

READING BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN

Adopted November 2019



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Reading
Borough Council

Working better with you

4.5 Transport

Achieving the Transport Strategy

TR1: ACHIEVING THE TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Proposed development should contribute appropriately to meeting the objectives of the most up-to-date Local Transport Plan or any successor document, including sub-strategies, specific projects identified and the local action plans.

Planning permission will not be granted for major development proposals unless there is a commitment to implement measures to promote and improve sustainable transport facilities, such as through provision to encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport; and through agreed travel plans, safe routes to local facilities and services, including schools and parks, and similar measures.

All development proposals should make appropriate provision for works and contributions to ensure an adequate level of accessibility and safety by all modes of transport from all parts of a development, particularly by public transport, walking and cycling, in accordance with any agreed transport assessment submitted as part of the application.

- 4.5.1 The Council's objectives for transport set out in the Local Transport Plan (2011-2026)⁹² are: -
- To facilitate more physically active travel for journeys in a healthy environment;
 - To improve personal safety on the transport network;
 - To provide affordable, accessible and inclusive travel options for everyone;
 - To ensure that the transport network operates safely and efficiently to meet the needs of all users;
 - To align transport and land use planning to enable sustainable travel choices, improve mobility, reduce the need to travel and preserve the natural environment;
 - To deliver balanced packages of value for money transport solutions and make best use of existing transport investment;
 - To offer sustainable transport choices for the Travel to Work Area and beyond, integrating within and between different types of transport;
 - To improve journey times, journey time reliability and the availability of information; and
 - To reduce carbon emissions from transport, improve air quality and create a transport network which supports a mobile, affordable low-carbon future.
- 4.5.2 New development has a vital role to play in helping to achieve those objectives. The scale of development envisaged in Reading up to 2036 would have significant impacts on the transport system, in addition to the general forecast growth in trips arising from the existing population. The predicted growth in trips can only be accommodated through major investment in transport, particularly sustainable modes. New development should make appropriate provision for works that contribute to the programmes developed as part of the strategy, either directly or through making appropriate contributions.
- 4.5.3 Major developments (10 dwellings or 1,000 sq m of non-residential floorspace or more) can make a particular contribution to achieving the strategy. In these cases, it is important that users of, and visitors to the development can make sustainable travel choices using non-car

⁹² http://www.reading.gov.uk/media/2421/Local-Transport-Plan-2011-26/pdf/Local_Transport_Plan_2011-26.pdf

modes of transport. This should include provision that enables and supports walking, cycling and the use of public transport including from the development. For developments that are likely to have significant transport implications, Travel Plans will be sought. These will involve undertakings from developers and occupiers to implement measures for promoting and supporting the use of sustainable transport, in accordance with best practice. Measures will vary from scheme to scheme, and innovative solutions will be encouraged. Travel Plans should include robust measures to ensure that the proposals in them are implemented, monitored and reviewed as necessary. Major residential proposals should also examine and include proposals to enable the promotion and support of safe routes to schools, as well as sustainable travel to local services and facilities, including access to and provision of public transport.

- 4.5.4 All developments will be assessed for their impact upon the transport network, including the local and trunk road and motorway networks and, where relevant, the rail network. Development should provide mitigation measures in line with their impacts on these networks, taking account of levels of development that have already been accepted, and mitigation measures that have already been agreed or implemented. It will be a condition of planning permission that appropriate measures are in place to secure any remedial transport measures required. Where necessary, a transport assessment of the scheme will be required. This will measure the impacts both of the development proposal and of any remedial measures proposed by the developer to address those impacts. Once a satisfactory package of remedial measures has been negotiated, contributions may be sought from developers to secure their delivery.
- 4.5.5 Contributions to a general package of transport improvements in Reading will continue to be made through the Community Infrastructure Levy, but contributions in Section 106 agreements will also have a role to play where there are site-specific issues that need to be addressed, e.g. junction improvements, new pedestrian crossings, additional cycle facilities, new public transport infrastructure, or inclusion of land for a transport scheme.
- 4.5.6 The current Local Transport Plan covers the period 2011-2026, but this policy applies to any subsequent plans that may be published. A new version of the Local Transport Plan (LTP4) is in production in 2019, and this will need to consider both additional capacity and demand management measures.

Major Transport Projects

TR2: MAJOR TRANSPORT PROJECTS

Priority will be given to the implementation of the major transport projects identified in the Local Transport Plan (or any successor document) and other identified major transport projects. Land required for these projects will be safeguarded where necessary. These will include:

- ***Mass Rapid Transit***
- ***Park and Ride sites***
- ***Green Park station and interchange***
- ***Reading West station upgrade***
- ***Cow Lane bridges***
- ***Crossing of the River Thames***
- ***National Cycle Network Route 422***
- ***Development of high-quality bus services***