Sub-National Transport Hubs

East of England Regional Transport Forum

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Introduction

• Sub-National landscape is changing.

• Government Offices will cease to exist from 31st March 2011.

• A number of Departments, including DfT, have decided to have some form of continued sub-national presence.

• DfT is committed to continue engagement outside London. To continue our work with LAs and sub-national strategic interests.
What there will be

- There will be 3 DfT Sub-National Transport Hubs:
  - **Northern Hub** (5 Staff based in Leeds & covering YH/NE/NW)
  - **Midlands and South West Hub** (4 Staff based in Birmingham & covering WM/EM/SW)
  - **South East and East Hub** (3 Staff based in London & covering SE/E)
What we are not

• We are not the GOs.

• Abolition of the GO Network was part of Government’s Localism agenda.

• A drive to devolve more power to communities, recognising that those at a local level are best placed to understand their own needs and how to address them.

• Also part of rebalancing the public finances.
What we are and what we can do

• We are a DfT central team and part of John Dowie’s Local Transport Directorate.

• Engagement will change and the relationship will be necessarily light touch.

• We are your first point of contact with the Department.

• We are a critical friend who can;
  – Translate and explain Government policy
  – Navigate you through the structures and processes within DfT (including its funding mechanisms)
  – Help Facilitate solutions
What we are and what we can do

- For the Sub-National hubs to work we will need to have close relationships with Local Transport Authorities, Sub-National Groups and the emerging LEPs.

- Still need to understand the issues at the local level to help develop National Policy.

- DfT wants to ensure ongoing sub-national engagement and that engagement will be via the Hubs.
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