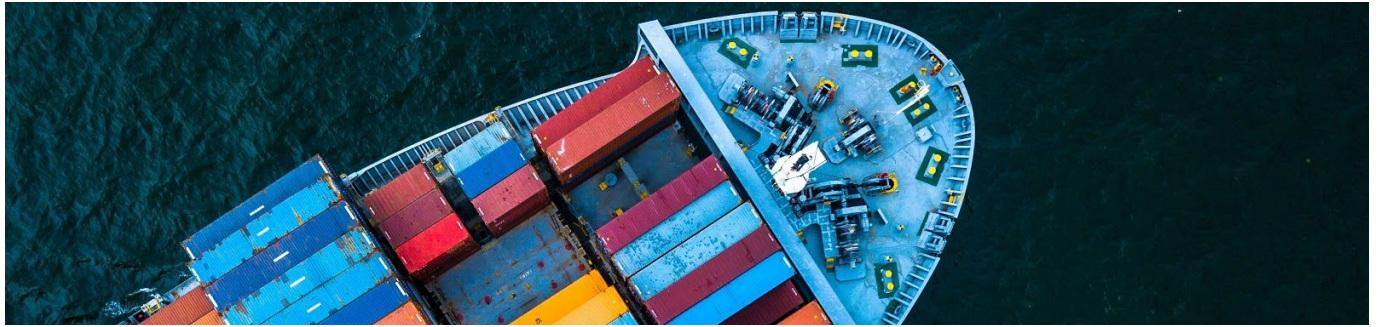


Becoming a statutory sub-national transport body



Transport for the South East was established as a shadow sub-national transport body (STB) in June 2017. Since then, we have emerged as a powerful and effective partnership bringing together 16 local transport authorities, five local enterprise partnerships and other stakeholders including protected landscapes, transport operators, district and borough authorities and national agencies to speak with one voice on the region's strategic transport needs.

Together, our vision is to deliver a high-quality, sustainable and integrated transport system that:

- Supports increased productivity to grow the South East and UK economy and compete in the global marketplace;
- Improves safety, quality of life and access to opportunities for all; and
- Protects and enhances the South East's unique natural and historic environment.

Delivering our transport strategy

The blueprint for achieving this vision is our transport strategy, which will be published for consultation in autumn 2019. Supported by a targeted investment plan, it will identify how we can grow the economy of the South East by an additional 50% to £500bn and create almost 3m additional jobs by 2050.

Formalising our role

Delivering this ambitious strategy will require more than just partnership working. That's why we want to formalise our role as the South East's voice for strategic transport issues by becoming a statutory body.

The benefits of statutory status

Statutory status will give us the ability to directly influence the development of national investment programmes and become a trusted partner for government, Highways England and Network Rail.

It will give us the powers and responsibilities we need to deliver tangible benefits for people and businesses, developing joined-up solutions to issues, like integrated smart ticketing, which are best tackled at a regional scale.

And it will mean we can accelerate the delivery of schemes and initiatives which cross local authority boundaries, making sure the benefits of investment are realised as soon as possible.

Proposed powers and responsibilities

We've worked with our member authorities to draw up a proposal to government which makes the case for a statutory STB in the South East and sets out the specific powers and responsibilities we want to help us deliver economic growth, improve quality of life and protect and enhance the environment.

Consulting on our proposal

The draft proposal was agreed by our shadow partnership board in March 2019. From 3 May to 31 July, we'll be consulting with stakeholders in the South East and neighbouring regions to give you the opportunity to have your say.

For more information on the consultation, visit transportforthesoutheast.org.uk

Next steps

The final proposal will be put before our shadow partnership board for approval in the autumn. Our plan is then to submit it to government for a decision, which would then need to be ratified by Parliament.

Whether statutory status is granted or not, we will continue working with our partners to deliver sustainable transport-led growth for people and businesses across the South East.