

A2.1 Mersey Gateway Support for Policy Objectives

Since the Orders ES a number of policies are now not relevant. The following policies have therefore been removed:

National

The following policies are no longer current due to the change in Government.

- a. Transport White Paper 1998;
- b. Transport Ten Year Plan 2000;
- c. Education Act 2002;
- d. PPG13 2001
- e. Transport White Paper 'The Future of Transport' 2004; and
- f. Towards a Sustainable Transport System 2007.

Regional Planning Policy

The following policies have been superseded.

- a. Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West 2003; and
- b. Emerging Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West 2006.

Neighbouring Authority Policies

- a. Cheshire County Council has been removed due to restructuring.

Additional policies which have since been published since the Orders ES and are now included in the Further Applications ES are:

National

- a. PPG13 2011
- b. Transport White Paper 'Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon' 2011; and
- c. National Planning Policy Framework 2011.

Regional Planning Policy

- a. North West of England Plan, Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021

Local Planning Policy

- a. Halton Core Strategy Revised Proposed Submission 2011;
- b. Mersey Gateway Sustainable Transport Strategy 2009; and
- c. Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2009.

Neighbouring Authority Policies

Cheshire County Council has been restructured to form Cheshire East Council and Cheshire West and Chester Council.

- a. Cheshire East Council; and
- b. Cheshire West and Chester Council.
- c. Warrington LTP (Updated)
- d. Merseyside LTP (Updated)

Table A16.1: Compliance of Mersey Gateway Objectives with National Objectives

Mersey Gateway Objectives	Road Traffic Reduction Act 1997	Traffic Management Act 2004		'Workhorse to Thoroughbred'					Transport White Paper 'Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon' 2011	Planning Policy Guidance 13			National Planning Policy Framework 2011	
	Targeted reduction of the level of road traffic or its rate of growth	Secure the expeditious movement of traffic on the authority's road network	Facilitate the expeditious movement of traffic on road networks for which another authority is the traffic authority	New framework for local authority influence over buses	Statutory backing for quality partnerships	Better bus information	Service frequency enhancements	Option of bus 'Quality Contracts' for area wide networks	Encourage sustainable local travel and economic growth by making public transport and cycling and walking more attractive and effective, promoting lower carbon transport and tackling local road congestion.	To promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and for moving freight	To promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling	To reduce the need to travel, especially by car	To facilitate economic growth by taking a positive approach to planning for development	To support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and congestion, and promote accessibility through planning for the location and mix of development.
To relieve the congested SJB, thereby removing the constraint on local and regional development and better provide for local transport needs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
To apply minimum toll and road user charges to both the New Bridge and the SJB consistent with the level required to satisfy affordability constraints	✓								✓	✓			✓	✓
To improve accessibility in order to maximise local development and regional economic growth opportunities		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
To improve local air quality and enhance the general urban environment	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
To improve public transport links across the River		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
To encourage the increased use of cycling and walking									✓	✓	✓			
To restore effective network resilience for road transport across the River Mersey.		✓	✓						✓					✓

Table A16.2: Compliance of Mersey Gateway Objectives with Regional Objectives

Mersey Gateway Objectives	North West of England, Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021				North West Regional Economic Strategy	
	To improve journey time reliability, tackle congestion and overcrowding in the region's main transport corridors	To secure a shift towards the use of more sustainable modes of transport;	To secure safe and efficient access between residential areas and key destinations, including centres of employment, schools, shops and other services;	To reduce the adverse impacts of transport, in terms of safety hazards, climate change, environmental degradation, residential amenity and social exclusion;	To improve the capacity and quality of mass transit, particularly in terms of enhancing accessibility to jobs	Support growth of key sectors and widens the labour markets in the city centres
To relieve the congested SJB, thereby removing the constraint on local and regional development and better provide for local transport needs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
To apply minimum toll and road user charges to both the New Bridge and the SJB consistent with the level required to satisfy affordability constraints						
To improve accessibility in order to maximise local development and regional economic growth opportunities	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
To improve local air quality and enhance the general urban environment		✓		✓	✓	
To improve public transport links across the River	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
To encourage the increased use of cycling and walking		✓		✓		
To restore effective network resilience for road transport across the River Mersey.	✓			✓	✓	

Table A16.3: Compliance of Mersey Gateway Objectives with Local Objectives

Mersey Gateway Objectives	Halton Borough Council Local Transport Plan Objectives							Halton Borough Council Unitary Development Plan Objectives									
	Ensure transport network resilience with particular regard to enhancing cross Mersey linkages, by the implementation of the Mersey Gateway project and the Mersey Gateway Sustainable Transport Strategy.	Ensure the transport system supports the priorities of the Halton's Local Strategic Partnership, the Local Enterprise Partnership and Liverpool City Region.	Provide and promote a clean and low carbon transport system.	Ensure the transport system promotes and enables improved health and wellbeing.	Ensure the transport system allows people to connect easily with employment, services and social activities.	Ensure the transport network supports the economic success of Halton and the LCR by the efficient movement of people and goods.	Maintain our transport and highway assets to a high standard.	Promote an integrated transport system.	Stimulate sustainable economic growth in sustainable locations.	Improve accessibility for all to everyday facilities.	Create a safer living environment.	Protect and enhance the environment.	Provide for suitable access to facilities for people with disabilities and people with young children.	Protect local shops, recreation and community facilities.	Improve public transport.	Provide safe and attractive pedestrian routes and extend Pedestrianisation of town centres.	Promote a Project for a New Bridge of the River Mersey, to relieve congestion on the SJB as part of an integrated transport system for Halton and the wider regional transport network.
To relieve the congested SJB, thereby removing the constraint on local and regional development and better provide for local transport needs	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	
To apply minimum toll and road user charges to both the New Bridge and the SJB consistent with the level required to satisfy affordability constraints						✓			✓	✓							
To improve accessibility in order to maximise local development and regional economic growth opportunities	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
To improve local air quality and enhance the general urban environment	✓	✓	✓						✓		✓		✓			✓	
To improve public transport links across the River	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
To encourage the increased use of cycling and walking	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
To restore effective network resilience for road transport across the River Mersey.	✓	✓					✓									✓	

Mersey Gateway Objectives	Halton Core Strategy Revised Proposed Submission Objectives					Mersey Gateway Sustainable Transport Strategy Objectives				Rights of Way Improvement Plan			
	Further develop Halton's economy around the logistics and distribution sector, and expand the science, creative and knowledge based business clusters.	Ensure all development is supported by the timely provision of adequate infrastructure, with sufficient capacity to accommodate additional future growth.	Provide accessible travel options for people and freight, particularly through the realisation of the Mersey Gateway Project, ensuring a better connected, less congested and more sustainable Halton.	Ensure that all development achieves high standards of design and sustainability and provides a positive contribution to its locality.	Minimise Halton's contribution to climate change through reducing carbon emissions and ensure the Borough is resilient to the adverse effects of climate change.	Reduce the future reliance on carbon intensive modes of travel through encouraging promotion of greater use of public transport, walking & cycling options.	Support the continued regeneration of the Borough, through ensuring that new, high quality sustainable transport opportunities are delivered as part of the Project and associated MGRS.	Further develop new strategic high quality sustainable transport links/corridors through the Borough utilising the opportunities provided by the Project and thereby improving key Mersey Belt and Liverpool City linkages.	To mitigate the impact of tolls on vulnerable groups by providing attractive alternatives to private vehicles for cross-river travel within the Borough and neighbouring communities.	To promote the health benefits of the network and make it easier for people to incorporate exercise into their daily lives and lead healthier lifestyles.	To support the rural economy, local businesses countryside, and tourist sites through the promotion of Halton's PROW network and other access routes, to residents and visitors.	To improve connectivity of the Network and create opportunities for walkers, cyclists and equestrians.	To seek opportunities to enhance and extend the public rights of way network and other access routes through cross boundary working.
To relieve the congested SJB, thereby removing the constraint on local and regional development and better provide for local transport needs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
To apply minimum toll and road user charges to both the New Bridge and the SJB consistent with the level required to satisfy affordability constraints									✓				
To improve accessibility in order to maximise local development and regional economic growth opportunities	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓		✓		
To improve local air quality and enhance the general urban environment			✓		✓	✓							
To improve public transport links across the River			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓				
To encourage the increased use of cycling and walking			✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
To restore effective network resilience for road transport across the River Mersey.		✓									✓		

Table A16.4: Compliance of Mersey Gateway Objectives with Neighbouring Authorities' Objective

Mersey Gateway Objectives	Cheshire East Council Local Transport Plan Objectives					Warrington Borough Council Local Transport Plan Objectives						The Local Transport Plan for Merseyside Objectives			
	Minimise congestion and improve the overall efficiency of the highway network.	Improve accessibility to key services (employment, education, health, shopping and leisure) and reduce the need to travel.	Improve maintenance of the highway and transport network.	Support active and healthy lifestyles.	Improve road safety for all users and increase personal and community safety.	To build and manage a transport network that:						To help create the right conditions for sustainable economic growth by supporting the priorities of the Liverpool City Region, the Local Enterprise Partnership and the Local Strategic Partnerships.	To ensure the transport system promotes and enables improved health and wellbeing and road safety.	To ensure equality of travel opportunity for all, through a transport system that allows people to connect easily with employment, education, healthcare, other essential services and leisure and recreational opportunities.	To ensure the transport network supports the economic success of the city region by the efficient movement of people and goods.
To relieve the congested SJB, thereby removing the constraint on local and regional development and better provide for local transport needs	✓	✓	✓			Is integrated and customer focused and reduces the need to travel by	Enables the regeneration of the Borough and supports economic growth.	Maintains the highway, minimises congestion for all modes of travel and enables Warrington's 'smart growth'.	Improves everyone's access to health, employment, education, culture, leisure and the natural environment.	Reduces the impact of traffic on air quality in Warrington and helps to reduce carbon emissions and tackle climate change.	Integrates with transport networks outside Warrington to enhance the sustainability of cross boundary travel.	✓	✓	✓	✓
To apply minimum toll and road user charges to both the New Bridge and the SJB consistent with the level required to satisfy affordability constraints								✓							
To improve accessibility in order to maximise local development and regional economic growth opportunities	✓						✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
To improve local air quality and enhance the general urban environment										✓			✓		
To improve public transport links across the River						✓				✓	✓			✓	
To encourage the increased use of cycling and walking				✓	✓								✓	✓	
To restore effective network resilience for road transport across the River Mersey.	✓		✓		✓			✓			✓	✓	✓		✓

Mersey Gateway Objectives	Cheshire West and Chester Council Local Transport Plan Objectives					
	To provide and develop reliable and efficient transport networks which support sustainable economic growth in West Cheshire and the surrounding area.	To reduce carbon emissions from transport and take steps to adapt our transport networks to the effects of climate change.	To manage a well maintained transport network.	To contribute to safer and secure transport in West Cheshire and to promote types of transport which are beneficial to health.	To improve accessibility to jobs and key services which help support greater equality of opportunity.	To ensure that transport helps improve quality of life and enhances the local environment in West Cheshire.
To relieve the congested SJB, thereby removing the constraint on local and regional development and better provide for local transport needs	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
To apply minimum toll and road user charges to both the New Bridge and the SJB consistent with the level required to satisfy affordability constraints			✓			
To improve accessibility in order to maximise local development and regional economic growth opportunities	✓		✓		✓	✓
To improve local air quality and enhance the general urban environment		✓		✓		✓
To improve public transport links across the River		✓		✓	✓	
To encourage the increased use of cycling and walking		✓		✓	✓	✓
To restore effective network resilience for road transport across the River Mersey.	✓		✓	✓	✓	