

Transport for the North emphasises role of active travel and multimodal hubs

March 17, 2022



Transport for the North (TfN) has continued its work to update its 2019 strategic plan, publishing two policy positions — one on active travel, the other on multimodal hubs.

The documents highlight the importance of enabling travel by foot and bicycle, and the need to join up transport options across different modes. It will help shape future statutory advice the sub-national transport body provides to government, and it will further embed the “one voice” approach to strategic transport investment and policy-making in the North of England.

On active travel, the policy position highlights four key roles that TfN can play to proactively support ambitions to make cycling and walking a natural choice for shorter journeys:

- Promote and support sustained investment in active travel at local level, enabling partners to plan and implement more ambitious and longer-term schemes.
- Support partners in their development of proposals as appropriate and continue to raise the profile of active travel generally
- Collate and promote examples of 'best practice' and innovation across the North.
- Outline how the TfN Analytical Framework can support partners with analysis of active travel and make these tools and data available to partners where possible.

And on multimodal hubs, five key roles for TfN are identified:

- Make the strategic case for investment in multimodal hubs in the North.
- Support partners in the development of their proposals by providing access to the expertise within TfN.
- Provide partners with access to the regional evidence base to support the identification of potential multimodal hub demand.
- Collate best practice for partners to apply to their areas.
- Undertake work in support of partners to identify multimodal hub locations which would benefit from improved passenger information and marketing.

Martin Tugwell, chief executive of Transport for the North, said: "Our 2019 Strategic Transport Plan contains a wide range of policy positions on key factors, outlining how TfN works with partners and stakeholders to develop our transport system for the benefit of our residents and businesses.

"These documents form part of our work to update the original STP. This is important to ensure it remains aligned to the North's needs, takes into account the opportunities to change travel behaviour that we've recently seen, and those we can expect in the future.

"Getting around by more active means such as walking and cycling, and being able to switch between modes of travel, such as cycling to the station and hopping on a train, can be a real game-changer for people, and also supports our ambitious decarbonisation goals.

"Having been approved by the TfN Board these positions will now form part of our evidence base and rationale, strengthening our joined-up working and helping us turn our policies into action."

Further policy positions are now in development to be published in spring/summer 2022, including on spatial planning and rural mobility.

To find out more about the policy positions and Strategic Transport Plan visit: www.transportforthenorth.com/our-north/strategic-transport-plan/