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Sent: 09 January 2016 11:09
To: Howells, Mathew
Cc: scrutiny
Subject: LTP 4
Importance: High

Dear Herefordshire Council

Herefordshire Transport Alliance has reviewed the material published as part of the consultation on the new Local Transport Plan (LTP4). It is our view that the plan as published is not fit for purpose and the method of consultation will mean that very few people in Herefordshire will be bothered to respond, or will be able to make meaningful comments.

The Consultation Draft, the SEA and the Policy Document are lengthy, and contain much text which is too technical for the lay reader. There are a further 13 long documents listed as 'evidence' or 'related pages'. In total several hundred pages. Yet the consultation survey asks only 15 questions about the new Policy and six about the SEA. The questions in the survey are too narrow, and don't invite comments or constructive criticism. The big assumptions in the proposed plan - notably the Southern Link Road - are not opened for discussion.

Completing the survey on-line is unsatisfactory. There is no way to go back to earlier pages, or to save partial input in order to research other materials. There are no links in the survey form to any of the evidence, making it difficult for the respondent to research anything on which questions are being asked.

There should be a clear statement listing what is being changed in LTP4 compared with LTP3. Ordinary members of the public are not going to spend their time comparing two 40 page documents.

In the Policy Document too many policies are vague statements of intent rather than measurable definitive commitments. For example, "We will support..." "We will continue to work in partnership with..", "We will aim to improve the management of.."

In summary, we believe the consultation in its current form limits rather than enables participation and it discourages an open dialogue between Council and residents on this most important topic. We ask that you re-work the consultation to address these points and make sure it is publicised more widely than it has been.

Herefordshire Transport Alliance

Herefordshire Transport Alliance is comprised of:
Here For Hereford
Hereford Transport Forum
Hereford Visions
Herefordshire Green Parties
It's Our County
and other concerned citizens of Herefordshire