



OPTIMISING SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY PLAN - SUMP



Though a draft Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan previously existed for Aberdeen City this required to be updated to reflect the current transformational developments in the city region, such as the construction of Aberdeen South Harbour, wider regeneration through the City Centre Masterplan as well as the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route.

The updated SUMP would identify a range of projects for delivery to enable the development of a safer, cleaner and more sustainable city centre and improve transport connections, particularly sustainable connections, between the City Centre and port areas.

CONTEXT & CHALLENGES

As the regional centre for the North East of Scotland, there are a large number of movements which take place to, from and within the City Centre every day, with people travelling into the area for work, education and to use Aberdeen's many services and facilities. Despite periodic downturns, the offshore oil and gas industry has brought wealth and prosperity to the North East, meaning that car ownership in the region is high. These factors have led to high car usage in the City Centre, causing congestion and air quality which exceeds both EU and national objective limits. The main harbour in the region is also located within the City Centre, with large numbers of road freight movements to and from the site regularly, while a new harbour is currently under construction south of the city, with current and future harbour traffic further adding to the City Centre's transport challenges.

To address these issues, Aberdeen City Council, as part of the PORTIS project, developed a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP), a transport masterplan for the next 20 years (to 2040).

The vision of the SUMP is of: *A city centre that is accessible to all, which enables healthy and sustainable lifestyles by prioritising the needs of those walking, cycling, wheeling and using public transport and which contributes to wider aspirations to deliver a safe, sustainable and economically buoyant city centre with an enhanced sense of place.*

Consideration 1: Integrate the SUMP with other relevant projects to ensure that these all work together to move towards an agreed vision. In Aberdeen there were a number of other projects taking place concurrently that would impact on transport in the City Centre and the harbour areas therefore much care was needed to ensure the aims and objectives of these projects were aligned and in sync so that a holistic long-term vision started to emerge and could be communicated to members of the public.



Consideration 2: Working with partners was vital to ensure the SUMP met the needs and expectations of relevant stakeholders and represented an agreed multi-agency vision for the future of the City Centre.



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RESULTS - FINDINGS - LESSONS LEARNED

Aberdeen City Council developed its SUMP through a robust process, following European guidelines and undertaking stakeholder and public engagement. Committee at Aberdeen City Council approved adoption of our SUMP in 2019 and also incorporated the SUMP projects into the Council's capital budget programme over the next ten years. Delivery of the SUMP is currently on-going in Aberdeen through additional external funding.

Lesson 1: Consider what information is already available. When Aberdeen started to develop its SUMP officers looked at lot of feedback already gathered from members of the public and stakeholders about their aspirations for transport in the city centre from previous consultation activities. Rather than going back out to consultation and potentially ask the same questions Aberdeen City Council was instead able to combine all the sources of information already held into a large consultation database and use this as a starting point for the development of the SUMP. This also helps avoid consultation fatigue.

Lesson 2: Integrate the SUMP with other relevant projects to ensure that these all work together to move towards an agreed vision.



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More info about CIVITAS PORTIS can be found on our website <http://civitas.eu/portis>

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