

# The future of transport in towns and cities



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#### Introduction



There are going to be some big changes to transport in our towns and cities.



For example, very soon we may have lots of electric vehicles and self driving cars.



The government needs to think about:

 How the laws and rules about transport will need to change



 How to help companies to provide the right transport for people



 How to make sure we make the right decisions



 How to make the most of new ways to travel

#### **Our ideas**



When we think about new ways to travel we will make sure that:

New ways of travelling are safe



 People all over the UK must be able to make use of new ways of travelling



 Walking and cycling is best for short journeys in towns and cities



 Buses, trams and trains are most important



 New transport must not give off pollution



 New ways of travelling must help to cut down the amount of traffic



 People should be able to have a choice about how they travel



 It's easy to change types of transport in your journey



 We share information about new ways of travelling so that people have more choice

# Problems with transport today



Today we have lots of cars on the road.

Driving is a helpful way for people to travel. But it does cause some problems:



 Safety. Nearly 2000 people are killed on the roads each year. Nearly 25,000 people are seriously injured



 Pollution: Vehicles give off pollution which causes health problems for many people



The pollution is making the earth warmer, bringing more storms, and higher tides.



 Too much traffic: Lots of vehicles on the road means it takes longer to get to places



 Noise: The noise of traffic causes health problems for people



 Not enough exercise: People drive around in cars. Some people don't get enough exercise and become overweight



Space: Parked cars take up a lot of space



We expect that more people will be coming to live in our towns and cities. We have to do something or these problems will become worse.

### What's changing

A lot of things are changing all at once:



### Mobile phones and the internet

People can now book and plan their journeys on their mobile phone.



Vehicles can 'talk' to each other, so that they can avoid traffic jams.





Different companies are working on building vehicles that work automatically - without a driver.



The government is supporting:

 A project to have self driving buses in Edinburgh



Two projects for self driving taxis in London

#### Cleaner transport



Cars powered by electricity are better for the environment and do not give off pollution.



By the year 2040 we want all new cars to stop using petrol and diesel and use energy that is better for the environment.



#### Other new types of transport

**Drones:** Drones are already being used:

To help emergency services



To check that places are safe



**E-bikes:** Many people are using electric bikes to travel around towns and cities.



E-bikes are also being developed to transport boxes and parcels in crowded towns and cities.

### Other changes





We think that there will be many more people living in Britain in the coming years.



But we think that people will travel less because more people are working from home.



#### More older people

People are living longer. There are more older people.



We think that towns and cities will have mostly younger people. Young people are less likely to own a car. They are driving less.



#### We do things differently

These days, nearly every adult has a smart phone. Nearly everyone uses their smart phone to help them travel.



Many people buy things from the internet. They want it to be delivered as quickly as possible.



Nearly half of these people will pay to have it delivered the same day.

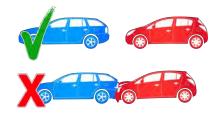
## A chance to make things better

### Better for people



The new types of transport bring a chance to make travelling better for everyone.

#### Safer streets



Many new cars are safer. Some will stop automatically when they sense something in the way.



These new types of cars don't get tired or distracted like people.



It might be a while before there are fully self driving cars. In the meantime there will be many new things on cars that make them safer.

#### Cheaper, fairer travel



Mobile phones and computers might make it cheaper and easy to share transport.



Travel could become cheaper.



#### **Smoother journeys**

Mobile phones and the internet can now give you the latest information about your journey.



This means that you can avoid traffic delays.



It also means that you can plan your journey so you don't have to wait so long to catch a train or bus.

## Better walking, cycling and public transport



Better public transport and easier walking and cycling will mean that fewer people will want to have their own car.



It would not be hard to use mobile phones and the internet to help people to share electric bikes.

# Better for the environment



#### No pollution

Electric vehicles will improve the quality of the air in towns and cities.



This is better for people's health.



#### Quieter

Electric vehicles are quiet. The streets will be quieter.

This is better for people's health.



#### More space

Sharing cars more means you won't have so many parked cars everywhere.



#### **Less traffic**

Computers in cars will tell you about traffic jams up ahead. So you can go a different way.



This could lead to fewer traffic jams.



More people will share cars. This will lead to less traffic.



Electric bikes for boxes and parcels will take up less space and lead to less traffic too.



## Wasting less time

At the moment many people spend a lot of time driving.



With self driving cars, people will have more time for work or leisure.



#### New businesses

We think that these changes in travel will be good for businesses in the UK.



We think that the UK can sell new ways of travelling to other countries in the world.

#### What are the risks?



We need to think about the risks of the new ways of travelling. We need to make sure that we can deal with these problems.



#### Risks for people

Making sure that new transport is safe



 Making sure that self driving taxis don't lead to fewer people travelling on buses



 Making sure that people who don't use the internet or bank accounts don't miss out



 Making sure people don't become more lonely



 Making sure that people's personal information is kept safe



#### Risks for the environment

Towns may grow too big



Drones may make the sky very busy



 The roads may become busy with people using the new self driving taxis

### **Next steps**



We are looking at what new laws and rules we will need for electric cars, self driving cars and drones.



We are looking at what new laws we will need for electric scooters.



We are looking at how all the different ways of travelling can work better together.



We want transport companies to share information about how people are travelling. This will help us to make sure that things are working properly.



We are looking at new laws for buses and taxis.

#### For more information



If you need more information please contact us by:



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Telephone: **0300 330 3000** 



Website: www.gov.uk/dft



Ask a question: forms.dft.gov.uk