



Hungerford benefits from a railway station and some local bus links, but is mainly dependent on road travel. Car ownership is high with only 15% of households without vehicles and some 60% of the working population commuting by road. Transport was the commonest issue raised by residents in the first round of surveys. Concern has been expressed about traffic congestion, parking difficulties and heavy goods vehicles which impact on the historic town. The town is compact with all parts within reach on foot or bicycle, but narrow or absent pavements deter pedestrians and narrow roads with vehicle parking create cycling hazards. The combination of rivers, railway and the canal restrict north/south links within the community.

Access for all users whether by vehicle, foot or cycle needs to be improved without losing the essential character of the town and surrounding countryside. Of particular concern is the canal bridge where narrow pavements and carriageways bring pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles into conflict.

Traffic forecasts predict increased numbers of vehicles on all roads with likely environmental and economic consequences. A careful balance is needed to reduce traffic effects and encourage it to flow freely. Efficient car access to the town centre and businesses is important for the vitality of the town. Pedestrian and cycle routes need to be improved and there needs to be greater awareness of the public transport system to encourage the use of alternatives to private vehicles.



### Policies

Improve transport safety. Work to reduce road accidents and improve safety for pedestrians.

Reduce traffic delays.

Ensure adequate parking is available in the town.

Reduce the environmental effects of transport.

Encourage cycling and walking with more facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.

Encourage the use of public transport by improving facilities and services.

Ensure transport services are accessible to all, including the mobility impaired and disabled both within Hungerford and in the surrounding catchment area.

Reduce reliance on the private car and reduce the need to travel.



### Key Actions

- Provide a separate pedestrian crossing over the canal on the High Street.
- Reduce delays and ease traffic flow by diverting the A4 via Charnham Park.
- Reduce delays caused by parked cars on Bridge Street, for example by introducing parking restrictions during peak hours.
- Improve road safety near schools and introduce safer routes to the schools.
- Improve road safety on the A4 and A338 approaches to Hungerford.
- Provide better routes for pedestrians from Eddington and Charnham Park to the town centre.
- Complete and improve pavements, particularly on access roads such as Park Street, Church Street and Church Way.
- Create more pedestrian refuges e.g. an island at the entrance to Somerfield.
- Provide a pedestrian crossing on Church Street near the High Street junction.
- Improve the Boarden Carriage footpath between the John O'Gaunt pub and the railway station.
- Change existing parking to give more short term spaces for shoppers on the High Street and more long term parking off the High Street.
- Increase the use of Station Road long term car park by improving signage, awareness, access and the use of parking permits.
- Reduce Heavy Goods Vehicle use of the High Street.
- Seek improvements to the railway station and bus stops with more flexible bus services to rural areas.
- Encourage more cycling by providing more secure cycle parking in the town centre and creating more cycle routes.
- Reduce the speed limit on Hungerford Common to 30 or 40mph.