

# Linking active travel and public transport to housing growth and planning

## Part 2: Planning housing growth to enable active travel and public transport

### Active Travel Toolkit Slide Pack

July 2017

Linking Active Travel and Public Transport to Housing Growth and Planning Part 2: Planning housing growth to enable active travel public transport. Part of the Active Travel Toolbox, written by Sustrans with support from Dr Adrian Davis, Department for Transport, The TAS Partnership Limited and Living Streets.

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# What is this slide pack for?

This slide pack provides a summary of the toolkit: Planning housing growth to enable active travel and public transport.

The Active Travel Toolbox slide packs are designed to demonstrate the benefits of sustainable transport and help LEPs and local delivery partners strategically invest in walking and cycling schemes.

It includes:

- Key messages
- Statistics and evidence
- Signposting to tools and case studies

# Contents

This slide pack includes:

- Building in urban areas and the importance of proximity and density
  - The importance of proximity
  - Building at the appropriate density
  - The importance of mixed use
- Building in suburban and rural areas, including new settlements
  - Locating along public transport corridors
  - Designing new settlements

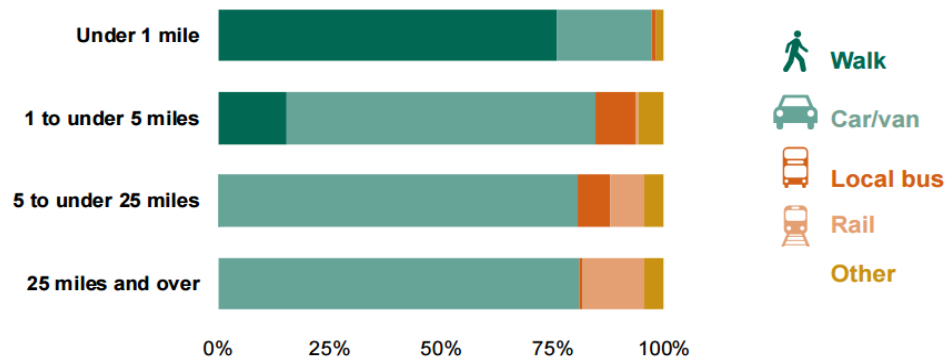
# Key messages

- The location and design of new housing developments will have a significant role in influencing how people travel and in encouraging economic vibrancy, access to education, workplaces and retail and community cohesion.
- In order to promote sustainable transport, the chosen locations and resulting design of new housing developments should help to reduce trip length for everyday journeys and support sustainable modes of travel.
- Building new housing developments within existing settlements enables people to take advantage of shorter distances to travel to places of employment, schools, shops and other services by walking, cycling or public transport.
- Building to a higher density, wherever feasible, encourages more compact settlements thereby increasing proximity and enabling active travel, and the viability of public transport through higher levels of customer demand.
- Building outside of existing settlements will also be necessary to meet our housing needs and also offers the opportunity to build large numbers of new homes on the same site.
- These developments should be mixed use or settlements in their own right, thereby encouraging the internalisation of local trips, for example education or retail trips, within the development wherever possible.
- New development outside of existing towns and cities should also be built alongside existing public transport corridors or where new sustainable transport corridors are planned which will also help reduce congestion.

# Building in urban areas and the importance of density and mixed use

- The location and design of new housing developments will have a significant role in influencing how people travel as well as the specific transport infrastructure determined and provided (covered in Part 3 of the *Linking Sustainable Transport to Housing Growth* toolkit).
- Building new homes within existing towns and cities means people are located near to where the majority of services and venues that people travel to on a day-to-day basis.
- This reduces overall distances that people are required to travel whilst allowing for higher levels of cycling and walking and making bus services viable.

# The importance of proximity



Modal share for different trip distances, The National Travel Survey 2014

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>greater social contact and connectivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>creates a safer and more secure environment</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>services (shops, schools, healthcare) are close at hand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>preserves distinctiveness of rural and urban areas</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>drives innovation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>community energy schemes are feasible</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reduces land-take</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reduces carbon emissions from buildings and transport</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>supports existing settlements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>makes public transport viable</li> </ul>

Benefits of proximity, CPRE, 2008

- Living close by the services you require reduces trip lengths
- Shorter journeys enable sustainable transport to be realised
- Younger generations, often referred to as ‘millennials’, are increasingly attracted to living in more urban, dense neighbourhoods within cities and urban areas where there is greatest culture, restaurants and activities nearby where they live