

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release 7 October

Board discuss Bill's transport problems

Derby City Partnership Board spent an hour discussing the transport problems of Bill and his family at their recent meeting. Bill is not a member of the Derby City Partnership Board unable to attend the meeting, but a fictitious character created to start the strategic discussion about transport and social inclusion.

Bill has one car and leaves home early to avoid traffic. This leaves his wife Ann without a car for most of the day making it difficult for her to shop or visit her elderly mother. Their eldest son is unemployed and says he can't take jobs that are offered because he hasn't got a car. Their daughter doesn't like the school bus and is nervous of walking home, particularly when it is dark.

Pete Price, Transport Policy Manager at Derby City Council explained "Bill and his family are fictitious, but based on real experiences of talking to people about their own transport problems". The strategic discussion was held to provide information for the development of the Derby Joint Local Transport Plan 2006 – 2011 which is being prepared as a partnership document for submission to Government in 2005. Pete told Board members: "The plan needs to tackle congestion, help to protect the environment, enhance safety and make access to services easier for more people."

Members discussed the needs and problems of Bill and his family – travelling to work, school and hospital, shopping, visiting relatives and feeling safe suggesting possible solutions for Derby's transport provision.

There was strong agreement about the importance of giving people more choice about how they travel, but also about the way in which long term planning should reduce the need to travel.

“We need to ensure we have a quality transport system, that gives buses, bikes and feet the chance to compete against the car. We must change the way we think about travel and plan the city so that people do not have to travel so much.” said Maurice Burgess, Chair of Derby City Partnership, summarising the discussion. “There is much to achieve and I encourage all partners to help contribute to the Local Transport Plan over the coming months.”

Ends

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Derby City Partnership is an alliance of organisations working together to create a better Derby.

Members represent

- public services
- local businesses
- community and voluntary groups
- individuals who live or work in Derby.

Since 1995, Derby City Partnership has been working to:

- develop closer and better working between organisations
- improve services and facilities
- attract funding
- make best use of all resources
- bring the work of all partnerships in the city together

Derby City Partnership is also the Local Strategic Partnership, delivering the National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal in the most deprived neighbourhoods of the city.

Derby City Partnership Board meets bi-monthly. One hour of the meeting is devoted to a strategic discussion on a key topic for the city.

Derby City Partnership Board members include:

Bombardier Transportation (UK) Ltd
Central and Greater Derby Primary Care Trusts
Derby Area Trades Union Council
Derby City Council
Derby Cityscape Ltd
Derby Community Network
Derby Council for Voluntary Service

Derby Evening Telegraph
Derby Millennium Network
Derby Racial Equality Council
Derbyshire Building Society
Derbyshire Chamber and Business Link
Derbyshire Constabulary
Diocese of Derby
Jobcentre Plus
Learning + Skills Council Derbyshire
Pro-Derby
Rolls-Royce plc
Southern Derbyshire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
Trent Barton
University of Derby

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