

Report to: Partnership Board –Transport for the South East

Date of meeting: 21 July 2025

By: Chair of Transport Forum

Title of report: Advisory Panel and Transport Forum Update

Purpose of report: To update the Partnership Board on the Transport Forum and Advisory Panel.

RECOMMENDATION:

The members of the Partnership Board are recommended to note the recent work of the Transport Forum and Advisory Panel.

1. Introduction

1.1 The second meeting in 2025 of the Transport Forum will be scheduled for Autumn, with prospective topics such as the Regional Active Travel Strategy and Action Plan and the refresh to TfSE's Strategic Investment Plan.

1.2 The recent meeting of the Advisory Panel focused on thematic group updates, and the plans to find new representatives to attend, once wider TfSE thematic groups have been defined.

2. Transport Forum

2.1 The first session of the Transport Forum for 2025 took place in January and focussed on the Transport Strategy Refresh. The aim of the session was to produce a collaborative consultation response to the draft Transport Strategy which could be submitted. This response has now been considered as part of the consultation analysis.

2.2 The second in-person meeting of the Transport Forum will take place in the Autumn. TfSE will look to give Transport Forum members the chance to hear about the recently published Regional Active Travel Strategy and Action Plan. The planning of this session is in direct response to requests from Transport Forum members to hear more about this TfSE workstream.

2.3 There is also a plan to engage with Transport Forum members on the development of the next Strategic Investment plan (SIP) before the end of the year. The method and timeline for this will be determined by project plan for the SIP.

3. Advisory Panel

3.1 In the meeting on July 11 the Advisory Panel provided feedback from their thematic groups. The Advisory Panel in particular, noted that the Bus Forum was working well with high levels of attendance and interest, noting useful discussions around franchising and devolution.

3.2 There was good discussion around the reinvigoration of the Advisory Panel. TfSE officers agreed to take away an action to look at increasing the attendance, in line with the streamlining and restructuring of the wider thematic groups, which will enable new representatives to join the Advisory Panel.

3.3 TfSE officers also updated the Advisory Panel on the upcoming Partnership Board and the papers being taken for decision, including the Transport Strategy Refresh Consultation.

4. Conclusions and recommendations

4.1 It is recommended that the Partnership Board note the work of the Transport Forum and Advisory Panel.

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