all stages of the journey and between different modes of transport*. Disappointingly, this strategy was withdrawn by the DfT on 15 May 2018 and is no longer being updated.

In the absence of a direct replacement to the Door-to-Door strategy, the following DfT documents are relevant.

- The 'Single Departmental Plan'² sets out the DfT's objectives which include the following: *2. Help to connect people and places, balancing investment across the country; and 3. Make journeys easier, modern and reliable.*
- The 'Transport Investment Strategy'³ includes that the DfT's investment must seek to: *create a more reliable, less congested, and better connected transport network that works for the users who rely on it.*

At the local level, Core Policy 63 in the Wiltshire Core Strategy includes that: *Packages of integrated transport measures will be identified in Chippenham, Trowbridge and Salisbury to help facilitate sustainable development growth...Transport strategies may also be developed for other urban and rural areas in the Plan area.*

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/door-to-door-strategy>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-transport-single-departmental-plan/department-for-transport-single-departmental-plan-may-2018>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transport-investment-strategy>

The 'Wiltshire Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026' sets out the goals and objectives for transport in Wiltshire, which implicitly include integration aspects.

At an operational level, officers work with transport providers, stakeholders, communities and others to improve integration between transport modes where feasible.

Response

Q: In particular, what is our strategy for rail in Wiltshire?

With funding from Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership, we are currently developing a 'Swindon and Wiltshire Rail Strategy' which is planned to be completed by Spring this year. It is anticipated that, following review and further consultation, this will form part of a Wiltshire LTP4 to be developed over the next two years or so.