

**CABINET MEMBER TECHNICAL SERVICES
REPORT TO CABINET
30 September 2010**

1. Third Local Transport Plan for Merseyside

Over the past decade, the Merseyside Transport Partnership has worked to provide a modern and extensive transport network for Merseyside. There has been major investment to facilitate the effective movement of people and goods.

The time has come to prepare the region's next Local Transport Plan, that despite the current economic climate, must plan for growth in all sectors. Developing the transport system to meet these challenges is important, but also in a means that healthier more environmentally friendly lifestyles.

Consequently the vision for the Third Local Transport Plan will be to aim for Merseyside to become a thriving international city region by 2030, with transport fully supporting economic growth and cutting carbon emissions. Consultation on the draft preferred strategy to deliver this was launched by the Partnership on the 8th September 2010 and runs to the end of November 2010. Full details are available on www.transportmerseyside.org

The draft preferred strategy focuses on:

- Maintaining our transport assets to a high standard
- Promote the integration of transport and planning objectives.
- Making better use of technology including introducing smart cards
- Promoting cycling walking and public transport
- Targeted improvements to the highway network
- Reducing road traffic accidents

A full report will be presented to a future Cabinet Member Technical Services meeting and a wider consultation event for Members is being organised.

2. Hawthorne Road/Linacre Road Junction, Bootle

Work has commenced on the major improvement scheme although delays have occurred to permit the diversion of statutory undertakers equipment.

3. Lambshear Lane, Lydiate – Traffic Calming Scheme

A scheme of traffic calming measures on Lambshear Lane/Kenyons Lane, Lydiate is now substantially complete and has been well accepted by local residents.

4. SMBC/Capita Symonds Technical Services Partnership

The Highway Maintenance Programme for the financial year 2010/11 is progressing well and the supplementary programme has been merged in some instances to ensure efficiency and less disruption to members of the public.

These programmes of supplementary schemes utilising thin asphalt treatments, which are of weather sensitive nature, are now well underway.

The pre-patching prior to application is now 100% complete as is the surface dressing programme, however the micro asphalt application is behind schedule as the Contractor has had to adjust programming in Sefton and elsewhere due cope with recent heavy rainfall.

Colas the contractor is now due to be back in Sefton on the 4th October 2010 to complete the remaining 60% of that programme which is estimated to take a further 6 weeks. It may now be necessary to consider weekend working as the autumn period also brings with it shorter working daylight hours.

The revised Grounds Maintenance contract, which now includes for large areas of grass previously left unattended, has improved the overall situation a great deal and complaints have reduced substantially, however there are still issues raised regarding cutting frequencies which sometimes vary due to rainy conditions and mechanical breakdowns and the need to reschedule and meet dates.

The Capita Symonds Architects Group provides a comprehensive service for the delivery of all major capital projects.

Works on behalf of Children's Services for the Primary Capital and 14-19 World of Work Diploma programmes are now substantially complete. The Litherland High School replacement project remains on programme to complete in the spring of 2011.

The Southport Cultural Centre project is well underway and, following conclusion of the uncommitted capital expenditure review, the Netherton Activity Centre replacement, the Southport Market refurbishment and the Balliol House demolition projects will all commence on site in early October.

The Capita Symonds Building Maintenance team continue to provide a day-to-day responsive and planned maintenance service. The emphasis remains the need to ensure that statutory requirements in terms of property related testing and inspections are met and information has recently been provided to Service Directors to this end.

