

Why do we need an LTP?

One of the aims of the LTP was to produce one main strategic document that all partners sign up to. This means that all partners are working to achieve the same aims and objectives and one vision for Cumbria. The plan is then submitted to government to show how Cumbria will achieve its vision.

What does the LTP contain?

The LTP contains a vision and objectives for transport in the county over the next 15 years and states how we are going to go about achieving those objectives which have been set. The plan is realistic and shows the level of funding expected to be available from Government for transport improvements

What does it mean for me?

At a glance you can see the approach that will be taken to improving and maintaining the roads and transport system in your local community over the next five years and the plans that are in place beyond that time.

Where does the money come from?

The quality of the LTP influences the amount of money that the council gets for transport from the government. It also identifies other sources of funding for instance economic regeneration projects which relates to transport and sets out how new developments should contribute to transport improvements.

Will it fix potholes in my street?

The LTP clearly states how much money will be spent on maintaining roads over the next 5 years and how priorities for maintenance are decided. If you have a pothole in your street or other road defect please report it by contacting the highways hotline number 0845 6096609

How will the LTP be measured?

Monitoring of the LTP is continuous and is done by looking at the indicators and targets set. Data is put together annually and reported to the government and to partner organisations. The council also reports on the number of schemes delivered in that year against the number predicted. Progress reports are published on the website www.cumbria.gov.uk/roads&transport

Will I get more buses?

Most bus services in Cumbria are provided commercially by bus companies. The LTP looks at public transport in Cumbria and one of its priorities is to improve the performance of services and information. The Council is working closely with Stagecoach to prioritise improvements to bus routes and services and information. Travelline number 0870 6082 608

Who writes the LTP?

The County Council is responsible for writing the LTP. They do this by working with other organisations like district and parish councils, the police, national park authorities and the highways agency.

How can I get involved?

The council writes the LTP by consulting and engaging with the people of Cumbria through public consultation like neighbourhood forums. There are over 60 neighbourhood forums in Cumbria each meeting at least 4 times per year. You can find out more about your local forum by logging onto www.cumbria.gov.uk/neighbourhoodforums or contacting your local area support team on 01228 606060. A new LTP is produced every 5 years.

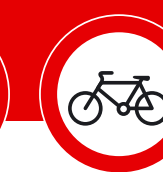


Keeping Cumbria

Moving



your guide to the local transport plan



Local transport plan (LTP)

The Local Transport Plan (LTP) is a document that the county council publishes to inform government, Cumbrian residents and local partners about the plans and objectives the council has in place for Cumbria's roads and transport system over the next five years. It's vision cannot be delivered by the county council alone and we are working with key partners including:

- district and parish councils
- national park authorities
- bus, train, ferry, taxi and community transport operators
- economic development and regeneration agencies.
- Police and health services

The LTP sets out a strategy that support the council's overall vision. The strategy focuses on the Key Transport Priorities

- To develop transport infrastructure to support improvements to the Cumbria economy.
- To improve accessibility to jobs, education and training, health and other key services.
- To reduce the high level of road casualties
- To maintain to a high standard the extensive road network

The overall approach

Overall the approach is to reduce the need to travel and help people to get to where they need to go safely and with reduced environmental impact.

The LTP shows how achieving the council's vision for Cumbria requires different approaches in different areas of the county. These range from the revitalisation of former industrial areas to managing traffic congestion in urban centres and ensuring that rural communities are not disadvantaged.

The LTP also sets out how the council's strategy will be achieved through investment of the money available to the council for transport in a provisional five year programme and sets targets to monitor achievement.

Safety

The LTP highlights the priority in Cumbria to improving road safety. By meeting government targets the council and its partners will address the worse than average record of casualties. Key measures include implementing road safety schemes identified where there is a history of casualties and a programme of education, training and publicity targeted at high risk groups. The Cumbria Road Safety Partnership will coordinate all road safety initiatives including the Safety Cameras.

Road traffic

Many Cumbrian residents and businesses are dependant on cars and lorries for travel and transport due to the large rural area we live in and the long distances we have to travel. This traffic creates its own problems for transport users and local communities including:

- Road casualties
- Localised congestion
- Poor air quality
- Physical and visual intrusion

Measures will be put into place to try to reduce this. The approach of the plan is to minimise the impact of road traffic on the environment and other people by reducing the need to travel and increasing the proportion of trips made by public transport, cycle or on foot.

Travel to work and school

To assist in managing road traffic the LTP encourages schools and employers to produce and implement Travel Plans that reduce car trips. These have wide ranging benefits from improving public health through active travel such as walking, cycling to reducing direct business costs and improving the local environment.

Public transport

A new approach to public transport is set out that aims to increase the use of bus services in urban areas to reduce traffic congestion. In rural areas a more locally responsive approach is being developed to provide better accessibility for people without the use of a car. To achieve the LTP aims, Quality Bus Partnerships with operators and close working with train companies will be developed. This includes looking at park and ride in Carlisle and Kendal and improved bus facilities as well as developing publicity and promotion and the NoWcard smart card project.

Cycling

Cycling is promoted particularly for shorter journeys within and into town centres to reduce congestion, improve safety, air quality and public health. The priorities will be to identify and improve cycle networks, both on and off road. The importance of leisure cycling and is recognised for its contribution to health and to the local economy.

Countryside access and walking

Countryside access is important to the local economy in Cumbria. The approach is based on the Cumbria Countryside Access Strategy (also published by the council). In addition walking for health and for short journeys to work and school is encouraged and improvements will be identified to make town centres more pedestrian friendly.

Highway network

The LTP gives a high priority to ensuring adequate maintenance of the existing highway network. As this is critical to achieving the wider aims of the council. This will be approached through an asset management plan for maintaining the highway network, based on measuring the condition of roads and prioritising maintenance where the need is greatest.

Land use and development

The approach in the LTP is to secure assistance for improvements to the road, cycle, walking and bus network through the planning process. All new developments will be required to contribute to improving the transport network through agreements with local planning authorities so that developments become more sustainable and transport does not form a constraint to economic growth.

As well as addressing local concerns and priorities through the council's own investment programme the LTP forms the basis for seeking additional outside assistance and partnership funding for identified transport improvements.

The LTP has been developed through extensive engagement and consultation with organisations and communities in Cumbria and the contributions received have been invaluable in setting the priorities for the county.

The full LTP is published by Cumbria County Council and is available from local libraries and the councils website www.cumbria.gov.uk , you can also buy a copy of the LTP for a charge of £20, for more information contact 01228 606758.