

Draft West Sussex Transport Plan 2022-2036 Consultation Young person feedback summary

As part of consultation on the Draft West Sussex Transport Plan 2022-2036, a short survey was sent to schools to understand views of young people on the objectives of the Transport Plan. Schools were encouraged to use the survey to undertake class-based workshops to discuss transport issues.

1512 individual responses were received to the survey from 5 schools - Ifield Community College in Crawley, Sackville School in East Grinstead, Millais School in Horsham, Bohunt School in Worthing, and Worthing High School. We are grateful to the schools that supported the consultation and all the young people that completed surveys.

The highest scoring objectives (i.e., most important) reported in the survey responses were; reducing pollution from transport (1st), protecting transport infrastructure from the impacts of climate change (2nd), improving active travel infrastructure (3rd), and improving main road routes (4th).

The lowest scoring objectives (i.e., least important) were; minimising the impacts of transport access to Gatwick Airport (17th), accommodating the needs of the ageing population of West Sussex (16th), reducing the need to travel by car (15th), and ensuring the bus network provides an attractive travel option to nearby towns (14th).

The key themes mentioned in written comments can be summarised as:

- Bus services need the most investment, followed in order of priority by train services, car travel/roads and active travel.
- Bus and cycling were most frequently highlighted as the best alternatives to car use.
- There were frequently mentioned comments about the need to build/upgrade cycling and walking routes.
- Pollution from transport was most frequently highlighted as the most important transport issue, followed by the quality of bus and train services, with specific concerns about fare prices, reliability, and cleanliness.
- Other comments were concerned about congestion and road safety, supportive of electric vehicles, and specifically concerned about climate change.

The feedback received from young people has been used together with the wider consultation feedback to inform changes to the Draft Plan which is expected to be adopted in spring 2022. These include changes in relation to the Department for Transport's Transport Decarbonisation Plan, active travel strategy and bus/shared transport strategy interventions.

The full feedback report from the school surveys is available to view as Appendix D of the Draft West Sussex Transport Plan consultation report which is available alongside further information about the new transport plan at: www.westsussex.gov.uk/wstpconsultation.