



Local Sustainable Transport Fund Localism or Pragmatism?

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What I'd like to cover.....

- Localism and the Big Society - what does it all mean?
- What LSTF guidance said about Localism and Big Society
- An overview of the successful LSTF submissions in Tranche 1
- Conclusions - Localism or pragmatism



Localism and the Big Society - What does it all mean?

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What Government says.....

“...We think that the best means of strengthening society is not for central government to try and seize all the power and responsibility for itself. It is to help people and their locally elected representatives to achieve their own ambitions. This is the essence of the Big Society. ”

Rt Hon Greg Clark MP, Minister of State for Decentralisation

Taken from the Plain English Guide to the Localism Bill, DCLG, June 2011
(Update)

What the grass roots are saying.....

That's how we move away from big government and start to build the Big Society. Instead of top-down controlling government, people will be free and powerful enough to help themselves and their own communities. 7

To achieve this we need community empowerment – Whitehall is being turned on its head.

Now's the time for small councils to think big!

....and what the cynics are say.....

"There are things we are already doing we are trying to re-badge as big society - trying to show that they are in line with the big society....."

An un-named Civil Servant in large Whitehall Department, interviewed by BBC in February 2011.



What does the LSTF Guidance say about Localism?

What does the LSTF Guidance say about Localism and Big Society

How many times are the words Localism or Big Society mentioned?:

- Up to 5
- Up to 15
- Up to 30
- Up to 50

What did LSTF say about Localism and Big Society

Local **Building strong communities**

transport solutions to address local issues

Supporting local jobs and businesses

**Partnerships between local
authorities and their communities**

Community participation and partnership working

Community central to development and delivery of the package



Overview of Tranche 1 submissions

LSTF Tranche 1 Submissions - Review of process

Key considerations:

- Demonstrate partnership in developing bids
- Confidence in delivery particularly where that was the responsibility of a partner
- Time available for Tranche 1 bids
- And so what was the outcome in terms of process.....

LSTF Tranche 1 Submissions - Review of content

Key considerations:

- Measures that support local business and economy
- Measures that have an impact carbon emissions
- Involve those at a local level
- Include delivery through partnership
- And so what was the outcome in terms of content.....



In conclusion

Local Sustainable Transport Fund: Localism or pragmatism?

- Localism and big society mean many things to many people.
- In developing their bids, there is some evidence that those local authorities with pre-existing high quality 'community relationships' have fared more favourably. **PRAGMATISM.**
- The content of the bids does place significant onus on 'bottom-up' initiatives that one imagines the localism bill is hoping to engender such as Personal Travel Planning. **LOCALISM.**
- And finally a FOLEYISM.....

Thank you