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Welcome

Welcome to the Autumn issue of the Seltrans newsletter.

In this issue we have pleasure of announcing the success of this year's 10th anniversary Seltrans conference held at the Tate Modern. We will also be welcoming a new member to the Seltrans team as well as updates on the station access schemes and how the travel planning initiatives are progressing

As always, if you have any comments, suggestions or queries with this newsletter, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.



Success of the Seltrans 10th anniversary conference

This year's annual transport conference celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Seltrans partnership at Tate Modern on 10th October.

With over 60 delegates in attendance from many of our stakeholders and chaired by Gordon Hayward, the morning began with a keynote speech from Peter Hendy, Transport Commissioner for London outlining his visions for the Seltrans sub-region over the coming years. An opportunity was also given for delegates to put questions to Mr Hendy on their individual concerns of transport issues in the sub-region.

With the absence of Network Rail, Paul Le Blond kindly stepped in to give an interesting presentation on aviation over the next 10 years. The vision for Seltrans' very own airport – Biggin Hill - set out the niche market it provides for corporate air travel.

David Gorge, Project Manager for the "Fastrack" Bus Rapid Transit scheme in Kent Thameside gave a best practice example of the success of such initiatives in which to date has seen over 4.5 million passengers being carried by the service. The presentation also provided feedback from its customers who have changed the way they travel as a result of such a reliable, high quality operation.

John Dales continued the high standard of presentation with best and worst practice examples of public realm improvements and the importance of such measures to the end-users. John also outlined the need for multi-disciplines across Local Authorities and partnerships to work together in order to achieve the ultimate outcome.

The morning's presentations concluded with the travel plan awards that recognised the success of travel planning across the region and three individual organisations that have shown particular commitment. Forster, a social marketing company in Southwark won an award for their innovative cycling measure in their recently adopted travel plan. Francis O'Shea was recognised for her commitment to travel planning through her continued efforts on the Lewisham University Hospital travel plan. Cafod, a charity from Brixton won an award for their achievements in promotion of cycling that has led to a 9% increase in staff cycling to work in the first year.

Gordon Hayward, Ex-Director for Environment at LB Bromley and former chair of the partnership was also presented with a token of appreciation for his commitment to Seltrans over the past 10 years.

The partnership's 10th anniversary was celebrated through a complimentary tour of the galleries at Tate Modern followed by lunch. Seltrans would particularly like to thank Gordon Hayward for chairing the day's proceedings and also to the Tate Modern staff for their kind and professional hospitality.



For copies of the presentation from the day please go to the Seltrans Website at www.seltrans.co.uk

St Mary Cray Station Access Scheme

We are pleased to announce that Seltrans has been awarded funding sent to implement the St Mary Cray Station Access Scheme, from Transport for London's (TfL) Area Based Scheme (ABS) budget.

The scheme will see Station Approach transferred from Network Rail to London Borough of Bromley ownership, and reconstructed to current standards with new drainage and lighting. The project will also provide cycle and motorcycle parking, improved community recycling facilities, easier movement for bus services, improvements for pedestrians including tactile paving and dropped kerbs.

Work is expected to commence early in 2009, and construction should be completed in May 2009.

The scheme is expected to cost in the region of £625,000 and funding has been sourced mainly from TfL ABS, TfL bus priority and cycling budgets. The London Borough of Bromley is contributing to footway improvements, and there will be improvements in kind from Southeastern railway to their car park.

South Croydon Update

We are pleased to announce that the final allocation from TfL for stage 1 of our holistic "station access scheme" has been approved.

The major part of the scheme involves a joint cycle pedestrian access link to the station from the near by A212 and its neighbouring LCN route.

This scheme has been delivered on time within budget, with the help of our partners from BRB, Network Rail and Southern Railway. The industry has complemented the Seltrans scheme with a refurbishment for not only the station building and the car park but they have also created a new station forecourt designed for passenger/pedestrian safety.

This innovative scheme includes elements to remediate the heavy engineering required. This includes the provision of nesting boxes, too enhance bio-diversity and future funding is being sort to provide solar panels that will deliver a carbon zero project.

We are hoping to invite our Seltrans partners to a formal opening ceremony in the very near future. Our thanks goes out to all the stakeholders that have been involved in delivering this relatively complex scheme. Watch this space!!

Travel Plan Updates

Seltrans travel planning team have engaged with 28 organisations this year to date. These include Forster in Southwark, Society of British Aerospace & Westmead Business Group sites in Croydon. A launch event was held at Petro-Canada in August to mark the start of their travel plan and the setup of their own Cycle2Work scheme.

Development Control Project reached completion at the beginning of September. The end of project report is currently being finalised. All boroughs involved have received a visit from Momenta consultants who have presented to various planning and transport departments the outcomes of the project. As a result, all detail of DC travel plans in the sub-region has now been input into iTrace and can be monitored.

Work is still continuing on getting a business marketing event finalised for next March. As well, a direct marketing campaign to all businesses in the sub-region that qualify for Enterprise will be taking place shortly. Each of these are to increase the number of leads working with the team on travel planning.

Recruitment has taken place for the new Travel Planner post following interviews on the 29th September 2008. The successful candidate Melissa Cazzato will be starting with the Seltrans team on 3rd November. Her new role as the Travel Plan Officer will be a welcomed new resource to the team. Melissa currently works within Road Safety so already has a background in transportation which will greatly benefit the team.

Her new role will see her working with companies across the region to develop work place travel plans as well as assisting the rest of the team with our award winning marketing scheme and event planning.

There was strong competition for the new role and Melissa's skills out shone those of the other candidates. We are very much looking forward to welcoming her to the team.

