

OxBUS 2040: Plan for Bus

14 July 2026 Parish Transport Reps
meeting (PTR)



OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL

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What is the OxBUS 2040: Plan for Bus?

A high-level strategy for buses to 2040

Why is it needed?

- Significant planned housing and economic growth
- Modelling suggests that to meet LTCP 2040 target of reducing car journeys by 1/3, bus patronage may need to grow by up to 250%
- New national requirements as part of the Government's vision for buses and approach to delivery

What the Plan does

- Defines the vision and priorities for the bus network
- Establishes key outcomes and areas for intervention
- It is a stepping stone towards setting out the future network – it will not have all the answers!



Progress and timelines

Good early progress has been made in stakeholder engagement and in drafting outline content which was considered by Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June.

Timelines

- Now until early September – Further stakeholder engagement (including with the Citizens' Assembly) and Bus Plan drafting
- Mid September (TBC) – Launch of public consultation (minimum 4 weeks)
- December (TBC) – Cabinet adoption of the final Plan

Relationship with the Bus Enhanced Partnership

- Bus Plan = vision and outcomes (“what”)
- Enhanced Partnership = delivery mechanism (“how”)
- EP will translate ambitions into specific, and legally binding, commitments
- A new improved 'EP+' proposal will follow the Bus Plan.



Vision, themes and priorities

Vision

A growing, high quality customer centric bus network, which is inclusive, accessible, modern, environmentally friendly and well connected, increasing bus mode share and supporting a shift towards sustainable travel, while enabling healthy lifestyles, high quality economic growth, reduced congestion and enhanced air quality.

Themes



Improve connectivity and infrastructure

Simple, reliable and safe journeys connecting you to places



Climate action

A network for tomorrow's future where more journeys are made by bus



Bus as place shaper

People at the heart of decision making and a network for you

Priorities

① *Better, safer journeys for all*

Delivering consistently reliable services with improved journey times and punctuality, supported by bus priority and measures that improve accessibility and personal safety. A relevant and inclusive network connecting people to key destinations across Oxfordshire and the wider region, recognising the needs of different communities.

② *Seamless travel and integrated ticketing*

A more positive customer experience, easy to plan, pay for and use buses alongside other transport modes, through integration and clear real time information on all services and fares.

③ *A clean, green bus network*

A zero-emission bus network by 2040 with improved air quality, reduced carbon emissions and noise pollution, achieved through both the transition to greener vehicles and increased bus use, supporting residents to live healthy lives and enabling businesses to thrive, as our city, towns (including market towns) and the wider region continue to develop.



Engagement Poll

– 5 minute exercise

Please fill in the short survey (link in chat)
[OxBUS 2040 Engagement Poll – Fill in form](#)

1. Which of these aspects of bus services in Oxfordshire do you think are currently **working well**? Select up to 5.
2. Which of these aspects should be the **highest priorities for improvement** by 2040? Select up to 5.
3. If you could write one sentence for the OxBUS 2040 Plan, what would it say?

Results to be shared with the group

- ☐ 📍 Coverage and destinations served
- ☐ ⌚ Frequency and operating hours
- ☐ ✅ Reliability
- ☐ ⌚ Journey times
- ☐ £ Value for money and affordability
- ☐ 🎫 Ticket and payment options
- ☐ 👍 Ease of use and simplicity
- ☐ ⓘ Information and journey planning
- ☐ 🚌 On-board experience and comfort
- ☐ ♿ Accessibility
- ☐ 🛡️ Safety and confidence
- ☐ 🚏 Quality of the waiting environment (e.g. bus stops)
- ☐ 🔄 Integration with rail, walking, cycling and other transport
- ☐ 🌱 Environmental impact, including carbon emissions



PTR specific feedback



Over to you – what should the Bus Plan understand from parish and local community perspectives?

Some questions to get you thinking...

- **Local journeys:** What links matter most?
- **Dependability:** What would help residents trust buses to meet everyday needs?
- **Stops and access:** What would improve routes to stops, waiting facilities, safety and accessibility?
- **Information and confidence:** What would make buses easier for people to understand and use?
- **Ways of working:** How should PTRs, parishes and communities help shape priorities, share evidence and support delivery?
- **What is the priority?**
- **Do you have examples of good (or bad) practice?**



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Final questions and next steps

- For further information, please see the papers for [Scrutiny \(item 8\)](#)
- PTRs ONLY to send any further feedback or input by the end of August to: katharine.broomfield@oxfordshire.gov.uk (any feedback from the general public must come via their PTR).
- Respond to the consultation when available (details to be shared)
 - We would welcome your support in publicising this!