

Policy & Programmes

HEAD OF SERVICE: Tim Oruye



Listening Learning Leading

By email:
transportstrategy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

CONTACT OFFICER: [REDACTED]

planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk

Tel: 01235 422422

Textphone: 18001 01235 422422

Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon,
OXON, OX14 3JE

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Dear Transport Strategy Team,

Thank you for inviting responses on the draft Local Transport Plan (5) consultation materials, comprising a Local Transport Plan, Freight and Logistics Strategy, Evidence Base Report, Quantifiable Carbon Reduction Report, Integrated Sustainability Appraisal, and Habitats Regulations Assessment.

The purpose of the Local Transport Plan (LTP) is to set out long-term priorities for transport in Buckinghamshire, outlining the vision, objectives and policies for transport until 2045.

The LTP5 aligns well with our own policies and priorities for transport such as promoting carbon reduction through modal shift and enabling sustainable travel through new and improved infrastructure. Our [Nature and Climate Action Plan](#) and [South Oxfordshire Council Plan](#) also include these policies / aspirations.

Buckinghamshire's LTP5 proposals also align with our existing and emerging Local Plan policies which seek to promote the use of sustainable travel, including [Policy TRANS2: Promoting Sustainable Transport and Accessibility](#) (South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035) and [Policy IN2 – Sustainable transport and accessibility](#) and [Policy IN3 Transport Infrastructure and safeguarding](#) (emerging South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan 2041).

We support the greater emphasis on place shaping in the draft LTP5, highlighting a need to create places for people. This aligns well with our [Joint Design Guide](#) and Oxfordshire County Council's [Local Transport and Connectivity Plan](#).

The report considers the challenges and opportunities in Buckinghamshire in detail. However, more actions and tangible improvements could be highlighted to resolve and enhance these characteristics respectively.

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We welcome the proposed Transport Sustainability Hierarchy. It reflects the priorities in the National Planning Policy Framework (existing and emerging) through primarily seeking to reduce the need to travel. This follows with modal shift and then seeking the use of more sustainable fuels.

The draft policies in the proposed LTP5 are up-to-date and forward thinking, with modernised approaches to emerging modalities (in a living laboratory), freight and logistics (last mile), and vehicle management (parking).

We hope that the LTP5 and associated policies AT1-4 and PT1-4, which relate to active travel and public transport improvements respectively, may be used to improve non-car connections between Buckinghamshire and our settlements of Thame and Henley-on-Thames. The active travel link between Haddenham and Thame is an important part of Oxfordshire's emerging [Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy \(OxIS\)](#), and helps connect the urban area of Thame with Haddenham's rail services.

Noting the timeframe that the LTP5 covers up to 2045, it would be appropriate for the report to acknowledge potential changes to Buckinghamshire's geography and governance, in light of Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation changes in the next few years.

Summary

We welcome the ambitions of Buckinghamshire's draft Local Transport Plan 5, particularly as they align well with our council's priorities for transport, how they seek to tackle the climate emergency that we are all facing, and aim to address the transport constraints in the region.

Yours sincerely



Senior Transport Planner
South Oxfordshire District Council