

Connecting Cornwall

Regeneration Through Better Communication

August 2004



Connecting Cornwall



- Key Centres - 10,000 population and over
- Other Main Towns
- ▲ Regeneration Projects:
 - 1 Newlyn Seafront Park
 - 2 C.I.C. Hub - Penryn
 - 3 Falmouth Docks
 - 4 National Maritime Museum, Cornwall
 - 5 Tate Gallery and Centre of Art, St Ives
 - 6 Peninsula Medical School and Knowledge Spa
 - 7 St Austell Town Centre Regeneration
 - 8 The Eden Project
 - 9 Newquay - Surf Capital
 - 10 Camborne, Pool and Redruth Urban Regeneration
 - 11 Isles of Scilly and Penzance Harbour Regeneration

- ==== Strategic Transport (Cornwall):
- ⊢⊢⊢⊢ Rail
- ⊢⊢⊢⊢ Proposed Major Rail Schemes
- Roads: A30/A38 Trunk Roads
- Other 'A' roads
- Proposed Road Schemes
- ⋯ National Cycle Network Link Proposed Extensions
- ⚓ Proposed Port Improvements
- ✈ Proposed Newquay Airport Improvements
- ✈ Penzance Heliport - links to Isles of Scilly
- Air/Sea Routes



What is Connecting Cornwall?

Cornwall is on the threshold of significant economic and social development.

Achieving transport solutions and improved infrastructure is key to maximising the benefits of many of the County's economic and regeneration initiatives. The 'Connecting Cornwall' programme recognises the importance of transport measures which impact on the success and prosperity of the County.

It sets out strategic infrastructure improvements needed to ensure sustainable regeneration and development in the county.

It is not a 'wish list'. Projects included in the document are selected and prioritised on the basis that they have a pivotal role in supporting economic development and regeneration.

Who is it aimed at?

'Connecting Cornwall' is a programme that aims to engage with strategic decision makers from Government, its agencies, transport operators, businesses, developers, potential inward investors and anyone who is interested in the success of Cornwall.

'Connecting Cornwall' priorities are reflected in the Regional Planning Guidance, the County's Structure Plan, the Regional Economic Strategy and Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Economic Forum's 'Strategy and Action Plan'.



What does 'Connecting Cornwall' do?

- Establish clear infrastructure priorities for sustainable economic regeneration and development.
- Facilitate and lead, where necessary, partnerships that exploit opportunities for infrastructure developments which benefit Cornwall.
- Progress feasibility studies, including economic and market research for the development of action plans.
- Co-ordinate strategies and activities between organisations, businesses and transport operators.
- Provide assistance and guidance for private sector transport and infrastructure developments eligible for support.
- Make representations and lobby support for key strategic infrastructure improvements, which promote the interests of Cornwall and link with wider regeneration initiatives.





The 'Connecting Cornwall' Review

'Connecting Cornwall' was launched in June 2000 following the preparation of the County's Objective One Single Programming Document 2000-06. The document has been important in providing the context and focus to promote transport projects and bids for funding.

Since then, there have been a number of developments which contribute to a higher level of economic confidence and acted as a catalyst for investment. As a result of these developments, 'Connecting Cornwall' has had to review progress and refine its priorities to address the new challenges and continue to tackle hurdles that stop progress on important projects. These developments include:

- an evolving regeneration agenda for Cornwall with a focus on existing centres of activity;
- improved prospects of funding opportunities for transport infrastructure with an emphasis on supporting regeneration and providing economic benefits; and
- real progress on a number of regeneration and infrastructure projects.



○ A range of regeneration success stories, including:

- ...➤ Projects like the Eden Project, the Combined Universities in Cornwall (CUC), the National Maritime Museum Cornwall, the Tate and the Peninsula Medical School.
- ...➤ Establishment of Camborne/Pool/Redruth Urban Regeneration Company - one of only 11 in the UK.
- ...➤ Rapid roll out and take up of "Broadband" through the 'Act Now' programme.
- ...➤ Creation of action plans for regeneration of urban centres.
- ...➤ The increased excitement and vibrance now associated with Cornwall as a place to combine innovative business solutions with a highly distinctive quality of life in a unique environment.
- ...➤ Enhanced airline operations at Newquay Cornwall Airport.
- ...➤ The establishment of the new business inward investment programme.

Photo: Bob Berry/National Maritime Museum Cornwall/Cornwall Tourist Board



Connecting Cornwall Progress: 2000 - 2003

- The Tamar Bridge widened and strengthened to provide improved facilities for all road users on this key A38 corridor. Existing Torpoint ferries will be replaced by the end of 2005.
- The dualling of the section of single mainline railway track between St Austell and Truro is underway, which will remove a notorious bottleneck that causes delays and limits the frequency of rail services. To be completed in November 2004.
- Development work on a possible rail project to enable a 30 minute frequency train service between Falmouth-Truro-St Austell is in progress.
- The A30 Bodmin Bypass to Indian Queens scheme: subject to a successful conclusion from the public inquiry, the dual carriageway scheme is scheduled for completion in 2007.
- The preferred route for the A38 Dobwalls bypass approved and is scheduled for completion in 2008.
- The A391 St Austell to A30 link road under development. Aiming for delivery by 2009.
- Government announcement that A30 Temple to Higher Carblake across Bodmin Moor and the A30 Carland Cross to Chiverton road improvements are a priority. Likely completion by 2010. This will create a continuous dual carriageway from Exeter to Camborne.
- Newquay Cornwall Airport facilities: proposal for enhanced facilities currently being developed. Phase 1 in 2005.
- Proposed improvements for the ports of Newlyn, Penzance, St Mary's on the Isles of Scilly, Par and Falmouth.



- The preferred route for the A39 Camelford Distributor Road approved. Subject to statutory process and funding.
- Wherever possible, innovative forms of local public transport are being developed to help overcome barriers to work, tackle isolation, and to deal with social exclusion.
- A growing sustainable transport network is developing, including more than 150 kilometres of national cycle ways from Bude to Land's End; the Camel Trail and the South West Coast path. The next major project is the extension of the national cycle network, with a new trail from Torpoint to Bodmin to be completed by 2005.
- Infrastructure support for development and regeneration proposals in the main towns.
- The provision of ICT infrastructure to encourage the provision of high-level skills training and access to the latest technologies so that Cornwall is one of the best connected areas in the UK.

The Way Forward - Working Together

The Connecting Cornwall programme is endorsed by the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Economic Forum's Strategy and Action Plan. Connecting Cornwall is managed through the Transport Task Force, which works closely with a wide range of groups in other sectors towards a common vision.



The New Challenges

The new challenges for 'Connecting Cornwall' are now compounded by success. There is an expectation that present bottlenecks and constraints will be overcome, enabling ongoing growth in economic activity, ensuring that the current situation is not a temporary phenomenon, but the beginning of a long-term trend.

To do this, 'Connecting Cornwall' needs to:

- Address peripherality and the growing perception of Cornwall as a 'difficult place to get to' as we watch infrastructure develop elsewhere in the UK.
- Prevent the downgrading and decline of transport services.
- Maximise opportunities provided through Objective 1, within required timeframe.
- Create opportunities for those currently excluded by access.
- Tackle increasing congestion.
- Increase quality
- Provide Choice
- Improve Safety





Opportunities for 'Connecting Cornwall'

- Importance of transport infrastructure recognised by European Commission as part of the Objective One mid term review process.
- Increasing levels of development with potential for leverage of private investment in transport.
- Development of sustainable tourism programmes with an emphasis on transport.
- Active regeneration programmes in all key towns, and development of the Camborne/Pool/Redruth 'Urban Regeneration Company'.



Connecting Cornwall Action Plan

Connecting Cornwall comprises seven action plans which address both the strategic transport connections to and from Cornwall, and the needs at a more local level within the County itself:

1. Strategic and Local Road Connections
2. Strategic and Local Rail Connections
3. Links to Ports
4. Public Transport Improvements
5. Support for Economic Development Initiatives
6. Air Transport
7. Sustainable Networks (Cycling and Walking)
8. ICT Infrastructure

Action plan details are given on the following pages.



Action Plan

1. Strategic and Local Road Connections

Rationale

To provide and maintain adequate, efficient and reliable road infrastructure in order to support the social, economic and environmental needs of the community and visitors, and assist in the regeneration of towns and villages.

To maintain and improve Cornwall's road transport connections with the rest of the UK, in order to encourage investment, and improve access to markets for Cornwall's businesses.

Priorities

- A30 Bodmin Bypass to Indian Queens.
- A38 Dobwalls Bypass.
- A391 St Austell to A30 link road.
- A30 Carland Cross to Chiverton.
- A30 Temple to Higher Carblake.
- A39 Camelford Distributor Road.
- Removal of remaining low bridges on primary route network.



Action Plan

2. Strategic and Local Rail Connections

Rationale

To provide and maintain adequate, efficient, and reliable rail transport in order to support the social, economic and environmental needs of the community and visitors, and assist in the regeneration of towns and villages.

To improve rail transport connections with the rest of the UK, in order to encourage investment, improve access to markets for businesses and to attract visitors.

Priorities

- Improvements on the mainline (Probus to Burngallow).
- Improvement for Falmouth - Truro - St Austell service.
- Signalling schemes on mainline.
- Develop freight facilities.
- Delivery of enhanced interchanges and information systems through the 'Riviera Project'.
- Diversion of Newquay - Par branch line.



Action Plan

Rationale

Priorities

3. Links to Ports

To maintain and develop sustainable level of connectivity by sea to boost local, national, European and international freight movements and trade.

To develop and enhance existing port and harbours to support the marine industries of Cornwall and maintain links to Isles of Scilly.

To enhance and conserve the maritime heritage and coastline of Cornwall's ports and harbours to encourage sustainable tourism.

- Sustain and develop current sea links with the Isles of Scilly.
- Enhance ports of Falmouth, Par and Truro.
- Improvements to rail and road links to Ports.



Action Plan

Rationale

Priorities

4. Public Transport Improvements

To provide a quality, integrated, and sustainable public transport network to ensure the continued movement of people and visitors to and within Cornwall.

- Provision of easy access vehicles and supporting infrastructure.
- Enhanced information systems.
- Enhancement of interchanges facilities.
- Develop innovative transport solutions to address social exclusion.

5. Support for Economic Development Initiatives

To maximise economic development by concentrating major development on towns, where integrated investment can lead to the maintenance and growth of employment in a sustainable manner based on economic growth centres'.

To achieve sustainable prosperity by working in partnership to overcome market failure and deliver high quality and appropriate employment space for expanding and relocating business throughout Cornwall.

To design, test viability and implement key strategic investments, to enhance Cornwall's profile and create substantial economic benefits.

- Implement integrated strategies for key towns.
- Improve transport connections to major employment sites.
- Working with CUC to ensure good transport connections.
- Improve road and rail links to brownfield sites used for economic regeneration.



Action Plan

Rationale

Priorities

6. Air Transport

To reduce the peripheral nature of Cornwall through the retention and development of air services for the business and tourism traveller.

To encourage increased airfreight services.

- Improvement of facilities at Newquay Cornwall Airport for both passenger and freight services.
- Increase schedule and charter air services.
- Retain existing landing "slots" into London Gatwick.
- Maintain and improve links to the Isles of Scilly.

7. Sustainable Networks (Cycling and Walking)

To encourage sustainable transport for residents and visitors alike, through maximizing the opportunities for developing existing and provision of new cycling and walking networks.

- National Cycle Network extension from Bodmin to Torpoint.
- Maintain, promote and enhance walking and cycling network.
- Maintain and promote the South West Coast Path.
- Promote public transport integration with cycling and walking networks.



Action Plan

Rationale

Priorities

8. ICT Infrastructure

To switch on Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly as an ICT enabled region, in which empowered individual businesses and communities are equipped with the necessary understanding, knowledge and skills and infrastructure to embrace the benefits of information and communications technology relevant to their own needs and aspirations.

- To ensure affordable access to broadband for 80% of Cornwall through 'Act Now', the partnership led by Cornwall Enterprise, the County Councils development organisation.
- To encourage the provision of high-level skills training to enable continuous professional development at all levels.
- To explore new opportunities through working with a broad range of stakeholders to enable affordable access to latest technologies to promote Cornwall as one of the best connected areas in the UK.





*Communication is fundamental
to economic success.*

Connecting Cornwall
*is the County's response
to this challenge*



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