



19 June 2009

## National Station Travel Plans Initiative Launched

Today pilot participants in the national Station Travel Plans initiative gathered in Southend to launch 24 station travel plans, which encompass 31 stations across the country.

Participating stations have developed plans to encourage rail passengers to use more sustainable forms of transport when travelling to and from their stations. This includes improving access to public transport, and providing facilities to encourage walking and cycling.

The initiative has been developed by an alliance of rail industry organisations, led by the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) and supported by Passenger Focus and RSSB, as well as the Department for Transport (DfT). Train companies, local authorities, Network Rail, and the Campaign for Better Transport have also provided valuable contributions and assistance.

Also launched today is a set of support resources developed by ATOC, Passenger Focus and RSSB, including a comprehensive toolkit that outlines how to develop station travel plans. ATOC has also compiled a series of case studies detailing the pilot stations' progress over the last year, since they were selected.

Andrew Adonis, Secretary of State for Transport, said: "Of course rail journeys don't start and end at stations - for many people, travelling on the train is just part of the overall journey.

"It is crucial that we not only make it easier for passengers to get to and from the station, but that we help them to make that journey in a sustainable way. This scheme will enable more passengers to access the rail network, ensuring its growth for future generations."



David Mapp, Commercial Director of ATOC and Chair of the National Steering Group for the Station Travel Plan Pilot Project said: “Station Travel Plans provide an excellent opportunity for the environmental benefits of rail travel to be extended by making journeys to and from stations easier. The project is a complex one but has already benefited from strong teamwork across a wide range of industry stakeholders.”

Anthony Smith, Chief Executive of Passenger Focus said: “Record numbers of passengers are using the railway and boosting the capacity of trains is key. However, the passenger journey doesn’t start and stop at the station platform, so it’s pleasing to see the industry focusing on the end-to-end journey and how this can be improved for passengers.”

Len Porter, Chief Executive of RSSB said: “The Sustainable Rail Programme is a significant cross-industry, government-supported initiative that is addressing huge challenges that no individual company or group can address on its own. The Station Travel Plans research and toolkit are products of an important industry collaboration. They provide a means for the individual companies and agencies responsible for delivering the railway as part of the end-to-end journey to local communities.”

**-Ends-**

For further information including high-resolution images from today’s event, please contact the ATOC Press Office on 020 7841 8020. Alternatively, contact the Passenger Focus press office on 0300 123 0821, or the RSSB press office on 020 3142 5330/1/2, email [pressoffice@rssb.co.uk](mailto:pressoffice@rssb.co.uk) .

## **Editors’ Notes**

1. Journalists are invited to a media briefing about the station travel plan research toolkit that ATOC, Passenger Focus and RSSB have developed. The briefing will be held at ATOC’s offices at 40 Bernard Street, London WC1N 1BY on Thursday 25 June from 1200 until approximately 1330. Spokespeople from ATOC, Passenger Focus and RSSB will present the toolkit, then there will be an opportunity for questions and answers. A light lunch will be provided. Please

RSVP to confirm your attendance by calling the ATOC press office on 020 7841 8020 or emailing [atocnews@atoc.org](mailto:atocnews@atoc.org)

2. For more information about the Station Travel Plan initiative, see <http://www.stationtravelplans.com/>
3. The 24 pilot schemes are:

Appendix: Pilot participants		
	Pilot name	Stations involved
1	Derby	Derby
2	Loughborough	Loughborough
3	Colchester North	Colchester North
4	Leighton Buzzard	Leighton Buzzard
5	Southend Stations	Southend Victoria Southend Central
6	St. Albans & Hatfield	St Albans City St Albans Abbey      Hatfield
7	Middlesbrough & Thornaby	Middlesbrough Thornaby
8	Darlington	Darlington
9	Durham	Durham
10	Accrington	Accrington
11	Hazel Grove	Hazel Grove
12	Ashford (Kent)	Ashford
13	Milton Keynes Central	Milton Keynes Central
14	Three Rivers CRP	Eastleigh Chandlers Ford Romsey St. Denys
15	Bristol Parkway	Bristol Parkway
16	Truro	Truro
17	Digby & Sowton	Digby & Sowton
18	Shotton	Shotton
19	Stoke-on-Trent	Stoke-on-Trent
20	Leamington Spa	Leamington Spa
21	King's Norton	King's Norton
22	Chapelton	Chapelton
23	Hebden Bridge	Hebden Bridge
24	Leeds	Leeds

## About ATOC

The Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) provides the official voice for the passenger rail industry by representing train companies to the government and other opinion formers on transport policy issues. ATOC manages many joint activities for train operators including revenue allocation and settlement, impartial retailing, National Rail Enquiries, Railcard marketing, staff travel arrangements, international products and travel agent licensing.

At the request of the DfT, ATOC is leading the national Station Travel Plan initiative.

## About Passenger Focus



Passenger Focus is the independent consumer watchdog set up by the Government to protect the interests of passengers. Passenger Focus works on behalf of passengers, with the industry, passenger groups and government to secure journey improvements and to get the best deals for passengers across Great Britain.

## **About RSSB**

RSSB builds industry-wide consensus and facilitates the resolution of difficult cross-industry issues by providing knowledge, analysis, a substantial level of technical expertise and powerful information and risk management tools.

RSSB supported the Station Travel Plans research as part of its management of the rail industry's research and development programme, funded primarily by the DfT, and through RSSB's coordination of the Sustainable Rail Programme, supported by executive director-level representation from Network Rail, train operating companies, rolling stock leasing companies (ROSCOs), RSSB, the Railway Industry Association (RIA), ATOC, The DfT, the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR), as well as Transport for London (TfL), Transport Scotland and the Railway Forum.