

## West Road public transport corridor

### Report on public consultation 2009

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This paper reports on the results of the public consultation relating to the West Road Corridor.
- 1.2 It aims to provide evidence of the level of public support for the proposed scheme. It will also outline comments and observations raised by members of the public.

#### 2. Overview of consultation

- 2.1 The first event took place on April 28, the last on June 29. Including these, a total of 13 events took place across the inner and outer west of Newcastle.
- 2.2 Sessions included three main drop-ins at venues along the length of the corridor. Further events occurred prior to Ward Committee meetings, at an event facilitated by the Newcastle Business Forum and by special arrangement.
- 2.3 Just less than 50,000 leaflets were delivered to residences in ten wards and businesses along the West Road advertising meetings and contact details. Posters also advertised contact details and online information. A number of articles and letters about the scheme appeared in the local press.
- 2.4 A total of 127 comments forms were received.
- 2.5 This total represents feedback collected by a range of means: forms filled out at consultation events by members of the public; forms filled out at consultation events by officers in discussion with members of the public; forms or letters received by post (freepost or otherwise); comments submitted electronically (email / online form); comments submitted during phone call conversations.
- 2.6 It should be noted that members of the public attended to speak with officers about the scheme but did not fill in comments forms.
- 2.8 The most consistent issues to be raised by respondents were existing local traffic and highway management concerns.
- 2.9 Of the 127 comments forms received just over double the amount were explicit in support for the scheme than non-support of the scheme. (35 – 17)
- 2.10 75 of 127 responses identified existing traffic and highway management or public transport concerns and did not state support or non support for the scheme (~ 58%)  
35 of 127 responses were explicitly pro the funding bid for the scheme (~ 28%)  
17 of 127 responses were explicitly against the funding bid for the scheme (~ 13%)

### **3. Next steps**

- 3.1 A summary of this report will be included as an appendix in the report that goes to Executive for decision in September.
- 3.2 Comments from specific ward consultation meetings will be shared with Neighbourhood Management for inclusion in ward charters. The Neighbourhood Management team will also be engaging with Nexus from September onwards to ensure the Bus Network re-design takes comments into account.
- 3.3 All comments will be shared with Nexus for inclusion in the Bus Network re-design. These comments will be supplied both in a general sense – to illustrate all respondents' views and also categorised by location such as wards to illustrate which areas need better access to which locations.
- 3.4 Specific responses have been sent to members of the public who have asked for more information. A general letter be sent to all respondents. This letter will include information relating to the results of public consultation, details of officers with whom members of the public can keep in contact regarding the scheme and an assurance that all members of the public who have responded will be kept informed of news of the scheme bid as (and if) the scheme progresses. This letter will be sent out after the September Executive stating the decision and all elements mentioned above.
- 3.5 A quarterly newsletter is produced stating progress on the scheme should a bid for funding be approved. This newsletter can also be used to share information about other wider Council and partner organisations objectives. This was suggested by a business owner on West Road.

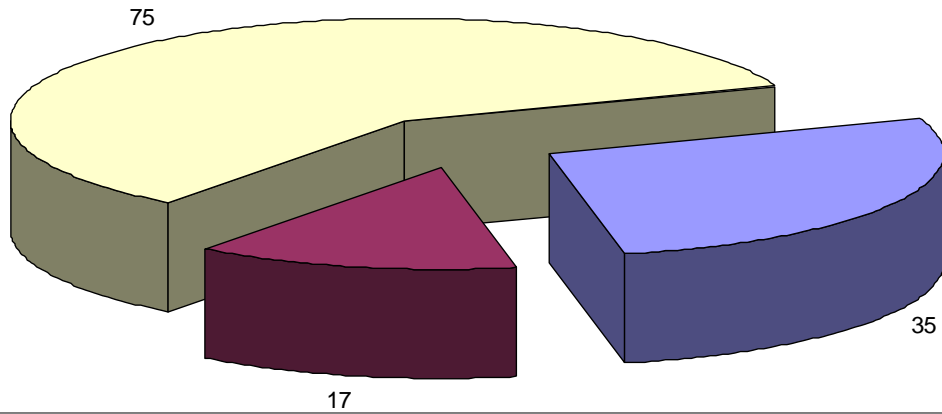
#### Contact:

Transport Developments – [transportdevelopments@newcastle.gov.uk](mailto:transportdevelopments@newcastle.gov.uk) – 0191 211 6012



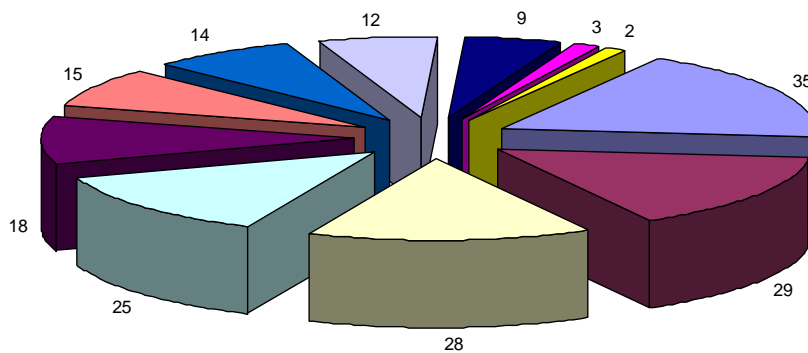
## Visual representations of responses

### Level of support / non-support



- Stated explicit support for scheme (also raised existing local traffic concerns)
- Stated explicit objection to scheme (also raised existing local traffic concerns)
- Raised existing local traffic concerns but did not state explicit objections or support

### Comments received (grouped)



- Concerns over current level of parking on West Road and residential streets in wider wards
- Need / want better public transport
- Detailed design suggestions
- Bus Lanes a good thing
- Concerns over current level of rat-running around West Newcastle
- Connecting signals a good thing
- Concerns over road safety at present
- Pedestrians need better access than at present
- People drive too fast
- Want the Metro
- Want a Park and Ride