



**Third Local Transport Plan for the
Royal Borough of Windsor and
Maidenhead - Environmental Report
Non Technical Summary**

August 2012

QM

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Non - Technical Summary

1.1 BACKGROUND

1.1.1 A draft version of the third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (hereafter referred to as 'the Borough' was produced and consulted on in Spring 2012. A final version of the report has now been produced having regard to consultation responses. The LTP3 comprises a long-term strategy to 2026 covering all forms of transport in the borough.

1.1.2 A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was undertaken to inform the emerging LTP3. A draft Environmental Report setting out the results of the SEA was produced and consulted on alongside the draft LTP3. The purpose of that report was to identify the main environmental effects of the draft LTP3 and any opportunities for improving the performance of the document. Following consultation and revisions to LTP3 this report sets out the final results of the SEA. An assessment under the Habitats Regulations was also required and has been reported separately.

1.1.3 The Local Transport Plan sets out a range of policies that will determine how transport is provided within the borough as a whole. It is intended that further detail will be provided by a range of supporting documents covering specific topics, such as air quality, noise and parking, as well as a series of Neighbourhood Plans, which are being developed in partnership with local communities as part of the Localism Act.

1.1.4 The Council will also be preparing a series of short-term delivery plans that will identify how funding will be allocated to transport schemes and initiatives across the borough. The intention is to provide one year's firm allocation, with a provisional allocation for the following year. This allows for reserve schemes to be identified and brought forward in the event that the first choice cannot be implemented for whatever reason.

1.2 WHEN THE SEA WAS CARRIED OUT

1.2.1 A Draft Scoping Report was prepared for consultation by the Council and Draft SEA Scoping Report was made available for a five week period of consultation in September/October, 2011. The appraisal of draft LTP3 was undertaken between February and March 2012 and consultation was undertaken in Spring 2012. SEA of the final version of LTP3 was undertaken between May and July 2012.

1.3 WHO CARRIED OUT THE SEA

1.3.1 This Environmental Report has been prepared by WSP Environmental Ltd. As such the SEA was undertaken by a team that was independent from the team that prepared LTP3.

1.4 KEY FINDINGS FROM THE SEA

1.4.1 The content of the LTP3 is welcomed. The strategy recognises the linkages between transport and wider environmental, social and economic considerations and puts forward policies that are intended to help achieve more sustainable outcomes. The structure of the document, based on a set of aims and thematic and area strategies, is also welcomed. Structuring the Plan in this way, rather than a more traditional approach based on modes of transport, allows cross cutting issues like climate change to be efficiently addressed.

1.4.2 The Strategy makes appropriate linkages between transport and a range of topics that are relevant to this assessment, i.e. biodiversity, landscape, culture and heritage, population; water, material assets, climatic change etc.

1.4.3 The key priorities have been identified through extensive consultation and also reflect key national priorities, including climate change adaptation and mitigation.

1.4.4 Whilst the results of the assessment were largely positive, the SEA accompanying the draft LTP put forward a number of recommendations to further strengthen the document. The recommendations and the extent to which they were taken on board are discussed in the Post Adoption Statement that accompanies the Report.

1.5 LTP3 PUBLICATION

1.5.1 The LTP3 and its associated SEA fulfils the Council's statutory obligation to produce a Local Transport Plan and accompanying documents under the Transport Act 2000 and updated in the Local Transport Act 2008.



1.5.2 The LTP3, the accompanying Environment Report and the Post-Adoption Statement will be available on the Council's website at:

www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/ltp_index.htm

1.5.3 If you have any questions about any of the plans, please contact:

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