# 9. ANNEX A: PARTNER STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT

# 9.1 EDUCATION

#### STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FROM THE EDUCATION SECTOR, MARCH 2006

A range of key partners represented the education sector at the Access to Education workshop held on 11th April 2005:

- Connexions Nottinghamshire
- Learning and Skills Council
- Nottinghamshire LEA
- Nottinghamshire Post-16 Transport Partnership.

Improving accessibility to education is important because it helps to meet national and local objectives including improving participation and attendance in education. The undersigned partners are committed to an inclusive education system that provides all young people with the opportunity to meet their full potential. The ability to access educational facilities is central to the aim of ensuring that students are able to participate and remain in education.

There are a number of programmes and strategies nationally that will change the education system and therefore have an impact on relative accessibility and enable people to participate and have the chance to learn.

The provision of extended schools in the form of breakfast clubs, after school sport clubs and study support play a particularly important role in overcoming the barriers faced by pupils, their parents and others from deprived communities.

There will be greater flexibility for those pupils within the age group 14-19 including vocational studies and learning for part of the week at locations other than their usual base that will require young people to be able to travel to new destinations.

The roll out of the Building Schools for the Future programme for secondary schools will deliver a fully modernised and well maintained secondary school estate in England that provides an attractive, inclusive and effective learning environment that must be accessible to a wide range of learners.

The new post-16 transport policy and legislative arrangements include a fundamental requirement that no young person should be prevented from accessing learning in school sixth forms or colleges because of a lack of availability of transport services or their ability to afford them.

Accessibility planning offers an excellent opportunity to consider the complex travel issues faced by students aged 19+ who may need to combine their journeys to learning with trips to employment, childcare or other caring responsibilities.

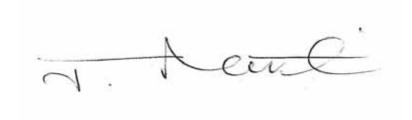
There are new duties on Local Education Authorities and schools in preparing accessibility strategies and plans respectively in relation to disabled and prospective students.

Overall accessibility planning will help to:

- ensure a greater understanding of all students' travel needs;
- deliver real and sustainable outcomes for students;
- facilitate the efficient and effective use of resources; and
- achieve national and local objectives and targets for all partners.

Each of the partners recognises the importance of the accessibility planning process in improving access to education. The undersigned will continue to work in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council, as the local transport authority for North Nottinghamshire, towards achieving these aims.

Signed:
Gary Longden, Deputy Chief Executive, Connexions Nottinghamshire  Date: 27 February 2006
Signed:  W. Jackson  Nigel Jackson, Director of Strategy Learning and Skills Council  Date: 2 March 2006
Signed:  A. William
Les Wilkins, Assistant Director of Education (Operations and Community Services Nottinghamshire LEA (Education Department Nottinghamshire County Council)  Date: 7 March 2006
Signed:



John Martin, Chair of Nottinghamshire Post-16 Transport Partnership

Date: 3 March 2006

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# 9.2 EMPLOYMENT

# STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FROM THE EMPLOYMENT SECTOR, MARCH 2006

A range of key partners representing employers in North Nottinghamshire and/or with a role in assisting people into employment and training opportunities in North Nottinghamshire were represented at the Access to Employment workshop held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2005 including:

- Ashfield District Council
- Bassetlaw District Council
- Job Centre Plus
- Mansfield District Council
- Newark and Sherwood District Council
- Nottinghamshire Chamber

Those who could not attend but who wished to be involved were:

- Connexions
- Learning and Skills Council
- Nottinghamshire County Council (Regeneration Division)

Accessibility planning aims to promote social inclusion by tackling accessibility problems experienced by those in disadvantaged groups and areas by focusing on access to those opportunities that are likely to have the most impact on life chances.

Improving accessibility to employment and training opportunities is important because it helps to meet national and local objectives including promoting social inclusion, economic regeneration and welfare to work. It is about providing services and developments in more accessible places and ways and at more accessible times, as well as making improvements to walking, cycling and public transport networks.

The undersigned will continue to work in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Councils, as the local transport authority for North Nottinghamshire, to improve access to employment opportunities for residents in the North Nottinghamshire area.

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#### **Ashfield District Council**

Effective accessibility planning is particularly important to the district of Ashfield. Many of our residents are disadvantaged by limited travel to work options, particularly those that live in the rural areas. Ashfield has a significantly high proportion of incapacity and income support claimants who need reliable and sustainable support mechanisms in place to help them make the progression from welfare into work – this also means having fair access to education and

training opportunities. Careful consideration will also be given to accessibility issues within our Local Development Framework which will link closely with the County Local Transport Plan. Ashfield District Council is pleased to be working in partnership with the County Council in promoting social inclusion for all by breaking down the barriers and improving access to our services.

Signed:

Paul Thomas, Regeneration Manager

Date: 2 March 2006

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#### **Bassetlaw District Council**

Signed:

Roger Ranson, Head of Economic Development, Regeneration and Tourism

Date: 6 March 2006

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#### **Connexions Nottinghamshire**

Transport availability can prevent young adults (under 19s) from accessing training, attending job interviews and subsequent employment opportunities. This restricts their employment horizons and can mean that young adults have to turn down potential job offers. Although inadequate transport is not the only barrier to entering paid work it can be a significant problem, particularly for under 19s who may be entering employment for the first time and, for a significant minority, lack of transport can be one of the biggest barriers to the take-up of employment and training. Even for young adults who do find work, transport availability and limited travel horizons often restrict the range of opportunities open to this group and may subsequently affect their progression in the labour market. Connexions Nottinghamshire recognises that in order to improve accessibility there will need to be support for under 19s about what transport services are available, how to use these transport services and also how to obtain and use travel information in the first place. As for adults, this type of support is particularly important for those with learning disabilities.

Signed:



Gary Longden, Deputy Chief Executive

Date: 27 February 2006

#### **Job Centre Plus**

Problems with transport can prevent people from attending interviews, lead people to apply for work in a narrow geographical area (or not at all), and result in people turning down jobs.

Often even if people do find work, transport and accessibility problems can still restrict the range of job opportunities available and progression in work. It can also mean that jobseekers remain unemployed longer than otherwise might be the case. Inadequate transport is rarely the only barrier to entering paid work, or even the most important one, but it can be a significant problem for many.

Job Centre Plus recognises that accessibility goes beyond just physical access and availability of transport services but also needs to include support for clients about how to use transport services and access travel information. This support is particularly important for people with learning disabilities.

Signed:



David Kirkham, External Relations Manager

Date: 2 March 2006

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#### **Mansfield District Council**

Signed:

Simon Carter, Regeneration Manager

Date: 1 March 2006

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**Newark and Sherwood District Council** 

ANNEX A: PARTNER STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT

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Support offered by Newark and Sherwood District Council will be informed by the following underlying policy perspectives:

- the need to facilitate successful sustainable development the 'core principle' underpinning town and country planning
- the need for a 'spatial planning' approach which would, inter alia, integrate land use planning
  processes (development planning, and site-specific development control and
  implementation) with transportation objectives, strategies, schemes and measures –
  including the need to address the implementation of an agreed strategic planning and
  transportation agenda
- the requirement to address transportation needs arising in differing parts of Newark and Sherwood District – including the more specialised needs of the urban area of Newark-on-Trent and the very different needs of the District's remoter rural areas
- the need to reduce reliance on private cars and, as appropriate, facilitate more extensive use of public transport, cycling and walking modes
- the need to facilitate provision for the more specialised transportation needs of certain groups within the community including, in particular: young people; women; people with limited mobility / disabilities; and people experiencing social exclusion; and
- the need to address site-specific accessibility issues affecting Newark and Sherwood District
   including 'cross-border' issues.

Signed:

Andrew Burt, Senior Planning Officer

Andrew Bund

Date: 1 March 2006

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#### **Nottinghamshire Chamber**

Nottinghamshire Chamber is the largest independent business representative and support organisation in the county of Nottinghamshire, promoting the interests of member businesses and contributing, in partnership with others, to achieving a prosperous regional economy. A key role of the Chamber is to be the voice of Nottinghamshire Businesses, working on members' behalf for the best economic conditions in which they can trade.

TransAct is a practical example of how Nottinghamshire Chamber has already helped to improve access to employment and ensure transport choices are available to employees of small businesses in Nottinghamshire. We are happy to work in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham City Council and to promote workplace travel plans to businesses. The TransAct fund allows SMEs in Nottinghamshire to implement a wide variety of transport solutions such as electric vehicles and cycles, IT home working equipment and secure cycle storage and facilities. Applicants work closely with designated transport consultants funded by TransACT throughout the process, culminating in a travel solution tailored to the individual business.

Signed:

John Dowson

John Dowson, Director of Policy

Date: 8 March 2006

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#### **Nottinghamshire County Council**

Led by the transport planners within the Environment Department at Nottinghamshire County Council, the development of an Accessibility Planning Partnership for the County has drawn together staff from other departments within the authority and also external agencies to address issues of social exclusion as they relate to people accessing employment as well as the other areas identified, leisure and recreation, food and essential services, health and education and training. The Regeneration Division, which houses the County's Bridge to Work Team, has actively supported the development of accessibility planning. Through working with unemployed people in the county for the past 8 years, Bridge to Work has identified transport issues as a key barrier to accessing work and adult training opportunities. We support the work of the Accessibility Planning Partnership and will continue to raise issues and take action on transport, disability employment and training, which are of importance to the residents of our County.

Signed:

MrHamshere

Nigel Hamshere, Assistant Director, Regeneration

Date: 7 March 2006

# 9.3 FOOD & ESSENTIAL SERVICES

# STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FROM THE FOOD & ESSENTIAL SERVICES SECTOR, MARCH 2006

A range of key partners with remits to influence the location or accessibility of food shops and essential services were represented at the 'Access to Food and Services in North Nottinghamshire' workshop on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2005, including:

- Ashfield and Mansfield Primary Care Trust
- Mansfield District Council
- Newark & Sherwood CVS
- Newark & Sherwood Primary Care Trust
- Nottinghamshire County Council
- Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council

Those who could not attend but who wished to be involved were:

- Ashfield District Council
- Bassetlaw CVS
- Bassetlaw PCT
- Newark & Sherwood District Council
- Post Watch
- Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Trust

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SUPPORT page 211

The Social Exclusion Unit's report Making the Connections, published in February 2003, laid out the relationship between transport, social exclusion and the location of jobs and key services. Accessibility planning aims to promote social inclusion by tackling accessibility problems experienced by those in disadvantaged groups and areas by focusing on access to those opportunities that are likely to have the most impact on life chances, including healthy and affordable food, and post offices, banks and other facilities.

The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) wrote to all planning authorities in September 2004 to encourage land use planners to take the opportunity to work with transport planners to develop Accessibility Strategies for submission with Local Transport Plans in March 2006. The ODPM will revise national planning policy guidance to ensure that social exclusion and accessibility considerations are integrated into future planning policy, which in turn should have a positive impact on the location of important services and the availability of fresh food.

Improving access to a healthy diet can contribute towards the achievement of key health outcomes, as outlined in the Department of Health's White Paper 'Choosing Health – Making Healthy Choices Easier' (2004). The plan encourages health improvement through better nutrition, and makes reference to the importance of making access to fresh food easier for all. The accessibility planning process also considers access to health services; organisations from the health sector are committed to partnership working and have signed a separate partner statement.

The December 2005 workshop highlighted a series of issues relating to the accessibility of healthy food and important services, and began the appraisal process for actions which could help to address them. The results of this work, together with associated mapping work to identify priority areas and groups, is summarised in the North Nottinghamshire Accessibility Strategy (March 2006) which this statement accompanies.

Overall accessibility planning will:

- ensure a greater understanding of accessibility needs, and identify areas of good and poor accessibility;
- deliver real and sustainable outcomes;
- facilitate the efficient and effective use of resources; and
- achieve national and local objectives and targets for all partners.

The undersigned will continue to work in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council as the local transport authority for the North Nottinghamshire area to improve access to food and essential services.

essential services.

Signed:

Dawn Anderson, Ashfield and Mansfield Primary Care Trust

Date: 24 February 2006

Signed:



Andrew Tatham, Bassetlaw CVS

Date: 16 March 2006

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Signed:

Sharon Stoltz, Bassetlaw Primary Care Trust

Date: 23 February 2006

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Signed:

Val Gordine

Val Gardiner, Newark & Sherwood CVS

Date: 24 February 2006

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Signed:

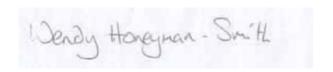
Hami

Peter Hannah, Nottinghamshire County Council (Health Inequalities Officer)

Date: 7 March 2006

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Signed:



Wendy Honeyman-Smith, Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council

Date: 23 February 2006

Signed:

Sexul.

Jeff Rush, Post Watch

Date: 15 March 2006

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Signed:



John Williams, Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Trust

Date: 7 March 2006

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Signed:

CAMPLE

Chris Allen, Ashfield District Council

Date: 22 March 2006

# 9.4 HEALTH

## STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FROM THE HEALTH SECTOR, MARCH 2006

A range of key partners representing health authorities or with a role in assisting people gain access to health services in North Nottinghamshire were represented at the Access to Health workshop held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2005 including:

- Bassetlaw Primary Care Trust
- Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Ashfield and Mansfield District PCTs
- Newark and Sherwood Primary Care Trust
- Newark and Sherwood Community and Voluntary Service
- Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust
- Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Trust
- East Midlands Regional Local Government Association

Those who could not attend but who wished to be involved were:

- Broxtowe and Hucknall Primary Care Trust
- East Midlands Ambulance Service
- Trent Strategic Health Authority

Accessibility planning aims to promote social inclusion by helping people from disadvantaged groups or areas access those opportunities that are likely to have the most impact on life chances.

Each of the partners recognises that accessibility planning will be a valuable tool to inform and shape the future development of health services and can make a significant contribution to the delivery of the 'Choosing Health: Making Healthy Choices Easier' (2004) agenda. The White Paper states that improved access and individual lifestyle choices will result in healthier communities, in particular:

- Accessibility planning can make a significant contribution to delivering DoH's aim to 'transform the health and social care system so that it produces faster, fairer services that deliver better health and tackle health inequalities'
- Improving access to health care, particularly for those from disadvantaged groups and areas, can contribute to good health by helping to ensure that appointments are not missed and that medical help is sought at an early opportunity.
- Promoting access by cycling and walking can help to encourage healthier lifestyles and support the Government's aim to increase levels of physical activity for both adults and children.

Considering the wider factors, which influence healthy lifestyles, ensuring that people have easy access to services that may prevent ill health in the first place, is another important way in which accessibility planning can contribute towards creating healthier communities. Therefore the accessibility of leisure facilities such as sports centres, open space and community centres, together with the ability to reach places of employment, education and healthy food provision will also contribute to the achievement of key health outcomes. The importance of accessing these services by non-car modes is particularly prevalent within areas of disadvantage where car ownership is low. Poor accessibility can reinforce social exclusion and contribute towards ill health within these communities.

The undersigned will continue to work in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council as the local transport authority for North Nottinghamshire to improve access to health for residents of North Nottinghamshire.

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# Signed: Sharon Stoltz, Deputy Director of Public Health, Bassetlaw Primary Care Trust Date: 23 February 2006

Signed:

John Tomlinson, Director of Public Health, Broxtowe and Hucknall Primary Care Trust

Date: 27 February 2006

Val Gadures

Signed:

Val Gardiner, District Partnership Officer, Newark and Sherwood Community and Voluntary Service

Date: 24 February 2006

Signed:

Date: 6 March 2006

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#### Signed:



Terry Dean, Assistant Head of Facilities, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

Date: 6 March 2006

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#### Signed:

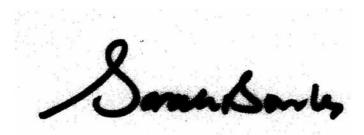


John Williams, Project Director Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Trust

Date: 7 March 2006

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#### Signed:



Sarah Bowles, Regional Physical Activity and Health Development Manager, East Midlands Regional Local Government Association

Date: 21 February 2006

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# 9.5 LEISURE, CULTURE & TOURISM

# THE LEISURE, CULTURE AND TOURISM SECTOR, MARCH 2006

Access to Leisure, Culture and Tourism destinations has been identified as a priority for Nottinghamshire County Council in their Accessibility Strategy as part of the North Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan for the period 2006/2007 to 2010/2011.

A range of partners representing those involved in the leisure, culture and tourism sectors were represented at the Access to Leisure, Culture and Tourism workshop held jointly for North Nottinghamshire and Greater Nottingham on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2005:

- Ashfield District Council
- Broxtowe Borough Council
- Gedling Borough Council
- Newark and Sherwood District Council
- Nottingham City Council
- Nottinghamshire County Council
- Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council

Those who could not attend but who wish to be involved were:

- Community and Voluntary Service
- Arts Council England
- East Midlands Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (EMMLAC)
- Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM)
- Mansfield District Council
- National Trust
- Newark and Sherwood Primary Care Trust
- Rushcliffe Borough Council
- Sport England

Accessibility planning aims to promote social exclusion by helping people from disadvantaged groups or areas access those opportunities that are likely to have the most impact on life chances. The easier it is for people to get to museums, libraries, leisure centres, sports tracks, historic places and arts venues, the more people will be in a position to access and enjoy these facilities and activities, increasing participation and making services more cost-effective.

There are many different definitions of leisure, culture and tourism and what is included in the definitions varies greatly. It encompasses a broad range of activities and events including performing and visual arts, museums, libraries, leisure centres, open spaces, sports events, festivals and attractions although this list is not exhaustive.

Local authorities, community groups and regional and national bodies can work together to bring in audiences and participants in a more effective and inclusive way through one or more of the following ways:

- transport provision;
- the location of leisure and cultural services; and
- the way that leisure and cultural service are delivered to excluded or isolated groups in communities.

Experience Nottinghamshire was formed in April 2004; its remit is the co-ordinated promotion and marketing of tourism in both North Nottinghamshire and Greater Nottingham areas as a tourist destination. Experience Nottinghamshire will be a key partner in the future development of accessibility planning in relation to leisure, culture and tourism in North Nottinghamshire.

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport have released guidance on accessibility planning that can be viewed at <a href="https://www.dft.gov.uk">www.dft.gov.uk</a>

More specifically, there are a number of strategic priorities from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport including:

#### • Children and Young People

Further enhance access to culture and sport for children and give them the opportunity to develop their talents to the full and enjoy the benefits of participation

#### Communities

Increaseand broaden the impact of culture and sport, to enrich individual lives, strengthen communities and improve the places where people live, now and for future generations

#### Economy

Maximise the contribution that the tourism, creative and leisure industries can make to the economy

#### Delivery

Modernise delivery by ensuring our sponsored bodies are efficient and work with others to meet the cultural and sporting needs of individuals and communities

Overall, accessibility planning will help to:

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- ensure a greater understanding of the needs of users of facilities and events; and
- ensure that facilities and events are more accessible to everyone in terms of location, cost, transport and information.

The undersigned will continue to work in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council as the relevant local transport authority to improve access to leisure, culture and tourism facilities for residents within North Nottinghamshire.

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Signed:

Steve Bradley, Acting Assistant Director of Leisure and Culture, Nottinghamshire County Council (for and on behalf of Chief Leisure Officers Group\*)

Date: 24 February 2006

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\*comprising representatives from:

- Arts Council
- Ashfield District Council
- Bassetlaw District Council
- Broxtowe Borough Council
- Gedling Borough Council
- GOEM
- Mansfield District Council

- Newark & Sherwood District Council
- Nottingham City Council
- Nottinghamshire County Council
- Rushcliffe Borough Council
- Sport England

## 9.6 DISABLED PEOPLE AND OLDER PEOPLE

# STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FROM ORGANISATIONS PROMOTING NEEDS OF OLDER OR DISABLED PEOPLE, MARCH 2006

A range of key partners with remits to promote better accessibility were represented at the umbrella 'workshop for disabled and older people' held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2005, including:

- Alzheimer's Society
- Learning Disabilities Partnership Board
- Nottinghamshire County Council (Environment, Welfare to Work for Disabled People, Social Services Day Centres, Physical Disability, Adult Commissioning, Learning Disability, Leisure & Culture service areas, Corporate Disabled Workers' Group)
- Nottinghamshire Disabled People's Movement
- Nottinghamshire Older Persons Advisory Group
- Retinitis Pigmentosa Society

Those who could not attend but who wished to be involved were:

- Association of Disabled Professionals
- Connexions
- Help the Aged
- Newark & Sherwood CVS
- Nottingham Mencap
- Nottinghamshire Deaf Society
- Older People's Action Team
- Positive Futures
- RADAR
- Senior Forum

The Social Exclusion Unit's report Making the Connections, published in February 2003, laid out the relationship between transport, social exclusion and the location of jobs and key services. Accessibility planning aims to promote social inclusion by tackling accessibility problems experienced by those in disadvantaged groups and areas by focusing on access to those opportunities that are likely to have the most impact on life chances.

A number of work streams have emerged from the accessibility planning process, and early discussions with stakeholders revealed a need for a separate stream to improve accessibility for older or disabled people across all of the work areas. The June 2005 workshop aimed to identify and prioritise problems in accessing:

- Public transport
- Health care facilities
- Employment
- Education and training
- Food and important services
- Leisure, culture and tourism opportunities

The results of this work, together with associated mapping work to identify priority areas and groups, is summarised in the North Nottinghamshire Accessibility Strategy (March 2006) which this statement accompanies.

Improving access to work and leisure facilities should not only achieve social justice but also makes economic sense. Transport is vital in achieving these objectives and the disabled community support these measures.

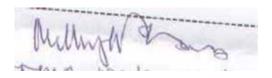
Overall accessibility planning will:

- ensure a greater understanding of accessibility needs, and identify areas of good and poor accessibility;
- deliver real and sustainable outcomes;
- facilitate the efficient and effective use of resources; and
- achieve national and local objectives and targets for all partners.

The undersigned will continue to work in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council as the local transport authority for the North Nottinghamshire area to improve access to important destinations for disabled people and older people.

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# Signed:



Tony Oliver, Association of Disabled Professionals & RADAR

Date: 4 March 2006

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# Signed:

Gary Longden, Connexions & Learning Disabilities Partnership Board

Date: 3 March 2006

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#### Signed:

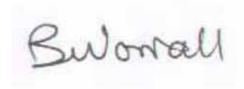
Mary O'Riordan

Mary O'Riordan, Help the Aged

Date: 6 March 2006

Signed:
Val Godine
Val Gardiner, Newark & Sherwood CVS  Date: 24 February 2006
Signed:
Wendy Lippmann, Nottinghamshire County Council (Day Services Modernisation, Social Services)  Date: 2 February 2006
Signed:
Jane North
Jane North, Nottinghamshire County Council (Project Implementation Manager, - Promotion of Independence of Older People)  Date: 27 February 2006
Signed:
J. P. Lycan
Joe Pidgeon, Nottinghamshire County Council (Service Standards and Business Development, Social Services)
Date: 24 February 2006

# Signed:



Barbara Worrall, Nottinghamshire County Council's Corporate Disabled Workers' Group

Date: 27 February 2006

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Signed:



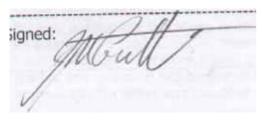
Sue Bilson, Nottinghamshire Disabled Person's Movement

Date: 27 February 2006

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Signed:





John Kerry, and John Cudworth Nottinghamshire Older Persons' Advisory Group

Date: 6 March 2006

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Signed:

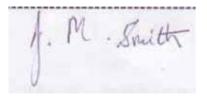
Naun Anderson

Dawn Anderson, Older Persons' Action Team

Date: 24 February 2006

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#### Signed:



Jo Smith, Senior Forum

Date: 6 March 2006

# 9.7 PLANNING

#### STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FROM PLANNING AUTHORITIES, MARCH 2006

Accessibility Planning has been discussed at meetings over the past year between County Council and district council planning officers in connection with their roles in delivering strategic and local plan documents. The following organisations have been represented:

- Ashfield District Council
- Bassetlaw District Council
- Mansfield District Council
- Newark & Sherwood District Council
- Nottinghamshire County Council

The Social Exclusion Unit's report Making the Connections, published in February 2003, laid out the relationship between transport, social exclusion and the location of jobs and key services. It also formed a cross-Government strategy for reducing social exclusion by improving access to jobs and services.

Accessibility planning aims to promote social inclusion by tackling accessibility problems experienced by those in disadvantaged groups and areas by focusing on access to those opportunities that are likely to have the most impact on life chances. Improving accessibility to jobs and services helps to meet national and local objectives including promoting social inclusion, economic regeneration and welfare to work, reducing health inequalities, and improving participation and attendance in education. There are a number of factors that limit people's accessibility but one of the most significant is the location of services. Accessibility is as much about providing services and developments in more accessible places and ways and at more accessible times, as making improvements to walking, cycling and public transport networks.

ODPM wrote to all planning authorities in September 2004 to encourage land use planners to take the opportunity to work with transport planners, who are developing Accessibility Strategies for submission with Local Transport Plans in March 2006, in this key process. The ODPM will in due course revise national planning policy guidance to ensure that social exclusion and accessibility considerations are integrated into future planning policy.

As highlighted in Planning Policy Guidance note 13, local planning authorities have an important role to play in promoting accessibility as the location of jobs and services have as significant an impact on accessibility as transport provision. By shaping the pattern of development and influencing the location, scale, density, design and mix of land uses, planning can help to reduce the need to travel, reduce the length of journeys and make it safer and easier for people to access jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking, and cycling. Nottinghamshire County Council will assist the District planning authorities in accessibility modelling processes at the local level to assess the accessibility of sites for which planning

permission is requested. They will also provide the District planning authorities with relevant and up-to-date public transport data such as location of bus stops, timetables, service frequencies and public transport journey times.

At a local level, Local Development Frameworks (LDFs) will play a key role in highlighting where there are gaps in local service provision, identifying sites that are highly accessible by public transport and directing development to these areas. Planning Policy Statement 12 (issued September 2004) emphasises that the integration of transport and spatial planning is central to the development and delivery of effective LDFs. Local transport policies need to reflect and support the aims of the core strategy development plan document. Land use planning, in turn, needs to take account of the existing transport network and plans for its development. Nottinghamshire County Council will support local planning authorities in their calculation of accessibility indicators related to the LDF process.

Overall accessibility planning will:

- ensure a greater understanding of accessibility needs, and identify areas of good and poor accessibility;
- deliver real and sustainable outcomes;
- facilitate the efficient and effective use of resources;
- achieve national and local objectives and targets for all partners.

The undersigned will continue to work in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council as the local transport authority for the North Nottinghamshire area, on Accessibility Planning.

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Signed:

Andrew Smith, Head of Community and Economic Promotion, Ashfield District Council

Date: 7 March 2006

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Signed:

Jim Kehoe, Head of Planning, Bassetlaw District Council

Date: 7 March 2006

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Signed:

S.J. Normington.

Steve Normington, Head of Planning and Regulatory Services, Mansfield District Council

Date: 23 February 2006
Signed:
Suting
Steve King, Planning Policy Manager, Newark & Sherwood District Council Date: 1 March 2006
Signed:
12
Richard Ling, Planning Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council Date: 27 February 2006