

Draft West Sussex Transport Plan 2022 to 2036 – snapshot



Our vision



A West Sussex transport network in 2036 that works for communities in the Coastal West Sussex, Gatwick Diamond and Rural West Sussex economic areas by helping to address the spatial economic challenges of the County, level up the coastal economy and provide access to employment and services countywide.

The transport network will be on a pathway to net zero carbon by 2050 through mass electrification, reduced use of fossil-fuels and local living. It will also be safer and more efficient overall with more walking, cycling and use of public or shared transport and less congestion on major routes that connect West Sussex towns with Gatwick Airport, London and nearby cities.

The transport network will connect communities and allow residents to live healthy lifestyles with good access to the West Sussex coast and the protected South Downs, High Weald and Chichester Harbour.

Active travel modes, public or shared transport will be attractive options in built up areas and between towns, and rural communities will have access to the services they need.

Transport impacts such as air pollution, noise and rat-running on adjacent communities and the environment will be minimised to protect a quality of life that reflects the characteristics of the County.



Key issues

- Transport emissions and climate change
- Local environmental issues
- Variable economic performance
- COVID-19 impacts
- Planned development and regeneration
- Growing and ageing population
- Rural isolation
- Severance
- Health and wellbeing
- Transport network performance issues

Objectives

PROSPEROUS West Sussex

- **Objective 1**
Support sustainable economic prosperity across the County by levelling-up underperforming areas and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Objective 2**
Support development and regeneration plans across the County by enabling local living and through strategic investments at the right time and place to ensure the transport network is fit for the future.

HEALTHY West Sussex

- **Objective 3**
Accommodate the needs of an ageing population that is expected to grow most in existing settlements in the Gatwick Diamond and Coastal West Sussex areas.
- **Objective 4**
Minimise air, noise and light pollution from use of the transport network to minimise impacts on public health and well-being.

- **Objective 5**
Ensure the transport network allows residents to live healthy lifestyles with good access to green and blue spaces, particularly on the West Sussex coast and in the protected South Downs, High Weald and Chichester Harbour.
- **Objective 6**
Ensure rural communities can live locally by accessing nearby towns.

PROTECTED West Sussex

- **Objective 7**
Enable the transport network to be on a pathway to net zero carbon by 2050.
- **Objective 8**
Minimise the impacts of the transport network on areas that are protected for their landscape, ecological or historic characteristics.
- **Objective 9**
Improve the transport network whilst protecting or enhancing the natural, built and historic environment.

- **Objective 10**
To monitor and adapt infrastructure to the effects of climate change.

CONNECTED West Sussex

- **Objective 11**
Reduce the need to travel by car by enabling local living.
- **Objective 12**
Improve the efficiency of the County Strategic Road Network, particularly east-west routes including A27, through targeted improvements to address congestion, pollution, rat-running and road safety issues.
- **Objective 13**
Minimise the impacts on the transport network of surface access to Gatwick Airport by passengers and employees and ensure transport network improvements take the needs of other users and communities that share these routes into account.
- **Objective 14**
Ensure the rail network is an attractive option for travel between West Sussex towns and to surrounding cities by improving the speed and quality of West Coastway and Arun Valley Line services and capacity on the Brighton Main Line.
- **Objective 15**
Improve bus network efficiency by reducing the effects of congestion into and within West Sussex towns, particularly where there are gaps in the rail network.
- **Objective 16**
Ensure the bus network is customer focussed to provide an attractive option for journeys to nearby towns.
- **Objective 17**
Extend and improve the network of active travel facilities, taking account of potential usage and stakeholder support, so it is coherent and high quality enough to make active travel an attractive option for short distance trips.

Shared transport strategy

- Enhanced partnerships and bus service improvement plans
- Digital platform to support new mobility services
- Consider bus priority where congestion occurs and services operate frequently
- Consider service quality alongside cost for supported services

Active travel strategy

- Provide new and improved infrastructure
- Priorities suggested countywide
- Scheme development based on demand, feasibility and stakeholder support

Access to Gatwick Airport strategy

- Support initiatives that increase sustainable transport mode share and take account of the local community
- Focus on passengers and employees
- Prioritise shared transport on local roads and use demand management
- Promote improvements to the rail service coverage, connectivity, speed and capacity as required

Road network strategy

- Improve efficiency on strategic routes
- Prioritise active travel and shared transport on non-strategic routes
- Manage traffic demand (e.g. parking control) in urban areas
- Use behavioural initiatives to tackle speed and rat-running issues
- Mitigate negative impacts on the environment and communities
- Facilitate electric vehicle charging
- Ensure major road schemes include shared transport and active travel facilities
- New roads only where development-led or necessary to achieve wider objectives

Rail strategy

- Promote improvements to speed, quality, coverage and rolling stock replacement
- Prioritise improvements to existing lines, services and stations
- Consider re-orientating rail services to better support local connectivity
- Explore opportunities to resolve level crossing issues and improve interchanges

Adur District

(outside South Downs National Park)

- Improve A27 (subject to Government and Highways England decisions)
- Increase space for active travel
- Prioritise shared transport at signals
- Faster rail services in the long term

Adur Ferry Bridge, Shoreham-By-SeaEngland by cktravels.com

Arun District

(outside South Downs National Park)

- Improve A27 (subject to Government and Highways England decisions)
- Major multi-modal improvements on A29, A284, A259
- Improve active travel facilities linked to strategic development
- Dedicate space for shared transport
- New shared transport services linked to strategic development
- Faster rail services in the long term

Arial shot looking over South Terrace towards the River Arun in Littlehampton by David Whidborne

Chichester District

(outside South Downs National Park)

- Major multi-modal improvements on A27 (subject to Government and Highways England decisions), A259, A286
- Improve active travel facilities linked to strategic development
- New shared transport services linked to strategic development
- Faster rail services in the long term



Crowds enjoying the sunshine while shopping and strolling outside Marks & Spencer's North Street store in Chichester, West Sussex by Sarnia Whidborne

Crawley Borough

- Multi-modal junction improvements
- Improve interchange facilities
- Active travel schemes
- Promote shared transport to Gatwick Airport
- Improved rail services in the long term



Crawley bus station by Malcolm T Walls Photo's Whidborne



Horsham street sign by Willy Barton

Horsham District

(outside South Downs National Park)

- Multi-modal junction improvements
- Interchange improvements
- New shared transport services
- Improve active travel facilities
- Improve Arun Valley rail services in the long term
- Remove part of A272 from Primary Route Network



Mid Sussex District

(outside South Downs National Park)

- Multi-modal junction improvements
- Bus and rail interchange improvements
- New shared transport services
- Dedicate space for shared transport
- Active travel infrastructure
- Small scale highway improvements on highway land

View of East Grinstead railway station by Philip Bird, LRPS CPAGB

South Downs National Park

- Improve active travel facilities
- Small scale highway improvements on highway land
- Supporting local services and access to services through innovation
- Identify access improvements for residents and visitors
- Remove part of A272 from Primary Route Network

View of buildings in Midhurst by Philip Bird, LRPS CPAGB



Aerial photo of Worthing seafront UK by Peter Everett

Worthing Borough

(outside South Downs National Park)

- Improve A27 (subject to Government and Highways England decisions)
- Sustainable transport corridors
- Small scale highway improvements on highway land
- Bus and rail interchange facilities
- Faster rail services in the long term

