

Local Highway Network

- 11.51 This policy outlines how the Local Highway Network will be enhanced to improve its operation, connectivity and safety to support existing and new development and key locations to drive growth.

Policy T9 - Local Highway Network

The Council will work to ensure that the Borough's highway network supports the local economy and operates efficiently, effectively and safely by:

- a. Development proposals that identify and implement suitable highway measures that mitigate the trips generated by their proposals including access to / from the highway network and contribute towards off-site mitigation works agreed with the council;
- b. Ensuring development proposals where appropriate provide appropriate access for service vehicles, cyclists, wheelers, pedestrians and access to public transport;
- c. Targeting investment in the Borough's highway network e.g. Smithy Bridge Residential Relief Road, addressing congestion, bottlenecks improving journey reliability and creating options to improve active and sustainable travel;
- d. Constructing highways to an adoptable standard in accordance with Local Authority design criteria and Bee Network and Streets for All design guidance;
- e. Identifying, designating and signing suitable routes for commercial and freight vehicles to access local businesses, minimising conflict with residents, shoppers and other vulnerable road users avoiding impact on local communities and sensitive land uses. Decisions must involve the local communities affected, interest groups, logistics and freight operators informally or through Freight Partnerships.

Places for Everyone Links

Policy JP-C5 – Streets for All

Policy JP-C7 – Freight and Logistics

Reasoned Justification

- 11.52 It is essential that the transport implications associated with new development are fully considered at the planning application stage. Where a new development may lead to a significant increase in the need to travel, proposals should be supported by robust information on the implications particularly for the highway network and identify measures that mitigate any adverse impacts.
- 11.53 Developers will provide suitable access from their proposals to the existing transport network, including measures to enhance the local active and sustainable travel network. Provision of new sections of highway or junction improvements will also be consistent with Streets for All design and Bee Network principles considering access, safety, bus priority and links to the existing network.
- 11.54 Many local businesses generate Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) trips to / from industrial and commercial areas and town centres. Travelling between these and the SRN, Heavy

Goods Vehicles (HGVs) should follow designated routes agreed with hauliers to minimise conflict and negative impacts on local communities and sensitive land uses. Agreements must be in place between businesses, hauliers, the Council and local communities. This will be a key issue on routes that have been or could in the future be subject to Streets for All measures and road space is re-balanced to improve active and sustainable transport. Some of these routes may still be required to allow access to some larger vehicles.