



Launch of the REFORM project Integrated REgional Action Plan For Innovative, Sustainable and LOW CaRbon Mobility

Development of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs) in Greater Manchester

27.02.2017. A new European project called REFORM started in 2017. REFORM will support the introduction of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs) in local authorities of four European regions. SUMPs have proven their value as an efficient planning instrument to shift mobility towards low carbon solutions.

The new REFORM project officially started on January 2017 and will run for four years, until December 2020. This project will increase the number of local authorities implementing a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) in four European regions: Central Macedonia (Greece), Emilia-Romagna (Italy), Greater Manchester (UK) and Parkstad Limburg (NL). This translates into a specific target for the project to count 60% of local authorities across the four regions to have completed the process for a SUMP adoption.

In order to ease the transition towards low-carbon alternatives for mobility on their territory, the partners will develop guidance materials and organise a series of dedicated events to help their municipalities in the preparation of their SUMP. One of the distinctive aspects of REFORM lies in the central role given to the regions to encourage the adoption of SUMPs by local authorities, including small towns and medium-sized cities. This will be achieved in particular through the improvement of the Regional Operational Programs which will support, fund and diffuse the concept of SUMP as the main planning instrument for shifting mobility towards a low carbon intensive mobility pattern. Another distinctive aspects of the project is that REFORM will focus on the use of new technologies (ICT) to boost the deployment of SUMPs.

To achieve their objectives, the four regions will be supported by three European partners: the Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (Greece) which will coordinate the REFORM project, the network of European cities and regions Polis (Belgium) and the Institute for Transport and Logistics Foundation (Italy).

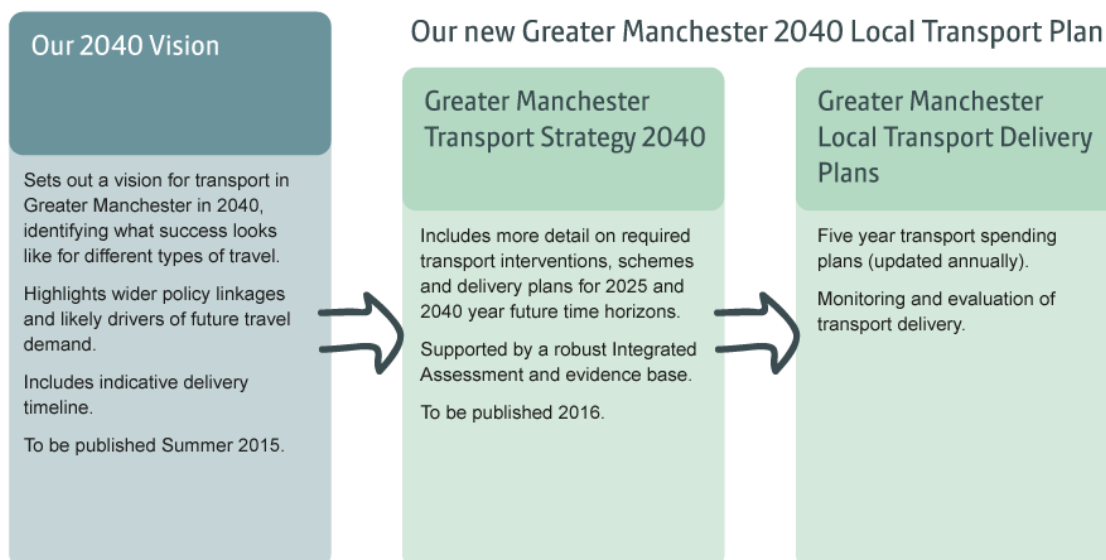


A first technical visit together with a thematic workshop and a policy roundtable will take place in Thessaloniki (Greece) on 1st and 2nd March 2017, in conjunction with the first consortium meeting where all REFORM partners will meet.

REFORM in Greater Manchester

In Greater Manchester, the project will be conducted by Transport for Greater Manchester. On behalf of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, TfGM has recently carried out extensive consultation on the Greater Manchester 2040 Transport Strategy: Our Vision. This document sets the overarching sustainable urban mobility plan for all Greater Manchester Local Authorities: Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council, Bury Metropolitan Borough Council, Manchester City Council, Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council, Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council, Salford City Council, Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council, Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council, Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council and Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council.

TfGM will now work closely with all local authorities and key stakeholder to develop more detailed local transport delivery plans wherein the main concept of adopting SUMP objectives to shift mobility towards a low carbon intensive mobility pattern can be set out in more detail. The following image shows the process undertaken so far and the next stage for development (GM Local Transport Delivery plans).



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REFORM is of particular importance in Greater Manchester as it will allow TfGM and partners to translate the key focus of the 2040 Strategy to a local spatial context. The GM 2040 Transport Strategy is innovative in that it has moved away from the traditional transport strategy approach of developing plans on a modal basis (i.e. a bus strategy, a rail strategy, a cycle strategy, etc) and on an individual Local Authority basis to one that focuses on people and places and development of seamless journeys. The GM 2040 transport strategy also advocates a more spatial approach to transport, focusing on connected neighbourhoods, travel across the wider city region, getting into and around the regional centre, city to city links, a globally connected city with residents, businesses and visitors at the centre of all themes.

Rafael Cuesta, Head of Innovation says “TfGM is very pleased to be a partner within the REFORM project and to advance the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan agenda further. TfGM has been at the forefront of developing transport strategy having recently completed consultation on our innovative GM 2040 Transport Strategy. We are well-placed to share experiences in strategy development but also work with partners to define approaches to the more detailed local transport delivery plans now required. TfGM and local partners and stakeholders are acutely aware of air quality challenges in the region and the need to work towards the continued decarbonisation of transport. We therefore look forward to developing this approach through REFORM”

Notes to editors:

REFORM is a project co-funded by the **INTERREG Europe programme of the European Union**, running from January 2017 to December 2020. The project is coordinated by CERTH, the Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (Greece).

More information: <http://www.interregeurope.eu/reform/>

Eltis, the European Urban Mobility Observatory defines the **Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs)** as follows:

“The need for more sustainable and integrative planning processes as a way of dealing with the complexity of urban mobility has been widely recognised.

New approaches to urban mobility planning are emerging as local authorities seek to break out of past silo approaches and develop strategies that can stimulate a shift towards cleaner and more sustainable transport modes.

The 2013 Urban Mobility Package (link is external) sets out a concept for Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (link is external)(SUMPs) that has emerged from a broad exchange between stakeholders and

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planning experts across the European Union. The concept describes the main features of a modern and sustainable urban mobility and transport plan.”

Eltis platform: <http://www.eltis.org/mobility-plans/sump-concept>

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