

Have your say on our draft strategic transport priorities 2020-2050

Leicester and Leicestershire Working Together

The draft strategic transport priorities document 2020-2050 has been prepared by Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council to outline high level priorities for the two Local Transport Authorities (LTAs). It highlights where the two authorities can work together to deliver common aims and objectives where transport plays a key role, including those in support of the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan (LLSGP) and of tackling the climate change emergency.

The document has been developed to align with wider local, regional and national priorities, such as addressing the impacts of climate change and delivering new homes and creating jobs. It is not intended to provide a detailed list of investment proposals or transport requirements and the LTAs will continue to prepare their own specific detailed plans and strategies that will set these out, but rather the document is intended as an agreed framework to identify common strategic priorities. Agreeing common priorities for the LTAs will be extremely useful in supporting future funding bids, providing a basis for stronger regional and national lobbying and demonstrates a commitment to securing value for money.

We are now consulting residents and stakeholders on the draft document.

Further information on the draft document can be found here:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/strategic-transport-priorities>

Please read the supporting information provided before completing the questionnaire.

Thank you for your assistance. Your views are important to us.

Please note: Your responses to the main part of the survey (including your comments) may be released to the general public in full under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Any responses to the questions in the 'About you' section of the questionnaire will be held securely and will not be subject to release under Freedom of Information legislation, nor passed on to any third party.

Your role

Q1 In what role are you responding to this consultation? Please select one option only.

- ☐ Interested member of the public
- Go to Q4
- ☐ Member of council staff
- Go to Q4
- ☐ Representative of a voluntary sector organisation, charity or community group
- Continue
- ☐ Representative of a business or private sector organisation
- Continue
- ☒ Representative of a public sector organisation
- Continue
- ☐ Elected Member/ councillor
- Continue
- ☐ Other (please specify below)
- Continue

Please specify 'other'

Q2 If you indicated that you represent an organisation, business or community group in Q1, please provide your details.

Name:

Chris Colbourn

Role:

Senior Planning Officer (Policy)

Organisation:

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

This information may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Q3 Are you providing your organisations official response to the consultation?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

The draft strategic transport priorities document 2020-2050

Q4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the principle of Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council working together to produce an agreed framework for delivering common priorities?

- Strongly agree

☒
- Tend to agree

☐
- Neither agree nor disagree

☐
- Tend to disagree

☐
- Strongly disagree

☐
- Don't know

☐

Why do you say this?

The principles are in line with national policy and reflect those set out in the respective plans and strategies referred to in the document. The Borough Council has suggested a number of additional priorities and amendments, set out below.

Q5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council aligning their policies and resources in their respective Local Transport Plans to deliver common priorities where possible?

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Why do you say this?

The LTPs are statutory plans prepared in consultation with a range of key stakeholders and the local planning authorities. LTPs provide the framework, vision and implementation plan for the management and delivery of the county's transport network and should be used to underpin the decision and priorities set out in the document.

It is recommended however, that the document sets out how the County and City councils intend to monitor and review the priorities to reflect updates to the LTPs, the highways capital work programs, Local Plan reviews and other relevant plans and strategies.

Q6 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the draft strategic transport priorities document appropriately aligns to and reflects key national, regional and local plans and strategies?

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Why do you say this?

The Borough Council agrees that the document aligns to and reflects a majority of relevant national, regional and local plans and strategies. The diagram on page 8 is helpful in setting out the range of plans, strategies and partnerships that have informed the document. The Borough Council also welcomes the acknowledgment of the A5 Improvement Corridor, A5 Corridor Study and securing investment for the A5 improvement corridor as a medium term priority. However, whilst the A5 Corridor Study is referred to in the context of Midlands Connect, the Borough Council would like to see the A5 Partnership and the A5 Strategy referred to in this diagram. Whilst the Borough Council acknowledge that Leicestershire County Council are not at present a member of the A5 Partnership, the actions and decisions taken by the Partnership and the

proposals contained in the A5 Strategy inform current, and will inform future priorities and this should be reflected in the document.

It is also recommended that the diagram includes reference to the Warwickshire County Council Local Transport Plan and emerging Warwickshire Rail Strategy, to acknowledge the role of the County Council as a key stakeholder in the delivery of cross-boundary schemes, which have been referred to in the document.

The Borough Council welcomes the range of short term priorities as presented, particularly the inclusion of the following:

- Continue to lobby and influence the franchisees to improve the quality of service on lines connecting Leicester to other cities within and outside the East Midlands region (Theme 1).
- Continue to encourage use of the commercial bus network (Theme 3).
- Carry out studies into each of the county towns to identify their individual challenges, opportunities, and needs (Theme 4).
- Develop a programme for Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (Theme 4).
- Continue to engage with the LAs in developing their local plans and other relevant strategies/plans as required (Theme 4).
- Network assessment and improvement prioritisation linked to Strategic Growth Plan and emerging Local Plans (Theme 4).
- The range of priorities and interventions set out under Theme 2: Travel Around Leicester

Five strategic transport themes have been used within the draft document. These cover the interconnected transportation issues that arise across distinctive parts the city and county and also those that extend beyond the area, as well as ensuring a transport network which is resilient to growth pressures. The five themes are:

- 1: Travel between cities
- 2: Travel around Leicester
- 3: Travel around Leicestershire
- 4: Travel around County Towns and other urban areas
- 5: Resilient Transport Network

Q7 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the five high level themes used within the draft strategic transport priorities document?

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Why do you say this?

The Borough Council considers that the 5 themes appropriately reflect the challenges faced throughout the County but does suggest a number of additional priorities (please see response to Q8).

Q8 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the aims, challenges and priorities outlined within the five themes, provide an appropriate strategic framework for Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council to work together?

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Why do you say this?

The five themes have been informed by the range of strategies and plans referred to in the study which set out the various challenges faced by the County and City Councils and the range of interventions that are proposed to address these. The priorities reflect the broad timescales that are likely to be needed to deliver the schemes set out in the document.

Paragraph 4.6 of the document refers to delivery of the new A46 link road south of Leicester connecting to the M1 in the context of the SGP. It also confirms that decisions about the route will be subject to extensive further

development work and consultation. Theme 1 (Travel between Cities) only refers to the councils supporting Midlands Connect in producing an A46 study and securing investment for the growth corridor as a medium term priority. The Borough Council requests that the document includes a priority committing to a detailed appraisal of alternative options for the route of the new A46 link road, including sustainability appraisal and cost/benefit analysis of the options against potential improvements to the existing A46. The Borough Council maintains its opposition of the potential new link road connecting to junction 2 of the M69. The Borough Council therefore requests that the two councils consult with all borough and district councils to identify the reasonable options to be assessed and throughout the preparation of this study.

Whilst it is not intended that the document provide a comprehensive list of schemes, it is however recommended that the three priorities for future rail service provision set out in the Leicester and Leicestershire Rail Strategy are explicitly set out, and a further priority is added which emphasises the need for an improved level of rail service between Leicester and Birmingham and direct line to Coventry, including more frequent services to South Wigston, Narborough and Hinckley. This should also clarify the need to work effectively with Warwickshire County Council and other key stakeholders to deliver mutually beneficial improvements along this line, including the delivery of the proposed Nuneaton Parkway station.

At present the County Council's prospectus for growth and draft LLSTP are silent on proposals for improvements along the A444. It is recommended that the LLSTP makes explicit reference to the role of the A444 as primary route that will continue to experience ongoing demand from development in Nuneaton, North West Leicestershire and at Junction 11 of the M42. It is also recommended that a further long term priority is included that monitors the impacts of development on the Major Road Networks including the A444, A47 and A447 and explores opportunities for improvements along these routes throughout Leicestershire.

The LLSTP includes short term priorities of developing a local cycling and walking strategy for Leicestershire and a programme of infrastructure plans for market towns. It is recommended that these priorities also include reference to working with local authorities to identify and support the improvements in infrastructure to enable their delivery.

Under Theme 3 (Travel Around Leicestershire) the Borough Council would like to see that the priority to 'Encourage the uptake and use of electric vehicles' also includes the need to work with borough and district councils to identify and deliver a network of electronic vehicle charging points, including the rural areas. The Borough Council will be exploring the potential to deliver EV charging points in its Local Plan review and would welcome the opportunity to engage with the County Council further on this matter.

The Borough Council supports the inclusion of the priority of continuing to engage with key stakeholders regarding the development of the business case for re-opening the Leicester-Burton Railway Line (Theme 1). The Council maintains its support to the opening of the line and would welcome the opportunity to explore the reopening or delivery of new stations within the Borough, including stations at Bagworth and Desford.

As referred to under Q5, the Borough Council suggest that the regime for monitoring and reviewing the document is clearly set out to ensure that any change in priorities can be identified.

Q9 Is there anything you particularly like about the draft strategic transport priorities document?

The document clearly and helpfully sets out the broad range of aims and challenges informed by the relevant plans and strategies. This is helpful in understanding the broad range of issues to be addressed, the strategic priorities and indicative timeframes for their delivery.

Q10 Is there anything you think is missing from the draft strategic transport priorities document?

Please see the responses to questions 5, 6 and 8. The Borough Council recommends that it is clarified how the list of priorities are to be reviewed and monitored and how often the document is to be updated. This will ensure the list of priorities reflects any updates to the various plans and strategies referred to throughout the document including the LTPs and Local Plans, including Infrastructure Delivery Schedules. It is requested that updates to the LLSTP and the priorities within it are subject to consultation with key stakeholders, including LPAs.

Q11 Is there anything you particularly dislike about the draft strategic transport priorities document?

No comment.

Q12 Do you have any other comments?

Further to the comments set out above, the Borough Council also suggests the following changes:

Paragraph 2.12 – For context, it would be helpful to be clear the source of the planning policy principles, presumably they are set out in national policy?

Chapter 3 – consistent with the response to Q6, it is recommended that the A5 Partnership and A5 Strategy are also referred to under 'Regional Context' on page 12.

Please continue if you indicated in Q1 that you are responding to this consultation as a member of the public. Otherwise, please skip to the instructions at the end of the questionnaire.

About you

Leicestershire County Council is committed to ensuring that its services, policies and practices are free from discrimination and prejudice, meet the needs of all sections of the community and promote and advance equality of opportunity.

We would therefore be grateful if you would answer the following questions. You are under no obligation to provide the information requested, but it would help us greatly if you did.

Q13 What is your gender identity?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Prefer to self-describe (e.g. pangender, non-binary etc.)

Q14 Is your gender identity the same as the gender you were assigned at birth?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q15 What was your age on your last birthday? (Please enter your age in numbers not words)

Q16 What is your full postcode?

This will allow us to understand the areas from which people are responding. It will not identify your house.

Q17 Do you have a long-standing illness, disability or infirmity?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q18 What is your ethnic group? Please tick one box only.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White | <input type="checkbox"/> Black or Black British |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed | <input type="checkbox"/> Other ethnic group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Asian British | |

Q19 Are you an employee of Leicestershire County Council?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Q20 Many people face discrimination because of their sexual orientation and for this reason we have decided to ask this monitoring question. You do not have to answer it, but we would be grateful if you could tick the box next to the category which describes your sexual orientation.

☐ Bisexual

☐ Lesbian

☐ Gay

☐ Other

☐ Heterosexual / straight

Thank you for your assistance. Your views are important to us.

The consultation closes at midnight on 29th June 2020. We will report the results back to Cabinet in October 2020.

Please return your completed survey to:

Strategic Transport Plan Consultation
Leicestershire County Council
Have Your Say
FREEPOST NAT18685
Leicester
LE3 8XR

No stamp required.

Data Protection: Personal data supplied on this form will be held on computer and will be used in accordance with current Data Protection Legislation. The information you provide will be used for statistical analysis, management, planning and the provision of services by the county council and its partners. Leicestershire County Council will not share any personal information collected in this survey with its partners. The information will be held in accordance with the council's records management and retention policy. Information which is not in the 'About you' section of the questionnaire may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.