

9d INTEGRATED TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

Members include councillors and co-opted members of the public

Purpose

Ensure that the town's transport infrastructure is integrated and sustainable. CTC wants a sustainable, flexible transport system that meets the needs of all residents and creates a cleaner, better-connected Congleton.

This is closely connected with CTC's initiative to reduce our carbon footprint and improve air quality. Reducing the number of cars on our roads and using more environmentally friendly transport options is a key part of our agenda.

Objectives:

- Develop a Sustainable Transport Plan for Congleton and surrounding parishes.
- Promote and improve infrastructure for and provision of sustainable modes of transport.

Delegation of Functions of the Working Group

- This working group takes on tasks assigned by the Community Committee and works on activities to promote sustainable travel and transport. Some of its work will also be reported to the Environment Committee, where relevant.
- This is not a decision-making body; all solutions, ideas and funding requirements must be presented as proposals to Council Committee, together with all relevant analysis, for the Committee to decide.
- All proposals taken from this Group to Committee must explain the value to the community and the financial, environmental and equality impact of the decision.

Membership, Voting and Roles

- Town Councillors, and co-opted members of the public, such as Congleton Active Travel group.
- Co-opted members will sign a volunteer agreement and be in post for one year, after which their agreement can be renewed if desired.
- On an as-needed basis, others may be invited to meetings, for example bus companies or CEC transport officers
- The Chair (and Vice-Chair if wanted) will be elected by a vote of the Working Group Town Council members only.

Activities of Working Group

1. Active Travel

- 1.1 Work with CEC to develop routes for cycling, walking, wheelchairs and mobility scooters to ensure off-road access to all parts of Congleton without long detours.
- 1.2 Ensure these routes are sustainable and accessible for all including those using mobility aids or with visual impairment.

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1.3 Encourage active travel with schemes and campaigns such as ‘walk to school’ weeks.

1.4 Lobby for road safety measures such as ‘20s Plenty’, crossings and speed-reduction initiatives, to reclaim residential and shopping areas for people instead of traffic.

2. Public Transport

2.1 Review bus and train provision and develop proposals with Cheshire East Council (CEC) for better services.

2.2 Identify sources of national and regional funding (where available) to improve public transport

2.3 Work with and lobby transport companies to develop and promote new services.

3. Transport Infrastructure

3.1 Reinforce the need for housing developers to create and implement high quality transport plans, including active travel routes and access for bus services

3.2 Review provision for car drivers including electric charging points and Car Parking strategy

3.3 Ensure all travel routes across and within Congleton, by whatever means, are accessible to all and safe to use.

4. Strategy

4.1 Work to create short- and long-term integrated travel plans for Congleton

4.2 Prepare proposals for Congleton Town Council to input to Cheshire East Council’s strategic travel plans.

5. Reporting to Committee

5.1 Working Group minutes will be approved at the Community Committee and published on the Town Council Website.

5.2 The Working Group chair will report activities verbally to the Community Committee and the Environment Committee when relevant.

5.3 Any decisions will be referred to the Community Committee, or another Council Committee as required.