

Local Government Information Unit

NEWS RELEASE

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Get moving on sustainable transport

Local democracy thinktank the Local Government Information Unit (LGIU) today launched Local Sustainable Transport, a new publication on how councils can help improve the quality of life and the environment through influencing transport strategies.

The objectives of a sustainable transport policy are to promote mobility in ways that are less damaging to the environment, enhance the enjoyment and safety of communal space and homes, and improve access to a range of services and amenities.

A sustainable local transport strategy addresses several elements of travel, which can be combined:

- **Destinations:** taking a site such as a school, hospital or office and aiming to increase its accessibility by sustainable modes of transport.
- **Modes:** promoting a mode of sustainable transport - for example, cycle training or schemes to encourage healthy walking.
- **Lifestyle:** analysing individual travel patterns and advising on how to make each journey more sustainable.

The publication, produced in collaboration with Transport 2000, highlights examples of existing local authority best practice from around the country and focuses on areas of policy that councils need to consider in formulating and implementing their local sustainable transport strategy, including accessibility planning, land use planning, and school travel.

David Janner-Klausner, LGIU Policy Officer and author of Local Sustainable Transport, said: "Sustainable transport is complicated and politically sensitive, but it is a good example of where local authorities have the power to act and to join up the work of other agencies in ways that benefits the whole community.

"Councillors need to ensure that work on Community Plans, health and obesity, development and community safety fully integrate to frame their approach to local sustainable transport. This publication brings together all these themes and more to assist councils in this work."