



**Executive Advisory Panel – Future Communities
Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy
Briefing Report
Tuesday 5th March 2024**

Meeting Date	5 th March 2024	
Author(s)	Sally Crew and Marsha Brown	
Audience	Executive Advisory Panel – Future Communities	
Purpose	Discussion ✓	Information ✓

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Executive Advisory Panel members with an update on the progress of the Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy, report on the findings from the public consultation and to seek approval to submit the Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy to the Executive for adoption.

2. Report Background

- 2.1. North Northamptonshire Council are required to arrange free, suitable, home to school transport for children of compulsory school age, who are eligible, to their nearest suitable qualifying school in line with section 508B of the Education Act 1996 and the Government’s statutory guidance ‘Home to School Travel and Transport Guidance 2014’.
- 2.2. The Education and Inspections Act (2006) also places a duty on local authorities to promote the use of active and sustainable travel to education and further support the choices and flexibility of educational provision.
- 2.3. The Act outlined four main elements to promoting sustainable modes of travel, including the assessment and audit of sustainable travel options within the local authority, the development of a strategy for the promotion of sustainable travel to schools and other educational or training facilities. As such, North Northamptonshire Council is required to produce and publish its annually a Sustainable Modes of Travel to School Strategy (SMoTS).

3. Consultation

- 3.1. The formal consultation ran from 14th September to midnight on 26th October 2023.
- 3.2. The consultation was hosted on the Council’s [Consultation & Engagement Hub](#)

3.3. The consultation was supported by a briefing paper containing a clear outline of the proposed strategy.

3.4. Consultees were able to have their say by:

- Visiting the dedicated consultation webpage and completing the questionnaire or requesting a paper questionnaire by emailing: schoolconsultation.nnc@northnorthants.gov.uk
- Writing to North Northamptonshire Council, Consultation: Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy Consultation, Bowling Green Road, Kettering NN15 7QX
- Accessing the questionnaire free of charge at any North Northamptonshire Council library. Alternative formats of the questionnaire are offered upon request

3.5. Formal Consultation Response

In total, 24 respondents filled out a questionnaire, either partially or fully:

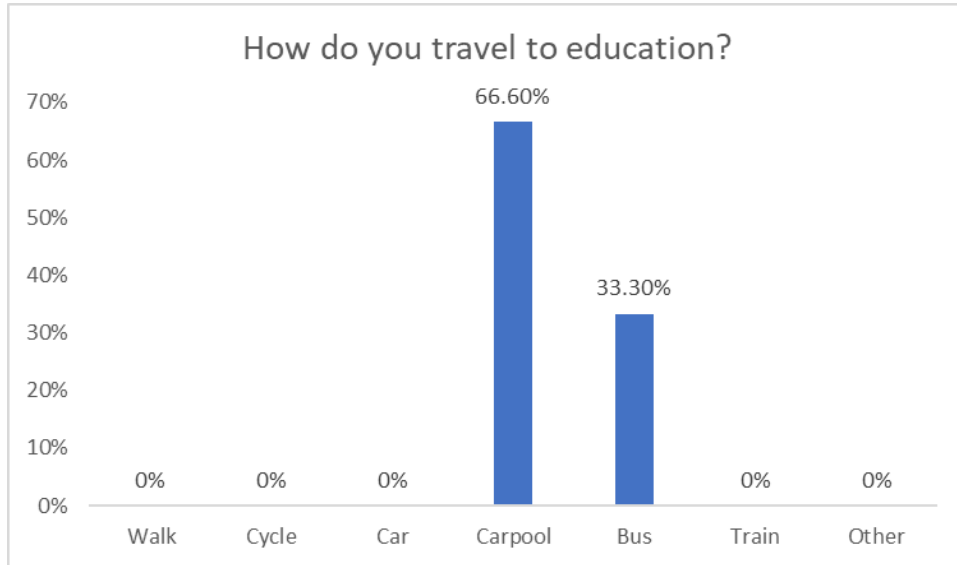
14 complete responses and 10 incomplete responses. Respondents did not have to answer every question so the total number of responses for each question differs.

About the respondents:

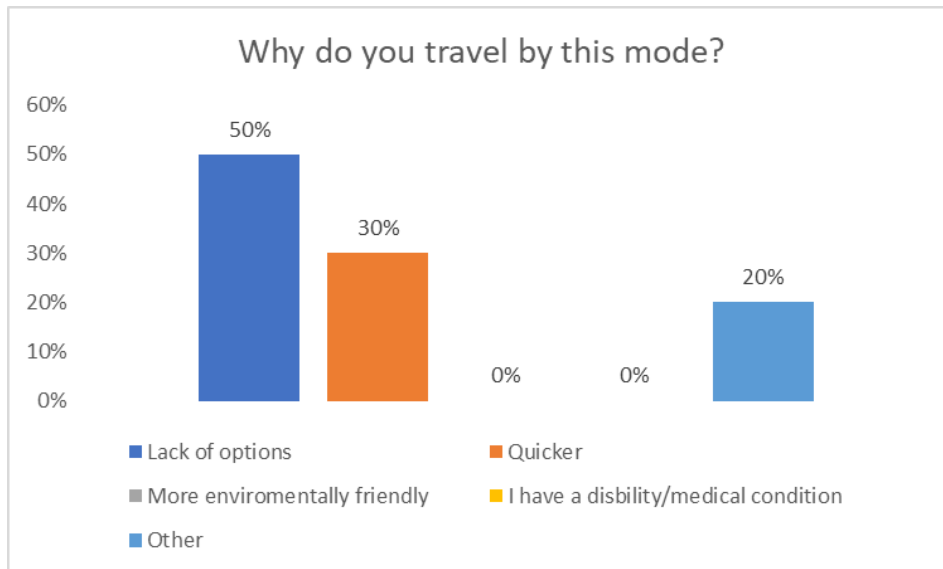
Respondents were asked in what capacity they were responding to the consultation.

	Response number
A parent/guardian of a secondary school pupil	8
A parent/guardian of a primary school pupil	3
A young person currently of school age	1
A provider of services to schools	0
A voluntary, community or charitable organisation	0
A North Northamptonshire Councillor	0
A Town or Parish Councillor/Council	3
An educational professional	3
Community/residents organisation	0
Other	6
	24

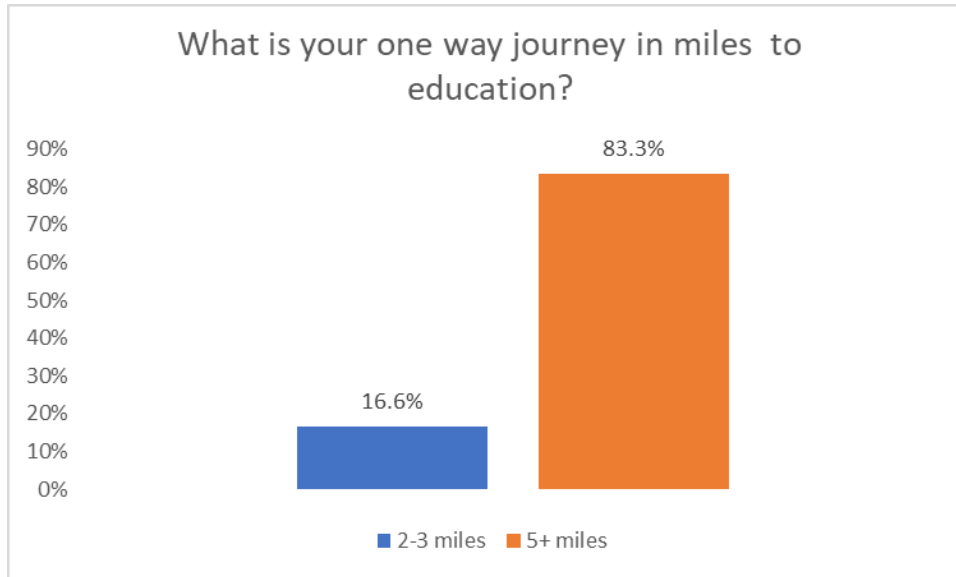
Respondents were invited to share how they currently travel to education;
9 respondents answered this question.



Respondents were asked why they travel by their current mode of transport



Respondents were asked about their one-way travel journey to education;
6 respondents answered this question



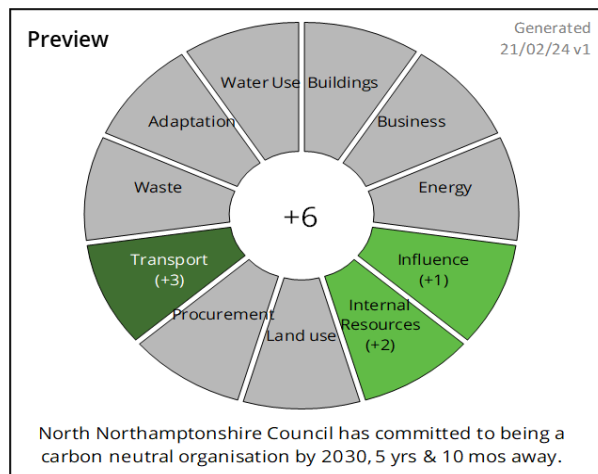
A summary overview of the consultation is provided in the presentation accompanying this briefing report.

4. Equality Implications

- 4.1. The Equality Screening Assessment has not identified any adverse impact on individuals with protected characteristics.

5. Climate Impact

- 5.1. This strategy encourages people to take up of active and sustainable travel to education and introduces measures to support their usage and is a refresh of work undertaken under the Sustainable Modes of Travel to School Strategy 2014.



5.2. Overall the policy has an overall positive impact, the elements which have been scored are as follows:

- Internal Resources (+2): The proposal uses grant funding which has already been obtained.
- Influence (+1): The proposal works with partners and the community to encourage and promote active and sustainable travel to education.
- Transport (+3): The proposal has benefits in terms of promoting and improving facilities for active travel and sustainable transport whilst supporting shared mobility.

6.0 Community Impact

6.1. The Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy will improve sustainable and active travel, which have benefits for health and well-being as well as supporting low cost and environmentally sensitive modes of transport.

Next Steps:

Assuming the approval of this strategy by the Executive on the 14th March, the Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy will be published on the Council's website. The strategy will be reviewed annually to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the community.