



WARWICK

University of Warwick Summary Travel Plan

December 2024

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Why we have a travel plan

The University of Warwick has ambitions to be one of the world's most distinctive university campuses, transforming the learning, living and working experience, supporting local communities, and providing connectivity to the region and beyond.

Our Strategy 2018 to 2030 ('Excellence with Purpose') includes an explicit commitment to develop sustainable transport, energy, and an exemplary green campus. This travel plan acts as an evidence base to further demonstrate the University's unwavering commitment to sustainable growth. We will continue to monitor and manage staff and student travel over the life of the plan to maximise opportunities for sustainable travel. The travel plan covers all the University's campuses and its delivery will be led by the Estates team.

In developing our plan, we have drawn on findings from staff and student travel surveys to understand current travel patterns and how they are changing, and to understand the kind of support that staff and students would like to see to help them make more sustainable travel choices. We have reflected on our delivery of initiatives and measures over the past decade and propose actions for the next 5-10 years which build on these.

Context

A suite of relevant University plans and strategies provide the broader context for this travel plan, as well as articulating some of the challenges the travel plan and recommended actions need to consider.

Left to right, top to bottom: University of Warwick Strategy 2018 to 2030 ('Excellence with Purpose'), Sustainability Strategy ('The Way to Sustainable'), Sport and Active Communities Strategy ('Building Active Communities'), Campus Framework Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) (2023 - 2033), Social Inclusion Strategy ('We're working on the future').



Our philosophy for sustainable movement

Sustainability is about “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”*. In the context of movement and how people travel, this means reducing carbon emissions and actively managing our public transport and active travel services to ensure these choices are available to staff and students today and in the future.

In September 2019, the University declared a state of Climate Emergency and we have set out plans to reach net zero carbon from direct emissions and the energy it buys by 2030. We are also working to put in place initiatives to significantly reduce indirect emissions with the aim of achieving net zero carbon for both direct and indirect emissions by 2050.

Our philosophy for sustainable movement is fundamental to achieving our long-term goal of reducing carbon emissions and we recognise the need to collaborate closely with our staff and student communities and external stakeholders to drive change. This means having a travel plan that clearly sets out the vision, objectives, actions and targets to achieve sustainable results. We want to promote cleaner, greener forms of travel to encourage individuals to consider public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling for their journeys where possible.

Our approach is characterised by the following key features, as outlined in our Sustainability Strategy:

- Utilise our campus as a ‘living lab’ to collaborate with partners, leveraging our excellence in transport and future mobility research, we can introduce, test and learn from more sustainable ways to travel in real-time.
- Where feasible, changing our policies to reduce direct carbon emissions from University travel, emphasising the need to use cleaner, greener forms of travel instead of a single person travelling in a petrol or diesel car.
- Making best use of future transport infrastructure in our region, ensuring we can take advantage of better connectivity and future growth in a sustainable way.

* United Nations Brundtland Commission definition of sustainability, 1987

Our sustainable transport story

We've been building a high-quality sustainable transport offer for the University for many years and continue to survey travel behaviour to help shape what new initiatives will further encourage sustainable choices. Since the establishment of the Transport and Future Mobility team we have accelerated efforts to achieve our aspirations for future mobility. This will continue throughout the period of this travel plan.

Our first travel survey in 2003 set a good foundation for understanding how to encourage greener and cleaner travel choices. This was captured by the University's first travel plan in 2007. We introduced the first formal car share scheme 'WarwickShare' in 2009 and first invested in electric fleet vehicles in 2012.

Since then, the University has continued to deliver change, with consideration to feedback provided by regular staff and student travel surveys. Since 2019 particularly there has been determined and focused effort to maximise opportunities for more active and sustainable journeys. The level of activity and investment has been significant, as illustrated opposite.



Our vision

“A University campus that facilitates and embraces sustainable travel, creating a more active pedestrian, cycle-friendly and inclusive environment with excellent public transport connections to support future development and sustainable growth of the University.

Our objective is to improve existing alongside developing new sustainable travel options to address the barriers identified by staff and students and put measures and initiatives in place to influence positive modal change and make sustainable travel the natural choice for everyday journeys to, from and between university sites. This travel plan will complement the University’s Transport and Mobility Strategy and our commitment to reduce the University’s carbon footprint impact and positively improve sustainability and wellbeing for all who study, work and visit the University.”

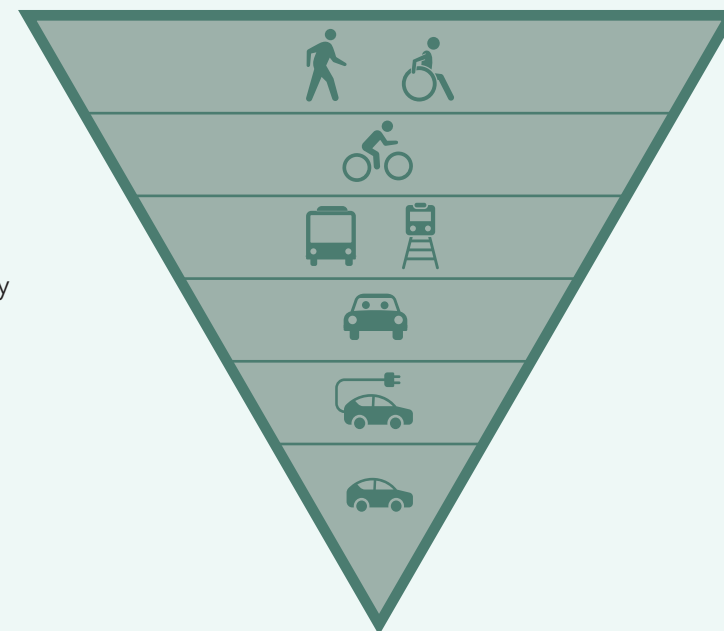
Parvez Islam, Director of Environmental Sustainability & Infrastructure.

Objectives of the travel plan

- 1 Reduce solo car vehicle trips to and from campus
- 2 Maintain accessibility through and around campus for all users
- 3 Facilitate more efficient and comfortable movement on campus with improved wayfinding
- 4 Engage with staff and students to incentivise and reward behaviour change
- 5 Offer greater choice of low carbon travel alternatives to reduce car dependency
- 6 Support the development of innovative and integrated future mobility solutions

Our transport hierarchy

To achieve our vision, we will prioritise users of active and public transport modes – pedestrians, cyclists, bus and rail users. Car sharing will help to reduce the number of journeys made by solo drivers and electric vehicles will help to reduce emissions and improve local air quality.



Where we would like to be

We've developed a series of targets to help focus our efforts to encourage a more sustainable mode share, reduce solo car travel where there is potential to do so, and improve the performance of sustainable travel initiatives.

5 and 10-year targets allow for change to happen within realistic timescales and for progression to continue. These have been informed by the 2023 travel survey results.

Target theme	Focus	5-year target	10-year target
Mode share to campus	Staff solo car use	55%	50%
	Student solo car use	5%	2%
	Staff car share	10%	15%
	Student car share	10%	15%
	Staff bus use	15%	20%
	Student bus use	15%	20%
	Staff cycling	15%	20%
	Student cycling	10%	15%
	Staff walking	5%	8%
	Student walking	35%	40%
Performance of initiatives/ measures	Staff- Awareness of all University initiatives	50%	80%



How we will deliver our vision

Our detailed action plan shows how we will progress a range of measures and initiatives over the next 10 years. These directly support travel plan objectives and will help to achieve the vision for a campus where sustainable travel options are attractive to staff and students and contribute to reducing the carbon footprint of the University.

The actions are informed by an understanding of change over time with insights from the 2023 survey, where staff and students live, and what can realistically be achieved. The action plan acknowledges the great efforts we are currently making towards encouraging sustainable travel, whilst highlighting key areas for further engagement and promotion.

Actions will contribute to achievement of the six travel plan objectives. Further detail is provided in the full travel plan.

If you would like to find out more about how we are taking forward our travel plan, please contact our Transport Experience Coordinator - **Daniel.Bernal-Sanchez@warwick.ac.uk**



1 Reduce solo car trips to and from campus

- Revitalise and relaunch a car sharing scheme for staff and students
- Measures to better support and incentivise car sharing
- Changes to the parking system
- Increase the promotion of the health and wellbeing benefits of walking and cycling
- Continue to engage through biennial travel surveys



2 Maintain accessibility through and around campus for all users

- Ensure pedestrianised areas and cycle routes are well maintained
- Improve the accessibility of the on-campus map
- Engage with people using wheelchairs and mobility aids



3 Support more efficient and comfortable movement on campus with improved wayfinding

- Progress actions identified through the campus Wayfinding Strategy
- Encourage all new students and employees to have a personalised travel plan
- Extend the role of our sustainability champions
- Improve integration between sustainable transport options



4 Engage with staff and students to incentivise and reward behaviour change

- Implement a rewards scheme for staff and students to reward car sharing, active travel and public transport use
- A range of rewards available that are attractive to staff and students



5 Offer greater choice of low carbon travel alternatives to reduce car dependency

- Continue to work with bus operators to further improve the bus offer
- Measures to improve cycling and supporting services
- Awareness and promotion of sustainable transport options



6 Support the development of innovative and integrated future mobility solutions

- Research and test new sustainable transport technologies and approaches
- Continue collaborating with TfWM and other local stakeholders
- Promote the mobility hubs and the facilities on offer



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