

# A SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT PLAN FOR CHEPSTOW

## As proposed by Transition Chepstow

A group of concerned Chepstow residents, brought together by the *Transition Organisation*, have worked together in light of the challenges facing the Community, the Region, the Country and the World to identify a range of actions that could be taken to make dramatic progress towards creating a sustainable place to live. The challenges are large in this fast-changing world; from climate change and pollution to societal, economic and technological changes. As a group our initial focus was on congestion in Chepstow but as we campaigned for traffic improvements it became clear through the public meetings that so much more could be done. By doing an inventory of Transport related issues our focus changed to considering Transport as a whole. This, we felt, was an area that wasn't getting enough focus and that in which we could make a significant difference. The group has created a *vision and picture of future travel* to guide us in our action planning.

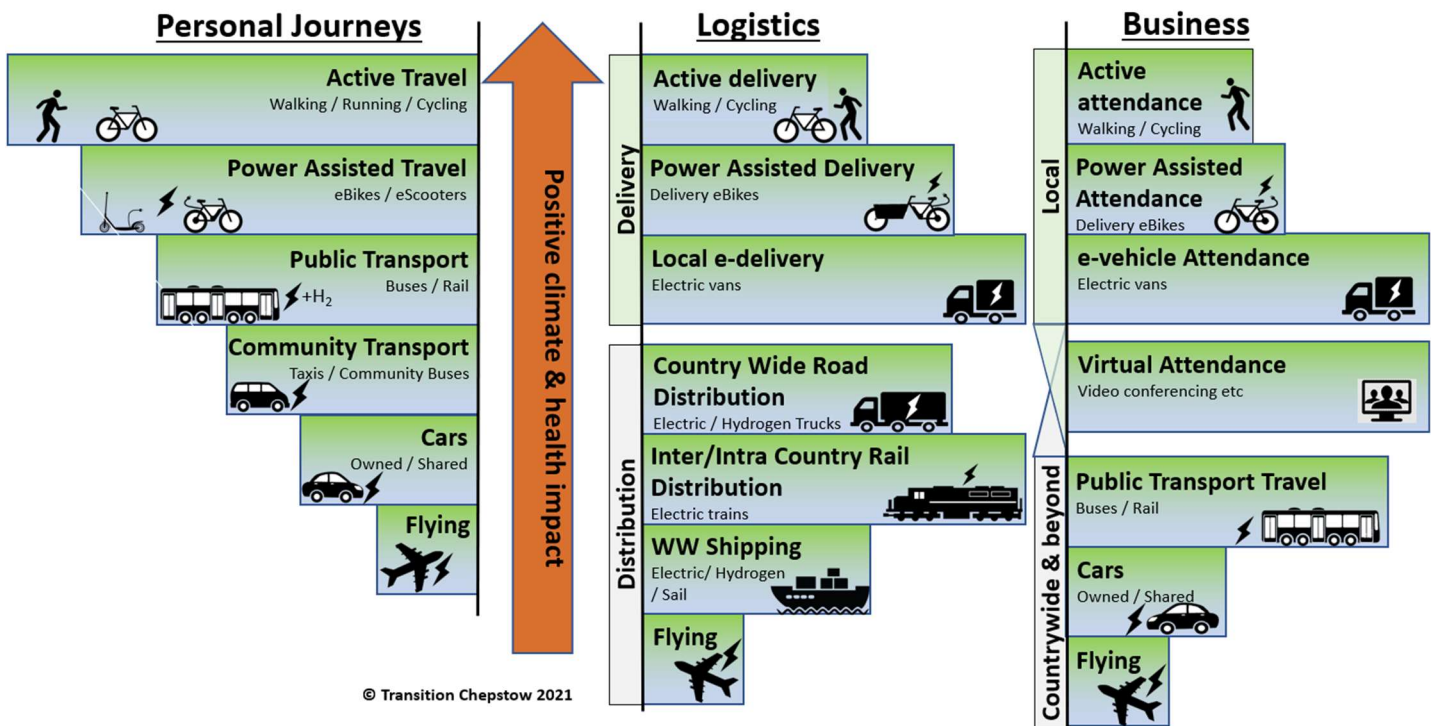
## A Vision for the Future

### A Transport system that is *FIT* for all journeys

#### Where *FIT* for all journeys means

- *Integrated*: Modes of transport are linked together in an *efficient* manner.
- *Sustainable*: Economically, Environmentally and Socially.
- *Timely*: Options available throughout the day when people need to travel.
- *Safe*: People should feel comfortable when traveling.
- *Accessible*: For residents, visitors and those passing through the area, especially those with disabilities.
- *Targeted*: Supports journeys to the right destinations, eg schools, employment areas.

## What should Transport look like in the future?



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The length of a bar indicates the relative importance for each mode of transport. The key change is a shift from individual cars to *Active Travel* (walking and cycling), and the wider adoption of public transport. We also found it useful to look at how freight is shipped (Logistics) and Business travel where we envisage similar possible transitions, albeit with much greater and wider changes to the way we live and work.

The full Transport Plan document can be found [here](#) on the Transition Chepstow web site.

## Action Planning

By reviewing each aspect in turn and considering the gap between where we are today and the future vision we have been able to identify many actions that could be taken. Some are short term and relatively simple to implement by local individuals or groups. Others require funding and local government involvement. And others require more fundamental policy changes requiring national changes in direction. Each action was assessed in terms of the implementation timescale, the level of intervention required, and the impact on the town. Finally, a priority was assigned taking into account the resources available within the group to drive the action. We are currently tracking 40+ actions. None are particularly new, but by bringing together and presenting as an overarching plan we are hoping that it is adopted by public bodies and that some real change can be brought about.

## Current focus areas

The following are areas that we are currently focussing on, primarily as they present some quick wins and are areas where the group members have some knowledge:

- Campaigning for improvements to High Beech roundabout, the main choke point in the area.
- Increasing the adoption of electric bikes by providing e-bikes that residents are able to try out.
- Championing *walking buses* for school children to remove some of the traffic from local roads at peak times.
- Reviewing the local buses, consolidating and publishing the timetables to encourage greater use.
- Monitoring the Post-Covid transport service recovery, eg the rail service, and ensuring/demanding that at least as good a service is restored.
- Engaging with local government and transport companies to participate in reviews and become trusted advisors.

We have many other possible areas of action (the full list can be found in the main document) but we are limited by the people we have who are able to give up their time to drive. If you are able to help in any way, we would welcome you to the group. Send an email to [transport@transitionchepstow.org.uk](mailto:transport@transitionchepstow.org.uk). We are especially looking for people with an interest in driving the greater adoption of *Active Travel*. We look forward to working with the community and making Chepstow a better place to live.