

Transport for Norwich — Strategy —

Norwich and Norfolk



Chapter Five - Norwich and Norfolk

Highlights of this Chapter

This section sets out what the main difference the policies set out in this chapter will make, and some of the key commitments and interventions that the strategy will bring about:

- This section sets out the relationship of the Transport for Norwich strategy with the Norfolk Local Transport Plan
- It reinforces the position of Norwich and its strategic growth area as the centre for a large part of the county
- It emphasises the need to maintain good key connections for longer-distance trips.

Context

Introduction

5.1 Norwich is Norfolk's largest urban area and comprises the city itself and the built-up fringe parishes in Broadland and South Norfolk districts. It is one of the largest centres of employment in south-east England, making the city and its hinterland an important focus in the region for a range of services, as well as the administrative and operational headquarters for a number of organisations. Due to its prominence in the county, the city attracts a large amount of inward and outward movements, particularly during peak commuting hours. Though most commuters live within around five miles of the city centre, some travel into the area from much further.



- 5.2 The city is served by rail, road and bus links from surrounding areas. These links are focussed on main corridors, however, and do not cater for all people and goods needing to get to the city. There is also a large range of different types of movement – both within and outside of the urban area – that need to be accommodate and people have different expectations (and requirements) about how they want to travel and their expectations of the transport system. An efficient, connected transport network linking people to and from key locations within and around the city which improves access to employment, education and leisure facilities in a sustainable manner is important to serve existing businesses and populations, as well as planned largescale growth.
- 5.3 The TfN strategy looks to meet the wide range of travel needs around, to and from Norwich, and to deliver a transport network which provides access and connectivity between key locations and reinforces Norwich as the central service centre for much of the county. The strategy also delivers against the county council's fourth Local Transport Plan policies: see below. Enhancing the connectivity of Norfolk and Norwich is also a key ambition of the emerging Transport East and New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership strategies which want to see improved connections between ports, airports and priority places both within the region and nationally.

Norfolk Local Transport Plan policies and their relationship to this strategy

- 5.4 The TfN strategy sets out the transport strategy for the Norwich area. It complements a range of other strategies and sits within the Norfolk Local Transport Plan (LTP). This sets out seven strategic objectives to guide future evolution of Norfolk's transport network across the county: embracing the future, delivering a sustainable Norfolk, enhancing connectivity, enhancing Norfolk's quality of life, increasing accessibility, improving transport safety and providing a



well-managed and maintained transport network. Alignment of the TfN Strategy to these strategic objectives will be important for its success.

- 5.5 The Local Transport Plan sets out a strategy for the county of Norfolk. This recognises, amongst other things, the importance of connections into the county from elsewhere, and the importance of connections into places like Norwich.
- 5.6 Alongside the LTP, there are a many other relevant policies and priorities which have guided and shaped development of this TfN strategy.
- 5.7 The TfN strategy brings these themes, from international to local policies and priorities together, in order to shape and set out a forward-thinking transport strategy for Norwich.

Strategy and Policy

Strategic Connections

- 5.8 High quality connections between Norwich, its strategic growth areas, the wider area and markets beyond Norfolk are vital to the economy. The city centre has good rail links to London, Cambridge and Stansted. There is ambition for further improvements. These include faster journeys and higher frequencies to link further afield to the Midlands and north of England. East-west road connections can be slow and unreliable. The Cambridge-Norwich tech corridor promotes growth and connectivity to maximise the benefits that can be achieved along the corridor arising from the influences of Norwich and Cambridge. As well as better connections to places further afield, it is important to improve connectivity to major employment areas like the University of East Anglia/Norwich Research Park/hospital area, Broadland Business Park and the city centre.



Statement of Policy

STRATEGIC CONNECTIONS

Strategic connections and hinterland access will be promoted to enhance the role of Norwich as the regional capital.

Key Actions

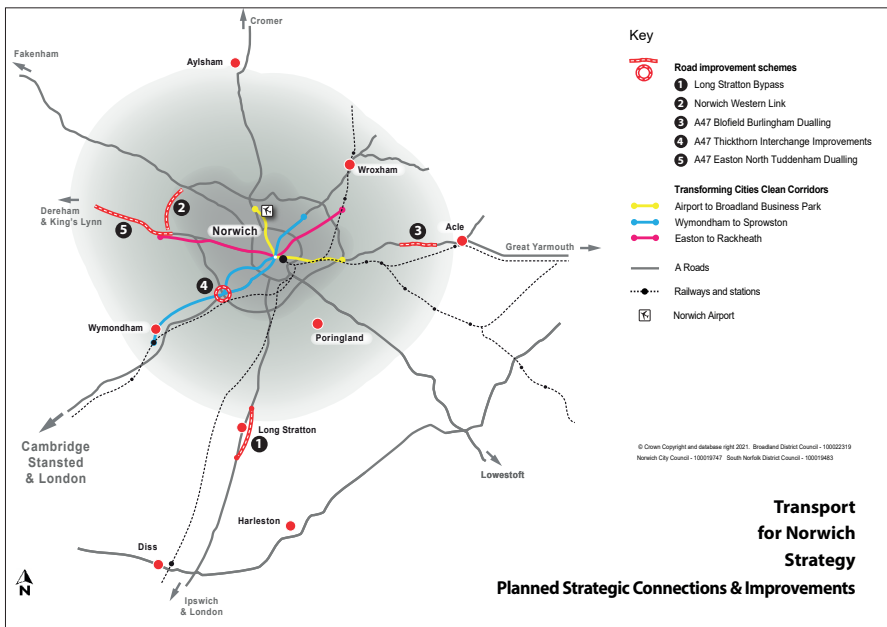
- 5.9 We will ensure that new strategic connections are optimised to benefit the economy, this includes rail enhancements to Cambridge, Stansted, London and other destinations, main bus and coach links, the Norwich Western Link, A47 improvements, and Long Stratton Bypass. Sustainable transport measures will be promoted to capture the benefits of these connections within the Norwich urban area and the strategic growth area around it. Individual schemes will need to mitigate their environmental impacts through the detailed work on these projects.
- 5.10 We will ensure that Norwich's role as a regional economic centre and transport hub is supported through excellent transport connectivity to the Norwich travel to work area and longer distance connections are improved to markets outside the county. The park and ride system plays an important role in maintaining good access into Norwich for trips from outside the urban area.

Supporting Actions

- 5.11 We will also:
- Ensure that accessibility to transport gateways is improved. These include Norwich Airport, Norwich rail station, Norwich bus station and Wymondham rail station



- Ensure that transport connections to identified strategic employment sites are enhanced by public transport, walking and cycling
- Carry out a strategic assessment to evidence the opportunities to deliver enhanced sustainable transport interventions as a consequence of completing the committed Transforming Cities interventions (a major package of improvements focussed on public transport, walking and cycling) and the Norwich Western Link
- We will review the measures that weren't funded through the Transforming Cities package to ensure these support the objectives.





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