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City of York Council Scrutiny Review of Traffic Congestion

Paul Wadsworth 18th February 2008





Topic:

- Background
- Demand Management
- •Business case for implementing road pricing as part of an overhaul of public sector transport infrastructure, & widening the discussion to include regeneration.
- What the future might and /or could hold





Choice NOT Charging



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We know the Issues – we can see the impacts!

- Congestion25% more vehicles by2015
- Predicted increase in degree of saturation in City of York
- Environmental Damage
- Economic impactproductivity & costs
- Social Exclusion





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We are getting somewhere, slowly



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The position is.....

- Increasing demand
- Lack of investment funding
- Competing funding requirements
- Poor user experience quality / connectivity
- Lack of alternatives
- Lack of vision?







Wider agenda – not just a transportation issue

- Regeneration
- Social Inclusion
- Behaviours and life style
- Competitiveness
- Planning
- Environment







Eddington Report - confirmed what we probably knew

- Need a comprehensive and high performing transport system
- Transport constraints impacts on productivity/competitiveness
- Key challenge is to improve performance to the network
- Making better use of what we have
- Get the prices right
- Sustained and targeted infrastructure investment
 - demonstrable high returns
- Delivery system ready to meet future challenges





We know where we would like to be





















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What is stopping us giving that choice?



Hearts and minds

Vision

CHOICE based on Real
Alternatives

Information



Other barriers?

- Technology
- Politics
- Economic impacts
- Social inclusion
- Institutional arrangements



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Demand Management – Affecting Model Shift

- Quality Bus services
- •Improved interchanges
- Provide better information
- Carparks and Park and Ride
- Green Travel plans
- Workplace parking charges
- Cycling and walking
- Transit systems
- Moderate times of travel
- •Traffic Management Systems
- New and improved infrastructure





Demand Management – Affecting Model Shift

- Quality Bus services
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+ A Form of Road Pricing

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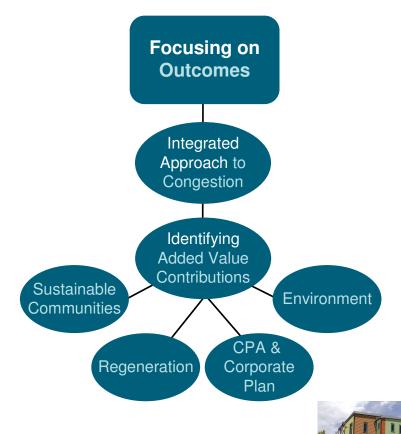
Evidence from London

- 26% reduction in congestion within zone compared to pre charge
- Total volume has fallen by 4% since charge increased from £5 to £8
- Increase in use of public transport by 1% 3% since charge increase
- N0x fallen by 13%, PM10 by 15% (partly due to improved engine technology); CO² down by 15%
- Accidents reduced by 40 70 pa within Zone and Inner Ring Road
- Business impacts broadly neutral
- No overall impact on employment or business performance
- Net revenue from scheme in 2006/7 was £123m
- £100 invested in Public Transport



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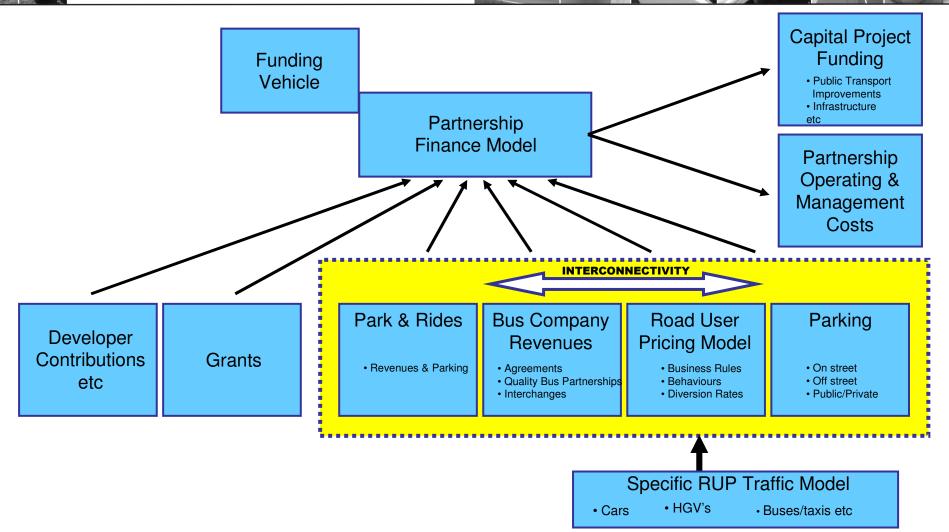


How can this be achieved?



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Key points:

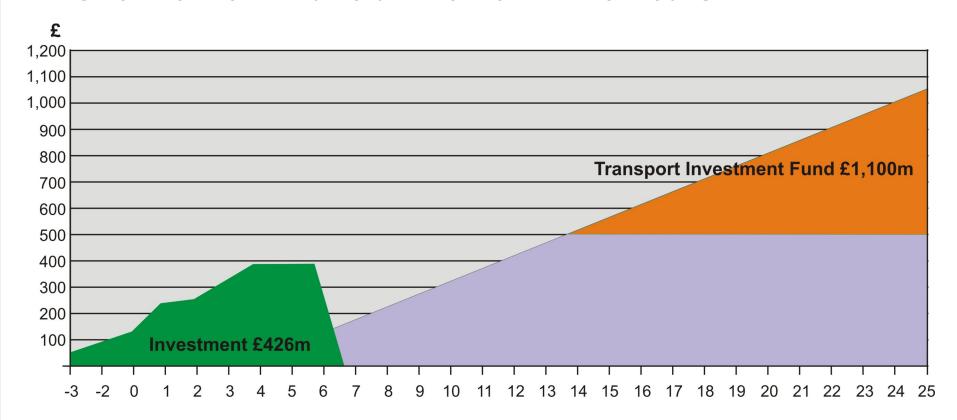
- Holistic approach to transportation problems
- A planned and structured move away from private car usage
- A "not for profit partnership"
- £xms to Invest in public transport and regeneration
- Improved city centre environment
- Flexible model that deals with future changes
- Collaborative working



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Overview of Financial Profile: 4 + 25 Years







Quotes from Businesses - Cardiff

"Industry will pay for better value"

Freight Transport Association

"Need to explore innovative ways of funding improvements to the transport network, the Chamber recognises the need to tackle head on the vexed questions of road pricing, a cautious degree of conditional support for a regional or national system of road pricing... income generated be ring fenced for delivering improvements to the transport network"

Chamber of Commerce





Opportunities?.....

- Plan and control the agenda, as funding independent
- Investment to pump prime private sector investment
- Early development of sites early developer contributions
- City centre management regime security, bus lane enforcement, decriminalised parking regime etc
- "Civic card"
- Information and travel management
- Bold and brave solutions!





Conclusion

- We know the issues
- We know where we want to be
- Revolutionise transport infrastructure
- Minimise problems of congestion, Improve road safety etc
- Energise urban regeneration
- Give travellers fast, efficient, reliable and safe alternatives to the car
- Up front Investment to enable CHOICE NOT CHARGING

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