

POLICY SO5.3: LOW AND ZERO CARBON TRANSPORT

The Local Planning Authority will support developments which ~~All major development proposals will~~ contribute to the reduction of the reliance on carbon-intensive modes of transport, for example by supporting the take-up of ultra-low emission vehicles, hydrogen vehicles, developing electric vehicle charging networks, accelerating the uptake of low emission taxis and buses investing in cycling and walking, and moving freight from road to rail.

All major developments will set out as part of the Design and Access Statement how they will:

- Support changes to the road network where they are related to the reduction of environmental impacts ~~and the enhancement of public transport.~~
- Include the provision of electric vehicle charge points and, where appropriate ~~and proportionate, other infrastructure that may be required for alternative~~ will promote low and zero carbon transport options for example designate parking spaces for low emission vehicles, and facilitate low emission bus service operations.
- Support, ~~as appropriate where applicable,~~ sustainable freight distribution by road and rail.
- Ensure that the design and layout of the development will reduce reliance on private vehicles ~~while promoting walking, cycling and public transport (as required by Policy SO5.1 'Accessible Transport').~~

POLICY SO5.4: MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING THE TRANSPORT SYSTEM

The District Council will work in partnership with the local highway authority, transport stakeholders, developers, key funding partners and investors, and the local community to maintain and improve the transport system.

Development proposals will:

- Incorporate safe and accessible connections to sustainable modes of transport, promote walking and cycling having regard to the nature and location of the development site, and contribute towards the improvement of existing, and the provision of new, public transport services to maximise accessibility by non-car modes to essential services and facilities.
- Contribute towards transport infrastructure improvements that are necessary to mitigate the demonstrable impacts of the development upon the strategic and local highway network, public transport services, and cycle and footpath links within and beyond the site.
- Avoid compromising, and support where appropriate, the delivery of the transport infrastructure improvements that are associated with the development of other allocations made in the Local Development Plan. The Local Highway Authority will provide the Local Planning Authority with appropriate advice in this regard.

Commented [SB1]: Replace first bullet point in 5.3 - says the same thing but in more appropriate policy

The District Council will:

- Support proposals for traffic management and transport infrastructure that will alleviate pinch points on the network; facilitate the delivery of planned development; provide for the safe and efficient use of the local highway network; reduce transport pollution and carbon emissions; protect the natural environment; and promote improved public health and wellbeing.
- Facilitate accessible non-car travel options, including the improvement of walking and cycling routes, cycle storage facilities, public realm and wayfinding signage, and the promotion of an increased use of the canal network and towpaths as part of the integrated transport network.
- Supporting development which promotes active travel, including consideration of segregated paths and cycleways which promotes walking and cycling.
- Support improvements which promote the overall connectivity of active travel routes and connections to sustainable transport nodes.
- Support new routes where they are well integrated with existing routes.
- Facilitate strategic partnerships with bus operators to deliver high quality, high frequency bus services, and the continued development of rail services and associated facilities as the preferred means of transport to other areas, including Walsall, Birmingham, Stafford and Lichfield.
- Enable demand responsive transport services, including taxis and minibuses, to provide mobility at times and in locations where timetabled public transport services are not sustainable.
- Ensure that schools, higher education, GP & Hospital services and key employment locations are accessible by sustainable transport.
- Support improvements that will meet the transport needs of business - including the storage, distribution and delivery of goods – in more environmentally sustainable ways.