



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Llwybr Newydd The Wales Transport Strategy 2021

Easy read guide to the transport strategy



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This document is also available in Welsh.



How to use this document

This is an easy read version.

You may need support to read and understand this. Ask someone you know to help you.

'We' means Welsh Government.



What is a transport strategy?

We want to improve transport in Wales. We have published a new transport strategy to help us do that.

The strategy is a document that explains how we will make transport in Wales better.

We don't have enough money to do everything. So the strategy will help us decide what is most important.





What do we mean by transport?

Transport moves people from one place to another.

It also moves things from one place to another. Small things such as parcels or food, or big things like machines.





The different types of transport include:

- walking
- cycling
- buses
- trains
- cars
- community transport such as local buses
- trucks and vans
- ships
- aeroplanes
- taxis



Infrastructure includes the things that we need to make transport work.

Transport infrastructure includes:

- railway lines and stations
- roads
- car parking
- cycle lanes
- bridges and signs
- bus stops and bus shelters
- ports and harbours
- airports





How we help transport in Wales now

We do lots of things to help transport in Wales.

We repair the roads and keep them safe.

We also fund things to encourage more people to walk and cycle, such as new cycle lanes so that more people can use their bikes safely.

We fund bus services in Wales. This includes local services and long distance services. We also fund discounts for young people.



We also help fund rail services in Wales.

We have set up a new organisation called 'Transport for Wales'. They help us deliver transport in Wales including some of the train services.

They are also building new metros. A metro is a more joined up public transport system using buses, trains and light rail, which run more often and to more places.

And we fund things that make transport services more accessible such as ramps for people who use wheelchairs.





Why do we need a new strategy?

We wrote our last strategy in 2008. Since then, a lot has changed.

For example, we have a new law that means we have to think more about future generations. This means we need to think about the environment and people in the future as well as about what happens now.

Also we still need to improve some things about transport in Wales.





Cars

Most people in Wales need a car to get to where they need to go. Especially if they live in a rural area.

But cars are bad for the environment. They give off gas that makes climate change worse.

When you drive a car, the tyres get worn down. Tiny particles from the tyres can get into the air that we breathe. This is bad for our health – especially for children.

And lots of cars can mean more traffic jams.





Buses and trains

Lots of people in Wales need to use buses and trains because they don't have a car.

But they might be worried about doing that.

Maybe the bus won't come on time.

Maybe there won't be enough room for a wheelchair.

Sometimes buses and trains are late.

Buses and trains don't always go where you want to go, when you want to go there.

And people are worried that they might catch COVID-19 on a bus or a train.

Lots of places in Wales are not near a train station, so people can't use the train.





Walking and cycling

We want more people to walk and use a bike.

This is because walking and cycling are good for your health. It also means fewer cars on the road.

But lots of people in Wales can't walk or cycle. Or they don't feel safe.



What does our new strategy say?

It says that we want a transport system that is accessible, efficient and sustainable.

Accessible means a transport system that more people can use.

Efficient means a transport system that gets people where they want to go, when they want to go there, and makes good use of resources.

Sustainable means a transport system that is also good for Wales.

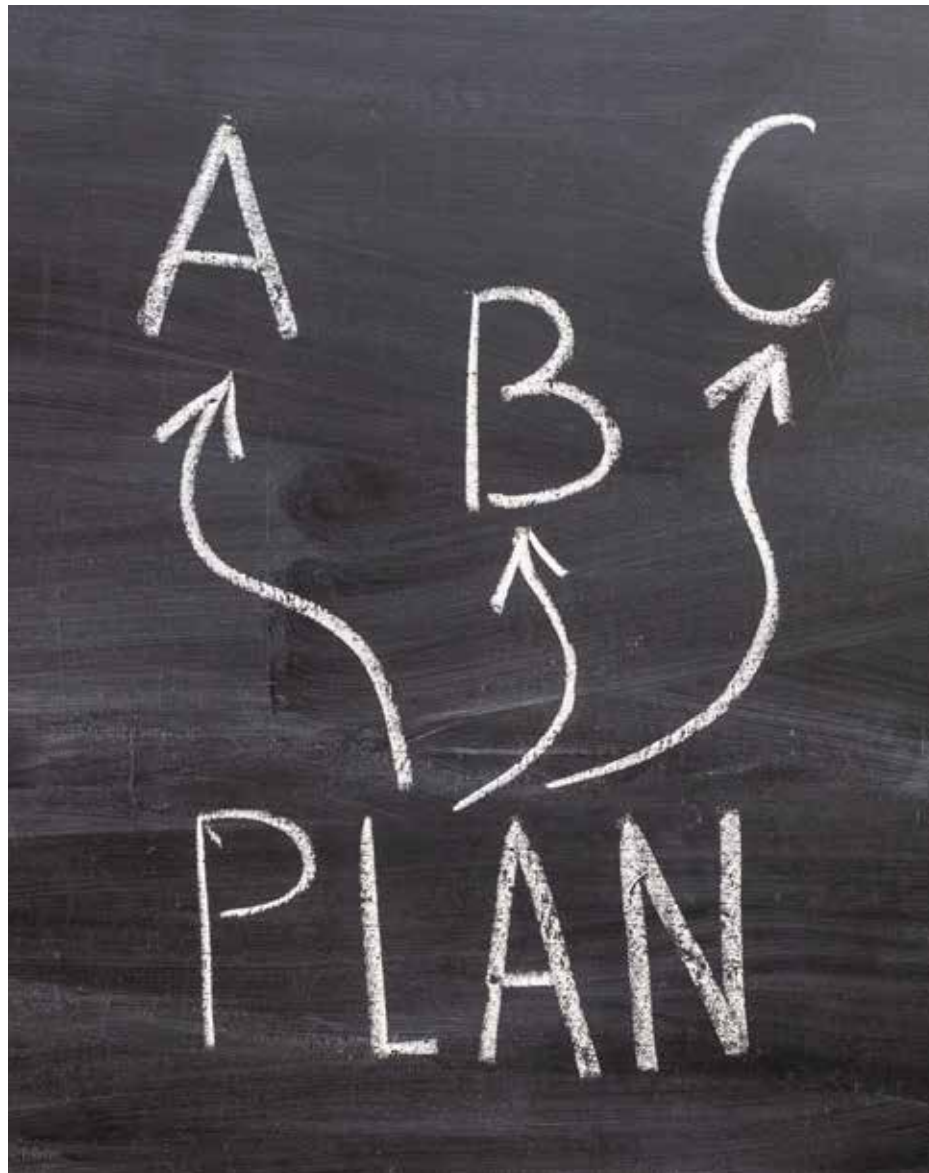


What are the most important things that we need to do?

Our new strategy says that there are three important things to do.

Firstly, we want to bring services to people to reduce the need to travel. This means more local services so that people don't need to use their car every day.

Secondly, we want to allow people and goods to move easily from door to door by sustainable transport. This means we want to support more public transport services, more walking and cycling. We also want to make sure that we have good transport infrastructure in Wales so that it is easier to walk, cycle and use public transport.



Thirdly, we want more people to leave the car behind. So we will make public transport, walking and cycling more attractive and affordable for everyone.

The strategy also contains nine mini-plans. For example there is one for walking and cycling, and one for buses, trains, taxis and community transport. The mini-plans tell you more about what this means for each kind of transport.



Why do we need to do this?

In Wales we have to think about the future. We have to think about what we want for our children, and their children.

So in the long term we want to make sure that our transport system is good for people and communities. This means that we want everyone to feel confident about using public transport – whether or not you have a disability. We want people in Wales to be healthier because the air is cleaner and more people walk and cycle every day.

We want to make sure that our transport system does not harm the environment. So we need more electric cars and buses, and cleaner trucks and other types of transport. We also need to look after nature and make sure there is less waste from transport.





We want a transport system that is good for local places and the economy. That means it should be easier to get from place to place using public transport or walking and cycling, even if you live in a rural area.

And finally we care about culture and the Welsh language. So we want to make sure that you can use Welsh on buses or trains if you want to. And that there are good bus and train services to sporting events. We also need to look after transport heritage in Wales.



What happens next?

Now that we have published our strategy, we need to make sure that we do what we say we will do.

The next step is to write a plan that says what we will spend money on.

Then local authorities will help write regional plans for transport in each part of Wales.



Will the new strategy make my bus come on time or fix the road outside my house?



There are too many roads and buses to include every one of them in the strategy!

But the strategy is about all the buses, all the trains and all the roads in Wales.

It will help us make big decisions about that.

It will also help us decide where we should spend money.



Thank you for helping us

Lots of people have helped us write this strategy.

We spoke to some people in meetings.

For example, we spoke to young people and older people. We spoke to disabled people and people with a learning disability. They told us about what it was like for them to use buses or taxis or trains.

Over 400 people and organisations also sent us their answers to the questions we asked in our consultation exercise.

We have used all of that information to improve our strategy.

Thank you!



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