



Dumfries and Galloway Sustainable Transport Study - Travel Survey (Dumfries - Stranraer)

Background

This survey is primarily aimed at residents of Dumfries and Galloway.

In April 2026, Swestrans (The South West of Scotland Transport Partnership) was commissioned to undertake a feasibility study. The aim of this study was to assess measures to enhance sustainable transport options for Dumfries and Galloway, with the ultimate goal of improving its economic viability. This work was intended to update a previous appraisal undertaken in 2025.

The brief for the study explained that it would be conducted in accordance with Transport Scotland's Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance (STAG). The STAG Report concluded with a recommendation to re-open the rail line between Dumfries and Stranraer. However, as Swestrans have prioritised the duelling of the A75 road between Gretna and Stranraer, and funding was not going to be made available at this time for the feasibility study, I have decided to write the report myself. This report will either be used as the final report or serve as a foundation to encourage a report to be written. Essentially, we would like to understand the transport problems faced and opportunities not being realised, and how this impacts the local people and communities in the area.

As such, we would appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey, which should take no longer than 10 minutes. Please be assured that no personal details will be provided to our client or any third parties. Information collected will be done so in a manner fully compliant with the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Please note, you can return to the survey to complete it at any time by using the original link.

The deadline for participation is Monday, 26th October 2026.

Thank you for participating.



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(Dumfries - Stranraer)

General travel information

1. Where do you currently live?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Annan | ☐ Cargenbridge |
| ☐ Castle Douglas | ☐ Creetown |
| ☐ Dalbeattie | ☐ Dumfries |
| ☐ Eaglesfield | ☐ Eastriggs |
| ☐ Ecclefechan | ☐ Gatehouse of Fleet |
| ☐ Glenluce | ☐ Gretna |
| ☐ Kirkconnel | ☐ Kirkcudbright |
| ☐ Langholm | ☐ Locharbriggs |
| ☐ Lochmaben | ☐ Lockerbie |
| ☐ Moffat | ☐ Newton Stewart |
| ☐ Sanquhar | ☐ Stranraer |
| ☐ Thornhill | ☐ Whithorn |
| ☐ Wigtown | ☐ Other (within Dumfries and Galloway) |
| ☐ Other (Outwith Dumfries and Galloway) | |

2. Do you currently have access to a car?

- ☐ Yes, I have full access to a car whenever I need
- ☐ I have limited access to a car when other people are not using it
- ☐ I have no access to a car and I am reliant on other modes of transport or lifts

3. Which locations do you most regularly travel to and what is/are the main purpose(s) of these trips? (Select all that apply)

	Employment	Leisure	Education	Retail/Shopping	Visiting family and friends	Health appointments	Personal
Annan	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cargenbridge	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Castle Douglas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Creetown	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Dalbeattie	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Dumfries	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Eastriggs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Edinburgh	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



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	Employment	Leisure	Education	Retail/Shopping	Visiting family and friends	Health appointments	Personal
Gatehouse of Fleet	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Glasgow	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Glenluce	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Gretna	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Kirkcudbright	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Locharbriggs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Newton Stewart	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
North West England	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Stranraer	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Whithorn	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Wigtown	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (Within Dumfries and Galloway)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (Outwith Dumfries and Galloway)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

4. What is your most frequent mode of travel? (Select one option only)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Car (as driver) | ☐ Car (as passenger) |
| ☐ Bus | ☐ Rail |
| ☐ Taxi | ☐ Motorcycle |
| ☐ Walk | ☐ Cycle |



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Suitability of the existing transport network

5. Do you believe the existing transport network (road, bus, rail, walking and cycling routes) fulfills your needs for the following purposes?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not applicable
Travel to access employment	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Travel to access education facilities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Accessing health care (hospitals/surgeries)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Taking holidays and short breaks	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Visiting friends and relatives	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Providing access to leisure opportunities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Providing access to retail opportunities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Providing access to cultural activities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Travel to access training opportunities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



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6. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements: The existing transport network (road, bus, rail, walking and cycling routes)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not applicable
Travel to access training opportunities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Has positively influenced my decision to live in Dumfries and Galloway	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Has positively influenced my decision to work in Dumfries and Galloway	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Allows me to access employment opportunities outside Dumfries and Galloway	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Allows me to socialise and/ or meet people	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Helps me live an active and healthy lifestyle	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is frequent enough for my requirements	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is fast enough for my requirements (e.g. suitable journey times)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is affordable compared to car	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Has enough seats available when I want to travel	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Feels safe and secure	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is close enough to my place of residence	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Allows me to travel where I need without too many interchanges	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



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Problems and Issues associated with travel within the Dumfries and Galloway area

7. Do you feel that any of the following have a negative impact on your ability to travel within the Dumfries and Galloway area? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Long travel times to get to destinations | ☐ Cost of travel |
| ☐ Limited choice of travel modes | ☐ Frequency of public transport services |
| ☐ Times of operation of public transport | ☐ services |
| ☐ Number of interchanges required when using | ☐ public transport |
| ☐ Safety concerns while travelling | ☐ Lack of cycling infrastructure - cycle storage, |
| ☐ cycle lanes | ☐ Lack of joined up cycle routes |
| ☐ Lack of direct public transport routes | ☐ Emissions from cars and public transport |
| ☐ Road congestion | ☐ Parking provision at destination |
| ☐ Other <input type="text"/> | |

8. Considering your answers, what do you believe is the single biggest problem identified when travelling within the Dumfries and Galloway area? (Select one option only)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Long travel times to get to destinations | ☐ Cost of travel |
| ☐ Limited choice of travel modes | ☐ Frequency of public transport services |
| ☐ Times of operation of public transport services | ☐ Number of interchanges required when using public transport |
| ☐ Safety concerns while travelling | ☐ Lack of direct public transport routes |
| ☐ Lack of cycling infrastructure - cycle storage, cycle lanes | ☐ Emissions from cars and public transport |
| ☐ Road congestion | ☐ Lack of joined up cycle routes |
| ☐ Parking provision at destination | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

9. Do you feel that any of the following have a negative impact on your ability to travel from the Dumfries and Galloway area and beyond? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Long travel times to get to destinations | ☐ Cost of travel |
| ☐ Limited choice of travel modes | ☐ Frequency of public transport services |
| ☐ Times of operation of public transport | ☐ services |
| ☐ Number of interchanges required when using public transport | ☐ Safety concerns while travelling |
| ☐ Lack of cycling infrastructure - cycle storage, cycle lanes | ☐ Lack of joined up cycle routes |
| ☐ Lack of direct public transport routes | ☐ Emissions from cars and public transport |
| ☐ Road congestion | ☐ Parking provision at destination |
| ☐ Other <input type="text"/> | |



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10. Considering your answers, what do you believe is the single biggest problem identified when travelling from the Dumfries and Galloway area and beyond? (Select one option only)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Long travel times to get to destinations | ☐ Cost of travel |
| ☐ Limited choice of travel modes | ☐ Frequency of public transport services |
| ☐ Times of operation of public transport services | ☐ Number of interchanges required when using public transport |
| ☐ Safety concerns while travelling | ☐ Lack of direct public transport routes |
| ☐ Lack of cycling infrastructure - cycle storage, cycle lanes | ☐ Emissions from cars and public transport |
| ☐ Road congestion | ☐ Lack of joined up cycle routes |
| ☐ Parking provision at destination | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

11. Which, if any, of the following locations would you like to travel to on a regular basis (that you currently cannot due to transport provision) and what do you believe would be the main purpose(s) of these trips? (Select all that apply)

	Employment	Leisure	Education	Retail/Shopping	Visiting family and friends	Health appointments	Personal
Annan	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cargenbridge	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Castle Douglas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Creetown	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Dalbeattie	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Dumfries	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Eastriggs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Ecclefechan	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Edinburgh	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Gatehouse of Fleet	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Glasgow	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Glenluce	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Gretna	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Kirkcudbright	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Locharbriggs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



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	Employment	Leisure	Education	Retail/Shopping	Visiting family and friends	Health appointments	Personal
Newton Stewart	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
North West England	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Stranraer	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Whithorn	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Wigtown	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (Within Dumfries and Galloway)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (Outwith Dumfries and Galloway)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



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Car Travel /Road Network

12. Do you travel regularly by car? (either as driver or passenger)

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

13. Do you feel that any of the following have a negative impact on your ability to travel on the road network? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Congestion and delays | ☐ Unreliable journey times |
| ☐ Accident and safety concerns | ☐ Slow moving vehicles (HGVs and agricultural vehicles) |
| ☐ Poor driving behaviour by other drivers, e.g. speeding | ☐ Delays at key junctions |
| ☐ Poor quality road surfaces | ☐ Narrow road widths |
| ☐ Parking provision at destination | ☐ Don't face any problems while travelling by car |
| ☐ Other <input type="text"/> | |

14. How do the problems identified impact upon and affect you? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Late for work | ☐ Early/Late journey start required to avoid delay |
| ☐ Reduces access to new or better jobs | ☐ Late for and miss appointments |
| ☐ Difficulty in accessing key services such as health, education, leisure and shopping/retail | ☐ Feelings of social and economic isolation |
| ☐ Feelings of social exclusion | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

15. Are there any problems that prevent you from using public transport at all or more regularly?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

16. What are the problems that prevent you from using public transport at all or more regularly? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Lack of direct services | ☐ Poor service frequencies |
| ☐ Cost of public transport | ☐ Lack of active modes infrastructure (cycle parking etc) |
| ☐ Long journey times | ☐ Service reliability |
| ☐ Too many interchanges required to access key destinations | ☐ Accessibility (physical limitations getting |
| ☐ onto/off of public transport services) | ☐ Quality of vehicle |
| ☐ Long walk to bus stop | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |



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Bus

17. Do you travel regularly by bus within the Dumfries and Galloway area?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

18. Do you feel that any of the following have a negative impact on your ability to travel by bus within the Dumfries and Galloway area? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ No problems | ☐ Long journey times |
| ☐ Journey time reliability | ☐ Service frequency |
| ☐ Service reliability | ☐ Lack of direct routes |
| ☐ Overcrowded services | ☐ Poor quality bus stops |
| ☐ Poor quality vehicles | ☐ Lack of information about services |
| ☐ Number of interchanges required to access key destinations | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

19. How do the problems identified impact upon and affect you? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Late for work | ☐ Early / Late journey start required to avoid delay |
| ☐ Reduces access to new or better jobs | ☐ Late for and miss appointments |
| ☐ Difficulty in accessing key services such as health, education, leisure and shopping/retail | ☐ Feelings of social and economic isolation |
| ☐ Feelings of social exclusion | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

20. Why do you not travel regularly by bus within the Dumfries and Galloway Area? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Prefer the car | ☐ Long journey times |
| ☐ Buses are unreliable | ☐ High bus fares |
| ☐ Low frequency | ☐ No direct routes to where I need to go |
| ☐ Overcrowded services | ☐ Timetable issues - no service early enough in the morning or late enough in the day |
| ☐ Bus travel makes me unwell | ☐ Poor quality bus stops and infrastructure |
| ☐ Poor quality buses | ☐ Lack of information about services |
| ☐ Other <input type="text"/> | |

21. Do you travel regularly by bus from Dumfries and Galloway to other areas?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No



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22. Do you feel that any of the following have a negative impact on your ability to travel by bus from Dumfries and Galloway to other areas? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ No problems | ☐ Long journey times |
| ☐ Journey time reliability | ☐ Service frequency |
| ☐ Service reliability | ☐ Lack of direct routes |
| ☐ Overcrowded services | ☐ Poor quality bus stops |
| ☐ Poor quality vehicles | ☐ Lack of information about services |
| ☐ Number of interchanges required to access key destinations | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

23. How do the problems identified impact upon and affect you? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Late for work | ☐ Early / Late journey start required to avoid delay |
| ☐ Reduces access to new or better jobs | ☐ Late for and miss appointments |
| ☐ Difficulty in accessing key services such as health, education, leisure and shopping/retail | ☐ Feelings of social and economic isolation |
| ☐ Feelings of social exclusion | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

24. Why do you not travel regularly by bus from Dumfries and Galloway to other areas? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Prefer the car | ☐ Long journey times |
| ☐ Buses are unreliable | ☐ High bus fares |
| ☐ Low frequency | ☐ No direct routes to where I need to go |
| ☐ Overcrowded services | ☐ Timetable issues - no service early enough in the morning or late enough in the day |
| ☐ Bus travel makes me unwell | ☐ Poor quality bus stops and infrastructure |
| ☐ Poor quality buses | ☐ Lack of information about services |
| ☐ Other <input type="text"/> | |



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Rail

25. Do you travel regularly by rail?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

26. Do you feel that any of the following have a negative impact on your ability to travel by rail to areas outside Dumfries and Galloway? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ No problems | ☐ Nearest station located too far away |
| ☐ Long journey times | ☐ Journey time reliability |
| ☐ Service frequency | ☐ Service reliability |
| ☐ Lack of direct routes | ☐ Overcrowded services |
| ☐ Poor quality stations | ☐ Lack of information about services |
| ☐ Number of interchanges required to access key destinations | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

27. How do the problems identified impact upon and affect you? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Late for work | ☐ Early / Late journey start required to avoid delay |
| ☐ Reduces access to new or better jobs | ☐ Late for and miss appointments |
| ☐ Difficulty in accessing key services such as health, education, leisure and shopping/retail | ☐ Feelings of social and economic isolation |
| ☐ Feelings of social exclusion | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

28. Why do you not travel regularly by rail to areas outside Dumfries and Galloway?(Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Nearest station is located too far away | ☐ No routes where I need to go |
| ☐ Faster options than to travel to a rail station and then get rail to my destination | ☐ Cost of rail travel |
| ☐ Timetable issues - no services early enough in the morning or late enough in the evening | ☐ Poor service frequency from nearest train station |
| ☐ No/Limited parking available at the rail station which I would like to use | ☐ Lack of information about services |
| ☐ Other <input type="text"/> | |



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Walking and Cycling

29. Do you travel regularly by active travel modes (walking and cycling)?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

30. What are the main barriers to you in making more journeys by active travel modes? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ No barriers | ☐ I don't want to walk or cycle |
| ☐ Distances are too far to where I need to go | ☐ Concerns over safety |
| ☐ Lack of available walking and cycling routes | ☐ Lack of cycle parking facilities |
| ☐ Lack of other facilities (e.g. showers at destination) | ☐ Lack of covered facilities at transport interchanges |
| ☐ No access to a bike | ☐ Physical limitations |
| ☐ Weather | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

Transport Improvements

31. Generally, what type of transport improvements would be useful to you as you travel within or from the Dumfries and Galloway area? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Improved public transport service provision between key destinations, e.g. additional direct bus services | ☐ Extended public transport timetables, e.g. bus services which begin earlier in the morning and run later in the evening |
| ☐ Improved public transport journey times to key destinations | ☐ Better integration between public transport services, i.e. timetables integrated between modes and services |
| ☐ Increased park and ride opportunities | ☐ Higher quality public transport vehicles |
| ☐ Integrated and smart ticketing options | ☐ Improved public transport information provision |
| ☐ Safe, high quality walking and cycling routes | |



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32. From the transport improvements above, what would be the key benefits to you? (Select all that apply)Type a question

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Shorter journey times | ☐ Improved travel mode choices |
| ☐ Improved access to employment opportunities | ☐ Improved access to education opportunities |
| ☐ Improved access to health care and services | ☐ Improved access to leisure opportunities |
| ☐ Improved access to shopping/retail opportunities | ☐ Improved access to cultural opportunities |
| ☐ Improved access to training opportunities | ☐ Other <input type="text"/> |

Other Comments

33. If you have any other comments about the transport network, which you have not had a chance to comment upon, please note here

About You

34. Please provide your home postcode. If you do not wish to provide this, please provide the first section, e.g. KY7 2 We only ask this for analysis purposes to allow us to correlate our responses with distances from the study area



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35. Are you

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| ☐ Male | ☐ Female |
| ☐ Prefer not to say | |
| ☐ | |

36. Please indicate your age range

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| ☐ Under 16 (full time education) | ☐ 16-24 |
| ☐ 25-34 | ☐ 35-44 |
| ☐ 45-54 | ☐ 55-59 |
| ☐ 60-64 | ☐ 65-69 |
| ☐ 70-79 | ☐ 80 and over |
| ☐ Prefer not to say | ☐ |
| ☐ | |

37. What is your current employment status?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Employed full time | ☐ Employed part time |
| ☐ Self employed | ☐ Unemployed |
| ☐ Student | ☐ Homemaker |
| ☐ Retired | ☐ Carer |
| ☐ Unable to work | ☐ Prefer not to say |
| ☐ | ☐ |

End of survey

I would like to thank you for participating in this survey.

Please return to **Scott Borthwick, 21 Aspen Crescent, Dumfries, DG1 4QF** or Scan and email to **2drscott@gmail.com**