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Foreword Tim Stoddard

Transport and the way we travel presents us with one of the greatest challenges facing Cumbria. It affects the economic vitality of the county, the local environment and quality of life, people's safety and security and ensuring that communities and individuals are able to access jobs goods and services in a way that meets their needs. Getting our policies and investment programmes for transport right will be central to creating a more sustainable economy, a more inclusive society and a better environment, not just in the short term or just locally but for our children's future and in the wider world. This second local transport plan for Cumbria puts in place the essential building blocks to integrate the agenda for transport with the wider range of policies, especially those for health, education and economic development.

At the heart of our approach to transport is a commitment to build new partnerships with all sectors of our society and strengthen relationships with the many organisations and individuals who are already engaged with us on delivering the transport system Cumbria needs. We are keen to see as many people as possible involved in helping to deliver a transport system which is safe, efficient, clean and fair.

There is much to be done, but if we all work together it will be possible to create a modern, integrated transport system to ensure the vibrancy and vitality of our villages, towns and cities and meet the special transport needs of our large rural areas without damaging the environment.



The way forward requires a shared responsibility in which we must all play our part, and Cumbria County Council will do all it can to help bring together all the players. As its part of the bargain, the county council will put in place sensible and realistic investment programmes for local transport measures designed to provide people with an effective transport network and real choices about how they travel for work or leisure.

It will take time to change peoples attitudes and travel behaviour but I am optimistic that with the policies and proposals of this local transport plan we will be making a good start - but at the end of the day we cannot provide all the answers on our own. Everyone is part of the problem and part of the solution and I look forward to working with you in helping to deliver a first class transport system for Cumbria.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Stoddard'.

Tim Stoddard
Leader of Cumbria County Council