

Emailed to: transporteastconsultation@jacobs.com

10 January 2022

To whom it may concern,

Transport East's Draft Transport Strategy Consultation

I am writing to you in my role as Chair of Transport for the South East (TfSE) in response to the consultation on Transport East's draft transport strategy. A copy of this response was considered and approved at our Board meeting on 24 January 2022.

Transport for the South East (TfSE) is a sub-national transport body (STB) that represents sixteen local transport authorities. These are Brighton and Hove, East Sussex, Hampshire, Kent, Medway, Surrey, West Sussex, the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton, and the six Berkshire unitary authorities. These authorities are represented on the Partnership Board along with representatives from the region's five Local Enterprise Partnerships, District and Borough authorities, the protected landscapes in the TfSE area, National Highways, Network Rail and Transport for London. TfSE provides a single voice from across its geography on the transport interventions needed to support sustainable economic growth.

TfSE welcomes the opportunity to comment on Transport East's draft Transport Strategy. You have developed a bold and ambitious vision that includes the aspiration to deliver a resilient and reliable transport network for the area that will deliver inclusive and sustainable growth. Your vision strongly aligns with the 2050 vision set out in our own transport strategy, as do the strategic priorities and goals you have set to deliver it. TfSE also fully supports the approach to delivery that you are promoting with its focus on planning for people and places rather than vehicles. The similarities in the vision, strategic goals and approach in both of our strategies reinforces the need for us to continue to work together closely as we move to implement the strategies and reach our shared vision to achieve sustainable economic growth.

Transport for the South East supports the commitment in your transport strategy to meet the ambitious and challenging target of decarbonising the transport network and achieving net-zero emissions by 2040. It is clear that you

recognise of the scale of this challenge and the step change to future planning for transport that will be required to achieve this.

Your draft strategy also highlights the importance and challenges of encouraging people to change their behaviours and use sustainable modes of transport instead of private motor vehicles. TfSE also fully supports the strategy's focus on creating a transport network that encourages people to use public, shared and active transport modes that can provide zero carbon solutions and alternatives to the private car.

The focus of your strategic priority on unlocking the constraints on international gateways is one that we share. To deliver on this we are currently finalising work on a freight, logistics and gateways strategy for our region. This strategy provides a route map to enable the growth of the industry to keep up with the growing population and economy in a sustainable manner. We strongly support your stance on the need to decarbonise the freight sector by encouraging an increase in the use of alternative fuels, but also a mode shift of freight movements to a more sustainable modes of transport. It is only through joint working that we will begin to identify solutions and we look forward to working closely with Transport East on identifying and resolving these challenges.

Improving connectivity in rural and coastal communities is another key priority identified in your strategy. Action is needed to level up these areas through better connections, enabling deprived areas to prosper. The focus on reducing the need to regularly travel long distances by encouraging a switch to more localised trips, through closer services or via digital means is clearly the way forward and we look forward to learning more about your plans for improving digital connectivity. TfSE also strongly supports the focus on promoting active travel modes in rural areas and we look forward to hearing more about your approach to improving strategic walking and cycling routes.

In conclusion, TfSE welcomes the Transport East draft Transport Strategy as there are many aspects of it that are closely aligned with our own transport strategy. Moving forward we keen to continue working closely with you to ensure a coordinated approach to the development of our strategic transport investment plans in our areas, and we wish you well with the next stages of the development of your strategy.

Yours sincerely,



Cllr Keith Glazier

Chair

Transport for the South East