

Worcestershire County Council

# Worcestershire Local Transport Plan

## Transport Policies



Worcestershire  
Local Enterprise Partnership



worcestershire  
county council





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# Introduction

This document sets out the fourth Worcestershire Local Transport Plan's policy framework, which substantiates Worcestershire County Council's strategic investment approach for transport information, infrastructure and services.

These transport policies support Worcestershire County Council's Corporate Plan "Shaping Worcestershire's Future 2017-2022" with its four key priorities:

- Open for Business;
- The Environment;
- Children and Families; and
- Health and Well-being.

...and the Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership's vision for the county:

"To build a connected, creative, dynamic economy that delivers increased prosperity for all those who choose to live, work, visit and invest in Worcestershire."

## Department for Transport's Single Departmental Plan 2015 to 2020

This government is investing to make journeys better: simpler, faster and more reliable. Our plan will support jobs, enable business growth, and bring our country closer together. Our key objectives are:

- Boosting economic growth and opportunity
- Building a One Nation Britain
- Improving journeys
- Safe, secure and sustainable transport

## The Worcestershire Corporate Plan and Local Transport Objectives

Worcestershire County Council's Corporate Plan – Key Themes	Worcestershire Local Transport Plan Objectives
Open for Business	To support Worcestershire's economic competitiveness and growth through delivering a reliable and efficient transport network. The Economic Objective
The Environment Health and Wellbeing Children and Families	To reduce the impacts of transport in Worcestershire on the local environment, by the reducing the transport-related emissions of nitrogen dioxide and particulates, carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, with the desired outcomes of tackling air quality and climate change and reducing the impacts of transport on public health. The Environment Objective



Worcestershire County Council's Corporate Plan – Key Themes	Worcestershire Local Transport Plan Objectives
Health and Wellbeing Children and Families	To contribute towards better safety, security, health and longer life expectancy in Worcestershire, by reducing the risk of death, injury or illness arising from transport and promoting healthy modes of travel.  The Health and Safety Objective
Health and Wellbeing Children and Families	To optimise equality of opportunity for all of Worcestershire's citizens with the desired outcome of creating a fairer society.  The Equality Objective
The Environment Health and Wellbeing Children and Families	To enhance the quality of life for Worcestershire's residents by promoting a healthy, natural environment, conserving our historic built environment and preserving our heritage assets.  The Quality of Life Objective

In compliance with the above objectives, these transport policies set out the strategic delivery framework to:

- Reduce the adverse impacts of transport on the environment, including air quality (Air Quality and Climate Change);
- Develop infrastructure measures to improve the safety and efficiency of the transport network for cyclists (Cycle Infrastructure) and to improve travel choice;
- Develop an integrated passenger transport network for Worcestershire (Integrated Passenger Transport);
- Ensure that the needs of motorcyclists are appropriately catered for and to help to make journeys by motorcycle safer (Motorcycling);
- Create vibrant, successful places which support active travel modes (Public Realm) and maximise travel choice; and
- Improve the quality of public engagement, participation and communication to ensure investments in transport infrastructure, information and services meet with public expectation (Public Engagement).

# Policies Transport Engagement





### **POLICY E1 – COUNCILLOR INVOLVEMENT**

Councillor engagement should be continuous from the development of strategy and delivery plans, through to scheme-specific communications, local issues and service changes.

Worcestershire County Council should involve and inform the Local Councillor and the Cabinet Member with Responsibility of any transport-related activity requiring public engagement. This should occur at the earliest stage and continue to engage with them throughout the project lifespan. This will include:

- Identifying any issues in order to modify scheme/strategy proposals;
- Engaging with the local councillor and securing formal endorsement from the Cabinet Member with Responsibility at each appropriate stage; and
- Providing additional support in achieving public acceptance of the project.

Worcestershire County Council Cabinet should approve any strategic and/or contentious transport-related consultation exercises, and sign off the results to enable the scheme to be progressed.

### **POLICY E2 – DEVELOPMENT OF CONSULTATION PLANS FOR TRANSPORT POLICY AND STRATEGY**

Worcestershire County Council will develop and deliver comprehensive Consultation Plans to engage on transport policy and strategy. The plans should be signed off by the Project Manager or the Cabinet Member with Responsibility as appropriate.

The development of a Communications Plan should be considered as part of transport policy and strategy delivery. The plan should be signed off by the Project Manager or the Cabinet Member with Responsibility as appropriate.

A Consultation Report should be produced to summarise the delivery of the consultation, its outcomes and how they were duly considered.

All relevant documentation should be published on the County Council's website.



### **POLICY E3 – FUNDING APPLICATIONS: STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT**

Worcestershire County Council will seek Letters of Support to help underpin a funding application.

Worcestershire County Council will develop a Stakeholder Management Plan to support any transport funding application.

### **POLICY E4 – ENGAGEMENT FOR TRANSPORT SCHEMES**

Worcestershire County Council will develop and deliver comprehensive consultation exercises for transport schemes. Schemes should be promoted and explained using a balanced and realistic approach. The plans should be signed off by the Project Manager or the Cabinet Member with Responsibility as appropriate.

The development of a Communications Plan will be necessary as a critical element of scheme delivery and underpinned, where necessary, with bespoke 'mini plans' to support particular activities with the programme. The plans should be signed off by senior decision makers.

All relevant documentation should be published on the County Council's website, including information on projects.



## **POLICY E5 – COMMUNICATIONS ON ASSET MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

Worcestershire County Council will develop and deliver an overarching Communications Plan, signed off by senior decision makers that should be subject to regular review.

All relevant documentation should be published on the County Council's website, including information on programmes of work and projects.

Individual Communication Plans should be considered for asset management project on a case by case basis.

## **POLICY E6 – MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

Worcestershire County Council will monitor the performance of Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure Communications and will endeavour to review and make continuous improvements to processes regularly within the life of the Local Transport Plan.







### **POLICY E7 – INBOUND CONSULTATION**

Worcestershire County Council will seek to participate in inbound consultation exercises where appropriate to the interests of Worcestershire. The relevant political sign off should also be secured prior to submission.

### **POLICY E8– PLANNING AND HUMAN RESOURCES**

Worcestershire County Council will seek to resource engagement exercises internally wherever possible, to minimise expenditure on consultancy services. However, where the use of consultants is unavoidable, Worcestershire County Council will appoint consultants in line with the Worcestershire County Council Procurement Guidelines.



### **POLICY E9 – IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDING**

All future transport schemes and delivery programmes will require the development of a funded communications plan and/or consultation plan before being approved. This will ensure that the necessary funding is in place to deliver against the objectives of this policy and the wider Local Transport Plan.

### **POLICY E10 – ELECTRONIC INFORMATION**

Worcestershire County Council will produce documents electronically wherever possible. Documents will also be posted on the County Council website within the bounds of the Freedom of Information Act.

Paper copies can still be provided for those who need them, on request.

# Policies Public Realm





## **POLICY PR1 – PARTNERSHIP WORKING TO DELIVER AN ATTRACTIVE, FUNCTIONAL PUBLIC REALM**

Worcestershire County Council will work with key partners, including the Worcestershire Borough, City and District Councils, private sector partners and those representing disability groups, to create and maintain an urban public realm which aims to:

- Cater for all groups of people, including less mobile pedestrians, those with sight or hearing impairments, those suffering from dementia and those who use mobility scooters or wheelchairs;
- Be free from obstructions and minimise barriers to access;
- Be permeable and legible, with appropriate levels of signage where necessary;
- Be clean, attractive and comfortable;
- Be safe to use;
- Maximise direct walking routes, minimise unnecessary deviation or delay and pay regard to pedestrians' desire lines; and
- Include pedestrian and cycle routes which are shorter or quicker than the equivalent journeys by car.

Particular attention will be paid to the quality of routes to key destinations, such as schools, colleges, employment sites, town centres, public transport interchanges and healthcare facilities and to address accident cluster sites.

Where funding permits, parts of the public realm network, particularly in urban areas, will be reviewed in line with best practice guidelines, to ensure the network continues to meet users' needs.



Town Centre *i*  
Palace Theatre  
Town Hall *i*  
Police Station  
Magistrates Court  
Kingfisher  
Shopping Centre  
Outdoor Market

## **POLICY PR2 – MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PUBLIC REALM**

Worcestershire County Council will lead the design, development and delivery of public realm enhancement schemes on the public highway, and will work in partnership with the Borough, City and District Councils, Parish Councils, the private and voluntary sectors to develop, manage and maintain an attractive, safe and useful public realm in a sensitive and sustainable way.

The County Council will balance its duties of giving due regard to and needs of all highway users (including parking and loading), with conserving and enhancing landscape, townscape, biodiversity and heritage assets. It will take account of the diverse non-transport roles the public realm plays and consider local context and distinctiveness through supporting the provision of public art and green infrastructure, for example.

Worcestershire County Council will seek to provide and widen any footways as part of public realm enhancement schemes if it is appropriate to do so.

Worcestershire County Council will protect new public realm schemes under Section 58 of the New Roads and Streetworks Act (1991), which prevents Statutory Undertakers from digging up the highway for a period of 3-5 years, except for emergencies.

The County Council will seek to provide a public realm which is both robust and functional as well as being distinctive, attractive and which helps to preserve the county's historic character. This will be essential to develop Worcestershire's economy, particularly as a centre for sustainable tourism.





### POLICY PR3 – CLASSIFICATION OF THE PUBLIC REALM

Worcestershire County Council will work closely with the Worcestershire Borough, City and District Councils to classify all areas of the public realm in Worcestershire. This classification structure will facilitate best use of scarce resources by:

- Prioritising funding and resource towards the highest profile areas of public realm first;
- Minimising the ongoing maintenance burden, ensuring public realm stays in an acceptable condition for longer;
- Speed up and inform the design process; and
- Lead to a gradual, permanent improvement in the condition of Worcestershire's urban public realm.

Description	Grade 1 – Premium Public Realm	Grade 2 – Primary Urban Retail Streets	Grade 3 – Secondary Urban Retail Streets	Grade 4 – Standard Streetscape
Characteristics	Worcestershire's most cherished public spaces in pedestrianised and/or traffic restricted areas, such as primary shopping streets, squares and areas of specific historic importance. This is the most expensive public realm treatment, so application will be limited necessarily to reflect available maintenance resources.	Primary retail streets in central urban locations on trafficked routes.  Often located on busy transport corridors where occasional pavement overrun and loading is observed.	Secondary retail areas in urban centres on trafficked routes.  Often located on busy transport corridors where frequent pavement overrun and loading is observed.	Standard streetscape.

#### **POLICY PR4 – SPATIAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS**

Worcestershire County Council will continue to work closely with the Worcestershire Borough, City and District Councils and developers to ensure that new developments, where possible:

- Maximise pedestrian accessibility to local facilities;
- Are designed to maximise permeability and legibility for pedestrians, and minimise delays to journeys on foot;
- Are designed to maximise natural surveillance on pedestrian routes; and
- Make appropriate financial contributions towards improvements to the local public realm and pedestrian networks.

#### **POLICY PR5 – AT-GRADE PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS**

Worcestershire County Council will continue to provide appropriate types of crossing facilities for pedestrians in locations where it can be demonstrated that the number of pedestrian movements, volume and speed of traffic and cost of installation and maintenance justifies the installation of a particular type of crossing.

Where formal pedestrian crossings are required, it is the County Council's general policy to provide at-grade crossings on pedestrian desire lines wherever it is possible and safety considerations allow it.

The County Council will seek to minimise pedestrian wait times at crossings, especially in locations where it is a priority mode in the hierarchy and ensure that the width of crossings is suitable for the number of pedestrians using them.





### **POLICY PR6 – GRADE SEPARATED PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS (UNDERPASSES, SUBWAYS AND FOOTBRIDGES)**

The provision of grade separated pedestrian/cycle crossings (such as underpasses, subways and footbridges) will be considered by Worcestershire County Council, only where the volume and speed of traffic renders alternative, at-grade options unsafe.

Worcestershire County Council will seek to enhance poor quality grade separated infrastructure (e.g. subways) and replace with at-grade alternatives where appropriate.

Where a grade-separated crossing is required, Worcestershire County Council will generally prefer the provision of dual use (pedestrian and cyclist) bridges, on account of the personal safety, lighting and flooding issues associated with underpasses and subways.

### **POLICY PR7 – PEDESTRIAN GUARD RAILINGS**

Worcestershire County Council will avoid the provision of pedestrian guard railings and will only provide them at locations where it can be demonstrated that it is necessary to provide safety benefits that could not be provided by other means. Where this is the case, guidance is included in the Streetscape Design Guide as to what standard of railings should be achieved. The County Council will review the need for retaining or removing existing guard railings on a case-by-case basis, particularly in urban areas, where guard railings often add to street clutter and causes severance.







### **POLICY PR8 – DROPPED KERBS**

Worcestershire County Council will continue to work towards providing a comprehensive network of dropped kerbs on the footway network and will wherever possible place them to minimise deviation from a pedestrians' preferred route.

Where installed, dropped kerbs must leave no up-stand (step) between footway and carriageway levels, and tactile pavers will be used at crossing points, to assist blind and partially sighted users.

### **POLICY PR9 – NEW FOOTWAYS**

Worcestershire County Council will consider the requirement for new footways as part of new developments. They will be considered against factors such as the volume and speed of vehicles, the current and potential number of pedestrians, requirements to access local facilities and bus stops, costs of provision and whether alternative, more appropriate measures could be introduced.





### **POLICY PR10 – STREET FURNITURE**

Worcestershire County Council will seek to minimise the quantity of street furniture, consistent with the need for safety and suitable information provision. Where possible, decluttering exercises will include community involvement in street audits to identify the status and utility of existing infrastructure, assisting the decluttering process.

Street furniture of historic interest will generally be retained and preserved in situ, whilst redundant or unnecessary items will be identified and removed. Those items of street furniture which are required should be carefully located to preserve pedestrian circulation space and they should provide more than one function (for example, signs attached to lamp columns) where possible. In particular, the design of street furniture will be specifically considered to ensure that it respects the character of the local area.

Where street furniture is removed or updated, the Asset Register should be updated.

### **POLICY PR11 – STREET DRAINAGE**

Worcestershire County Council will consider the provision of innovative and discreet drainage systems exclusively in areas of Grade 1 enhanced public realm (i.e. pedestrianised or very low traffic areas with flush kerbs and high footfall).

In all other schemes, Worcestershire County Council will seek to maintain traditional robust drainage approaches, using gullies, subtle gradients and kerbs to drain surface water away from the highway quickly and efficiently.





### **POLICY PR12 – STREET LIGHTING**

Worcestershire County Council will provide adequate street lighting commensurate with the role of the transport route and, where applicable, in line with statutory requirements. The County Council will strive to save energy costs from its street lighting stock, in terms of equipment used and using dimming during the early hours of the morning where this would not compromise road user safety.

In areas of enhanced public realm (Grades 1, 2 and 3), street lighting units attached to buildings will be considered wherever possible. Where street lighting columns are used, these should be painted to minimise their visual intrusion. It may also be appropriate to consider a higher quality column to enhance the sense of a quality space in such areas.

### **POLICY PR13 – STREET TREES**

Worcestershire County Council recognises the benefits of street trees. It will continue to survey its stock of street trees on a regular basis, to ensure they do not pose a risk to road users and that even footways are maintained. Replacement or additional street trees of a species suitable to the location will be considered as part of all public realm improvements.





## **POLICY PR14 – PAVING MATERIALS**

Worcestershire County Council will choose appropriate materials and surfaces for footways, footpaths and other areas where pedestrians have priority which help ensure that it is easy and safe for pedestrians to negotiate, cost-effective to maintain and replace and provides an attractive setting which is suitable for the surrounding environment.

The County Council will in general retain, conserve and restore and recycle historic footway surfaces. In choosing appropriate materials it will have regard to the need to protect, conserve and enhance the county's heritage and landscape assets, particularly within conservation areas.

Stone paving will only be used in Grade 1 Public Realm, on account of its significant ongoing maintenance costs. Stone will not be used where vehicle overrun is expected.

Mastertint (coloured asphalt) will only be used in Grade 1 Public Realm, as it is more expensive to maintain than standard asphalt.

Hot rolled asphalt (HRA) is to be used wherever vehicles are expected to operate within the public realm. In Grade 1, 2 and 3 schemes, coloured stone may be rolled into the asphalt to provide some distinctiveness.

Concrete block paving will only be used in Grade 1, 2 and 3 schemes. Block paving should be avoided where regular vehicular overrun is expected, as this damages blockwork and results in an ongoing maintenance liability, which is unaffordable to the County Council.

Wider 'conservation' kerbs should be used in all Grade 1, 2 and 3 schemes. (Stone kerbs are permitted for use in Grade 1 schemes.) These wider kerbs indicate enhanced public realm and provide an effective way of delineating user space within the public highway.

In terms of repairing damaged footway paving, like for like materials should be used, wherever possible, by all public and private sector parties working on the highway.

### **POLICY PR15 – TRADING, OUTDOOR SEATING AND ADVERTISING BOARDS ON THE HIGHWAY**

Worcestershire County Council will work with the Borough, City and District licensing authorities to ensure that market stalls and shops displaying stock on the footway are suitably permitted in locations which neither hinder pedestrian movement nor cause unreasonable nuisance to other highway users or frontagers.

Advertising boards placed on the highway, including footways, without permission are illegal and Worcestershire County Council will use its powers to remove and dispose of them.

Worcestershire County Council welcomes applications for outdoor seating at cafes, pubs and restaurants etc. and will automatically grant permission where:

- the footway width is sufficient to accommodate both the seating area and the main lines of pedestrian movement; and
- the users of the seating area will not cause unreasonable nuisance to nearby frontages and other highway users, particularly the visually impaired.

### **POLICY PR16 – EVENTS ON THE HIGHWAY**

Worcestershire County Council will in principle look favourably on applications to hold community events on the highway and will work closely with West Mercia Police to ensure that applications to close roads temporarily are considered on their merits. They will need to be satisfied that:

- street frontages have been canvassed for their opinion;
- certain categories of road user (e.g. bus passengers) will not be disproportionately inconvenienced; and
- measures have been put in place to ensure legitimate access is retained and diversion routes are available.





# Policies Cycle Infrastructure



## **POLICY C1 – PARTNERSHIP WORKING TO DELIVER CYCLING MEASURES**

The cycle network in Worcestershire comprises the majority of public highways, certain categories of public rights of way and a range of other off-road routes, in public or private ownership. Worcestershire County Council will work in partnership with the City, Borough and District Councils and other organisations, including voluntary interest groups and fora, to continue to develop a comprehensive cycling network.

The County Council will seek to create a network which is convenient and comfortable to use, enhances accessibility to key destinations, and is safe and attractive.

Worcestershire County Council will in particular look to:

- Tackle road safety hazards which discourage people from cycling, such as uneven surfacing;
- Identify features which act as barriers to cycling and formulate a long-term programme to overcome these.





## POLICY C2 – CYCLE NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER MEASURES FOR CYCLISTS

The County Council recognises that different groups of cyclists have different needs. It will choose appropriate cycling measures – including off-road routes – to create a cycling network which meets the five core principles of convenience, accessibility, safety, comfort and attractiveness.

Links in the cycle network will be designed according to the following criteria:

- The position of cycling in the modal hierarchy (see the Network Management Plan);
- The road conditions and traffic volumes (including proportion of HGVs);
- The volume of pedestrians which may have to share the route;
- The types of cyclist being catered for;
- The number of side roads or frontage accesses;
- The presence of obstacles; and
- The availability of suitable off-road routes.

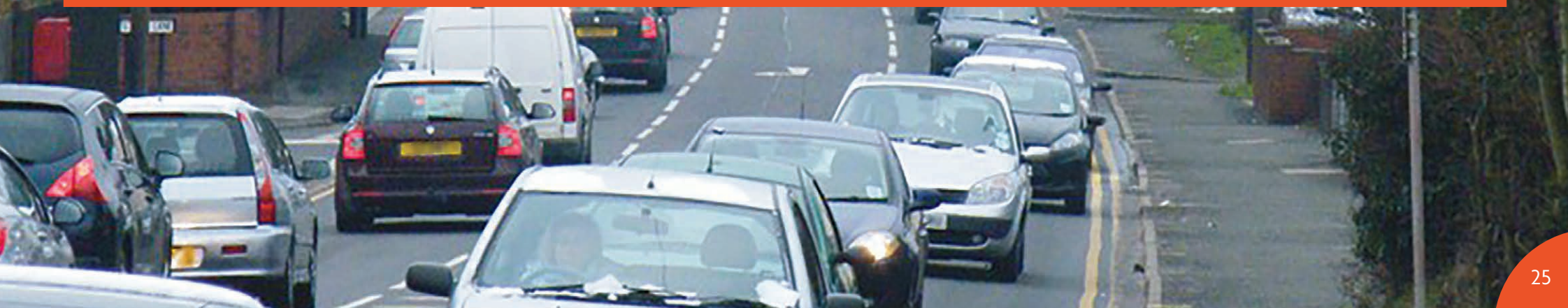
Wherever possible, a ‘full corridor’ approach will be taken, where packages of measures are delivered to provide continuous cycle routes mirroring major traffic routes.

The needs of cyclists will inform the design and redesign of junctions and roundabouts.

In considering appropriate infrastructure for cyclists, Worcestershire County Council will take into account the above criteria and best practice guidance documents to design routes of an appropriate width, gradient and horizontal alignment.

The County Council will continue to work with the Borough, City and District Councils to identify and protect the alignment of suitable off-road routes as part of the planning process.

Worcestershire County Council will seek to embed cycling infrastructure provision within scheme designs.



### **POLICY C3 – MAINTENANCE**

With regard to highway maintenance, Worcestershire County Council will ensure that its programme takes account of the needs of cyclists, including issues such as pothole repairs, dealing with uneven road surfaces, addressing up-stands (steps) at dropped kerb locations and sunken manhole covers.

Cycle routes will be exclusively surfaced in Hot Rolled Asphalt, unless there is a specific, evidenced reason why this material cannot be used.

The County Council will work in partnership with the Worcestershire Borough, City and District Councils to ensure on-and off-road routes receive a suitable cleansing and sweeping regime.

### **POLICY C4 – SPATIAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CYCLING**

Worcestershire County Council will continue to work closely with the Worcestershire Borough, City and District Councils to ensure that new developments:

- Are located to maximise cyclist accessibility to local facilities;
- Are designed to maximise visibility for all on cycle routes;
- Are designed to maximise the environment on cycle routes;
- Are designed to incorporate cycle parking and other suitable facilities, on-site or within buildings as appropriate; and
- Make appropriate financial contributions towards improvements to the cycling network, including those proposed in planning policy documents.





### **POLICY C5 – LIGHTING OFF-ROAD CYCLE ROUTES**

The County Council will consider lighting off-road cycle routes on their individual merits, taking into account the number of users and potential users, the security benefits, environmental considerations, the potential for new types of lighting, installation and maintenance costs.

### **POLICY C6 – ENHANCEMENTS TO TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS FOR CYCLISTS**

Worcestershire County Council will investigate the enhancement of Traffic Regulation Orders to promote increased cycling. In particular:

- Where physical measures are used to enforce the TRO and prevent use by motor vehicles, suitable routes through the physical measures which are free from obstructions will be provided to enable cyclists to safely use these routes; and
- Where restrictions on cycling are unenforceable and/or unnecessary, these will be reviewed.



## POLICY C7 – PARKING FOR CYCLES

Worcestershire County Council will work in partnership with the City, Borough, District and Parish Councils along with other organisations, including landowners, to provide appropriate levels of cycle parking at key destinations. In considering suitable locations, the County Council will wish to be satisfied that they:

- Do not cause a hazard or obstruction to pedestrian movement;
- Do not place cyclists in danger from road traffic;
- Benefit from suitable levels of ‘natural surveillance’; and
- Are placed as close as practicable to the entrances to key destinations (within 20 metres is recommended).

Cycle parking must be of the most appropriate type and style for the surroundings and space available. Sheffield Stands are the County Council’s preferred design for short stay cycle parking, although other styles in some cases may be preferable, such as in Conservation Areas or where space is limited. The County Council will also have regard for the potential dual uses of cycle stands (e.g. acting as bollards). The County Council opposes the use of stands which do not allow both wheels and the frame to be secured.

Particular attention will be paid to security and shelter of long-stay cycle parking.

Worcestershire County Council will work with the Worcestershire Borough, City and District Councils to ensure that cycle parking standards for new developments reflect best practice in terms of their quantity, quality and location and will update these as required.

## POLICY C8 –CYCLE NETWORK DIRECTION SIGNING

Worcestershire County Council will provide clear and concise direction signing for cyclists. The signing should promote cycling and leave cyclists in no doubt that they are on the correct route.

Worcestershire County Council will seek to minimise the quantity of signs and other street furniture on the cycle network, consistent with the need for safety and suitable information provision. Directional signs with times and distances will be provided, where beneficial to do so.





# Policies Integrated Passenger Transport



## IPT1 – HIERARCHICAL DEFINITION OF PASSENGER TRANSPORT

The following table sets out Worcestershire County Council's approach to the delivery of passenger transport, taking account of demand, performance and costs (capital and revenue):

NAME	DESCRIPTION	ROLE	AVERAGE SPEED	DEMAND	INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS	OPERATING COSTS
<b>HEAVY RAIL</b>	Fully segregated, high capacity passenger railway	Major inter-city and inter-urban corridors	High (40+mph)	Very high	Very high for new build	Very high
<b>TRAM TRAIN</b>	Fully segregated, medium capacity passenger railway	Major urban and inter-urban corridors	Medium-High (20-40+mph)	High	High (unless built upon committed investments which deliver the infrastructure needed for tram train)	Medium to High
<b>LIGHT RAIL / TRAMWAY</b>	Mainly segregated, medium capacity passenger railway	Major corridors in large cities	Medium (20-40mph)	High	High (very high for new segregated sections)	Medium to High
<b>BUSWAY / BUS RAPID TRANSIT</b>	High quality and capacity bus system	Major corridors in towns and cities	Medium (20-40mph)	Medium-High	Medium-High (Dependent on extent of segregated busway)	Medium to High
<b>BUS</b>	Conventional bus service	Urban and interurban transport corridors	Low-Medium (10-30mph)	Medium	Low to Medium	Low to Medium
<b>DEMAND RESPONSIVE TRANSIT</b>	Similar to conventional taxi service, although specialist vehicles often provided.	Urban/rural areas and times of day not served by conventional passenger transport services.	Low-Medium (10-30mph)	Low	Low	Low to Medium
<b>TAXI</b>	Conventional taxi service.	Urban/rural areas and times of day not served by conventional passenger transport services.	Low-Medium (10-30mph)	Low	Low	Low to Medium



## POLICY IPT2 – PROMOTING PASSENGER TRANSPORT

Worcestershire County Council will work with passenger transport users and operators and other partners to:

- Develop a clearly defined and understood “brand” for the Worcestershire passenger transport network, used consistently on Worcestershire’s infrastructure and services;
- Ensure that information on passenger transport meets recognised best practice guidelines in terms of design, content and distribution;
- Co-ordinate and limit to a minimum the number of timetable changes;
- Improve the quality of map based digital passenger transport network information;
- Provide a consistent quality of electronic (website), interchange, rail and bus station and roadside information;
- Deliver real time information on high demand sections of the network where a strong business case can be developed; and
- Encourage the development of ‘apps’ to advice passengers when buses are coming.



Service	Destination	Operator	Stand	Time
44D	Gt Malvern Link Tp	First	H	06:18
X50	Evesham Ltd Stop	First	F	06:20
363	Tewkesbury	First	O	06:20
38	Royal Hospital	First	E	06:28
420	Bromyard	First	M	06:35
44D	Gt Malvern Link Tp	First	H	06:35
144	Birmingham	First	P	06:35
30	Dines Green	First	B	06:35
34	Warndon Villages	First	D	06:38
31	Henwick Park	First	A	06:42
30	Dines Green	First	B	06:50
44	Great Malvern	First	H	06:53
33	Warndon/Blackpol	First	D	06:55
32	Kempsey &	First	N	06:55
144	Birmingham	First	P	06:55
X50	Evesham Ltd Stop	First	F	07:00
38	Royal Hospital	First	E	07:05
30	Dines Green	First	B	07:05
44D	Malvern Vale	First	H	07:05

Welcome to Cr

## POLICY IPT3 – TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION FOR PASSENGER TRANSPORT

Worcestershire County Council will work with passenger transport operators, infrastructure providers, land use planners and private sector businesses and developers to embrace technological advances in the arena of passenger transport. Where investment is proposed, the council will ensure that robust business cases are developed to support investment (capital and revenue) required to deliver the appropriate quality of service.

## POLICY IPT4 –BUS STOP INFRASTRUCTURE

Worcestershire County Council will work with partners including Parish, Borough, City and District Councils, bus operators and elected members to reposition or recycle unused and underused bus stop infrastructure, where it is no longer providing its intended public service benefit.

Proposals for new bus stop infrastructure will continue to be considered on a case-by-case basis, subject to the identification of a robust business case for investment, and identification of funding to both install and maintain such bus stop infrastructure over an extended period (at least 20 years).

Worcestershire County Council will only provide new or replacement bus shelters where the following minimum criteria are met:

- A regular weekday bus service;
- Identified long term passenger demand;
- Where the environment is suitable for the installation of a bus shelter;
- Opportunities to minimise vandalism have been considered (CCTV, metal lower panels, public art installation etc.); and
- Where funding for the supply, cleaning and maintenance is identified over a defined period.

Where existing bus shelters cease to meet the above criteria they will be removed, refurbished and relocated as appropriate. Bus shelters that are in poor condition will be deemed to be life-expired, and will be removed.





## POLICY IPT5 - DETERMINATION OF RELATIVE PRIORITY OF SUBSIDISED LOCAL BUS SERVICES

The Transport Act (1985) gives the County Council powers as a Local Transport Authority to secure the provision of public passenger transport services to address need, where such a service could not be provided without action on the part of the Local Transport Authority. Under this act, the Local Transport Authority is required to have regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

Worcestershire County Council policy is to prioritise bus routes for subsidy within its allocated budget. Each contract will be scored on six categories in order to assess the benefit and value of the services provided. These are:

- The actual cost per passenger carried;
- The average number of passengers on each journey;
- The deprivation index for the areas served by the service;
- The car ownership level of the areas served;
- The primary journey purpose; and
- The availability of alternative services for the journeys being made.

The scores for each category will also be weighted to give greater importance to the cost per passenger category, followed by deprivation and availability of other services.

The weighted scores for each contract are added together to produce the overall Key Performance Indicator. This figure can then be used to rank contracts objectively to determine those which are of most value to Worcestershire taking into account patronage, cost and a measure of importance to the passengers.

This is the most objective and effective way of prioritising expenditure. Those subsidised bus service contracts with the worst performance index will, by definition be the least well used, least needed and most expensive per passenger to provide, so will be most likely to be terminated.



### **POLICY IPT6 –REVIEW INTERVALS FOR SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICE CONTRACTS**

Worcestershire County Council policy is to retender subsidised bus services by area every five years to ensure that transport requirements are subjected to ongoing review, and to obtain best value for money.

This period may be amended to fit within a rolling programme of area reviews, but will not exceed five years.

### **POLICY IPT7 –ENSURING BEST VALUE FOR MONEY (TENDER CEILING PRICES) FOR BUS SERVICE CONTRACTS**

When tendering bus services, there is a risk that tender prices may escalate over time. To mitigate this, it is Worcestershire County Council policy to set a ceiling price for the award of each contract based on its knowledge of market conditions. This will enable Worcestershire County Council to continue to operate within the constraints of available funding.

In some cases, the existence of ceiling price may result in a situation where no bids are received for some contracts, i.e. where the existing level of provision cannot be met within the current budget.

Should such a situation arise then the Council policy will seek to extend the existing contract as appropriate. This will allow a period of consultation to produce proposals for a reduced level of service that may be tendered and awarded whilst continuing to meet the allocated subsidy budget.



## **POLICY IPT8 – DEREGISTRATION OF COMMERCIAL BUS SERVICES**

Where bus services are subject to deregistration or reorganisation, in the first instance, the County Council will work with the operator to secure operational data and monitor services during the notice period, to establish patterns of demand.

The County Council will endeavour, where possible, to provide temporary replacement bus service for a period of three months to further monitor the level and pattern of demand. This will enable identification of public transport requirements which would not otherwise be met including use of the service by elderly and disabled users. The Council will then use this information to secure a replacement bus service where the level of demand justifies the cost. The duration of the contract awarded will align with the programme of area reviews.

Where the Council is unable to provide a replacement bus service, either as a result of very low demand or high cost, then it will make its best efforts to ensure that alternative provision is made to meet such demand for transport to essential services, identified following consultation with the communities affected.





# Policies Transport and Air Quality







## **POLICY AQ1 – DEVELOPING MEASURES TO DEAL WITH POTENTIAL FUTURE AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS**

Worcestershire County Council will adopt an approach to the management of transport related air quality issues which is consistent with the goals of:

- Minimising the impact of transport on air quality and the wider environment;
- Supporting the performance of the Worcestershire economy;
- Increasing travel choice, particularly in congested urban areas and along key inter-urban corridors; and

In pursuit of this, Worcestershire County Council will work with relevant partners to:

- Develop and appraise measures (individual and in combination) to deal with existing and proposed Air Quality Management Areas;
- Develop business cases and (where required) funding bids to access the funds needed to implement identified measures;
- Deliver (subject to funding) agreed measures to enhance local air quality;
- Monitor the performance of implemented measures;
- Support measures that have demonstrated potential to improve air quality across Worcestershire; and
- Support measures that protect and enhance the natural environment of the County.



### **POLICY AQ2 – MEASURING AND MONITORING AIR QUALITY**

Worcestershire County Council will continue to work with Worcestershire Regulatory Services (on behalf of the Worcestershire Borough, City and District Councils) to support measuring and monitoring air quality to:

- Identify areas of potential air quality deterioration at an early stage; and
- Understand the transport related causes of designated Air Quality Management Areas.

### **POLICY AQ3 – PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

Worcestershire County Council will continue to work with Worcestershire Regulatory Services (on behalf of the Worcestershire Borough, City and District Councils), transport operators and infrastructure providers to:

- Inform, influence and respond to the development of Air Quality Management Area Action Plans;
- Provide information on traffic flows and other transport developments as required;
- Make informed decisions on planning applications as required;
- Develop and deliver transport schemes to mitigate localised poor air quality caused by transport emissions.





# Policies

# Motorcycling



### **POLICY M1 – PARTNERSHIP WORKING TO DELIVER A STRATEGIC MOTORCYCLING POLICY**

Worcestershire County Council will work in partnership to promote motorcycling as a suitable transport option for many journeys. The County Council will ensure that the needs of motorcyclists are taken into consideration across the county's existing and future transport network and that latest guidelines are used to inform the county's work.

Resources will be prioritised towards motorcycling measures which primarily achieve road casualty reduction, especially through tackling known problem routes, as well as enhancing accessibility.

The County Council will specifically consider permitting motorcyclists (and taxis) to use bus lanes as part of future corridor improvements on existing and future routes where safe and appropriate. The County Council will specifically consider permitting motorcyclists to use bus lanes as part of future corridor improvements on this route.

All future network improvements/new roads should be designed and checked for "motorcycle proofing".

With regard to road maintenance, the County Council will ensure that its programme takes into account the needs of motorcyclists, including in terms of better skidding resistance, tackling pothole repairs and uneven road surfaces and dealing with diesel spillages (in conjunction with the emergency services).

### **POLICY M2 – IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY USING MOTORCYCLES, MOPEDS AND SCOOTERS**

Worcestershire County Council will promote the use of motorcycles, mopeds and scooters to enhance accessibility to key services and facilities, particularly for:

- Those who do not have access to a car (including young people, college and university students etc); and
- Those who live in sparsely populated, rural areas which are poorly served by scheduled passenger transport services.





### **POLICY M3 – MOTORCYCLE PARKING**

Worcestershire County Council will seek to establish more motorcycle parking spaces with suitable security and shelter at or close to key destinations where demand already exists or can be demonstrated (particularly in urban centres). In particular, Worcestershire County Council will continue to work with the Worcestershire Borough, City and District Councils to provide additional secure motorcycle parking in public car parks, as these locations often benefit from CCTV coverage and limit the risk of damage by passing vehicles.

Worcestershire County Council will also work with private businesses, large supermarkets for example, to offer guidance on the provision of motorcycle parking provision (and signage), where it can be demonstrated to be lacking.

In considering suitable locations, the County Council will wish to be satisfied that the parked motorcycles will:

- Not cause a hazard or obstruction to pedestrian or vehicular movement;
- Not be vulnerable to being knocked over by passing traffic;
- Benefit from suitable levels of 'natural surveillance'; and
- Be as close as practicable to the entrances to key destinations.

Consideration will be given to converting and enhancing on-street parking areas which are already used informally by motorcyclists, providing additional on-street spaces. The County Council will work in partnership with other organisations, including the Worcestershire Borough, City and District Councils, and the rail industry to:

- Ensure motorcycle parking is considered as part of the wider emerging parking strategy;
- Ensure motorcycle parking spaces are appropriately placed in Local Planning Authority-owned car parks and public transport interchanges; and
- Promote appropriate standards for off-street motorcycle parking at new developments in Local Development Frameworks and their successor documents.

# Policies Climate Change







### **POLICY TCC1 – REDUCING HARMFUL EMISSIONS FROM VEHICLES**

Worcestershire County Council will work with a range of partners to support vehicular improvements and fleet replacements and renewals which deliver reduced emissions, including carbon dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter.

### **POLICY TCC2 – OPTIMISING THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF TRANSPORT OPERATIONS AND ASSETS**

Worcestershire County Council will seek to minimise energy consumption and enhance the energy efficiency of its transport maintenance and construction operations and assets through a range of measures. This will include, where appropriate:

- Dimming of streetlights during the hours between midnight and dawn;
- Continuing to rationalise periodically the number of existing lamp columns;
- Considering new street lighting and lit signs only where there is a statutory requirement or safety and security imperative to do so;
- Investigation of new technology to establish if this will deliver energy efficiencies; and
- Increased recycling of materials.

Wherever possible clauses will be included in commissioned contracts to encourage contractors to work towards this policy.



#### **POLICY TCC3 – REDUCING THE NEED TO TRAVEL**

Worcestershire County Council will work in partnership with the Borough, City and District Councils to encourage new developments to seek to promote travel choices for Worcestershire's residents by providing Personalised Travel Plans and broadband infrastructure, which might encourage home working.

#### **POLICY TCC4 – INTEGRATING CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION INTO TRANSPORT POLICY AND STRATEGY**

Worcestershire County Council will ensure that climate change is embraced in all local transport policy, strategy and scheme development and delivery and will take account of national policies and strategies to ensure that local policies and strategies remain compliant.

#### **POLICY TCC5 – RAISING AWARENESS OF TRANSPORT-RELATED CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES**

Worcestershire County Council will seek to inform the public of transport-related climate change issues through a variety of appropriate media.





### **POLICY TCC6 – MONITORING CLIMATE CHANGE: THE WEATHER AND ITS IMPACT ON TRANSPORT**

Worcestershire County Council will work in partnership with other organisations, including the Met Office, Environment Agency, Borough, City and District Authorities and transport operators to monitor the impact of climate change in Worcestershire and will utilise appropriate methodologies for calculating the risk of weather events impacting on transport in Worcestershire. The methodology will be used to ensure appropriate actions are taken.

### **POLICY TCC7 – MAXIMISING THE RESILIENCE OF TRANSPORT ASSETS TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Worcestershire County Council will seek to enhance its transport assets to strengthen its resilience to the impacts of climate change.

In the case of flooding, Worcestershire County Council will continue to develop its planning and infrastructure expertise to reduce the impacts on Worcestershire's transport networks, particularly in terms of:

- The principal route network and strategic bridges;
- The rail network and major bus networks; and
- Maximising our ability to retain some form of road and other transport access to major settlements when flooding occurs.





### **POLICY TCC8 – MAXIMISING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EMERGENCY PLANNING AND RESPONSE**

Worcestershire County Council will work with partners such as the emergency services and transport operators to maximise the effectiveness of its emergency planning and response function, to optimise the county's resilience to the likely impacts of climate change.

### **POLICY TCC9 – PLANNING FOR AND ADAPTING TO POTENTIAL WATER SHORTAGE**

Worcestershire County Council will undertake a study of transport-related water use to identify the likely impacts of reduced water availability on Worcestershire's transport networks.





The public consultation will finish on 17th March and the responses will be published in summer 2017 on the website: **[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LTP](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LTP)**

## **Worcestershire County Council**

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**Worcestershire**  
Local Enterprise Partnership



**worcestershire**  
county council