

Matter 19 – Transport policies

Issue -Does the Plan set out positively prepared policies for supporting sustainable travel and safe access, which are justified, effective and consistent with national policy?

a) - c) HVV Response

We do not believe that Kirklees is genuinely committed to sustainable travel as its spatial policy will in effect separate the places where people live from the places they work and does not provide realistic and practical means of them travelling between the two without the use of a car.

Policies 20 and 21 are insults to the people living in Scholes and Hade Edge.

d) HVV Response

We wholeheartedly support this policy and look forward to its implementation. We believe however that the provision of electric charging points needs to be supported by far more positive promotional and educational activities.

e) HVV response

Car parking is a critical issue in the Holme Valley.

Effective car park signage in the town centres is lacking.

Parking on the main arterial roads is a significant problem: it threatens the safety of pedestrians, slows traffic flow and risks road rage. All the main roads out of Valley are blighted by this problem. The houses on these roads were built before car ownership blossomed. There is simply nowhere for people to park their cars on their own land and there is no provision for communal parking close enough for people to use it. Dunford Road is effectively single track and subject to frequent grid-lock for much of its length. Further population increase in the direction of Penistone can only make this worse. When this road is blocked, there are no alternative routes.

Any traffic management scheme in the Valley needs to take account of this. Moreover, developments some distance from a traffic hotspot can have knock on impacts, for example housing at the back of Holmbridge will have an effect on Woodhead Road and developments at Hade Edge will affect traffic at the bottom of Dunford Road. Building at Hagg Wood in Honley and in Brockholes will affect Honley Bridge which will impact on Honley town centre. The proposed development in Scholes will have seriously adverse effects on already congested routes out of the village

We comment on walking and cycling elsewhere. In addition, we would ask the Planning Inspector to be mindful of the terrain in the Holme Valley when considering this matter. Cycling in the area is challenging even for professional cyclists and walking, especially with young children and or shopping, demands a certain level of fitness. While we strongly advocate such activities, particularly with health and wellbeing considerations in mind, we live in the real world and accept that many people prefer to use their cars.