

Lyme Road and Charmouth Road area

In summer 2022 Sustrans delivered activities aimed at widening community engagement in Bath & North East Somerset Council's Liveable Neighbourhoods (LN) programme. There was a focus on young people and families at schools, as well as with community groups, ensuring that resident feedback is incorporated into the design process.

Many of the ideas from the groups and individuals we spoke to are presented in the informal report below.

You can view the council's co-design workshop and exhibition report for this LN area at www.bathnes.gov.uk/yourLN

Newbridge Primary School

On 18 July 2022 Sustrans sent Year 6 pupils at Newbridge Primary School 'regular routes' worksheets to be completed as homework before a pop-up engagement session (which was then cancelled due to a heat warning).

We have full details of regular routes taken by pupils, including start/end, mode, via, and the reasons given for taking a particular route. The details have been redacted from this report for safeguarding reasons. We have summarised the data in a table below anonymising the data. The reflections include additional information provided on the worksheets.

Summary table

	Foot	Bike	Car	Bus	Other / unknown	TOTAL
Newbridge Primary School	7.5*		1.5*		1	10
City Centre	1			3		4
Royal Victoria Park	2			1	1	4
Hayesfield Girls School			2			2
Cleeve Hill Scouts			3			3
Lansdown Cricket Club	1.5*		1.5*			3
Chelsea Road	2					2
Bath Organic Group Allotments		1	1			2
Weston	1	1				2
Tae Kwon Do (Twerton Village Hall)			2			2
Other/ unknown	6	1	4		1	12
TOTAL	21	3	15	4	3	46

* these journeys are sometimes taken by one mode by an individual pupil, and at other times by another mode.

Sustrans Officer's Reflections

The most commonly mentioned mobility mode was walking. As one would expect, walking dominated for shorter journeys to local destinations such as Newbridge Primary School itself and the shops on Chelsea Road. The main reason given for why a certain walking route was chosen by a respondent was that it was the quickest or most direct route. Walking (and cycling) trips by the respondents often utilise quieter roads and traffic-free paths such as the Bristol and Bath Railway Path.

Both of the respondents who reported travelling to Chelsea Road shops said they approached Chelsea Road from the footpath connecting Horstmann Close and Park Road rather than the main road.

Quieter routes are not always used however – the three respondents who reported either walking or using a scooter to get to Royal Victoria Park from the Newbridge area all said they went along the Upper Bristol Road instead of turning onto St John's Road, St Michael's Road, Cork Terrace, and Tennyson Road to get to the park. There therefore might be an opportunity to advertise a quieter route to the park as part of the Tennyson Road pilot scheme.

Another comment of note was that one respondent coming from Rudmore Park to the primary school, travels along Lyme Road if they're with someone else, but that they walk further along Newbridge Road to where there is a safer crossing point and then walk up Charmouth Road to school if they are on their own.

The second most commonly mentioned mobility mode was being driven in a car. In line with our findings from other young people across Bath as part of this project, one of the most commonly cited reasons for using the car is to travel to some kind of extracurricular activity. This can be for, example, because the journey is “too far to walk with [their sports] kit” or because the activity “finishes late” and it wouldn't be safe for the young person to walk home afterwards. Travelling by car is also often reported to be the quickest way to complete a journey.

The third most commonly mentioned mobility mode was travelling by bus. Most bus journeys were to the city centre, and the bus was the most commonly mentioned way the pupils got to the city centre. Its noteworthy that two of the respondents said they used the Newbridge Park & Ride bus to get to the city centre – with both of them mentioning that this bus was cheap and one of them mentioning the 15-minute frequency.

Three respondents said that they did one of their regular routes by bike. Two of them used routes that were traffic-free for a large part of the way – one using the Bristol and Bath Railway Path to get to The Boat House and the other using the alleyway from May Lane to Chandler Close to get to Weston. On the other hand, one respondent who travels from

Newbridge Road to the Bath Organic Group Allotments goes straight down Upper Bristol Road instead of taking the longer but traffic-free route along the Bristol and Bath Railway Path.