

Improving Transport Hartlepool Town Centre



In Hartlepool, fewer people own cars compared to the rest of England. We want to make sure everyone can get to where they need to be without relying on a car.

Lots of buses travel through the town centre but we know that they sometimes get delayed, and don't always turn up on time. Some bus stops in the town centre could be nicer to wait in. Together, these cause longer journeys and make bus travel less attractive.

Some people already walk, wheel, and cycle in Hartlepool but in certain areas this can feel unsafe, particularly where there is lots of traffic. We want to improve links into the town centre to make it safer and easier for people to make their journeys.

Issues

We know there are issues at busy junctions in the town centre where lots of traffic can build up, causing longer and unreliable bus journeys for passengers.

There can also be issues for buses moving in and out of bus stops in the town centre. Buses need to negotiate with other traffic when exiting the stop from the bus lay-bys. This can make it difficult for bus drivers and lead to delays.

We think there are issues on:

- Junction of York Road (B1277) and Victoria Road
- Along Victoria Road
- Junction of York Road (B1277) and Park Road
- Along Park Road
- York Road (B1277)
- A689

The junctions of York Road (B1277) with Park Road and Victoria Road have the worst delays, as buses can get held up at the traffic lights and there is often a lot of traffic in this busy area. Some improvements are already underway. Hartlepool Borough Council are upgrading the signals at the junction of York Road (B1277) / Victoria Road to improve traffic flows and reduce delays.

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

Opportunities

We want to reduce delays in Hartlepool town centre to help make bus journeys quicker and more attractive. We have identified some initial ideas to help solve the issues in this area. Here are some **opportunities** that may help address them:

Improving Transport Hartlepool Town Centre



- Introduce measures to give buses priority over other vehicles, such as traffic light systems that give buses priority at junctions.
- Changes to bus stops, so that it is easier for buses to rejoin traffic after stopping.
- We will look to improve bus stops to make them nicer to wait in and introduce real time information.
- Improve the layout of junctions and roads.
- Implement intelligent traffic management systems to reduce overall congestion and improve traffic flow.

Other types of transport opportunities could include:

- Introduce cycle priority measures such as cycle lanes and cycle crossings.
- Improve road crossings for pedestrians including safer crossings and formalising crossings.
- Improve paths for walking, wheeling, and cycling.
- Improve road safety with traffic calming or reducing speed limits.

Improving Transport Hartlepool Town Centre



Hartlepool Town Centre



Overview Map of the existing issues and opportunities in Hartlepool Town Centre

Improving Transport Hartlepool Town Centre



Benefits

These may offer the following **benefits**:

- Reduced town centre congestion.
- Faster and more reliable bus journeys.
- Improved bus stops and waiting areas for passengers.
- Buses could move through junctions more efficiently and red-light waiting times could reduce.
- Reduced congestion and queuing could result in more reliable journeys for all vehicles.
- Safer, joined up and more attractive walking, wheeling, and cycling paths including wider paths, segregation from vehicles and new foot paths, cycle paths or shared space.
- Safer walking, wheeling, and cycling crossings.

Impacts

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

- Vehicles may need to give way to buses.
- We may need to remove or relocate any existing on-street parking.
- Cars and other vehicles may have to wait slightly longer at traffic lights or junctions.
- May reduce available space for other road users.



Funded by
UK Government

