

# LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 4 2025–2040

## Summary Document

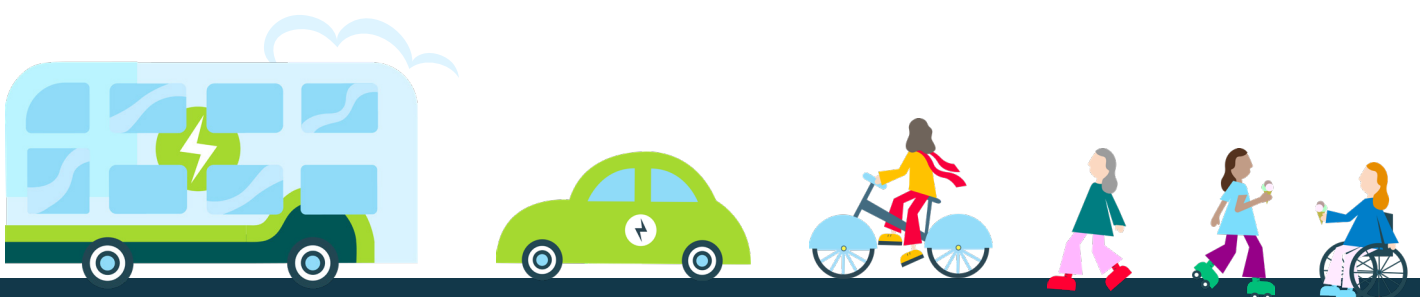
Devon and Torbay  
Combined County Authority

The Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP 4) is the strategic document that sets out the priorities for transport in Devon and Torbay between 2025 and 2040.

Our vision for transport, and six objectives, ensuring transport policy and investment to help make Devon and Torbay the best place to grow up, live happily and healthily and prosper, are set out below.



The LTP4 includes strategies for the following topics and places: Connecting Devon and Torbay, Exeter, Torbay, Growth areas, Rural Devon and market and coastal towns, and asset management and road safety.



# OVERVIEW OF LTP 4 STRATEGIES

## Key Statistics



Devon and Torbay have a combined population of 950,000. This is an increase of 8% in the last decade, and the highest growth of 14% was in East Devon.



Digital access to services is reducing the need to travel, with each individual making 13% less trips in 2019 compared to 2002.



Transport accounts for nearly a third of carbon emissions, 63% of which come from private car and a third from freight.



The majority of freight is moved by road. In 2019, there were an estimated 1.4 million heavy goods vehicles trips carrying 27 million tonnes of goods.



The majority of Exeter residents do not drive to work, including approximately a third who walk or cycle.



The proportions of commuting by car are typically highest for residents of Torbay and the Growth areas.



Bus is the most common form of public transport in Devon and Torbay, with over 24 million bus trips made during 2023/24.



Rail patronage is now 60% higher than in 2010, with over 16.5 million rail trips made from stations in Devon and Torbay during 2023/24.



The number of people injured in road traffic collisions in Devon and Torbay has decreased by 31% since 2013.

## Connecting Devon and Torbay

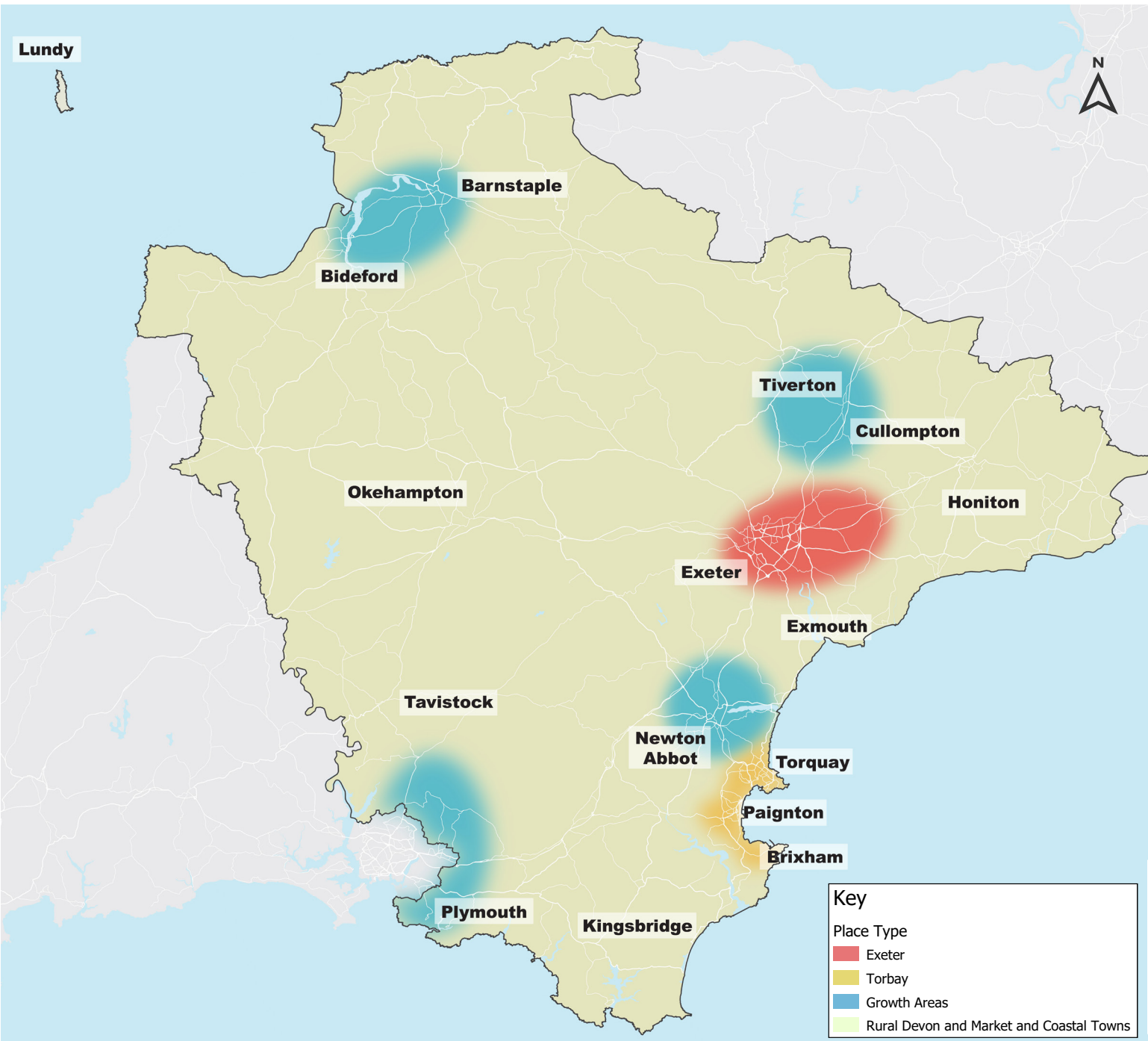
Enhancing strategic road, rail air and digital links will ensure the region remains attractive for business and tourism and support movement of people and goods, locally and beyond. Investing in strategic transport corridors will make the network more **reliable and resilient** to climate change and seasonal demand. We also aim to reduce journey times, improve comfort and promote transport **decarbonisation**.

## Exeter

We will reduce the dominance of vehicles in the city, improve sustainable travel provision and unlock brownfield development to provide **greater places for people**. Sustainable transport provision to nearby settlements will enable **easier travel**, whilst technology will improve the operation of the network, access to greener travel choices and support **decarbonisation**.

## Torbay

Transport improvements will help make Torbay a healthier, happier, and more prosperous place. **Greater places for people** will offer revitalised town centres with improved transport interchanges. Investment in Edginswell railway station and zero-emission buses will enable **easier travel** across the bay, and Torbay will be the **place to be naturally active** with enhanced walking, wheeling and cycling links locally and beyond.



## Growth Areas

This strategy focuses on providing infrastructure to **unlock development** at major Local Plan sites. Prioritising walking, wheeling and cycling facilities as well as the quality of public transport will maximise opportunities for **easier travel** for residents in growth areas. Town centre and public realm investment will deliver greater places for people and support the vitality of our largest town centres.

## Rural Devon and Market and Coastal Towns

The priorities for **easier travel** are to improve connections to key bus corridors and rail hubs. We will support rural **decarbonisation** by delivering infrastructure to allow a shift to zero emission vehicles. We will continue to expand the network of safe walking, wheeling, cycling and horse riding routes, and deliver local speed limit changes, making this the **place to be naturally active**.

## Asset Management and Road Safety

With the creation of the Combined County Authority, Devon and Torbay councils will remain the highway authorities for their areas. To ensure a **reliable and resilient network** we will prioritising A and B road maintenance, **decarbonise** network maintenance, and improve road safety. We will deliver **greater places for people** by lowering speed limits on some routes to reduce collisions and improve journey time reliability.

# ACTION PLANS

The LTP 4 is a long-term strategy accompanied by actions to achieve the vision and objectives in each place type. An indication of priority actions for each LTP 4 place type is shown below.

## Exeter

- 15 minute bus service frequency to/from surrounding towns
- Bus priority measures on central, eastern and western corridors
- 15 minute rail frequency to Digby & Sowton
- Cranbrook to Exeter and Clyst Valley multi-use trails
- City centre active travel and urban realm enhancement



## Torbay

- Support delivery of Edginswell rail station
- Upgrade to low and zero emission buses within Torbay
- Paignton Station Square and Gateway enhancement
- Brixham Harbour access and town public realm enhancements
- Delivery of Bay Trails and progress the South Devon Cycle Way



## Growth Areas

- Transport changes to support town centre regeneration
- New railway station and town centre relief road at Cullompton
- Half hourly rail service between Barnstaple and Exeter
- Plymouth and South Devon Freeport Spine Road
- Deliver the Teign Estuary Trail from Newton Abbot to Teignmouth



## Rural Devon and Market and Coastal Towns

- Completion of Tarka Trail and Drakes Trail multi-use trails
- Develop programme of Quiet Lanes across the County
- Delivery of Okehampton Interchange Railway Station
- Reinstate rail services between Tavistock and Plymouth
- Deliver electric vehicles charging facilities in car parks and town centres



## Connecting Devon and Torbay

- Enhancement of M5 between J29-31
- Increased capacity on the Exeter to Waterloo rail line
- Completion of Rail Resilience works between Dawlish and Teignmouth
- Promote high-speed internet across Devon and Torbay
- Enhanced sustainable access to Exeter Airport



## Asset Management and Road Safety

- Review and consider speed limit reductions on key corridors A361 Ilfracombe to Barnstaple Road Safety Enhancements
- New approaches to Low Carbon Design and Procurement
- Produce updated Highway Design Guidance
- Winter maintenance on most-used active travel routes



For more information on our projects and plans, or to request information in an alternative format, please visit our webpages [www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/transport-planning](http://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/transport-planning)