



## Growing Mid Wales February 2025

Welcome to the February edition of the Growing Mid Wales newsletter! This month, we're focusing on the Mid Wales Regional Transport Plan Consultation. As always, we value your input and encourage you to stay engaged as we build a thriving and sustainable Mid Wales.

Helping to grow opportunity in Mid Wales,

*The Growing Mid Wales team*

**Have your say on the future of travel in Mid Wales!**



**Regional Transport Plan Consultation – Have Your Say!**

Transport plays a vital role in our daily lives, shaping how we access work, education, healthcare, and leisure. In recognition of its importance, the [Mid Wales Corporate Joint Committee](#) is developing a **Regional Transport Plan (RTP)** to identify how they will contribute to the delivery of the Welsh Government's National Transport Strategy and transform transportation in the region.

The draft RTP sets an ambitious vision to create a sustainable, low-carbon, and efficient transport system. It will focus on improving connectivity within and beyond Mid Wales while tackling challenges unique to our rural landscape.

### Key objectives of the RTP include:

- Increasing access to sustainable transport modes such as cycling, walking, and public transport.
- Enhancing transport links to drive economic and tourism growth.
- Supporting efforts to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change.

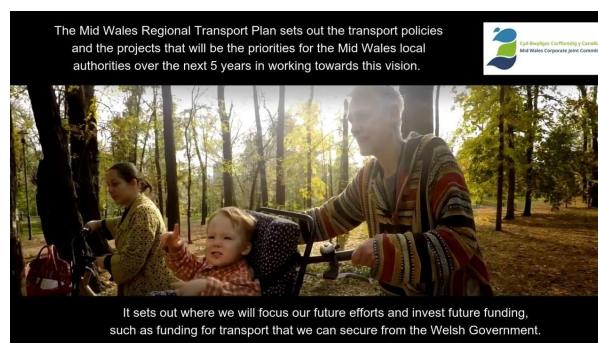
The RTP is being developed in partnership with Ceredigion and Powys County Councils, guided by the Welsh Government's [Llwybr Newydd: Wales Transport Strategy 2021](#). Public consultation is a critical step in the process, offering you an opportunity to shape the final plan.

### How Can You Get Involved?

The consultation is now live and runs until the 4th of April 2025. It's easy to take part:

- Online: Visit our website to read the Plan: [www.bit.ly/MidWalesTransport](http://www.bit.ly/MidWalesTransport), and complete the online survey: <https://bit.ly/MWRTP>

Read more in our [press release](#).



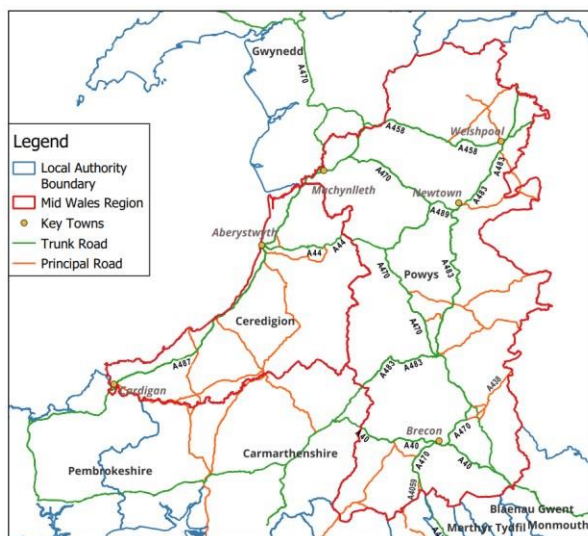
*1 - Councillor James Gibson-Watt, Chair of the Mid Wales Corporate Joint Committee, and Leader of Powys County Council and Councillor Bryan Davies, Vice-Chair of the Mid Wales Corporate Joint Committee, and Leader of Ceredigion County Council discuss the aims of the Mid Wales Corporate Joint Committee Regional transport plan consultation.*

## Key highlights from the Mid Wales Regional Transport Plan



### Ambitious Vision for Transport

The Regional Transport Plan (RTP) is a roadmap for improving transport in Mid Wales, focusing on creating a sustainable, efficient, and low-carbon transport system. It supports access to jobs, education, healthcare, and leisure while aiming to tackle climate change.

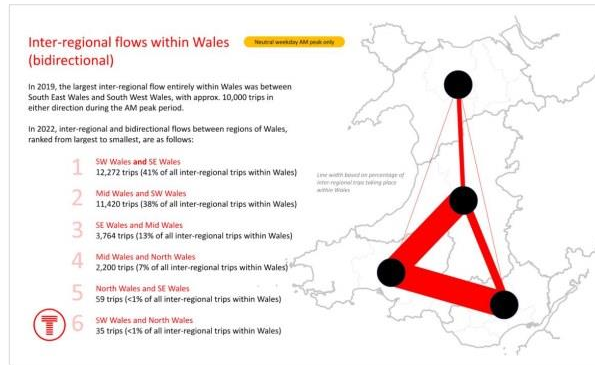


*2 - Mid Wales Strategic Road Network: The rural nature of the area affects the availability of bus services as many services do not operate or operate limited connections in smaller communities compared to the larger towns across Mid Wales. For example, only a quarter of the Mid Wales population live less than a 400m walking distance from a bus stop with at least one bus per hour.*

### Why This Matters

The Plan aligns with [Llwybr Newydd: The Wales Transport Strategy 2021](#), aiming for 45% of journeys to be made by public transport, walking, or cycling by 2040. It addresses unique rural challenges, ensuring better connectivity for isolated communities and supporting tourism and business growth.

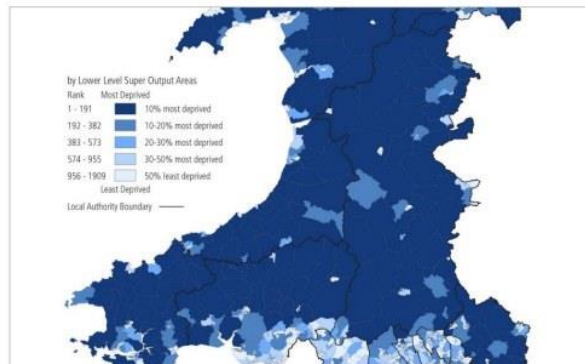




3 - Inter-regional flows within Wales: In terms of connectivity within Wales, this figure shows the importance of flows between Mid Wales and South West Wales, with flows between the two regions accounting for 38% of all Am Peak inter-regional trips within Wales in 2022 (covering all modes and journey purposes).

### RTP Objectives

- To become more sustainable by shifting to sustainable modes like public transport, cycling, and walking.
- Enhance connectivity to boost economic and tourism growth.
- Reduce environmental impacts through greener transport solutions, like promoting ultra-low-emission vehicles.



4 - Access to services: This figure shows the extent of the Mid Wales region that falls within the 10% most deprived category when considering access to services. The data reflects the rural nature of the region, dispersed settlement patterns, the need to travel longer distances to access key services, and the limited public transport options available.

### Opportunities for Stakeholders

Collaboration with the Mid Wales Growth Deal, linking transport improvements to broader economic strategies. Funding opportunities for active travel initiatives and sustainable transport projects.



5 - In developing the MWRTP, consideration has been taken on how the five ways of working, as set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, can be followed.

## Next Steps

Following public consultation, the final RTP will guide transport links investments and policies for the next five years. The final document will be made available in summer 2025 and funding released in 2026/7.

The Integrated Well-being Assessment, accompanying the Plan, ensures all changes prioritise community health and sustainability.

## Call to Action

Businesses, community leaders, and visitors are encouraged to participate in shaping the RTP. Your input can make Mid Wales a leader in sustainable and efficient transport.

The Plan and summary are available on our website; [www.bit.ly/MidWalesTransport](http://www.bit.ly/MidWalesTransport).



## Keep up to Date

Need to catch up on what's been discussed in our meetings? Here's a reminder of where you can find the minutes for the following meetings:

- All minutes relating to the Growing Mid Wales Board are hosted on Powys County Council [website](#).
- Papers relating to the Growing Mid Wales Partnership can be found on our [website](#).

Keep up to date with Growing Mid Wales news, developments on activity and organisations we support by following our X, LinkedIn pages, and YouTube channel:

<https://twitter.com/growingmidwales>

[www.linkedin.com/company/growing-mid-wales](http://www.linkedin.com/company/growing-mid-wales)

<https://www.youtube.com/@TCC-GMW>

We're eager to reach out to as many organisations and businesses across Mid Wales as possible. You can make this possible by following, liking and sharing our pages.

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