



Longsight Transport Project
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Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to enclose a set of briefings that document five years of work around the theme of community engagement in improving transport and related issues, such as accessibility, road safety and social inclusion.

The Longsight Transport Project began life in 2002 with a pioneering piece of consultation, resulting in the launch of the report *Better Buses and Safer Streets for Longsight* in October 2003 (available at www.onthemovefm.org). During the consultation members of Friends of the Earth teamed up with local residents to talk to individuals and community groups where they were, rather than expecting them to come to us, and used an interactive approach. This approach suited the area, with its numerous community groups, ethnic diversity and, in some cases, low levels of English literacy.

Since then the project has evolved and worked on a range of local issues. At the moment, the main activity of the project is preparing and producing *On The Move*, a programme about local transport issues. This is broadcast on south Manchester community radio station ALL FM and available as a podcast to all on the Internet. The show not only informs listeners about current transport issues, but also involves them, through vox pops, studio interviews and Internet blogging.

We are keen that others are aware of our work and are able to learn from it. We don't pretend that our efforts are perfect exemplars. However, we do believe that it is important to document what we have learnt. No two community projects, or communities, will be the same, but we are confident that these briefings will be useful reading when planning to work on local transport and related issues.

The following briefings are included in this pack:-

Introduction and Timeline An introduction to our work and an overview of the activities of the project so far. This is useful for placing the other briefings into context.

Consulting Longsight This briefing describes and reflects upon the consultations we have carried out. It is a useful introduction to the project and provides some reflections on the material in the 2002 report 'Better Buses and Safer Streets for Longsight'. It is valuable reading for anyone planning to conduct a similar consultation exercise.

On The Move On Air This document tells the story of the On The Move FM radio show. It gives some background on why we decided to utilise this medium and outlines the advantages of doing so. It explains how we have maximised the scope of the show by making use of the Internet and combining broadcasting with community consultation. It concludes by summing up the value of the initiative for transport users, transport professionals, and active community groups.

Everybody Wins In March 2007, we worked with Greater Manchester Council for Voluntary Organisation to hold a seminar to bring together the voluntary and community sector and public and statutory sectors. The title 'Everyone Wins' reflects the philosophy that, by working more closely together, policy makers and communities can all benefit. This briefing outlines the structure of the event and documents the discussions that took place.

In addition to these briefings, the 2002 report *Better Buses and Safer Streets for Longsight* and the entire archive of audio material from the On The Move show, is available on our website www.onthemovefm.org. We recommend this as a starting point for up-to-date information on our activities.

We trust that these documents will be of interest in your work. If you would like more information or further copies, please contact Frank Kennedy at the Friends of the Earth North West office: frank.kennedy@foe.co.uk or 0151 7074328.

Yours sincerely,

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