

MORE HASTE

LESS SPEED

Upping the pace to achieve a cost-effective transition to sustainable local travel by 2020.

The way we travel has enormous impacts on our environment, our health, our quality of life and our economy.

In the UK, travel is dominated by car use, resulting in increasing levels of CO₂ emissions, congested roads, and high dependency on oil, more and more of which is imported.

It's a vicious circle. The more dominant car travel becomes, the less able people are to travel by foot, bike and public transport; and the more transport budgets are focused on enabling access by car.

As a result, car use is the single biggest source of CO₂ from transport in the UK. Our public space is dominated by roads full of cars, causing pollution and creating a physical environment that further discourages walking and cycling. This, in turn, contributes to a variety of health conditions, such as obesity. It doesn't need to be like this.

Investing in enabling people to travel more often by foot, by bike and by public transport isn't just an incredibly cost-effective solution to transport challenges. It will also contribute enormously to government efforts to tackle climate change, and spiralling health and energy budgets.

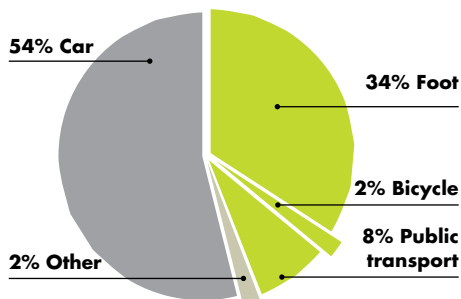
A CALL TO ACTION

National, regional and local governments need to act with much more haste to establish genuinely sustainable travel behaviour. Enabling people to travel far and fast is taking our transport system in the opposite direction.

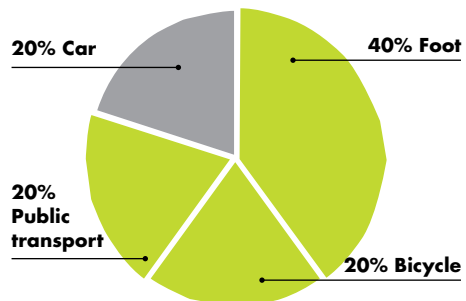
Sustrans calls on UK governments to invest in doubling the number of journeys under five miles made by foot, bike and public transport to four out of five by 2020.

This call to action explains the changes - some small, some very significant - that will need to happen to achieve the 2020 percentages suggested below. The level of change needed will vary from place to place. In Edinburgh, for example, 22%⁽¹⁾ of journeys are already made by foot, in Greater Manchester 28%⁽²⁾ are made by public transport, and in Cambridge 26%⁽³⁾ of journeys to work are made by bike. So the city of Edinchesterbridge is already on the way to achieving our call to action. Now we need every town, city and village of the UK to make this move by 2020.

Now



2020



Source: Department for Transport, 2008
National Travel Survey for Great Britain

¹ The Scottish Government, 2005 Scottish Household Survey Travel Diary results for 2003

² Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority, 2006 Greater Manchester Local Transport Plan 2 2006/07-2010/11 Bus Strategy

³ Office for National Statistics, 2002 Census 2001: Key Statistics for local authorities



Encourage people to change their travel behaviour

- Establish UK-wide travel behaviour change programmes using proven, cost-effective techniques to encourage and support people to travel more sustainably within communities and to workplaces, schools, further and higher education, leisure and retail centres.
- Give every child and young person the knowledge, skills and confidence to establish the habit of travel by foot and bike early in life.

2

Create safe, attractive walking and cycling conditions

- Invest in high quality walking and cycling networks in rural and urban areas – re-allocating road space to provide safe routes to everyday destinations that are integrated with public transport.
- Redesign streets to reduce traffic speeds, and enforce speed limits of 20mph or less in all residential and built-up areas.
- Create and enforce traffic laws to protect the most vulnerable users of public space and roads.



Increase public transport usage by improving and integrating services and reducing fares

- Introduce national travel cards, building on the success of the Oyster Card in London and travel cards in other cities, to enable greater flexibility, choice and integration.
- Provide more demand-responsive transport services to people living in rural and urban areas so that they can choose to travel sustainably.

3

4

Ensure that planning policy and practice reduce the need to travel

- Grant planning permission only to mixed use developments, where high-quality sustainable transport and restricted parking already exist.



Reform taxation and increase spending on sustainable travel

- Invest only in schemes and initiatives that reduce high carbon travel.
- Re-establish a fuel duty escalator UK-wide to reverse the current decline in the cost of motoring.
- Introduce work and retail place parking levies with revenues invested in improving environments for walking, cycling and public transport.
- Establish UK-wide road pricing programmes with revenues invested in improving environments for walking, cycling and public transport.

5





***Sustrans calls on
UK governments to
invest in doubling the
number of journeys
under five miles made
by foot, bike and public
transport to four out
of five by 2020.***

Sustrans is the UK's leading sustainable transport charity.
To find out more visit www.sustrans.org.uk or call 0845 113 00 65

© Sustrans February 2010
Registered Charity No. 326550 (England and Wales) SCO39263 (Scotland)