



**FOREST**

ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

Delivering a thriving economy

# Forest Economic Partnership Stakeholder Meeting

10 September 2021

# Agenda

1. Welcome from Neill Ricketts, Chair of Forest Economic Partnership
2. Introduction from The Forest of Dean Growth Hub – Tom El-Shawk
3. Climate Action Partnership & Participation Event– Daniel Paine
4. FEP CIC Update – Wendy Jackson
5. FEP Sub-Group and Project Update
  - Digital Connectivity - David Trevelyan
  - Transport and Infrastructure - Andrew Callard
  - Biosphere Reserve - Mikki Liddiatt
6. FSB - Alistair Downham
7. FoDDC Grant Updates & Local Plan Consultation – Bernie O’Neill



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# Welcome

**(Neill Ricketts)**



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# Introduction from The Forest of Dean Growth Hub

(Tom El-Shawk)



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# Climate Action Partnership & Participation Event

**(Daniel Paine and David Trevelyan)**

# FOREST OF DEAN CLIMATE ACTION

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Climate Emergency Community Partnership  
(Forest of Dean Climate Action)

What is Forest of Dean Climate  
Action?

# Working mission statement

*Forest of Dean Climate Action is a partnership established to coordinate a district wide response to the climate emergency.*

*It will bring together communities, businesses and organisations from across the district to deliver joined up climate action through collaboration, empowerment and knowledge sharing, with the imperative of helping enable the district to become carbon neutral by 2030.*

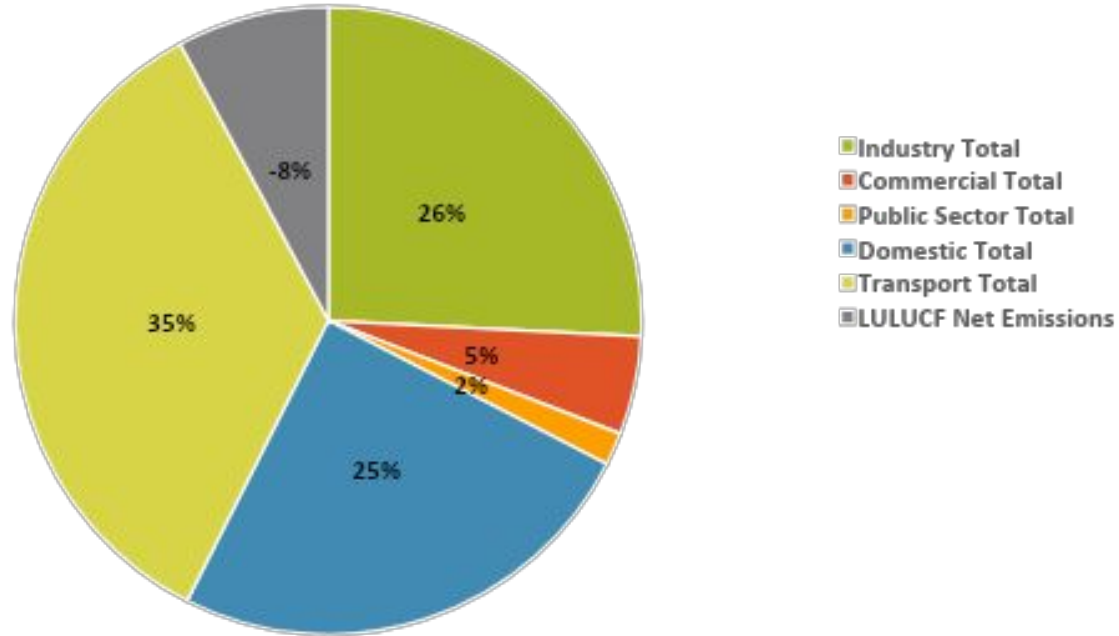
*It will support rapid decarbonisation and the development of sustainable and resilient communities and enterprises, ensuring a just transition.*



# Background

- 2015 Paris Agreement – keep rise in global heating to below 2C
- Preferably limit it to 1.5C
- Council declared Climate Emergency in December 2018
- Pledged to make Council and district carbon neutral by 2030
- Council is a key local agent but its influence is limited
- Requires a collaborative effort from all stakeholders

### Forest of Dean District CO2 Emissions by Sector 2019/20



Forest of Dean Climate Action aims to help facilitate climate action beyond the control and means of Forest of Dean District Council

# Adding Value – Joining up, scaling up and knowledge sharing

Leveraging the existing skills, knowledge and expertise within district via facilitation and coordination of:

- Knowledge sharing – enabling ideas and initiatives to be replicated
- Connecting stakeholders – enabling cross-sector initiatives
- Scaling up local initiatives where potential for district wide projects
- Public engagement - identifying the potentially diverse needs and priorities of Forest of Dean residents, businesses and visitors

# Progress so far

- Interim working group made up of council officers and volunteers
- Establishing relationships with stakeholder organisations:
  - Two Rivers Housing
  - Federation of Small Businesses
  - NFU
  - CPRE – The Countryside Charity
  - Parish/Town Council Climate Groups
  - Forest Economic Partnership
  - Hartpury University and College
  - Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group
  - Glos Wildlife Trust
  - Forest Voluntary Action Forum
- Website - <https://forestofdeanclimateaction.org.uk/>

# Next steps

- Set up steering group of key stakeholders and appoint an interim chair
- Set core objectives and produce a medium term plan
- Identify initial projects and set up working groups
- Identify most appropriate way to incorporate and seek funding opportunities

# Businesses - achieving carbon neutrality

# Risks of inaction

- Physical risks – climate impacts on buildings and supply chains
- Transitional risks – lack of preparedness for changes in Govt policy, technology and market conditions
- Reputational risk – not adapting to consumer and procurement preferences and expectations associated with climate change and fossil fuels
- Access to finance – linked to all of the above

# Opportunities of action

- Operational costs savings via energy efficiency, demand reduction, renewables
- Greater resilience and lower transition costs from planning and implementing risk management measures before risks materialise
- New markets - innovation of low carbon products and services



# Key questions for the FEP

- What are the current barriers to businesses taking action to reduce their carbon emissions?
- What do businesses need to overcome these barriers?
- How can Forest of Dean Climate Action help overcome barriers?
- Which key stakeholders/sectors within district would businesses find most useful to develop partnerships with?
- How can FEP and FoDCA collaborate and avoid duplication

# Call for case studies

- Opportunity to share measures businesses have taken to reduce carbon footprint e.g. energy efficiency measures, procurement policies etc
- Greener Gloucestershire – joint Gloucestershire comms campaign for COP26
- Climate action partnership blog, newsletter and website map

# Forest of Dean DC Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan

- Draft Strategy and Action Plan is out for public consultation.
- Closes Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September
- Responses from FEP and businesses encouraged
- Key section on the economy
- [www.fdean.gov.uk/about-the-council/having-your-say/consultations](http://www.fdean.gov.uk/about-the-council/having-your-say/consultations)

# Contact

- FoDCA - [info@forestofdeanclimateaction.org.uk](mailto:info@forestofdeanclimateaction.org.uk)
- Council - [Climate.Action@fdean.gov.uk](mailto:Climate.Action@fdean.gov.uk)

Join as a partner organisation -

<https://forestofdeanclimateaction.org.uk/partner-signup>

# FEP and Climate Action

# 3 Challenge Questions

Today is about developing thoughts

Q1: What actions are you taking to address climate change, the green agenda or sustainability (personally or professionally)?

Q2: How is climate change and the wider green agenda impacting business? (Ideas and thoughts)



Q3: What do you need from a business climate action group to tackle climate change?

10 Mins Break



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# Forest Economic Partnership & CIC Update

(Wendy Jackson)

# The Board



**Wendy Jackson**

Wendy Jackson leads on Human Resources.



**Neill Ricketts**

Elected Chair of FEP in December 2020, Neill Ricketts and leads on Legal.



**Bernie O'Neill**

Bernie O'Neill is the Vice Chair of FEP and leads on Equality and Diversity.



**Ian Price**

Ian is Managing Partner of the Griffiths Marshall Business Advisory Group.



**Andrew Callard**

Andrew Callard leads on Marketing. When not volunteering for FEP, he runs Aimed Business.



**Paul James**

Paul James leads on Finance. He is a member of the Digital Communications subgroup.



**David Trevelyan**

David Trevelyan is Company Secretary for FEP and leads on the Health and Safety, Governance, Quality and IT.



**Rob Jenkins**

Rob Jenkins leads on Safeguarding.

# Board Training

- LEP Growth Hub supported online training - 2 x half-days
- Time invested to review the CIC vision, mission & beneficiaries.
- Business Model Canvas
- Key activities:
  - Fund raising
  - Managing volunteers
  - Managing finances
- To do: updating the Directors Handbook, Director recruitment “on-boarding process, develop a succession plan

# Financials

<b>Account Balance</b>	£ 28,662.80
<b>Allocated Funding: IF Project</b>	£ 13,945.60
<b>Allocated Funding: Biosphere Reserve</b>	£ 8,160.00
<b>Core Funding</b>	£ 6,557.20

## Join The Board

We are looking for new Directors with specialities in Law & Community Interest Companies!

Please email [fep@fdean.gov.uk](mailto:fep@fdean.gov.uk) for more information.



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# FEP Sub-Group and Project Updates



# **Digital Connectivity - David Trevelyan**

# **Transport and Infrastructure - Andrew Callard**

# 4 Relevant Projects

- Biosphere Reserve
- Mobility as a Service
- Transport Study
- Smart Rural Leadership

# Biosphere Reserve

- The Forest We Want sub-project
- Action Group looking:
  - Ways to take wider stakeholder engagement forward
  - Funding options to underpin the development project IF community and stakeholders in favour

# Mobility as a Service (MaaS)

- Originally 5G testbed project opportunity;
- Now responds to
  - 34% of UK CO<sub>2</sub> caused by transport
  - Total UK CO<sub>2</sub> emissions down by 41% since 1990
  - Transport virtually unchanged tonnage of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - No coincidence same timespan public transport ruined and car owner numbers increased.
- MaaS might be an economic solution to the problems caused by demise of petrol cars.
- Simply bookable shared transport for all.

# Transport Study Update

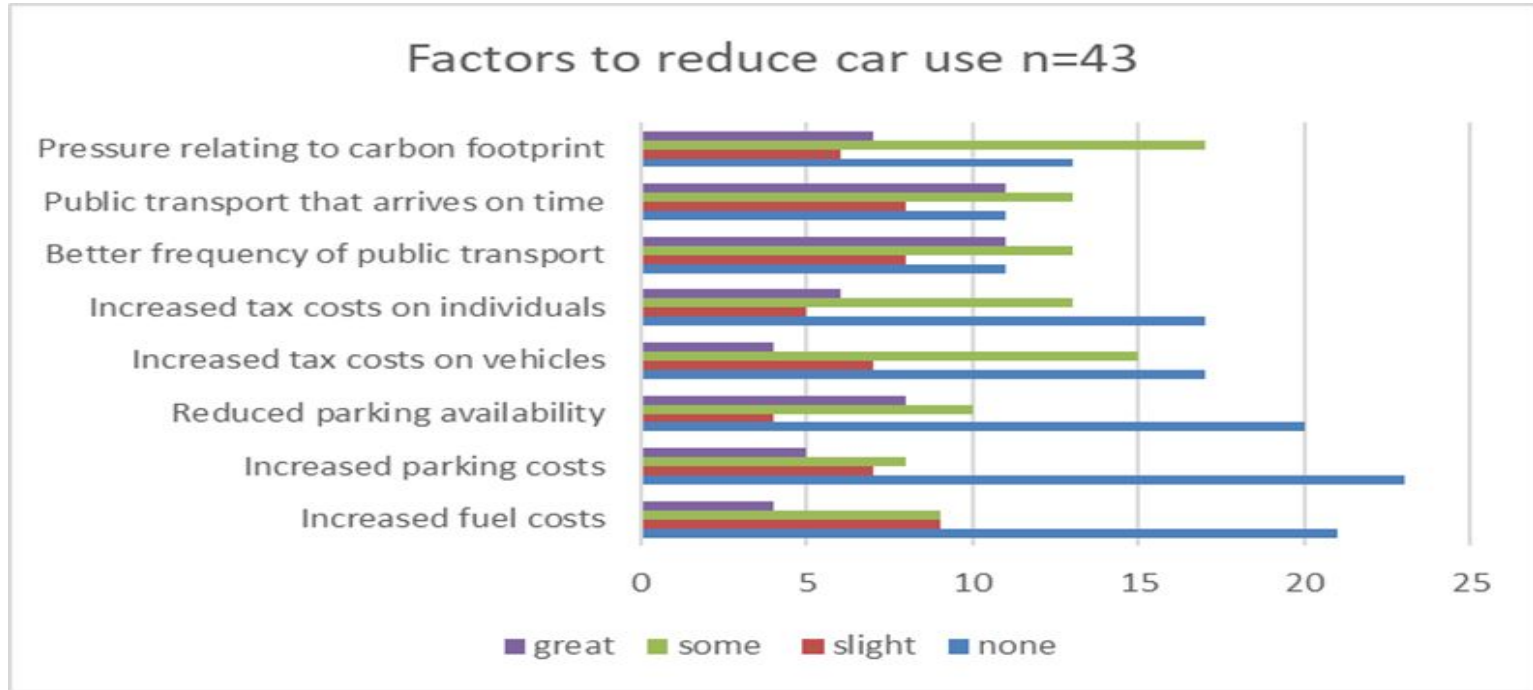
- Phase 1 Funded by Rural Techs through a successful bid to Geospatial Commission's Innovate UK Small Business Research Initiative

- Check out the full reports at

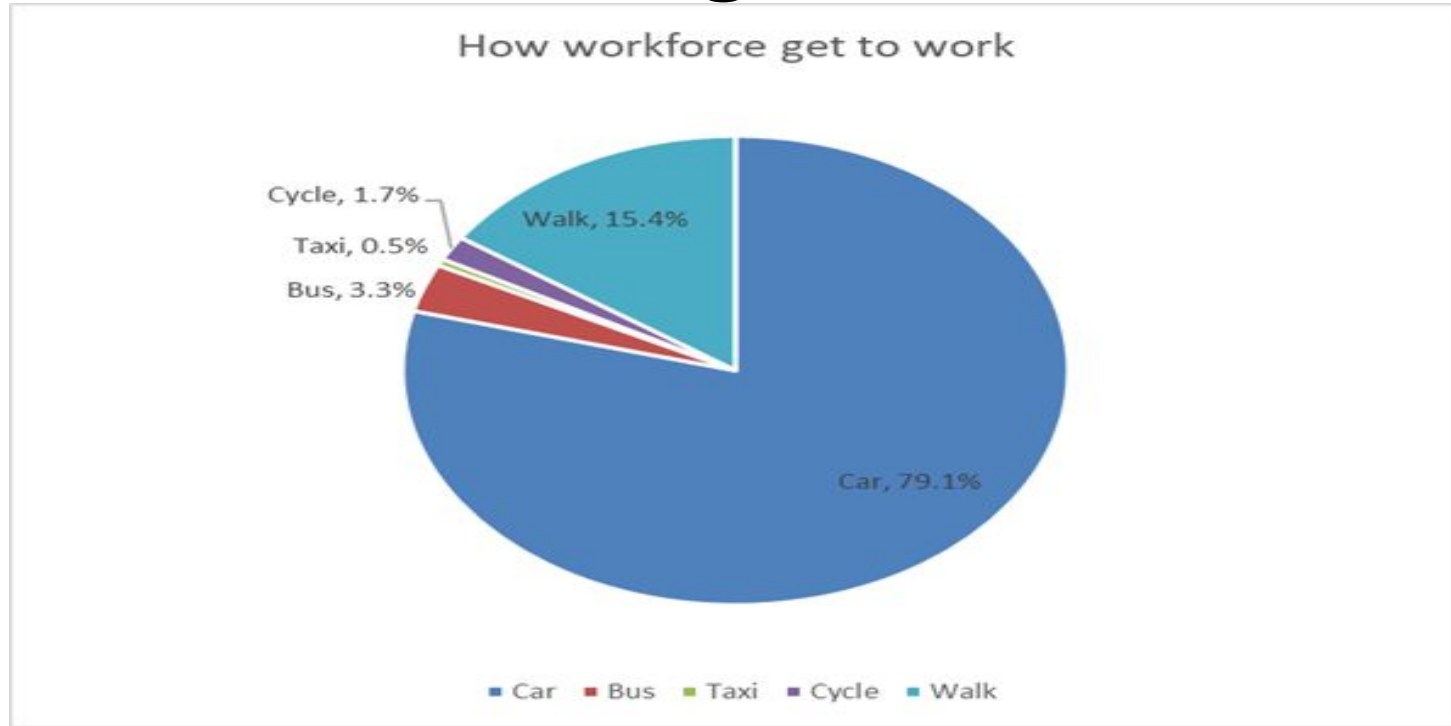
<https://fep2050.co.uk/blog/feps-first-transport-study-reports/>

- 2 Surveys Business & Inhabitants. Following charts are copyright Rural Technologies Ltd.

# Our District Businesses Believe

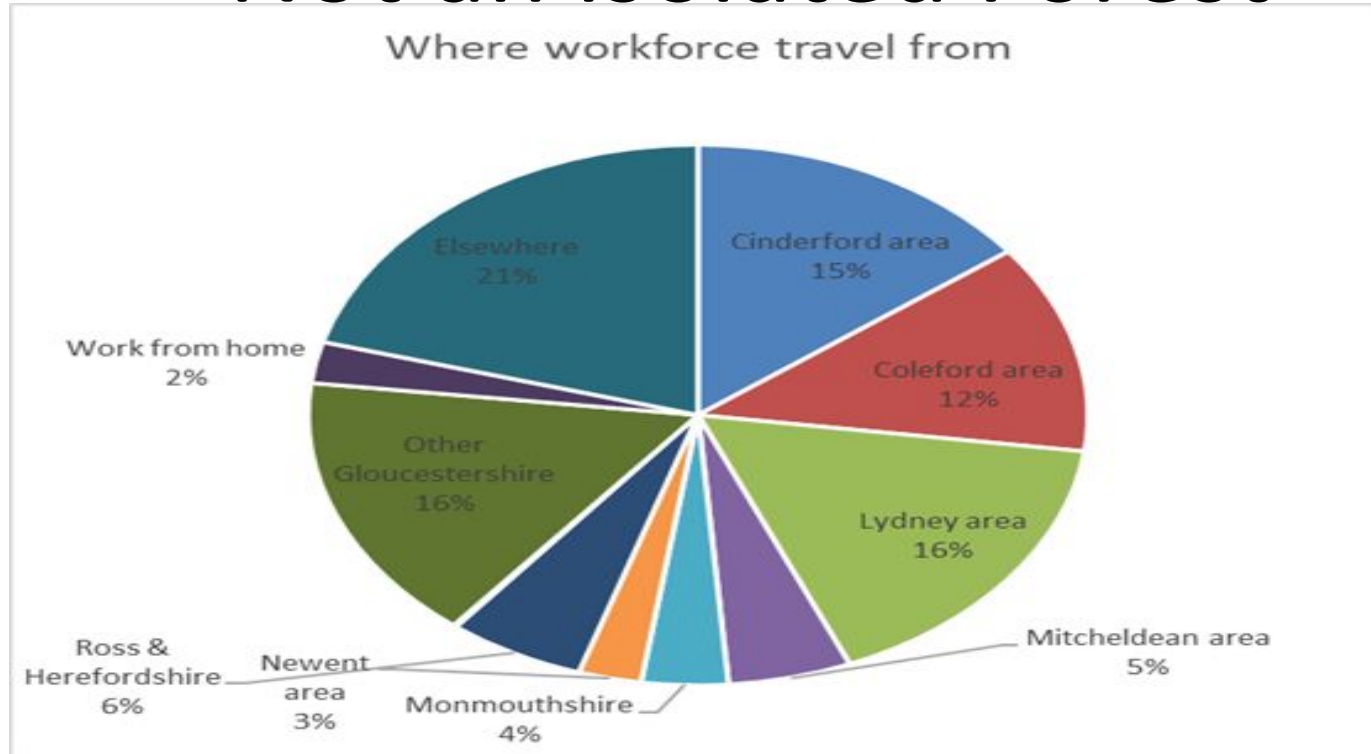


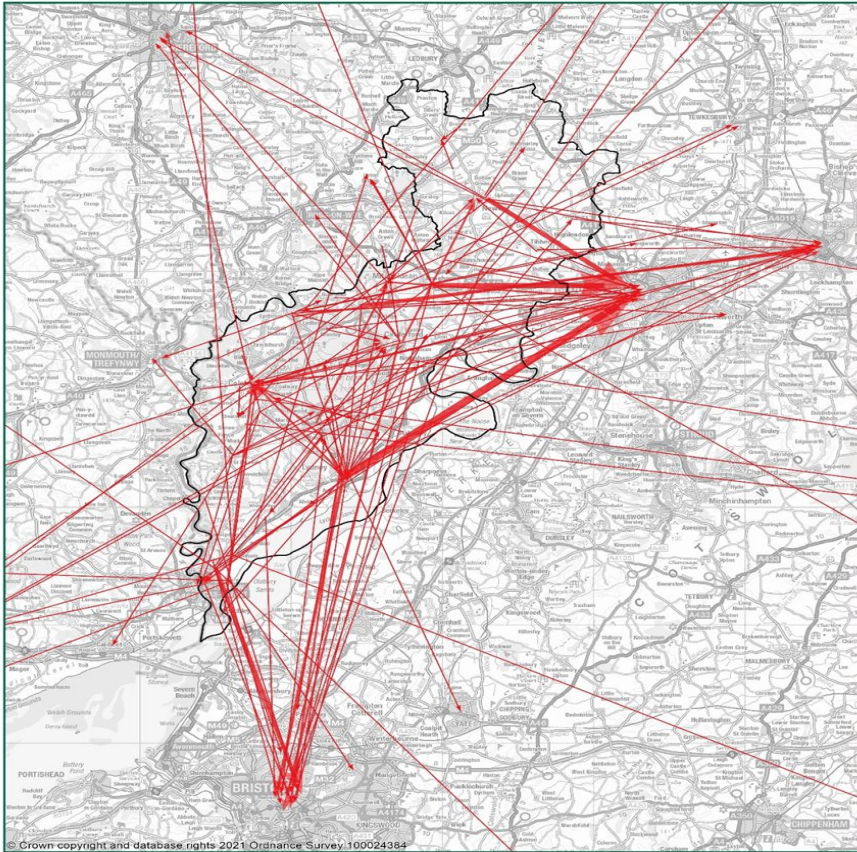
# Getting to Work





# Not an isolated Forest




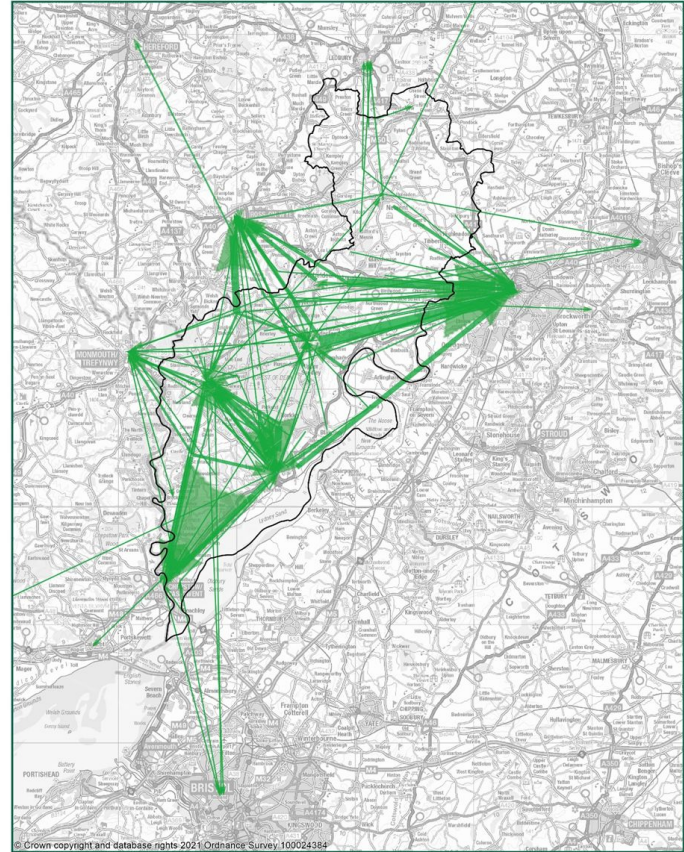


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**Journeys for work**



	Forest of Dean District Boundary
	Work Locations
	Journeys for work



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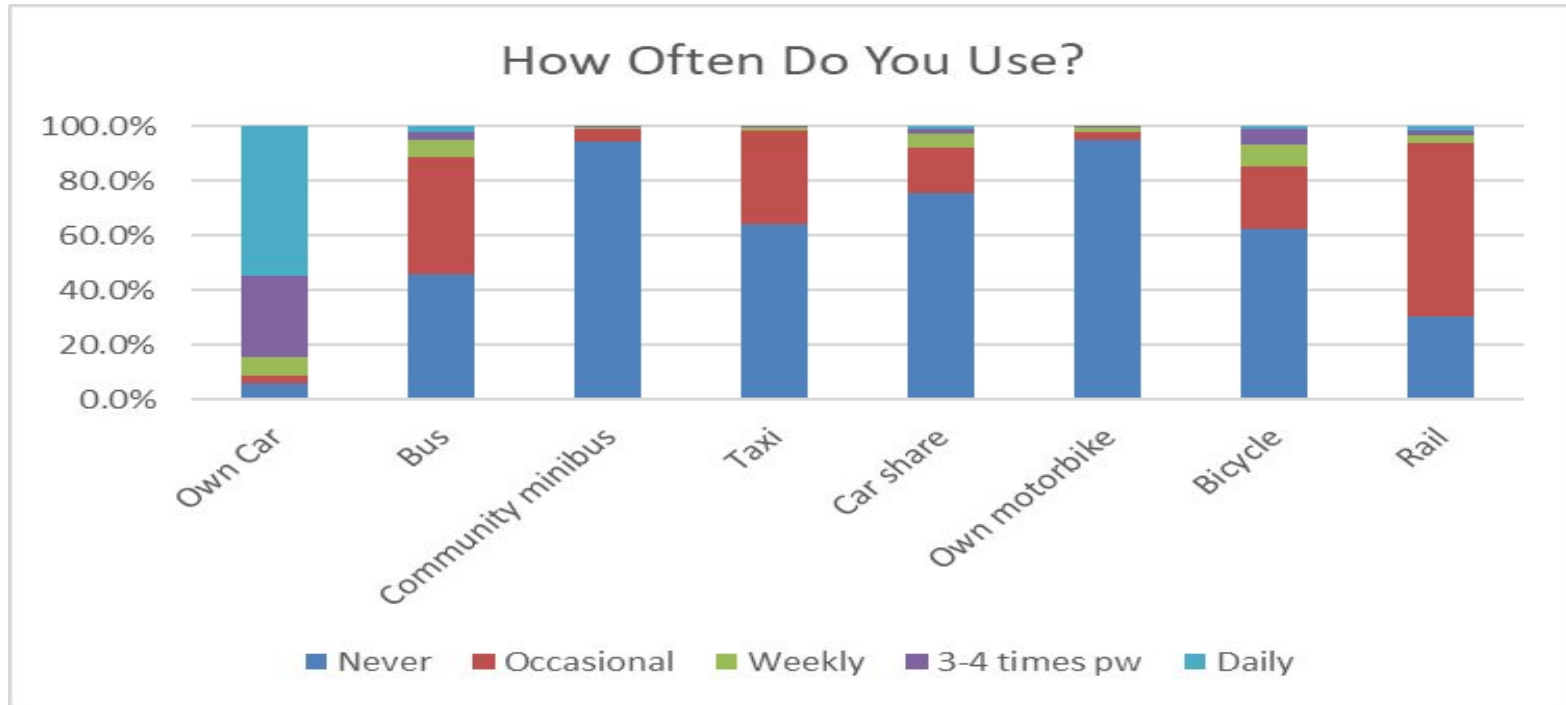
**Weekly Shopping Journeys**



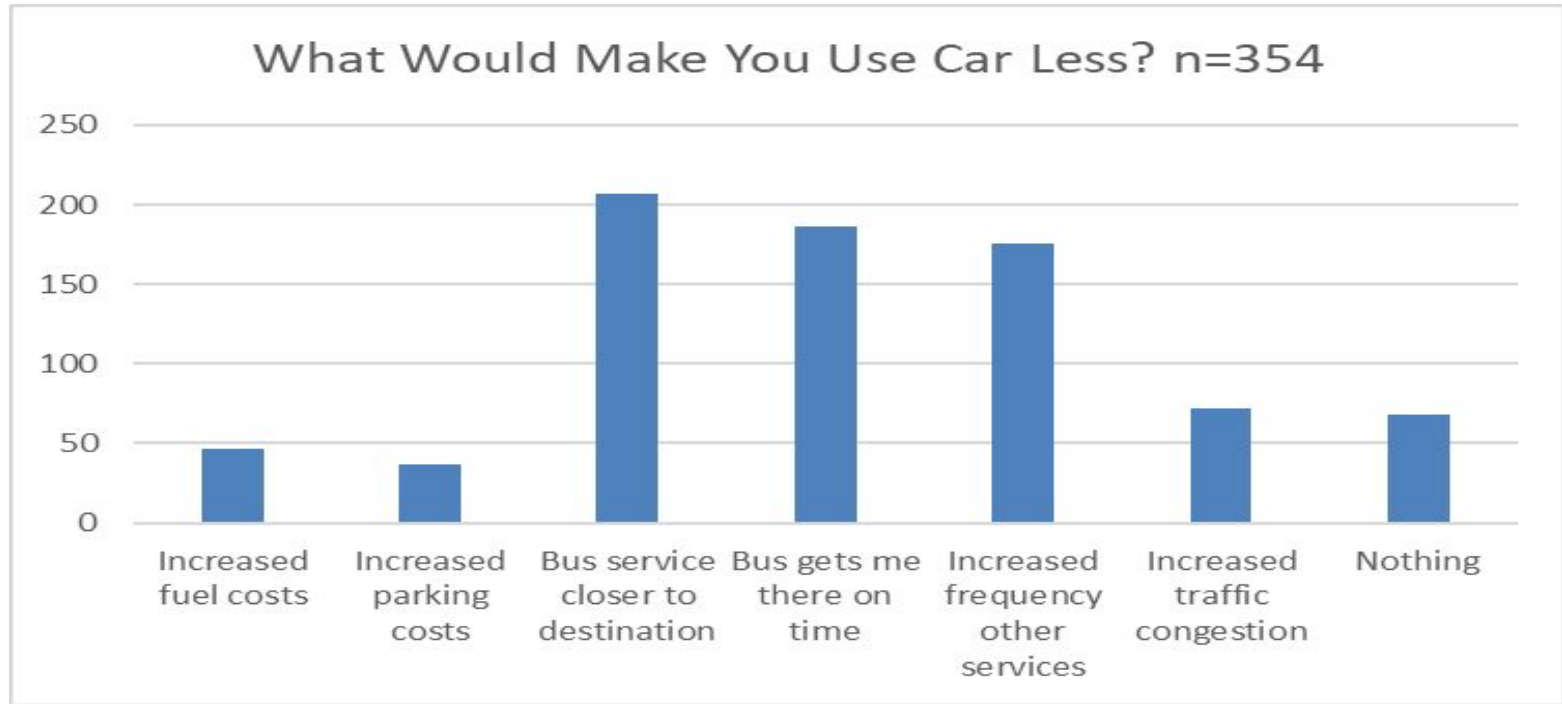
	Forest of Dean District
	Travel for weekly shop
	Journey for weekly shop



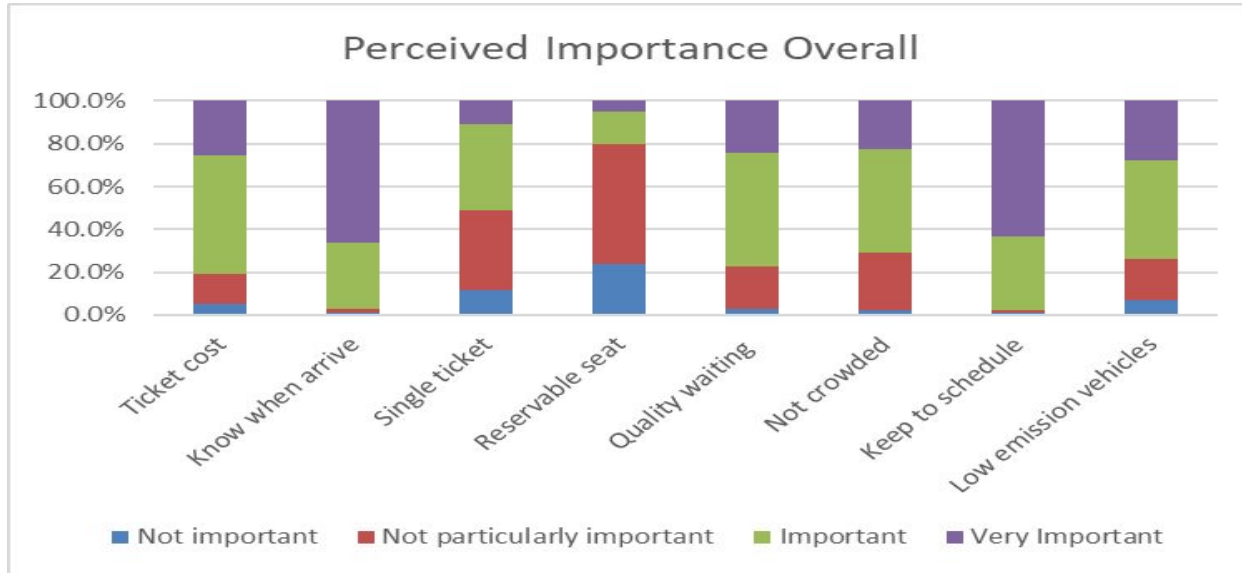
# Choice of transport



# Using car less



# Public Transport Choices



# GCC Transport Survey

- Government's Bus Back Better Initiative
- Gloucestershire County Council has taken up the opportunity to lead service improvement.
- Initial survey for your views:

<https://haveyoursaygloucestershire.uk.engagementhq.com/gloucestershire-county-council-bus-service-improvement-plans-initial-engagement>

# Smart Rural Leadership

- 3 aims. Become known as rural area leading on pragmatic applications of smart economy to determine best practice that brings real benefits and reduced negative impacts.
- Specific targets collaborations & publications:
  - WMG (cyber) and CCRI (rurality)
  - National Innovation Centre for Rural Enterprise, State of the Art paper
  - Organisation for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD) Innovative Mobility for the Periphery Working Group submission of MaaS rural challenges

# **Biosphere Reserve - Mikki Liddiatt**



## Where we are:

- Project Arts Curator Commissioned  
June 2021 - Carolyn Black
- Artists commissioned in August 2021  
Elle Ireland (Audio) & Steve Geliot  
(Video)
- Graphic Designer Commissioned
- External Evaluator Commissioned (by  
FoDDC)
- External Engagement Coordinator  
appointment closes 10 September

## What's next:

- Campaign and Survey Launches 4  
October 2021
- January 2022 decision date





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**FSB**

**(Alistair Downham)**



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# FoDDC Grant Updates & Local Plan Consultation

(Bernie O'Neill)

# Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG)

- Closes on Sunday 12 September 2021
- We have received 252 applications since 23 August 2021
- £650K outstanding to be distributed across this funding round
- No set amount per business
- Over £35M paid out since March 2020

## How to apply

Visit [www.fdean.gov.uk](http://www.fdean.gov.uk) and search **Coronavirus business grants**

# Local Plan Consultation



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# Stakeholder Meeting Dates 2021

(Bernie O'Neill)

# Dates For Your Diary

**Our next Stakeholder Meeting is on:**

10 December 2021

2pm- 4pm at Hartpury College & University

(1:30pm - Tour of the Sports Academies for those who wish to attend)



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**AOB**

**(Neill Ricketts)**



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