

## TRAVEL: Travel

Our communities are getting busier as more people travel for business, pleasure, leisure and through necessity. Given the need, it's vital for transport to provide efficient mobility between communities.

There are advantages and disadvantages with all forms of travel concerning ease and availability, as well as the financial and environmental cost.

### Private transport on the road

Our road networks link everywhere - rural and urban - and, as such, provide the best way to reach any place across the country. Owning your own vehicle can give quick and easy access to travel, although there are some disadvantages to this as well.

- During rush hour, roads can be very congested.
- Private transport can be expensive, as costs are incurred with owning a car, getting your licence, insurance, petrol and road tax.
- Driving can also be damaging to the environment, as cars burning petrol produce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions that can contribute to global warming.

### Public transport on the road

Public transport provides cheap, regular, interlinked ways to get around the country. Travel cards can be used and are often cheaper than paying for individual journeys. Public transport can have less of an environmental impact than driving a car as the fuel used for one vehicle transports a large number of people.

However:

- journeys may take longer, as public transport stops in many places
- public transport may have a limited service (e.g. on weekends or holidays)
- services may not get you as near to your destination.

### Transport by rail

The UK rail networks connect different parts of the country and are, overall, an eco-friendly mode of transport, as trains are able to transport a large number of people and goods, reducing the need for individual travel. Trains are frequent during peak times and can be useful for travelling long or short distances, for leisure or commuting for work.

However, some disadvantages are:

- prices can be expensive and depend on the time of the journey and area you are travelling to
- pollution is still created from the fuel burnt in manufacturing and running trains and construction of rail networks.

### Transport by air

Travelling by aeroplane makes long distance travel quick and convenient, helping families and friends to stay connected.

However:

- services offered by airlines vary according to your destination
- flights may be expensive, infrequent or have limited availability
- flights can be very costly to the environment, as they create high levels of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the air, as well as noise pollution.