

Evesham Transport Strategy: Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer
<p>Why is nothing being done about the congestion in Evesham?</p>	<p>The continual growth in travel demand affects many parts of the UK and Evesham is no exception. However, it is particularly felt in Evesham with its tight network of narrow roads and limited river crossings.</p> <p>The Evesham Transport Strategy is being developed as there isn't a simple, single solution to tackle access and congestion in the town. This approach seeks to identify and assess what schemes there might be that can be delivered in the shorter term, develop medium term schemes and build the business case for longer term investment in larger schemes</p> <p>Development of the Strategy has so far seen traffic surveys undertaken, a traffic model for the town created and an independent study of the feasibility of a number of proposals completed. An Evesham Transport Stakeholder group (which will be a key point of liaison throughout the lifetime of the Strategy) has been established and the next step will see those proposals that passed the feasibility 'screening' being tested in the traffic model.</p> <p>Worcestershire County Council has published the results of the traffic surveys and the results of the feasibility screening on this website, and will publish further results and reports as they emerge.</p>
<p>How have suggestions from members of the public been taken into account?</p>	<p>Many members of the community in Evesham kindly shared their ideas for improving transport in Evesham, for which Worcestershire County Council was very grateful. To ensure due regard was given to these suggestions, Worcestershire County Council commissioned a consultant to assess them objectively and independently. Some of the suggestions will inform and shape the development of the Strategy (such as provision for walking and cycling and reviewing of car parking) but none of the suggestions for converting Mill Lane to two-way traffic were found to work. The consultant's report and Worcestershire County Council's summary of the findings can be found on the County's web site: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/evesham</p>
<p>What is the Evesham Traffic Model?</p>	<p>This is a computer-based system that will be used to test various options for improving transport in Evesham. Every road, junction and traffic signal in the town is represented in the model and it is underpinned by the results of the traffic surveys, all of which ensures that the model properly reflects Evesham.</p>
<p>What types of transport will the Strategy consider?</p>	<p>The Evesham Transport Strategy will consider all modes of transport including motorised transport (e.g. car, motorbike, lorry etc.), walking, cycling and passenger transport (rail, bus, taxi, community transport).</p>
<p>Do the town's transport issues have a detrimental impact on businesses?</p>	<p>It is recognised that if vehicular traffic growth trends continue, many of our main urban and interurban routes will become increasingly congested beyond traditional peak times. Evesham is no exception and this can have a negative impact on the economy (including businesses and tourism) as well as the</p>

	associated impacts on road safety, air quality and noise pollution. This is why Worcestershire County Council is working on a comprehensive, multi-modal transport strategy for Evesham.
Can the traffic survey results be published?	The Traffic survey results have been published on Worcestershire County Council's website: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/evesham . Further reports will be published when they have been completed.
Why was traffic not surveyed on more of the routes outside of Evesham?	Worcestershire County Council agrees that the more information on traffic there is to hand, the greater the understanding can be gained of Evesham and its surroundings. However, expensive traffic surveys can only be justified where the most pressing issues are and for Evesham this is within the town itself. Worcestershire County Council understands that congestion in Evesham does affect communities beyond the town boundary, but the Strategy has to focus on the town, and the traffic surveys were targeted with this in mind.
Why are roadworks undertaken without enough advanced warning?	All roadworks should have a valid permit in place for them to be undertaken, if not then they are being carried out illegally. The advance notice period depends on the type of works being undertaken and the lead in time is in accordance with the code of practice for streetworks.
Will the Town Council's "Evesham Town Plan" (which has recommendations on transport) be considered?	Worcestershire County Council is aware of the plan. The plan's recommendations will be considered during the development of the Evesham Transport Strategy.
Can Worcestershire County Council comment on all the development growth in the town, as this is adding to problem?	The South Worcestershire Development Plan sets out a sustainable growth strategy for the town, and Worcestershire County Council works closely with Wychavon District Council to secure mitigation of the impacts of housing growth from the development industry where relevant. It is important to recognise that car-usage, particularly for shorter trips of up to 3 miles, is the highest it has ever been in our history (Census 2011) and this reflects a behavioural change in the transport mode-choices people make. One of the key opportunities to tackle congestion is to encourage use of other modes of transport (travel choice), particularly for these shorter trips. Giving relevant choices to residents that encourage greater uptake of walking, cycling and passenger transport will form part of the Strategy.
Can bus services be improved: particularly for routes from the surrounding area and with regard to operating times?	Worcestershire County Council continues to work in partnership with local bus operators, however, the majority of bus services in the county are independent commercial operations, limiting the County Council's influence.
Is there any 'joined-up thinking' between the Councils?	Worcestershire County Council is working in partnership with Wychavon District Council to develop the Evesham Transport Strategy, along with Highways England and other key stakeholders.

<p>Will Worcestershire County Council tackle the issue of the chevron parking on the High Street?</p>	<p>A comprehensive review of car parking will be undertaken as part of the Evesham Transport Strategy. The chevron parking is predicated on user reversing in to the spaces, and as modern driving habits and behaviour have changed so other options may need to be considered.</p>
<p>What are the timescales for the Evesham Transport Strategy?</p>	<p>The Evesham Transport Strategy will be published on this website as soon as possible, depending on the progress of the supporting work and consultation processes.</p> <p>The delivery of the outcomes of the Strategy (i.e. transport improvement projects) will be dependent on scheme size and the availability of funding. Shorter term schemes (e.g. improvements to junctions and traffic signals) could be delivered within the next 12 months, and medium schemes (e.g. enhanced facilities for cycling and walking and improving A46 functions) approximately 2-5 years. Longer term schemes that require a business case to be built and significant funding secured (e.g. working in partnership with Highways England, the body responsible for the operation of A46, to potentially develop a new realignment) will take significantly longer.</p>