

Report to: Partnership Board –Transport for the South East

Date of meeting: 19 March 2026

By: Chief Officer, Transport for the South East

Title of report: Centre of Excellence Progress Update

Purpose of report: To provide a progress update on the Centre of Excellence

RECOMMENDATION:

The Members of the Partnership Board are recommended to note the progress being made with the delivery of the Centre of Excellence.

1. Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the delivery of the TfSE Centre of Excellence since the previous Partnership Board on 2 February.

2. Progress update

2.1 Between 2 February and 19 March, the Centre of Excellence delivered 14 webinars for local authority officers. These sessions combined expert led training with local authority led knowledge sharing, directly addressing priority skills identified through last year's capability survey.

3. Annual capability survey – launched 16 March

3.1 The Centre of Excellence's annual capability survey launched on 16 March. The results of this survey will play a central role in shaping the Centre of Excellence Work Plan for 2026/27. The survey is sent out to every local authority officer who is a member of the Centre of Excellence. This year, reach will be significantly expanded, with 320 local authority officers receiving the survey, compared to 70 in 2025. This will mean that responses will provide a more representative view from officers, enabling the Centre of Excellence to provide even more tailored support.

3.2 TfSE will work closely with local authority champions to support internal authority promotion and encourage strong participation, recognising the importance of capturing an accurate picture of development needs.

3.3 The Centre of Excellence capability survey asks users to rate their capability against a number of priority skill areas. We anticipate seeing improvements in many of the capability areas supported by the Centre of Excellence in this financial year, while also hearing from a new cohort of officers responding for the first time.

3.4 TfSE will analyse the capability survey and develop a Centre of Excellence Work Plan for 2026/27. This will be presented to the CoE Steering Group on 13 May, ahead of approval by the Partnership Board on 13 July. Early preparation of commissioning proposals will ensure that delivery of support can begin promptly after approval, maintaining momentum and enabling continued, responsive capability development across the region.

4. Monitoring and evaluation

4.1 Between December and February, we have continued to see strong engagement, with 730 attendees across webinars and events. Additionally, 82 pieces of content were uploaded, 23 new users registered, and authorities collectively achieved an estimated cost saving of £553,856. This equates to £34,616 per LTA, or £33.63 per attendee, demonstrating that the Centre of Excellence continues to deliver substantial value at a very low cost to users.

4.2 A full reporting period covering December to February is presented in **Appendix 1**.

5. Finance Update

5.1 At the date of this Partnership Board, expenditure totals £153,370 against the approved budget of £251,759. £45,636 of the remaining £98,389 will be ringfenced as committed carry forward for work to continue between April-June to ensure momentum is maintained, and continuity of support while awaiting the outcomes of the capability survey and subsequent approval of the 2026/27 Centre of Excellence Work Plan at the July Partnership Board. This interim activity will cover Devolution, Active Travel, and AI in Transport Planning. A carry forward of £50,994 into the 2026/27 financial year continues to be forecasted.

6. Conclusion and Recommendations

6.1 The Members of the Partnership Board are recommended to comment on the progress being made with the delivery of the Centre of Excellence.

RUPERT CLUBB

Chief Officer

Transport for the South East

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Date Selector
 Please select month/s below
 Multiple selections

Site Sessions

Unique Visitors

Site Sessions per visitor

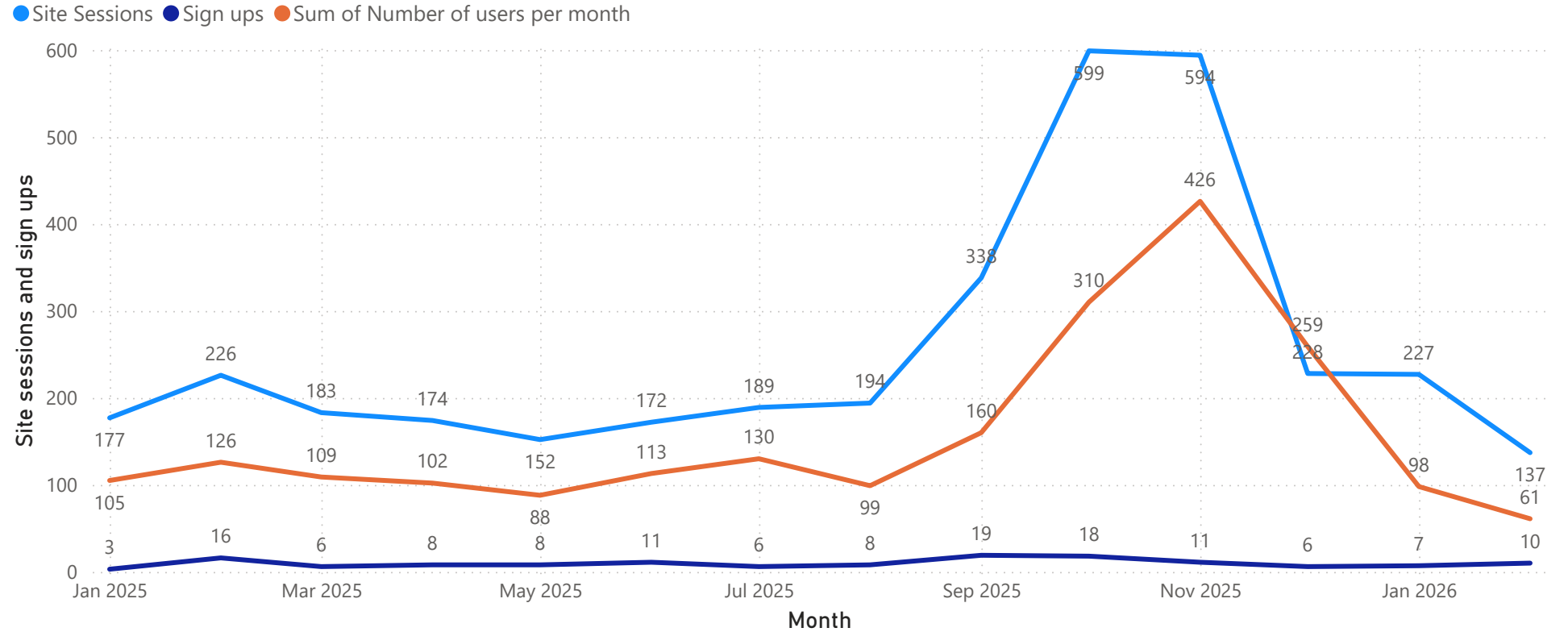
516
 Total site sessions (Dec - Feb)

82
 Content uploaded (Dec - Feb)

553856
 LTA savings (£) (Dec - Feb)

23
 Site sign ups (Dec - Feb)

Site sessions and sign ups by month



390
 Total Sign Ups

431
 Total Content Uploaded

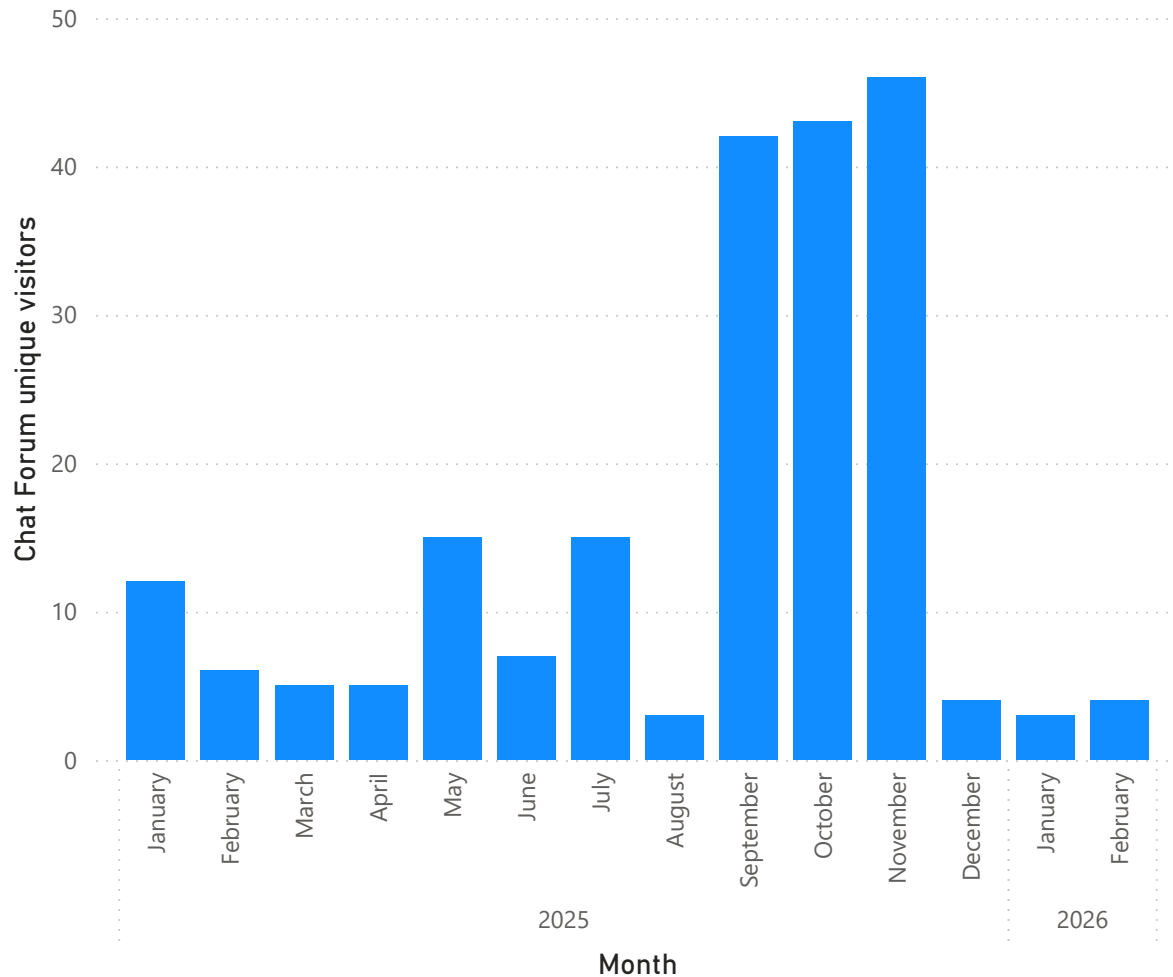
16 (100%)
 Number of LAs signed up

Date Selector for chat forum interaction

Please select month/s below

Multiple selections

Chat Forum interaction



Number of unique visitors per component home page

| Title | Dec 25 | Jan 26 | Feb 26 | Total |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| webinars | 11 | 20 | 21 | 52 |
| events | 5 | 14 | 14 | 33 |
| resources | 10 | 9 | 13 | 32 |
| key-tools | 7 | 8 | 6 | 21 |
| case-study | 6 | 8 | 5 | 19 |
| data | 3 | 5 | 2 | 10 |
| qualifications-and-courses | 4 | 4 | 2 | 10 |
| funding | 2 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| contact | 2 | 0 | 3 | 5 |
| consultations | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| new-to-the-sector | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| forum | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| procurement | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Number of unique visitors for specific pages

| Title | Dec 25 | Jan 26 | Feb 26 | Total |
|--|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| key-tools- carbon-assessment-playbook | 12 | 14 | 21 | 47 |
| key-tools- cadence-tool | 16 | 2 | 2 | 20 |
| groupdiscussionc2e0330f-7166-47a7-905b-af6f0b0a201f | 14 | 2 | 0 | 16 |
| webinars- tfse-centre-of-excellence-&-steer- awareness-of-emerging-technologies- setting-the-scene | 12 | 2 | 1 | 15 |
| resources- transport-for-the-south-east- developing-public-ev-charging-for-light-commercial-vehicles | 0 | 11 | 2 | 13 |
| chatforum | 3 | 3 | 4 | 10 |
| case studies- e-bike-training-for-key-stakeholders-across-kent | 0 | 8 | 0 | 8 |
| groupdiscussion0005da03-30dc-457d-875a-15a7c35b18a1 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 8 |

Content Feedback Scores

| Content | Satisfaction Score | Usefulness Score |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| Deep Dive Decarbonisation and climate resilience (Business Case Development Series) | 4.25 | 4.67 |
| Funding & Financing Webinar (Business Case Development Series) | 4.63 | 4.50 |
| How to review a business case webinar (Business Case Development Series) | 4.33 | 4.11 |
| Modelling Approaches Webinar (Business Case Development Series) | 4.00 | 3.33 |
| Strood Risk Approach Webinar | 4.50 | 4.00 |
| Average | 4.34 | 4.12 |