

## Working Group Report

Name of Project	<b>South Devon Rural Transport Partnership</b>
Date of Update	25 September 2006
Summary of Progress	<p><b>Transport Information:</b> Research carried out by SDRTP found that transport information is fragmented and many people are unaware of the transport services available. SDRTP produced the Totnes Transport Information Booklet giving details of all transport services in Totnes, including free shoppers buses, Ring &amp; Ride, trains, voluntary car schemes, hospital car service and places to go for transport information. The booklet was delivered free to every household in Totnes and feedback from residents has been very positive. It is envisaged that future booklets will be produced for other towns.</p> <p><b>Devon Wheels 2 Work:</b> A moped loan scheme aimed at rurally isolated people experiencing difficulty accessing work and training due to a lack of transport. A new Community Interest Company which has been established to deliver the service. SDRTP has played a major role in setting up this new scheme and ensuring the service will be available to those in need across the South Hams, from spring 2007.</p> <p><b>South Hams Shopmobility:</b> SDRTP is leading the project to set up a mobile Shopmobility scheme serving Ivybridge, Totnes, Kingsbridge and Dartmouth. The mobile unit will provide scooters and electric wheelchairs in each town, one day a week, giving anybody with mobility difficulties the opportunity to access shops and facilities. There have been a number of successful Taster Days in all 4 towns, generating public and media attention. It is hoped that the scheme will be launched in summer 2007.</p> <p><b>Transport to Health:</b> The NHS is changing their Hospital Car Service across Devon and wants the Community Transport sector to play a major role in transporting patients into hospital. SDRTP attends strategic meetings with the NHS, representing the Community Transport groups based in South Devon.</p> <p><b>Promoting South Hams Community Buses:</b> SDRTP is starting work with the 4 community buses based in the South Hams to increase passenger numbers through tourist use. SDRTP is designing a leaflet 'Leisurely Days Without the Car' highlighting how community buses can be used in conjunction with local footpaths and ferries to access some of the villages located along the River Dart. The leaflet will be produced and distributed in time for the 2007 tourist season.</p>

	<p><b>Rural Carers:</b> SDRTP hopes to work with the Devon Rural Carers Project to set up a transport scheme to help carers based in rural South Devon access services / respite / social opportunities. Subject to SDRTP funding beyond March 2007.</p>
Milestone Reached	Half way through Year 2 of a 3-year project
Issues for the SHSP to consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently SDRTP only covers the eastern part of the South Hams.</li> <li>• Accessibility to locations and services is a problem for a significant number of people in the District, particularly older people and young people. The evidence of need can be seen in many community-based plans.</li> <li>• Funding for SDRTP ceases in March 2007. There are plans to continue the work of SDRTP and expand the project area to cover the whole of the South Hams, together with Teignbridge and West Devon. This will be subject to funding.</li> </ul>
Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SHSP to consider ways that they could support any funding applications that are made to enable the work to continue.</li> </ul>