

Durham City Neighbourhood Planning Forum Working Group meeting - Addendum 6 March 2018, Miners' Hall

Categorisation of Theme 5 Transport – for review and endorsement

The original notes about this item were very brief. I did not have time to prepare full notes in time for the next meeting on 13 March (We had additional meetings on 8 March, the SA Workshop, and 9 March, the Housing theme workshop). At the meeting on 13 March I undertook to provide a fuller note, so here it is.

Fuller version:

Matthew had prepared the initial categorisation. Peter and Sue had submitted extensive comments on this and Roger distributed copies of these for ease of reference. There was a very detailed discussion, after which the categorisations were adopted by the working group. The following main points were made:

1. We should not seek further details from respondents such as the need for drop kerbs. This is far too detailed for the plan's policies.
2. Maps 11 and 12 showing pedestrian and cycling issues are indicative of the current issues that we have identified. They are not a comprehensive audit. They should be moved to an appendix together with supporting tables that give detailed evidence of the issues. These will prove valuable to DCC, the Parish Council and other appropriate bodies. They will contribute to the Local Cycling, Walking and Infrastructure Plan currently being prepared by DCC. We have no policy for a cycling route through the city centre.
3. Air quality is primarily the responsibility of DCC, but it is not completely outside our remit and our policies can contribute to improvements.
4. We need to be clearer about, and place more emphasis on, improved disabled access.
5. We need to be clear that the Transport policies only refer to new development and that they are not intended to be retrofitted to existing infrastructure.
6. The Welsh travel guidance needs unpacking rather than being adopted. The principles that it contains are what matter.
7. We need to check DCC's earlier comments on the draft policies.
8. We should omit references to relief roads as they are beyond our remit.
9. The bus station is clearly a major concern for people so what should we do about it? Do we need to allocate a site for it? We need to discuss this with DCC.