

Local Transport Plan: Key Policies

A One Page Summary

The Gloucester Community Rail Partnership (GCRP) takes inspiration from the recently revised Local Transport Plan (LTP) for Gloucestershire, produced by Gloucestershire County Council in 2021. The plan formally identifies the role of the GCRP in helping to support county wide improvements to the transport network and the opportunity to work in partnership to deliver schemes that meet local and strategic objectives.

“The recently formed Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership (GCRP) will have an important role in helping to make stations more user-friendly particularly in the more remote locations as well as improving access to them particularly from residents who don't normally use rail”.

“Work with and support Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership to increase passenger numbers, improve access to stations and improve station facilities”.

Policy LTP PD5.2: Rail Service Capacity Improvements

Rail stations fulfil an important role, not only by providing access to the rail network, but also as interchange hubs between modes. Railway stations, including their facilities and information provision are managed by TOCs as part of their franchise arrangements. Stations within Gloucestershire, apart from Lydney, are managed by Great Western Railway. Lydney is managed by Transport for Wales (KeolisAmey) (Para 3.6.24)

GCC will engage with the rail industry to ensure that Gloucestershire benefits from improved local and longer distance rail services to London, Bristol, Birmingham, Cardiff, Oxford and Worcester. GCC will do this by implementing the following policy proposals:

- Respond to rail franchise and timetable consultations to ensure that Gloucestershire is well connected to the national rail network, with competitively timed local services that reflect the travel requirements of different users later into the evening and seven days a week.
- Contribute to and influence the debates surrounding medium to long-term developments, such as MetroWest and HS2, ensuring that Gloucestershire's needs and contribution are expressed.
- Work with Transport for West Midlands to explore potential service improvements between Gloucester/Cheltenham, Worcester and Birmingham and to work with partners (including developers) to facilitate improvements in service provision for Ashchurch for Tewkesbury as set out in its rail strategy.
- Work with the rail industry, local authorities and other stakeholders to consider the reinstatement of the rail link between Honeybourne and Stratford on Avon, as well as suitable other railway line reinstatements.
- Work with partners (including developers) to deliver a more frequent service at Lydney. In parallel, work with the Local Enterprise Partnership, Transport for Wales, Monmouthshire County Council and the rail industry to define and agree long-term options for the provision of enhanced Birmingham-Gloucester-Cardiff services.
- Also to improve connectivity between Lydney, Chepstow and the wider Bristol area through enhanced timetabling at Severn Tunnel Junction to allow for easier and more frequent interchanges and or a direct service

Policy LTP PD 5.3: Railway Stations Improvements

“GCC will work with Train Operating Companies, Network Rail and the Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership to encourage ongoing investment in station facilities to improve the experience of travelling within the county. Improvements include improved passenger waiting facilities, installing electric vehicle charging points, increasing cycle racks, car parking, access improvements, links to walking and cycle networks and providing real time passenger information for onward journeys”.

GCC will engage with delivery partners to maximise the desirability, demand and customer experience of using railway stations within Gloucestershire. Station facilities need to meet existing and forecasted demand by providing safe and secure facilities for those walking, cycling, bus users and car users. GCC will do this by implementing the following policy proposals:

- Work with Great Western Railway and Network Rail to identify the most effective approach to station development and stopping patterns on the Bristol - Gloucester route, including the development of the existing Cam and Dursley station and the potential for a new station south of Gloucester.
- Work in partnership with District Councils, the Local Enterprise Partnership, Highways England, Transport for Wales and Department for Transport to seek investment in the County's transport network as funding opportunities arise.
- Ensure each railway station has a clear plan for its development in the short, medium and long term, linked to development proposals in the area and rail service improvements.
- Promote connectivity to rail stations by active travel modes supported through Thinktravel and where bus services access railway stations ensure that timings complement each other to encourage interchange between transport modes.
- Encourage the use of innovative design to enhance the aesthetic appeal and desirability of using public transport facilities. In addition to operation and safety issues GCC welcomes designs which complement and where possible enhance the natural, built and historic environment.



Read the full Local Transport Plan online at:
www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2105626/ltp-policy-document-final-v131.pdf