

Wales Freight Strategy

**A National Strategy Promoting an Efficient and
Sustainable Freight Transport System**

Timber Transport Conference 2008

Andrew Hemmings (Welsh Assembly Government)

- **Context**
- **Transport policy in Wales**
 - **and Developing the Wales Freight Strategy**
- **What's in the strategy?**
 - **Issues and actions of the Strategy**
- **The way forward**

**The REAL benefits
of freight...**



Also looks like this...



But it can be irritating...



**And we don't
always make
it easy for
freight
operators...**



We'd like to see more of this...



Develop Plan to move freight from road to rail

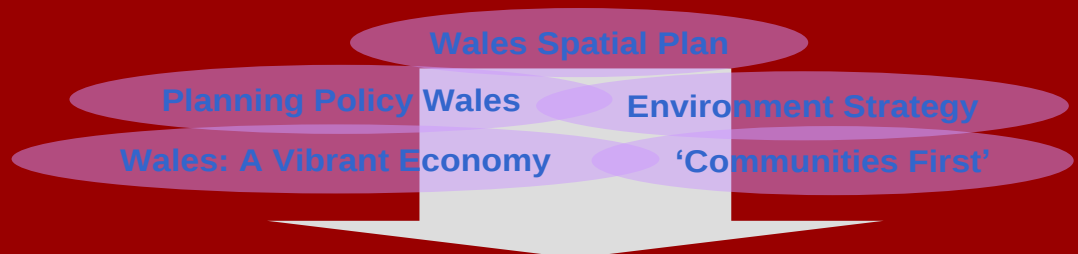
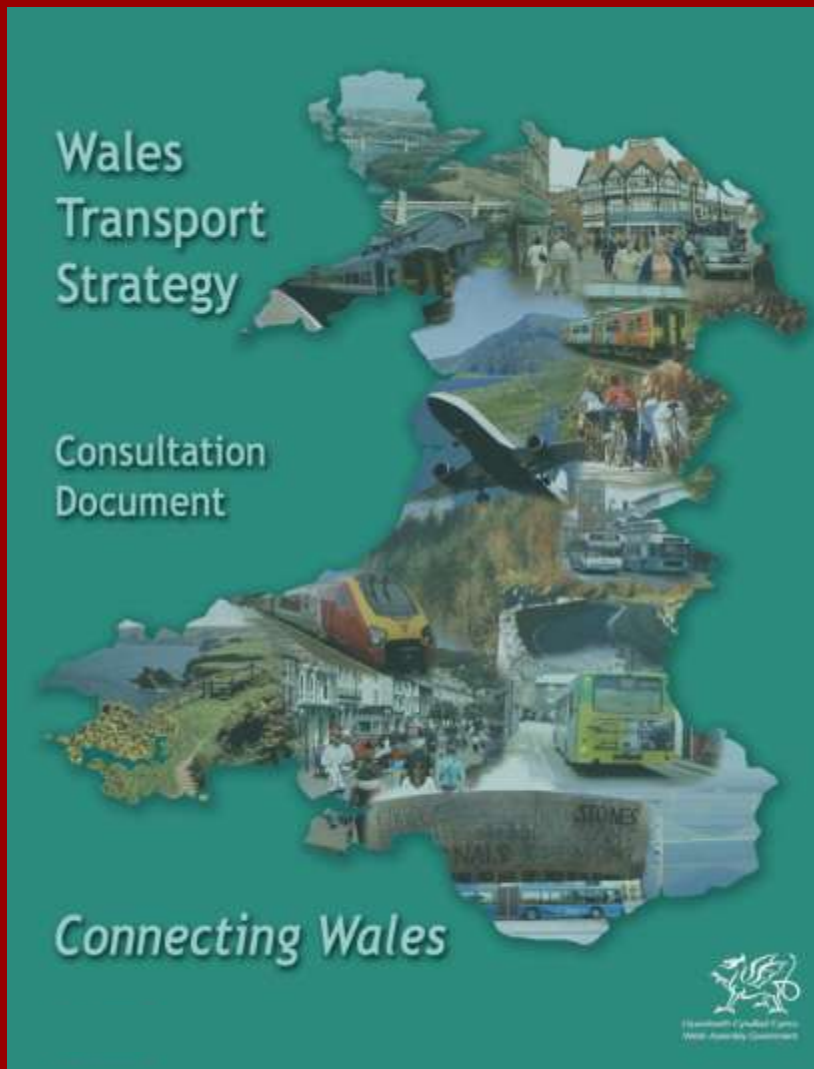
Aim to achieve annual carbon reduction equivalent of 3% per year by 2011 in areas of devolved competence

Need for the Wales Freight Strategy

Some of the main imperatives behind development of the Wales Freight Strategy include:

- **New transport powers for the Welsh Assembly Government**
- **Industry & other Stakeholders are interested and engaged**
- **On-going changes in sourcing and distribution of goods**
- **Need for environmentally less damaging transport of people and goods**

Wales Transport Strategy

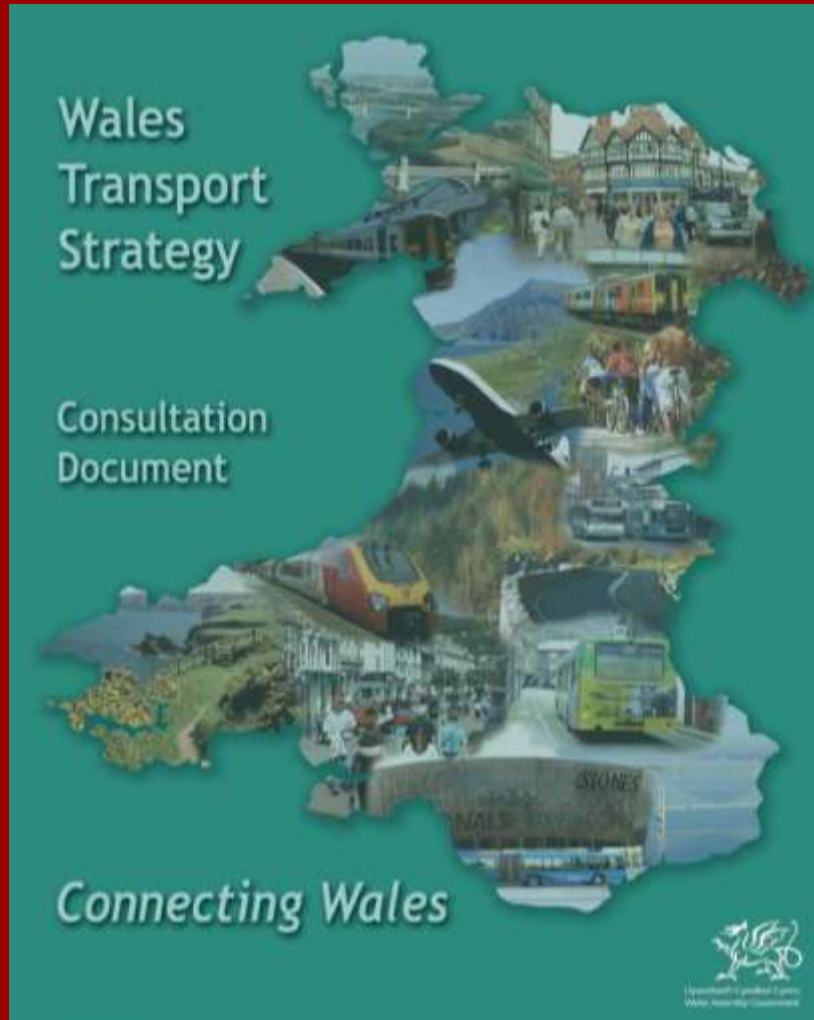


WALES TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Transport (Wales) Act 2006

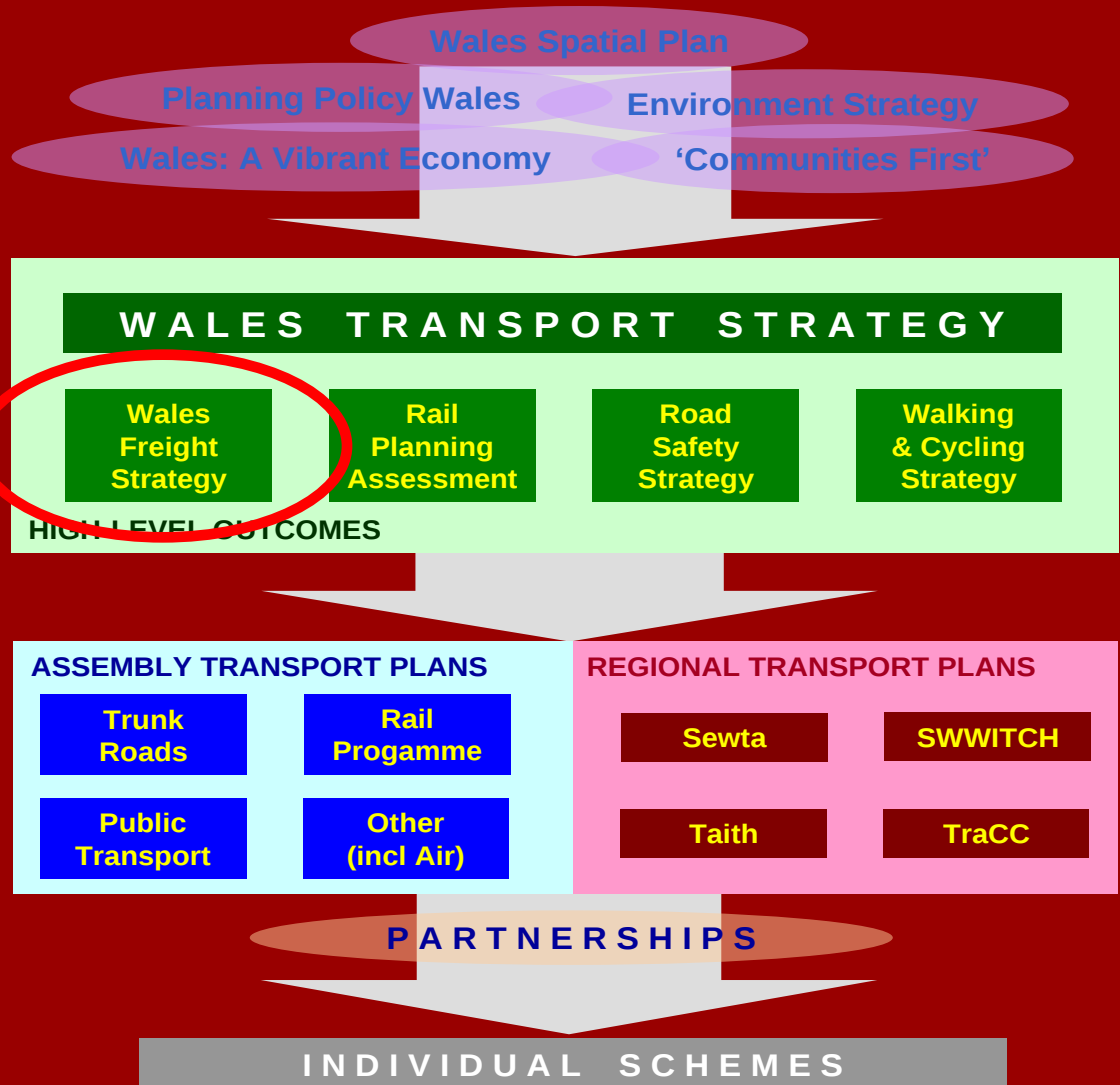
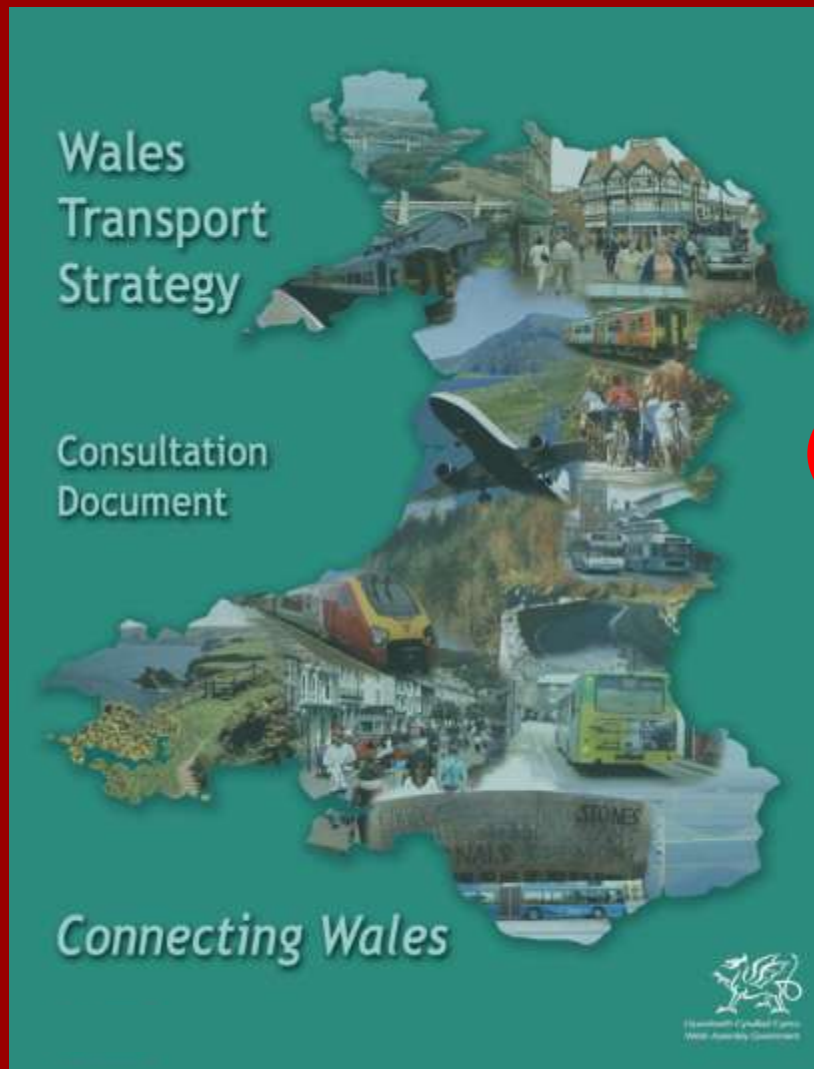
- 'General transport duty' on National Assembly for Wales
- Publish a national strategy for passenger and freight transport

Wales Transport Strategy



- Maximise contribution that transport can make to achieve Welsh Assembly Government's social, economic and environmental strategies
- Key elements of WTS:
 - **Outcomes**: Social, Economic and Environmental outcomes reflecting the Wales Spatial Plan & other key strategies
 - **Themes**: 3 Themes showing how transport can positively contribute to the delivery of the outcomes
 - **'Tool-kit'**: of transport measures

Wales Transport Strategy





Wales Freight Strategy

Consultation
Document

Connecting Wales



Welsh Government
Welsh Assembly Government

- The Wales Freight Strategy is nested within the Wales Transport Strategy and is fully consistent with it
- WTS Outcomes:
 - 1 outcome specifically considers freight and many others have links
- WTS Transport Themes:
 - 3 themes feed into structure of Freight Strategy
- WTS 'Tool-kit':
 - Wales Freight Strategy sets out some measures



Wales Transport Strategy Transport Themes

Wales Freight Strategy Policy Hierarchy

3

- To achieve a reduction in overall travel

2

- To achieve greater use of more sustainable and healthy forms of travel

1

- To achieve a more effective and efficient transport system

- **Spatial policies:** influence overall demand for freight transport
- **Modal shift policies:** mode choice to environmentally sustainable modes
- **Individual mode policies:** minimise impacts and maximise efficiency within use of each mode

Developing the Wales Freight Strategy

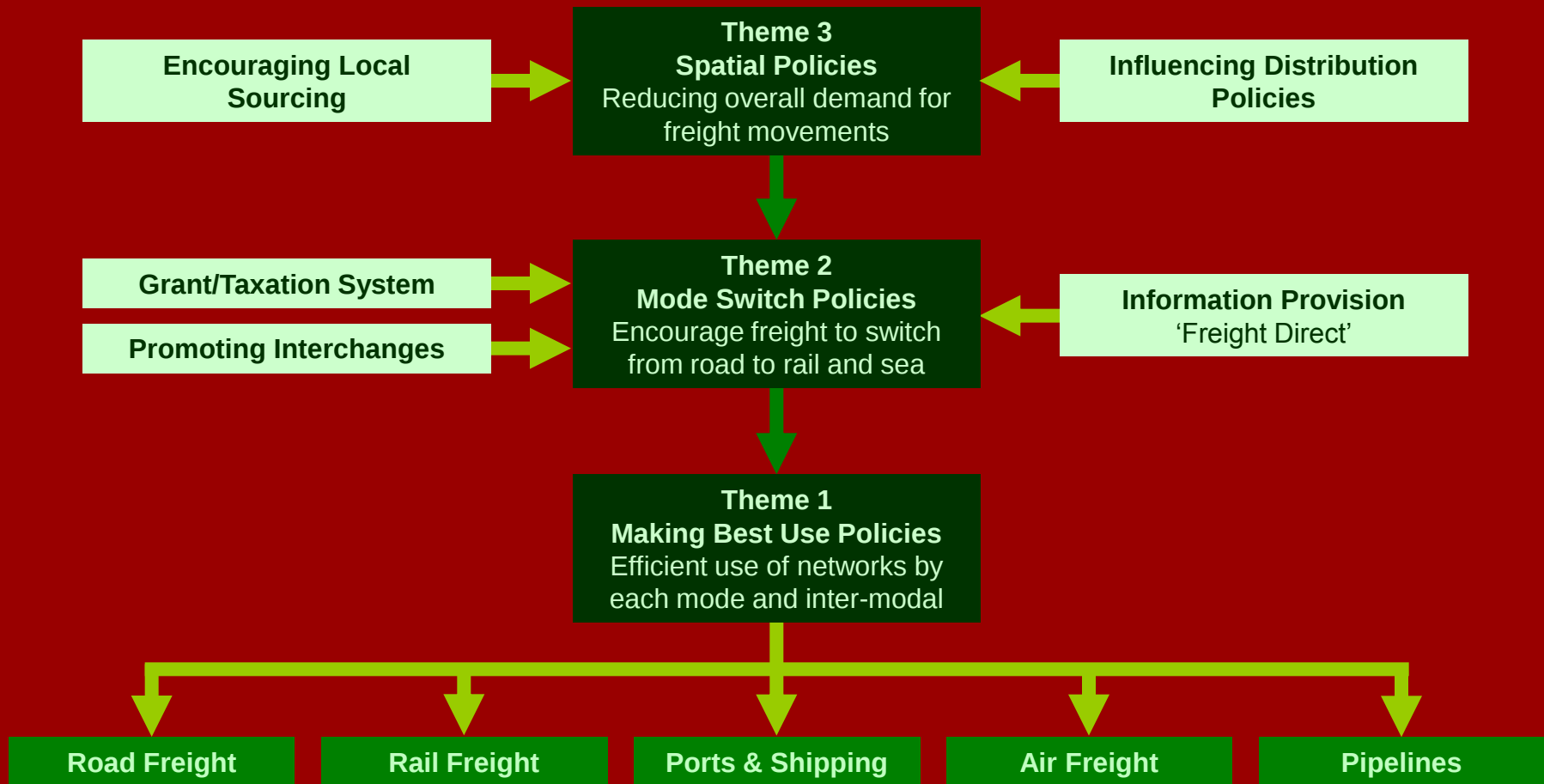
- Partnership is a key aspect of considering and dealing with freight transport issues
- The Welsh Assembly Government has been working in partnership with the freight transport industry, and other stakeholders
- Principally through the Wales Freight Group
- The Wales Freight Group:
 - includes a range of stakeholders
 - members have provided significant input and oversight
 - will be a significant element in taking the strategy forward

Aims of the Wales Freight Strategy



- **Assist Regional Transport Consortia in the development of Regional Transport Plans**
- **Identify and promote sustainable distribution systems**
- **Integrate and maximise use of existing infrastructure using all modes**
- **A reliable and cost efficient freight network – including identifying weaknesses and constraints in the existing network**
- **Anticipate and respond to changes in the supply-chain**

Hierarchy of the Wales Freight Strategy



Structure of the Wales Freight Strategy



Steps Towards Delivery

- **Strategy Structure...**
 - Freight in Wales
 - Freight in Context
 - Strategic Issues
 - Road Freight
 - Rail Freight
 - Ports and Shipping
 - Air Freight
 - Pipelines
 - Actions & Partnerships

Steps Towards Delivery

First Steps... Strategic Issues

Spatial Policies
Influence the overall demand for freight movements



Mode Switch Policies
Encourage freight to switch to most environmentally friendly modes



Making Best Use Policies
Maximise efficiency and minimise impacts of each freight transport mode

Modal Steps... Road Freight Rail Freight Ports & Shipping Air Freight Pipelines

REGIONAL TRANSPORT CONSORTIA

Ports and Airports



REGIONAL TRANSPORT CONSORTIA

The map displays the four water regions of Wales, each color-coded and labeled with large, bold, black text:

- Taith** (Green): Located in the north, covering areas like Holyhead, Bangor, Caernarfon, and Bala.
- TraCC** (Yellow): Located in the central part, covering areas like Dolgellau, Wrexham, and Warrington.
- SWWITCH** (Orange): Located in the south-west, covering areas like Fishguard, Haverfordwest, and Pembrokeshire.
- SEWTA** (Pink): Located in the south-east, covering areas like Cardiff, Newport, and Swansea.

The map also shows major roads and geographical features like the Welsh coast and the English border.



Steps towards delivery are intended to be:

- **Of general application and can be applied in a similar fashion in more than one location**
- **Capable of being implemented and funded in due course**
- **Logical and capable of being developed into or incorporated in action plans; and**
- **Capable of gaining sufficient support (though this need not be unanimous and/or immediate)**

Key Issues facing Freight Transport



- **Freight transport profile**
- **Network limitations – route availability, congestion, conflict of users, standards**
- **Infrastructure development**
- **Environmental impact & emissions**
- **Modal choice in freight and the complementary and competing nature of modes**
- **Financial pressures & short-term requirements**
- **Skills and staffing shortages**
- **Logistics approach and distribution networks**
- **Corporate social responsibility**
- **International trade and patterns of sourcing**
- **Growth in container traffic**
- **Growth in food and drink transport (and the battle between cheap and year round vs. sustainable and seasonal)**
- **Specific issues related to individual modes**

Steps to Delivery: Strategic



- **Multi-modal approach to achieve a sustainable balance between environmental and economic objectives**
- **Understand patterns of movement and role of freight in Wales**
- **Encourage sourcing and consumption of locally produce**
- **Review the system of freight grants**
- **Develop inter-modal freight interchanges in Wales**
- **A balance between freight and passenger on rail**
- **Consider potential impacts of charging on the road network**
- **A 'Freight Direct' information service for Wales**
- **Encourage stakeholder partnerships**
- **Improve skills in sector ('Skills for Logistics')**
- **Consider how freight transport and networks are affecting and will be affected climate change**

Road Freight



Steps to Delivery: Road Freight



- **Improve efficiency of road freight (operational efficiency, especially empty running)**
- **Use telematics to improve efficiency (links to operational efficiency, in-cab information, routeing)**
- **Reduce environmental impact of road freight (cleaner fuels, emissions, locations, routeing)**
- **Identify strategic lorry route network for Wales**
- **Develop local lorry route maps**
- **Links to road maintenance**
- **Parking for road freight transport & drivers' rest areas**
- **Freight consolidation centres**

Rail Freight



Steps to Delivery: Rail Freight



- **Welsh Assembly Government, DfT and Network Rail work together to ensure that the needs of the freight industry in Wales are taken into account**
- **Increase the freight carrying capacity of the railway, and reconcile potential conflict between passenger and freight movements**
- **Review rail freight grants and subsidy schemes in Wales**
- **Rail-road facilities and intermodal terminals**
- **Protect potential rail freight facilities, in particular former railway land that could potentially be re-used**
- **Identify and promote environmental benefits of rail in development of schemes and influencing**



Steps to Delivery: Ports & Shipping



- **Promote use of inland waterways and coastal shipping**
- **Promote Welsh ports and shipping overseas**
- **Assess the potential through associated international freight market intelligence**
- **Promote added-value activities at ports**
- **Identify port locations where new facilities could be developed, including multi- and inter-modal sites**
- **Consider port-related rail freight path availability**
- **Review routes to ports for road freight**
- **Improvements to skills in port and shipping**
- **Review grants and subsidy schemes**
- **Work with the DfT to develop an active policy on the future of ports**



- Partnership is a key aspect of considering and dealing with freight transport issues
- Combination of on-going and specific partnerships
- Different initiatives will need different leaders. Mostly:
 - Welsh Assembly Government;
 - Regional Transport Consortia; or
 - Industry
- The Wales Freight Group will play a key role



- ***Wales Freight Strategy*** consultation document was published on 3rd October 2007
 - Available on Welsh Assembly Government website
 - Consultation period until 4th January 2008
- ***Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*** of the Wales Freight Strategy has been carried out in parallel
 - Also published 3rd October 2007
- Final version of ***Wales Transport Strategy*** due for publication in Spring 2008
- Final version of **Wales Freight Strategy** published a month later

Questions?

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