

SOUTH COAST CORRIDOR MULTI MODAL STUDY

Terms of Reference

1. The overall aim of the study is to investigate congestion, safety and environmental problems of transport on the south coast between Southampton and Thanet, and to propose measures aimed at improving access to and between the regeneration areas and other areas of economic activity along the south coast.
2. The study should include consideration of travel by road, rail, short sea shipping and other modes for both passenger and freight services. The study area should include (but not necessarily be limited to) the M27, A27, A259, rail and other public transport routes along the coast including links to Ashford and East Kent.
3. The study should consider the strategic role of the transport system in the corridor and of sections in it within the broad context of land use planning, transport and other policies, taking into account the regional, national and international dimensions. The study should also carry out a review of the current and future transport problems within the study area which may inhibit the transport system from fulfilling its role, drawing on previous work undertaken wherever possible. It should identify and assess options, and make recommendations on an over-arching strategy for the corridor, including the objectives or requirements which should be included within a revised regional transport strategy. Measures necessary to deliver the strategy should be identified, and recommendations made on a potential implementation programme. The study should identify any additional work necessary to refine its proposals.
4. The study should in particular consider previous proposals for bypasses at Wilmington, Selmeston and Arundel, consider the nature of transport-related problems in these locations, identify and assess the options available for resolving the problems, and make recommendations specific to these sections of route. The study should also propose measures to address the problems of the stretch of the A27 between Southerham-Beddingham
5. In all its work, the study should have regard to economic, social and environmental impacts, as well as the effects on those areas in need of regeneration. Wide participation and consultation will be required in identifying and assessing problems and options. Options should be assessed using the New Approach to Appraisal and Guidance on the Methodology for Multi-Modal Studies.
6. The study should:
 - a) Draw on results from previous studies along the corridor, including the South Coast Rail Study and emerging work from other related studies including:

M27 Integrated Transport Study

A27 Worthing and Lancing Integrated Transport Study

South East England Regional Air Services Study

Proposed SEAPLAG Study into regional ports

Concurrent work led by the South East England Regional Assembly on developing the Regional Transport Strategy

- b) The study should have regard to:

Guidance on Multi Modal Studies published March 2000

Draft Regional Planning Guidance for the South East (consultation draft published March 2000)

Regional Sustainable Development Framework (consultation draft to be published in October 2000).

Regional Economic Strategy prepared by the Regional Development Agency published December 1999

Local Transport Plans for relevant areas published July 2000

Local Structure, Unitary and Development Plans

National Rail Strategy (to be published by end of 2000) and relevant decisions arising from Rail re-franchising arrangements, and

Strategic National Policy documents

7. The study will be steered by a group chaired by the Government Office for the South East to include representatives of:

South East England Regional Assembly

South East England Development Agency (SEEDA)

Highways Agency (HA)

South East Forum for Sustainability (SEFS, 2 reps)

Shadow Strategic Rail Authority (SSRA)

South Coast Chambers of Commerce

Freight Transport Association (FTA)

One local authority representative from each of Hampshire, West Sussex, East Sussex and Kent, and from Brighton & Hove, Southampton and

Portsmouth Unitary Authorities

South East & Anglian Ports Local Authority Group (SEAPLAG)

Confederation of Passenger Transport (CPT)

8. The outcome of the study will:

- a) Make recommendations on the strategic role of the transport system in the corridor and an overarching strategy that enables the strategic role to be fulfilled, including the objectives and requirements which should be included within a revised regional transport strategy, Development and Local Transport Plan
- b) Make recommendations on identified sections of the network, in particular those indicated in paragraph 4.
- c) Identify constraints on implementation, including funding and legislative considerations;
- d) Identify what further work may be necessary to refine its proposals; and
- e) Make recommendations on a potential implementation programme.

9. The study will report by Spring / Summer 2002