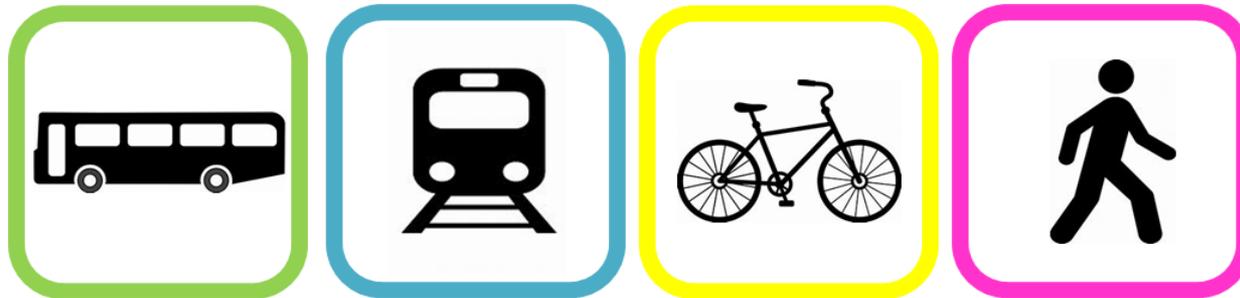




Bassetlaw Integrated Care Partnership: Transport Strategy 2019-2021



1. Understanding Transport

The Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) in Bassetlaw is a partnership of chief executives and senior leaders from BCVS, Bassetlaw District Council, Bassetlaw NHS CCG, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Trust, Healthwatch, Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and three Primary Care Networks.

The Bassetlaw Place Plan is the document which sets out the vision for the Bassetlaw Integrated Care Partnership. **The ICP will deliver improvement in experiences, health and wellbeing for Bassetlaw citizens by 2021, through simpler, integrated, responsive and well understood services which ensure people get the right support at the right time.** This will support local people to stay well in their own homes and communities.

The Place Plan identifies transport as one of Bassetlaw's health and wellbeing priorities, with availability of public transport, passenger transport for patients, access to services and work, and risks of loneliness and isolation for people living in rural communities all important issues for local people and services. As such, the Bassetlaw ICP's transport work stream group – a partnership of motivated and committed workforce professionals from across the local government, NHS and third sector – has identified its priorities for collective action on transport over the next 3 years which are set out in this document.

In some wards, up to 26% of households do not have access to a car or other vehicle. In some areas where there is high rurality, fewer transport connections and higher deprivation, poor health and wellbeing outcomes are evident. Isolation and loneliness is a risk in these areas.

Residents of Bassetlaw benefit from third sector-led volunteer driver schemes such as Bassetlaw Action Centre's 'Volunteer Driver Scheme' and the 'Dial-a-trip' service in Tuxford, which provide cars and minibuses for eligible people to access both health-related and social appointments. The Royal Voluntary Service also provides some services related to discharge. Bus services are planned by Nottinghamshire County Council which also offers a concessionary travel scheme for older people, and for some people with a disability. The two largest towns, Worksop and Retford, are served by train stations providing access to the East Coast Mainline and suburban trains to Sheffield, Gainsborough and Lincoln. The Clinical Commissioning Group commission non-emergency passenger transport services to hospitals, and emergency transport is provided by East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS).

Bassetlaw partners aim to increase the connectedness of Bassetlaw people, reduce isolation, improve efficiency and increase independent travel. Four priorities have been identified to strengthen transport in Bassetlaw:

- To better understand transport issues by engaging communities;
- To make better shared use of existing transport resources and opportunities;
- To increase the skills, knowledge and capability of Bassetlaw people in accessing public transport;
- To increase active travel.



Vanessa Cookson
Bassetlaw District Council, and
Chair of the Transport workstream

2. Understand and Engage Communities

There is significant variability of need, demand and access with regard to transport across Bassetlaw's diverse communities. Furthermore, the context for communities is changing, with more services moving online (such as 'Ask my GP', and online grocery ordering), and some services changing how they work (such as some medical specialisms working across different hospital sites).

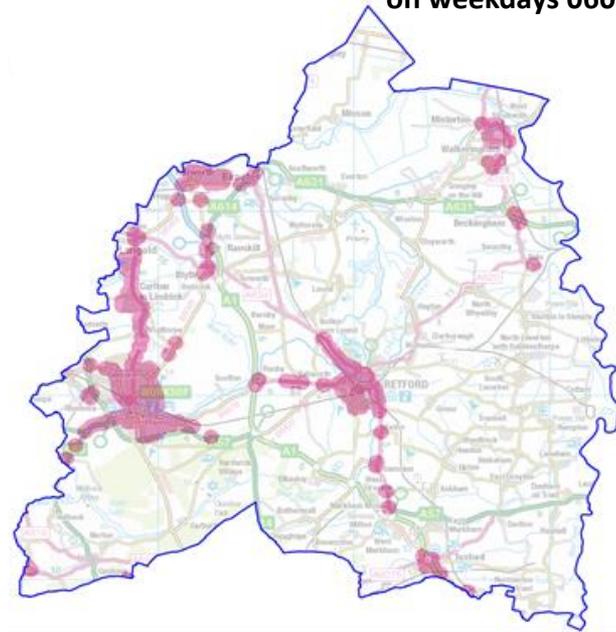
Assumptions by service providers about transport needs may be outdated. Furthermore, the expressed concerns about a perceived lack of transport provision have not been explored with communities in detail, to understand the lived experience of local people, and how changes to transport could best improve their quality of life and wellbeing, such as through increased use of walking and cycling where appropriate.

Much is already known about transport access – for example, public transport availability usage. Previous engagement with the communities of Mattersey Thorpe and Tuxford has provided new insights about travel, and resulted in changes to public transport, including new bus access to primary care facilities, but there is more that can be done.



ICP partners engage with local people about the links between transport and wellbeing

Areas within 400metres of an hourly or better bus service on weekdays 0600-1800hrs



Bassetlaw ICP partners will build on previous engagement work with the communities to better understand transport needs and opportunities. This will include:

- **scoping existing transport availability and opportunity** from across health, local authority, third sector and private services;
- **using these insights to engage a cross section of local communities** about their experiences, needs and wishes to inform future plans for transport;
- **taking the learning from the engagement to inform the strategic plans** for transport schemes.

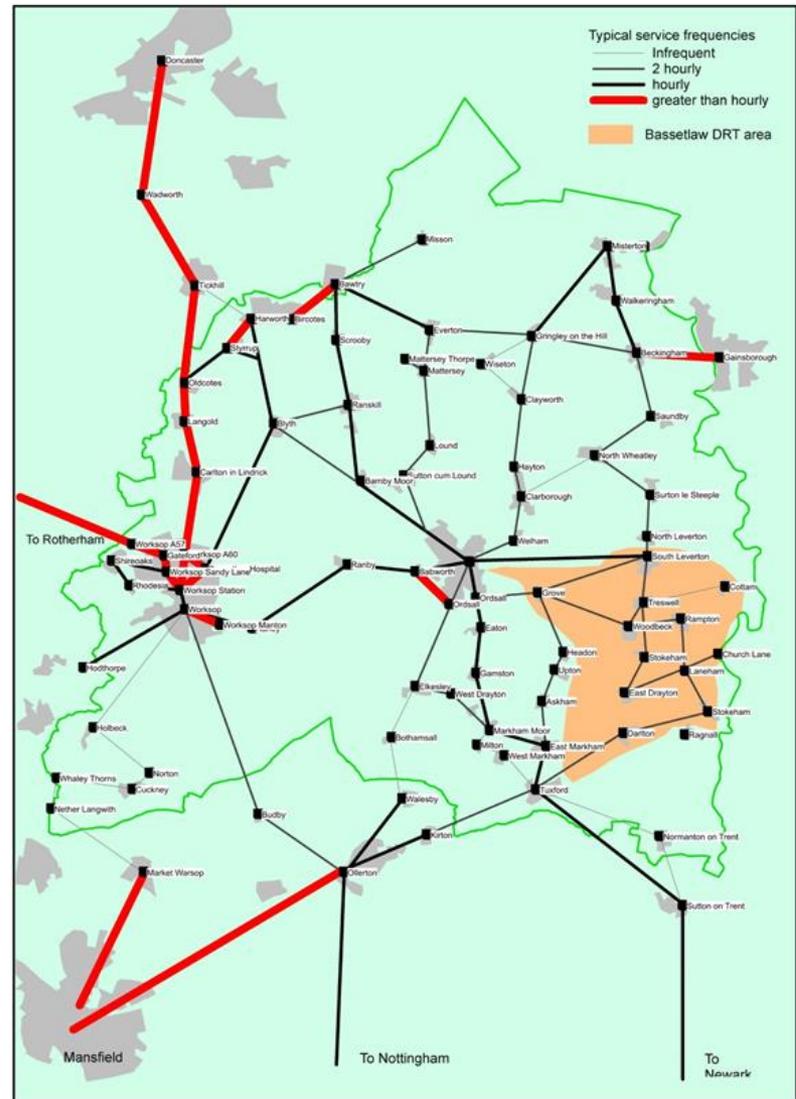
3. Better use of shared transport resources

In Bassetlaw, and the wider county, Nottinghamshire County Council and other local authorities have a core fleet of vehicles, and other commissioned transport resources. These include transport for adults to day centres and children with special educational needs and disabilities to schools, as well as other provision. Separately, Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group commission passenger transport services for patients requiring clinical services with a medical need such that without transport provision they would be unable to access appointments. In addition, volunteer car schemes operate across Bassetlaw, but with variable access due to individual service criteria and availability of volunteer drivers.

There exist many opportunities to strengthen transport in Bassetlaw through collaboration. The South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System (ICS) has a transport working group, which considers transport implications of proposed hospital developments for example. The transport group will **work closely with transport developments within the ICS**. The Bassetlaw transport group has already collaborated effectively to submit joint bids to the Better Care Fund for transport info-kiosks to assist with facilitating discharge from hospital, reducing 'did not attend' (DNAs) to appointments, and reduce isolation and disconnection. The collaboration will continue, and Bassetlaw ICP partners will work together to:

- **Scope and develop a coherent approach** across health and local authority commissioners for non-emergency passenger transport to health appointments, linking with third sector provision where appropriate;
- **Exploit opportunities for a single point** of access for transport information;
- **Support and make best appropriate use of volunteer car schemes**.

Main bus routes across Bassetlaw



4. Increase the skills, knowledge and capability of Bassetlaw people

Whilst there is a significant amount of information about transport available for Bassetlaw people, the skills, knowledge and capability of the public to make best use of it is not always well supported by local services. The biggest challenge for Bassetlaw residents is accessing services and support beyond the district boundary, particularly hospital appointments and treatments. Understanding what transport is available for this and how to use it can also be a barrier.

Furthermore, accessing information about transport options can be complex, with details held across multiple organisations and formats, which are not necessarily user friendly for all Bassetlaw people. This can lead to increased dependence on and demand for limited non-emergency passenger transport provision, such as to access or return from hospital visits or stays. The ability to travel independently increases wellbeing, reduces isolation, and opens up greater possibilities for work and social connections.

As such, Bassetlaw partners will:

- Develop a **'getting home from hospital'** policy as part of the Home First working group;
- Use **insights from community engagement to shape a co-ordinated approach** to independent travel training, using a population segmentation approach to understanding where and how such training would be best deployed;
- **Develop and implement plans for improving the accessibility of information** about transport for the public, services and transport planners and providers, such as through a single point of access for transport, interactive terminals and information available in locations and formats that work for local people.
- **Ensure that the public have the skills and the information to be able to navigate** the wider transport system, especially when crossing into other transport authorities that work differently to Bassetlaw.



5. Active Travel

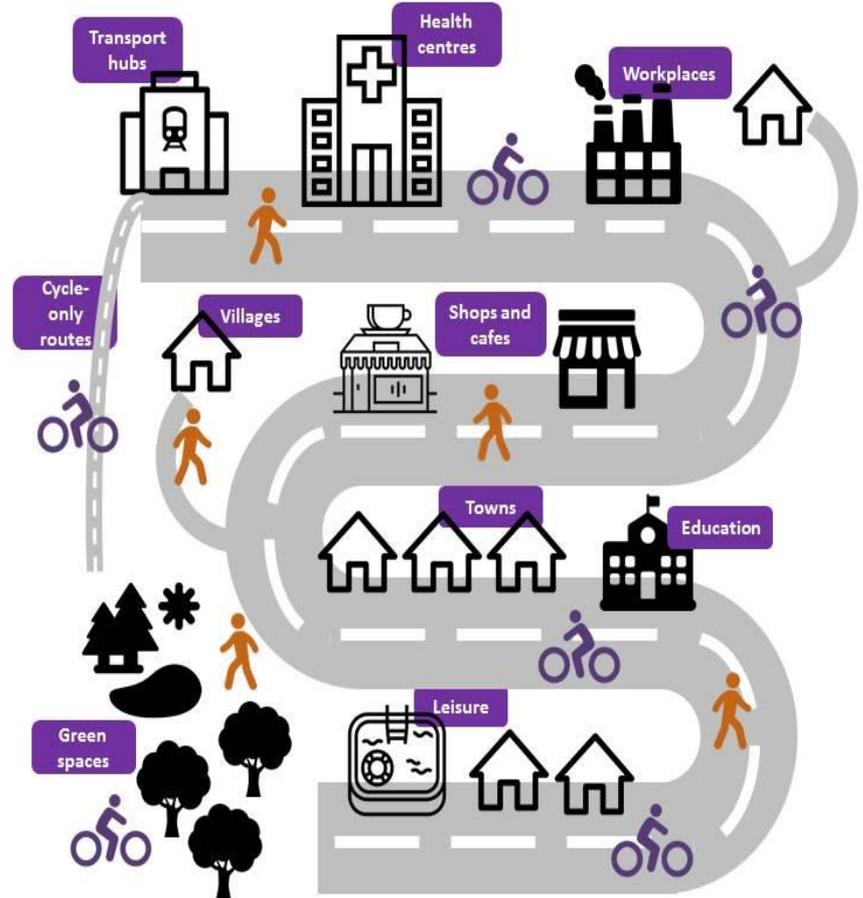
There is increasing, and increasingly strong, evidence that walking and cycling can play a very significant role in people gaining the health and wellbeing benefits of being physically active, in addition to optimising the contribution of transport to economic performance.

The many benefits of physical activity for wellbeing include helping to prevent and treat many health conditions including diabetes, cardiovascular disease and mental ill health, and improving general wellbeing. Walking and cycling journeys can contribute to these benefits. The key areas where walking and cycling contribute towards economic performance are:

- Keeping people and business moving (reducing congestion);
- Supporting local businesses and high streets (quality of life and retail vitality);
- Improving business efficiency (reduced absenteeism as a result of a healthier and happier workforce);
- Direct job creation;
- Leisure and tourism and support for the cycling industry.

In Bassetlaw, priority will be given to **encouraging cycle use and upgrading and maintaining existing cycle ways**. This will occur whilst working with local partners to **improve the town centre offer and incentivise visitors to engage with local heritage and leisure options** through improved communications and investment, particularly in Retford and Worksop.

Furthermore, **active travel will be built into plans for developing communities**, linked to housing developments, and also for schools. **Innovations in transport** to link key points of interest using active travel options will be actively explored, and pursued.



Vision for Active Travel

#Better in Bassetlaw

Approved by the Bassetlaw Integrated Care
Partnership Board, October 2019

For more information visit

www.betterinbassetlaw.co.uk

