

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Transition Bollington group and 'Mad about power' sub-group volunteers developed and organised a Bollington wide community transport survey, with 429 respondents to date. The survey goal was to better understand how people move around our town, identify the barriers to certain modes of transport and make recommendations for change in partnership with Cheshire East, Town council and other community groups.

The survey was conducted prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, which has had a major impact on all aspects of community and economic life. The barriers and opportunities highlighted by this survey will be impacted also.

Survey findings

 **Bus travel** - People responded that they would use buses more if barriers were removed, these barriers included: timetabling - particularly the lack of a Sunday and evening bus service; bus journeys take too long or not frequent enough; limited bus routes - particularly for accessing local train stations and other nearby towns & destinations; cost of using the bus (except bus passes); lack of free secondary school bus.

 **Cycling** - Barriers to increased uptake of cycling included: safety of cycling - on-street / on-pavement parking, unsafe vehicle speeds, poor road surfaces, all make cycling difficult and dangerous in and around Bollington; limited access points to the Middlewood way and poor lighting; not enough dedicated cycle routes or separation from cars; very little bike storage.

 **Walking** – The responses were similar to cycling, in that people would walk more if it weren't for barriers such as: safety - speed of vehicles on the road, limited space on pavements due to parking, not enough crossing points; accessibility issues for those with mobility difficulties; air and noise pollution levels.

 **Carshare** – Although 25% of respondents did carshare already, if a suitable carshare scheme were available locally there would be interest in using carsharing significantly more.

 **Electric vehicles (EV)** – The primary barriers to increased uptake of EVs are high entry cost to owning an EV, the availability of charging points and time taken to charge vehicles.

Recommendations

The respondents came up with many good ideas within the survey, from the results and these ideas our volunteers have developed recommendations, below is a shortlist for each transport mode surveyed.

 **Bus travel** – Resume Sunday and evening services to Macclesfield. Introduce a Bollington in-town & local area electric shuttle bus for school run to primary schools and to provide access to local businesses, amenities and healthcare. Combine with 'on-demand' service for specific pickup and destinations.

 **Cycling** - Improve safety of cycle routes both on and off-road through measures to give cycling and walking priority. Introduce more cycle routes and - where feasible - segregated cycle lanes and cycle parking in and around the town, including a safe walking/ cycling route to Prestbury and Adlington.

 **Walking** – Improve safety of walking routes with clear pavements, crossings and potential shared space areas. Introduce a 20mph speed limit throughout Bollington for improved traffic flow and cycle safety.

 **Car sharing** – Develop and implement a trial of an organised car share scheme for local users.

 **Electric Vehicles** - Rapidly introduce appropriate EV charging infrastructure in Bollington and the surrounding area. Investigate a community EV carpool scheme to increase accessibility.

The overall response of the survey indicates a great opportunity to improve our transport options in and around Bollington, to make our town safer, healthier, more accessible, sustainable and enjoyable.