

Stockton Town Centre Connectivity Bus Improvements



Issues

For people who walk, wheel and cycle in Stockton-on-Tees, we know this can be less appealing with a lack of safe, direct, and convenient routes to Stockton town centre.

We have begun to look at two potential solutions to make walking, wheeling, and cycling routes better in the area. We hope our plans will create safer, more attractive journeys and help better connect existing routes to the town centre.

Please have a look at our plans on Bishopton Lane to Stockton Rail Station, and towards the Parkfield Estate on Bowesfield Lane.

We also want to improve bus travel for people who rely on and use the bus. We know there can be problems when making journeys in and around the town centre, particularly for people using the bus. Journeys can be long and unreliable with buses held up in congestion and at traffic signals.

We have identified the following **issues** in the town centre.

- The roads around Stockton town centre can get busy as these are key routes which allow traffic to travel to the A66 and A19. This can delay buses accessing the High Street, meaning they might not show up at the bus stops on time.
- Buses can be delayed at traffic lights during busy periods.
- Traffic lights can cause traffic to stop and start which can make journeys long and unreliable.
- Buses can get caught in general traffic congestion accessing the town centre and travelling around the town.

[If you think there are issues in other locations in this area, please let us know on the feedback form.](#)

Opportunities

We want to help improve bus, walking, wheeling, and cycling journeys to make these more attractive travel options.

Here are some **opportunities** that may help address the issues in this area:

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- Introduce measures to give buses priority over other vehicles, such as a dedicated bus lanes and traffic light systems that give buses priority at junctions.
- Implement intelligent traffic management systems to reduce overall congestion and improve traffic flow.
- Introduce cycle priority measures such as cycle lanes and cycle crossings.
- Improve road crossings for pedestrians and wheelers, including safer crossings and formalising crossings.
- Improve paths for walking, wheeling, and cycling.

Other types of transport **opportunities** could include:

- Review bus routing to avoid the worst delays.
- Improve the layout of junctions and roads.
- Reduce general traffic speeds with traffic calming or reducing speed limits to improve road safety

Benefits

The opportunities above may offer the following **benefits**:

- Quicker journey times for buses using priority measures.
- Buses avoid the worst areas of delay.
- Buses can bypass waiting traffic, so they can move ahead more quickly resulting in more reliable journey times.
- Buses could move through junctions more efficiently and red-light waiting times could reduce.
- Improved traffic management and junction layout could result in more reliable journeys for all vehicles.
- Safer, joined up and more attractive walking, wheeling, and cycling paths including wider paths, separations from vehicles and new foot paths, cycle paths or shared space.
- Safer pedestrian and cycle crossings.

Impacts

We recognise that there may be some **impacts**, these could include:

- Vehicles might need to give way to buses.
- We may need to review existing parking.

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- Cars and other vehicles may have to wait slightly longer at the traffic lights or junctions.
- May reduce available space for other road users.

[Have Your Say! To have your say click here to complete an online survey.](#)



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