
Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

**Journey to Net Zero:
Reducing the Environmental
Impact of Transport in Bath**



Introduction

- Our Corporate Strategy has two core policy themes:
 - Tackling the climate emergency
 - Giving people a bigger say
- The *Journey to Net Zero* supports delivery of these policies by setting out a plan to reduce the environmental impact of transport in Bath
- The plan builds on the *Getting Around Bath Transport Strategy* and *Transport Delivery Action Plan: Current and Futures Report* which set out our vision and objectives for transport



Vision

Bath & North East
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Bath will enhance its unique status by adopting measures that promote sustainable transport and decision making, whilst reducing carbon emissions and the intrusion of vehicles, particularly in the historic core. This will improve the quality of life for local people, enable more economic activity and growth, while enhancing the special character and environment of the city.

Objectives

- **Reducing vehicle carbon emissions to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030**
- **Improving air quality and health**
- Promoting sustainable mobility
- Supporting and enabling economic growth, competitiveness and jobs
- Widening travel choice

- Widening access to opportunities: jobs/learning/training
- Safeguarding and enhancing the unique historic environment and World Heritage Site status
- Improving quality of life in the city


The Plan has been informed by the findings of the *Current and Futures Report* (published in April 2020) and the consultation in early 2021.



How we have consulted so far

- Consultation aimed to gain an understanding of residents' transport priorities and what improvements they would like to see.
- Six week consultation undertaken in three forms:
 - Public webinar, attended by 77 people and since viewed on YouTube by a further 198.
 - 9 interest-specific webinars to engage with key stakeholders.
 - Online questionnaire – consulting on high-level themes (each of which included more detailed concepts) and received 967 responses – an overview of findings follows.

Better bus services
Create an improved network for quicker and more reliable bus journeys




How important is separating buses from traffic for you?

Separating buses from traffic to avoid congestion and make journeys quicker and more reliable by:

- Providing dedicated bus lanes which would require a reduction in road space for general traffic
- Removing on street parking where necessary to create bus lanes
- Closing some roads to general traffic for bus priority

Important
Quite important
Neutral
Not important
Not important at all




How important is improved access for buses to you?

Improving access for buses through:

- Express bus routes into Bath
- Bus priority at key traffic lights
- Better access for buses to Bath bus station

Important
Quite important
Neutral
Not important
Not important at all




How important is bus service coordination to you?

Working with bus operators to improve bus travel through:

- Coordinating services to allow buses to operate more effectively around Bath
- Enabling whole journey planning, for start to end travel

Important
Quite important
Neutral
Not important
Not important at all

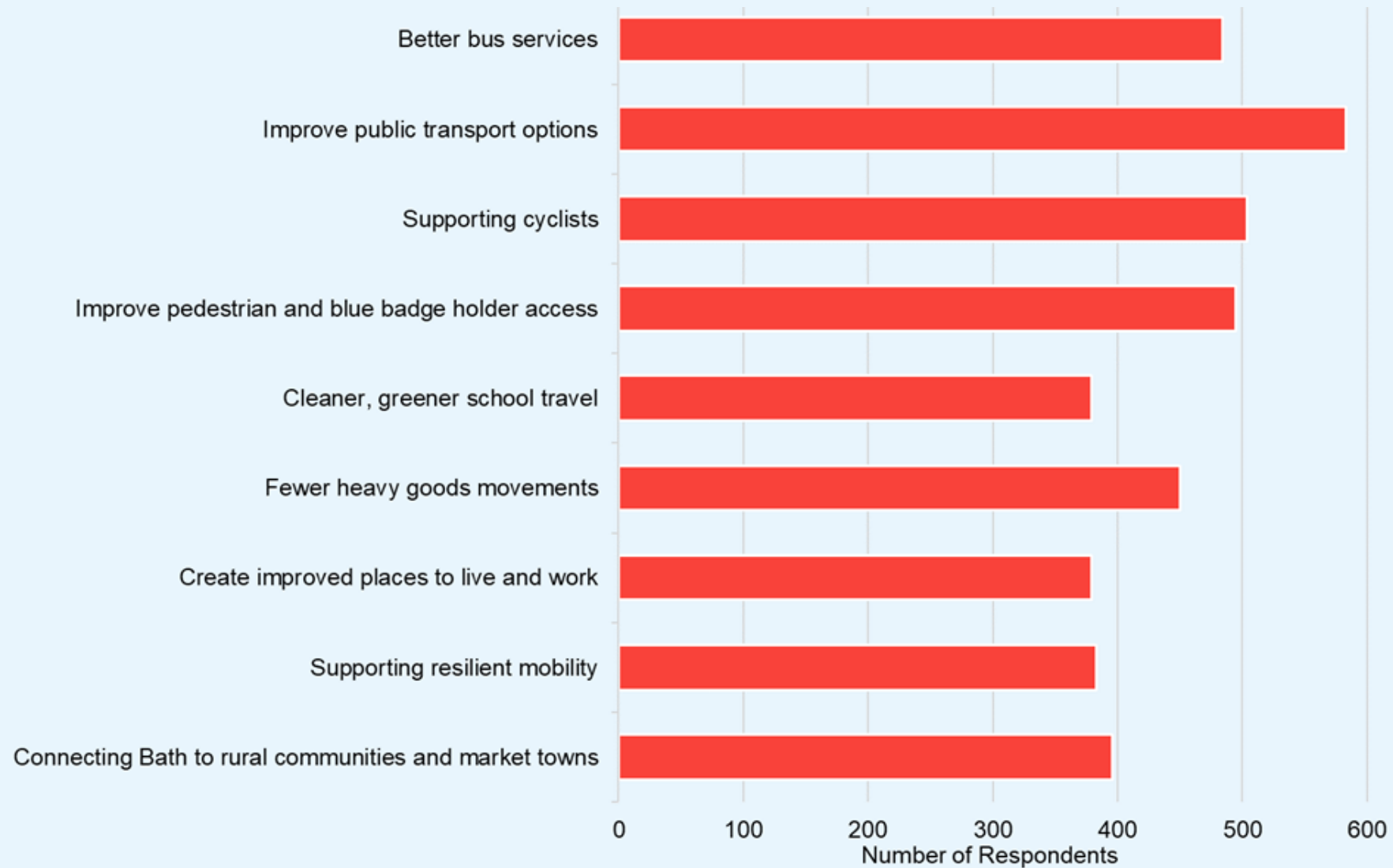


How important is cleaner bus travel to you?

Working with bus operators to introduce cleaner fuel for buses

Important
Quite important
Neutral
Not important
Not important at all

Consultation findings





Consultation findings

The plan identifies:

- **Current projects** – these are already underway and are either being developed by the council and have been consulted on, or have been delivered
- **Developing projects** – projects being developed by the council and are subject to consultation and approval
- **Future projects** – emerging projects that are not currently under development, but could be pursued by the council to achieve carbon targets

These projects are considered by transport themes.



Better public transport options

- An enhanced public transport system to provide a realistic and attractive alternative to car
- Mass transit
- Multi-modal interchange facilities
- Mobility hubs
- Bus stop upgrades
- Universal, integrated ticketing



Providing for travel by bike and on foot

- Improved infrastructure to separate pedestrians, bike users and scooter users from motorised vehicles
- Improvements to disabled access
- Improved routes within and to / from Bath
- Secure cycle storage
- Opportunities to share, buy and lease bikes and e-bikes



Creating improved places to live and work

- Reallocating road space to prioritise sustainable modes
- An increasingly pedestrian focussed city centre
- Rationalised freight movements to reduce the intrusion of HGVs
- Expansion of car clubs
- Charging infrastructure for electric vehicles
- Coach Strategy to reduce intrusion upon city's environment



Cleaner, greener school travel

- Encouraging sustainable travel to school
- Improving the environment around schools
- Better support for school journeys on public transport





Supporting future mobility

- Journeys across multiple modes or operators will become seamless with new technologies to enhance the experience
- Electric shared transport schemes including e-bikes, e-cargo bikes and e-scooters



Connecting Bath to rural communities and market towns

- Improved public transport on key corridors
- Mobility hubs on express routes
- Cycle routes on key corridors
- Reducing commuter travel to bath from rural areas

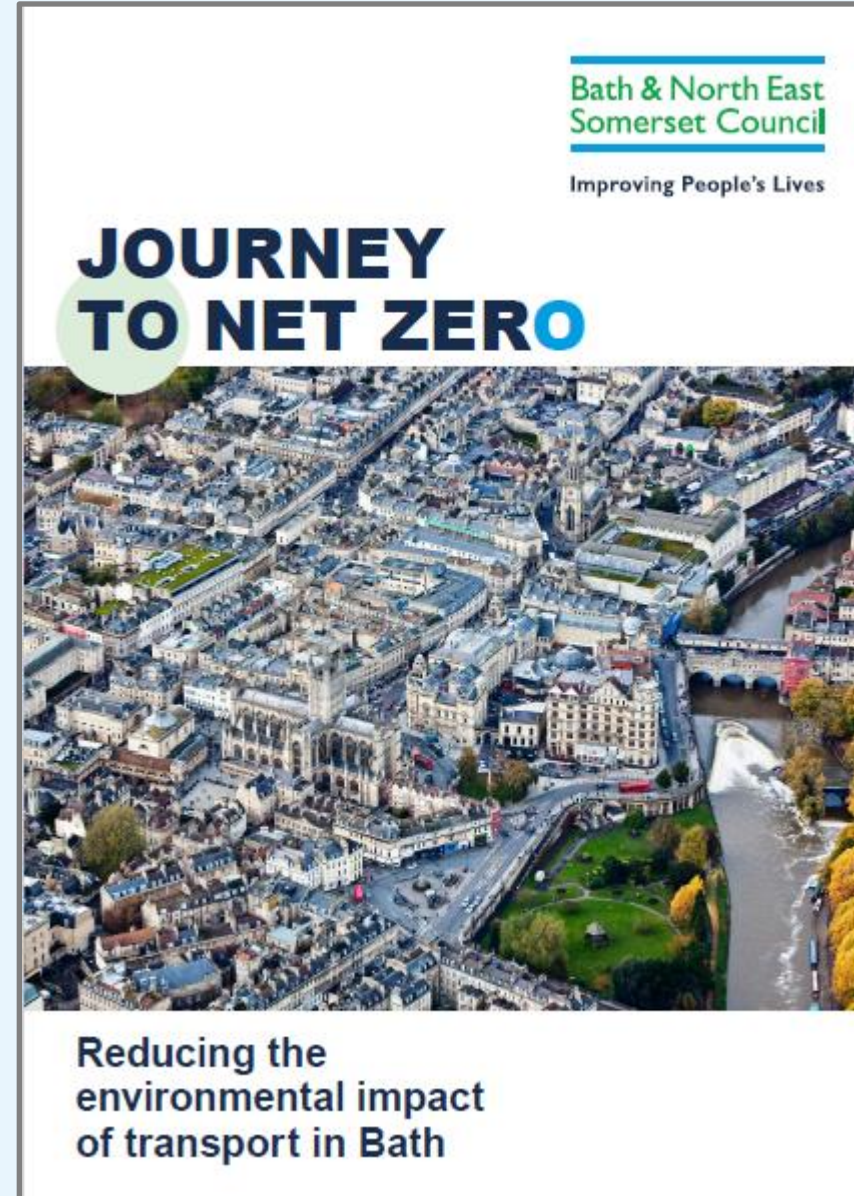
Have your say

- We would like to hear your views on the Journey to Net Zero plan
- You can view the document and answer a set of questions to give your views on the future projects at

www.bathnes.gov.uk/journeytonetzero,

or find a hardcopy in Bath, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton libraries

- We would like to know to what extent:
 - you agree with the future plans
 - the future plans will allow you to reduce your carbon footprint
 - the future plans will improve your life
- The consultation closes at **5pm on Monday 7 February 2022**
- We will use your feedback to better understand how these schemes will affect you, and to guide us in deciding which to follow, and how to implement the selected schemes.



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JOURNEY TO NET ZERO

Reducing the environmental impact of transport in Bath

Next Steps



Following the consultation, we will update the Journey to Net Zero plan.



We hope to gain approval of the plan in the Spring of 2022.



We will then start to develop more detailed business cases for the measures identified in the plan.

