



# School Travel Consultation

Have your say.







### Introduction

At Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM), we are committed to improving travel to and from places of education across Greater Manchester.

The draft School Travel Strategy sets out our vision and approach to enabling more young people to walk, wheel (wheelchair users, people using a mobility aid, and people pushing a buggy/pram), scoot, cycle or use public transport to get to school and access further education.

This is your opportunity to share your views and ideas on how we can improve school and college journeys for everyone.

Your feedback will be used to inform the final version of the School Travel Strategy. Further information on how we will use this information you provide is available in our privacy notice that you can view at beenetwork.com/privacy-policy

The consultation runs from 18 November 2024 to 23.59 on 26 January 2025.



#### **About TfGM**

- TfGM (Transport for Greater Manchester) is the local government body responsible for transport in Greater Manchester. Through the Bee Network we provide buses and trams to schools, colleges and local communities. We also work closely with local authorities to provide walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling facilities.
- By giving feedback on the draft School Travel Strategy, you are helping TfGM and its partners to understand what changes are needed to improve school and college travel. Your input will directly shape decisions on how we can make your journeys safer and easier.

## Why the strategy is being developed

In Greater Manchester, every day around 460,000 students travel to and from more than 1,200 schools and colleges. By enabling more of them to walk, wheel, scoot or use public transport it will help to:

- Improve physical and mental health: Currently, 22% of reception-aged children and 39% of Year 6 children are overweight or obese in Greater Manchester. Encouraging active travel can help combat this trend.
- Protect the environment and improve air quality: More walking, wheeling, scooting, cycling or using public transport will reduce carbon emissions and create cleaner air
- Reduce congestion: Taking children to school currently accounts for approximately 31% of traffic on GM roads during peak hours.
- Better support those with caring responsibilities: We want to make it easier for parents and guardians to walk, wheel, scoot or use public transport as part of the school run and their onward journey.
- Enable future travel choices: By providing travel skills and knowledge, we can empower children and young people to make informed choices as adults and access future opportunities.

#### The process so far

Over the last six months, TfGM has been engaging with key stakeholders to gather feedback on the early proposals and help shape the priorities within the draft Strategy. Some of the key areas discussed included how children and young people should travel to school, how to encourage more children and young people to walk, wheel, scoot, cycle and use public transport, and how these changes might impact individuals and communities. The feedback has helped to shape the draft Strategy that we're now consulting on.

It's important to be clear about what is covered by this consultation.

The focus of the draft School Travel Strategy is travelling to mainstream education; special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) home-to-school transport is not covered. Councils are separately considering how they can improve the provision of SEND transport.

The School Travel Strategy brings together all our activities and programmes that are seeking to encourage more children and young people to walk, wheel, scoot, cycle or use public transport to travel to school.

#### This consultation will inform the final version of the strategy by:

- Identifying what barriers exist to children and young people walking, wheeling, scooting, cycling or using public transport to travel to school, and therefore informing whether the activities we have identified are sufficient to address them.
- Informing what skills and knowledge children and young people need to support them travelling to school and college.
- Informing our future approach towards school bus services and how they should interact with the wider public transport network.





#### How to take part

- This consultation is open to everyone who lives or travels in Greater Manchester. We are particularly keen to hear from children and young people and their parents and guardians, as their experiences and ideas are essential in shaping a transport system that works for them now and in the future.
- The consultation questions and supporting information are included below. Further information, including the full draft Strategy and an easy read version is available online at gmconsult.org
- You can share your views by completing the online survey on gmconsult.org which is open from 18 November and closes at 23.59 on 26 January 2025 or by completing this paper survey and sending it to FREEPOST SYSTRA RESEARCH (you do not need a stamp and can write this address on any envelope).
- We understand that a survey may not be suitable for everyone, particularly for children, young people, or anyone with specific access needs. In these cases, please send us your feedback either in writing or via video message to gmschooltravel@tfgm.com. For children and young people under 16, a parent, guardian or teacher must confirm on video they give their consent.
- Support for non-English speakers is available by calling **0161 244 1000**.
- To request a specific alternative format, please contact gmschooltravel@tfgm.com or call 0161 244 1000.

## How can I get support?

Staff will be available in the following locations for you to ask questions about the Strategy or for support in completing the consultation:

- Stockport Interchange: Stockport, SK1 1NU 11 December, 3–5.30pm
- Shudehill Interchange: Shudehill, Manchester, M4 2BS, 18 December, 3–5.30pm
- Rochdale Interchange: Smith Street, OL16 1YG 22 January, 3–5.30pm

We will also host two online sessions where the proposals will be presented, and you can ask questions. If you would like to attend either of these sessions, please email GMschooltravel@tfgm.com. Please note, if you are under 16 you will need to be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

- 3 December 5–6.30pm
- 15 January 5-6.30pm

যদি আপনার অন্য কোনো পদ্ধতিতে উত্তর দিতে হয়, অথবা পরামর্শের তথ্য অন্য কোনো ফরম্যাটের প্রয়োজন হয়, তাহলে আপনার চাহিদাসমূহ নিয়ে আলোচনা করার জন্য দয়া করে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন- GMschooltravel@tfgm.com অথবা এই নম্বরে কল করুন- 0161 244 1000. যারা ইংরেজি-ভাষী নন তাদের জন্যও এই নম্বরে সহযোগিতার ব্যবস্থা রয়েছে- 0161 244 1000.

اگرآپ کوختلف طریقے سے جواب دینے کی ضرورت ہے یا کسی مختلف شکل میں مثاورتی مواد کی ضرورت ہے تو، براہ کرم GMschooltravel@tfgm.com پر رابطہ کریں یا پنی ضروریات پر بات چیت کرنے کے لئے 1000 244 1000 پر کال کریں، انگریزی نہ بولنے والوں کے لئے 1000 0161 پر سپورٹ بھی دستیاب ہے۔

Jeśli potrzebujesz udzielić odpowiedzi w inny sposób lub potrzebne Ci są materiały z konsultacji w innym formacie to prosimy o kontakt na e-mail GMschooltravel@tfgm. com lub o telefon pod numer 0161 244 1000 w celu omówienia Twoich potrzeb. Tak samo dostępne jest wsparcie dla osób, które nie mówią po angielsku pod numerem 0161 244 1000.

如果您需要以不同方式的回覆,或需要不同格式的諮詢資料,請聯絡 GMschooltravel@tfgm.com 或致電 0161 244 1000 討論您的要求。 也可以致電 0161 244 1000 聯絡為非英語使用者提供支持的服務。

إذا كنت تريد الرد بطريقة مختلفة، أو كنت بحاجة إلى مواد االستشارة ب صيغة مختلفة، يرجى االتصال ب ودا كنت تريد الرد بطريقة مختلفة، أو كنت بحاجة إلى مواد االستشارة ب صيغة مختلفة، يرجى االتصال ب الرقم 0161 244 1000 لمناقشة متطلباتك. كما يتوفر الدعم 0161 244 1000 للمتحدثين ب لغات غير اإلنجليزية على الرقم 1000 244 0000

School Travel Consultation

# **Consultation questions**

If you are under 16, your parent or guardian will no give their consent for you to complete the survey.	eed to
Parents and guardians please complete the be	
Name of parent or guardian:	Signature of parent or guardian:
Annual State of Branch and	or Branch or Landing or Annual Control
Q1. Which of the following best describes y	ou? (Please tick one)
Primary school student	Resident living in
Secondary school student	Greater Manchester
Further Education student	Live outside Greater Manchester
Parent or Guardian	but travel in
of school aged children	Other, please specify:
Work in education	
Q2. If you answered 'Parent or Guardian of	school aged children' to question 1 please
say if you are the parent or guardian of: (Only	
apply, you can skip it. Tick all that apply. 🕽	
Child/children at primary school	
Child/children at secondary school	
Child/children at Further Education	
Children at primary school and secondary school	
	ation
Children at primary school, secondary school and	in Further Education
Child or children not currently in school (new star	ter or moving schools) $\Box$
Q3. If you answered 'Work in Education' to	question 1 please say whether
you work at a: (Only answer this question if it makes sens	e for you. If it doesn't apply, you can skip it. Please tick one.)
Primary school	Further Education establishment
Secondary school	
Secondary school with college	•
Other, please specify:	

Only answer this question if it makes sense for you. If it o		ntly or would like to travel to school. ly, you can skip it.)
Currently travel to school: Select all that apply.  Walk	S	Vant to travel to school: elect all that apply. Valk Vheel coot ycle us
Fram Frain Car/van	Т	ramrainar/van
Q5. What is preventing you or your chico school or to access further education of the contraction of the con	n?	

Q6. What is preventing you or your child us school? (Tick all that apply.)	ing the bus, tram or train to travel to			
Cost of using public transport	Public transport is not reliable			
Don't know how to use public transport	Public transport is too			
Feel unsafe using public transport	busy and overcrowded			
I feel mentally overwhelmed using public transport	Roads feel unsafe to walk along to get to public transport			
It's quicker to drive	There isn't a suitable bus,			
	No spaces available on school bus service			
Public transport is not	using public transport to travel to school			
physically accessible to me				
Other, please specify:				
	l			
Q7. What concerns, if any, do you have about and other people? (Tick all that apply.)	ut the impact school journeys have on you			
Makes air polluted	Overcrowding on public transport			
Cars incorrectly parked	Anti-social behaviour from students			
Concerned about personal safety	Traffic congestion $\Box$			
Inconsiderate driver behaviour $\Box$	Unsafe roads for pedestrians and cyclists $\Box$			
Litter or waste	I don't have any concerns			
Noise				
Other, please specify:				
	'			

Q8. We want to give children and young people the skills and knowledge to be able to walk, wheel, cycle and use public transport to school. In the draft School Travel Strategy, we have set out what skills we think children and young people need to gain during their time at school and college and created a set of goals (listed below).

To what extent do you support or oppose our proposed goals? (Tick one box for each row)

\*

	Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
Every young person will						
learn about road safety and						
have basic navigation skills.						
Every young person who						
wishes to do so, will learn						
how to ride a bike.						
Every young person who						
wishes to do so, will learn						
how to fix a bike.						
Every young person will						
know how to use a bus, tram,						
and train.						
Young people will learn						
how they can travel to						
school during the transition						
between primary to						
secondary school, and						
secondary school to further						
education.						
Young people will have a						
greater say in what their						
school does to encourage						
more young people to walk,						
wheel, scoot, cycle or use						
public transport.						

Q9. Do you have any comments on what skills and knowledge children and young people need to be able to walk, wheel, scoot, cycle or use public transport to school?	?
	• • •
	• • •
	• • •
	• • •
	• • •
	• • •
	• • •
	• • •
	• • •
	• • •

#### Q10. At present, TfGM provides two kinds of bus services as part of the Bee Network:

- 'General bus services' these make up the majority of the bus network, serve the whole community and run for most of the day.
- 'School buses' children and young people use these to travel to and from schools and colleges at the start and end of the day.

School buses were created during the period when TfGM did not have control of general bus services in Greater Manchester. They connect people to school where general bus services don't exist.

Today, TfGM is in the process of taking control of the entire bus network in Greater Manchester. This means that general bus services can be changed and created to better serve schools and colleges, but also the whole community.

The draft School Travel Strategy proposes that, in some cases, providing new general services or encouraging children and young people to use existing ones may be a better way for TfGM to support journeys to school than providing school buses. This could support improved bus services for the wider community as well as help students get to school and college. It could also mean we can better support children and young people in going to breakfast or after school clubs, as their bus would run all day.

To what extent do	vou support or o	pose this pro	posal? (Please tick one)
-------------------	------------------	---------------	--------------------------

Strongly support	Oppose
Support	Strongly oppose
Neither support nor oppose	Don't know
Q11. Please tell us why you supp	ort or onnose this proposal
***************************************	
***************************************	
***************************************	

Q12. Is there anything else you would like to share, or changes you would like to see to our proposed approach towards encouraging more children and young people to walk, wheel, scoot, cycle or use public transport to travel to school?

As a reminder the draft School Travel Strategy proposes to:

- **Create safer streets around schools:** We want to implement a combination of physical and behavioural road safety interventions to improve safety in the immediate area around schools.
- **Deliver more walking, wheeling and cycling infrastructure:** We aim to create more cycle routes and crossings, using data and insight to inform future priorities.
- Increase access to cycles and cycle storage: We want to help improve access to cycles through creating more bike libraries and providing additional cycle storage.
- **Teach travel skills:** We want to develop a new programme to teach children and young people and their families essential travel skills, such as crossing roads safely, riding bikes, and using public transport.
- Improve the customer experience on public transport: We want to create a more reliable, affordable, and accessible public transport network.
- Make our network safe and secure: We want to improve safety and security so that
  passengers feel safe and confident when travelling.
- Create an integrated network: We want to bring buses, trams, trains, active travel and school services together, so that we can provide improved travel options for young people and the wider community.

	<ul> <li>Engage schools and community groups: We want to collaborate with schools and local communities to enable them to run initiatives that promote walking, wheeling, scooting, cycling or using public transport.</li> </ul>
ı	
l	
1	
ı	
1	

12 School Travel Consultation

## **About you**

We must consider how different people will be affected by our strategies and policies, and we also

want to make sure we hear from people from all of Greater Manchester's diverse backgrour Therefore, to help us ensure we hear from a range of voices, and to help identify any possib discrimination or barriers for particular groups of people, would like you to answer a few quabout yourself.		
The personal information you give us will that could identify you. If there are question not to say' option.	remain strictly confidential and we will not use it in a way ons would prefer not to answer, please choose the 'prefe	
Q1. What is your postcode please?		
	Prefer not to say	
Q2. Which of the following age brack	cets do you fall into?	
Under 16	55-59	
16-18	60-64	
19-24	65-74	
25-34	75+	
35-44	Prefer not to say	
45-54		
Q3. How would you describe your ge	nder?	
Woman (including trans woman)	In another way, can you tell us more?	
Man (including trans man)	🗖	
Non-binary / gender fluid	🗆	
Prefer not to say		
Q4. Are your day-to-day activities li impairment, or disability?	mited because of a long-term health problem,	
No	Yes, learning disability	
Yes		
Yes, mobility impairment	1 .1. 1.00	
Yes, hearing impairment	Other (what health problem or	
Yes, visual impairment	disability limits your activities?)	
Yes mental health condition	Prefer not to say	

`	
Q5. How would you describe your eth	nnicity?
White: English/Welsh/Scottish/ Northern Irish/British White: Irish White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller Any other white background Mixed: White and Black Caribbean Mixed: White and Black African Mixed: White and Asian Any other mixed/ multiple ethnic backgrounds Asian: Indian Asian: Pakistani	Any other Asian background  Black: African  Black: British  Black: Caribbean  Any other black background  Arab  Any other ethnic group  Prefer not to say
Q6. How do you describe your religion	on?
No religion	Muslim
Buddhist	$\square$ Sikh
Christian	$\square$ Any other religion $\square$
Hindu	Drefer not to say

#### What happens next?

- Place this completed survey in an envelope and write FREEPOST SYSTRA RESEARCH on the front. You do not need to put a stamp on, as postage has already been paid for.
- The consultation closes at 23.59 on 26 January 2025. Following this, the responses will be reviewed and considered as part of finalising the Strategy. We will share the outcomes of the consultation and outline how your views have shaped the final Strategy in Spring 2025.
- We have commissioned an external agency to analyse and report on the responses to the consultation. They will develop a summary report of all the feedback which will be published alongside the final Strategy.
- You can find more information on **gmconsult.org** or by calling **0161 244 1000**

School Travel Consultation





