

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL TRAVEL STRATEGY

Part B – What is the Situation in Derbyshire? An Assessment of Travel and Transport Need



2007-2011

Pupil Usual Mode of Travel

Table B3 shows the primary mode that children and young people use to travel to school in Derbyshire, as recorded in the individual School Travel Plans completed to date.

Usual mode of travel to school (schools with a travel plan)	Primary school pupils (Years 1-6)	Secondary School pupils (Years 7-11)	Post-16 secondary school pupils (Years 12-13)
Walk	55%	45%	35%
Car or van	39%	19%	25%
Car share	3%	4%	4%
Bus	3%	29%	33%
Cycle	0%	1%	1%
Train	0%	0%	0%
Taxi	1%	1%	0%
Other	0%	0%	1%

Table B3: Usual Mode of Travel

Overall, across all sectors, the average percentage of pupils throughout the county who walk to school is 45%. However, there is greater variation in the levels of car use between Primary and Secondary School pupils with much higher levels of car use occurring amongst Primary pupils. Bus use is much higher amongst Secondary pupils.

As part of the Travel Plan process, pupil home postcodes were used to determine travel distance to school. Analysis of this data shows the effect that distance from school has on mode choice. For Primary School pupils, this is summarised in Figure B2, which shows, for instance, the reduction in walking as distance from school increases.

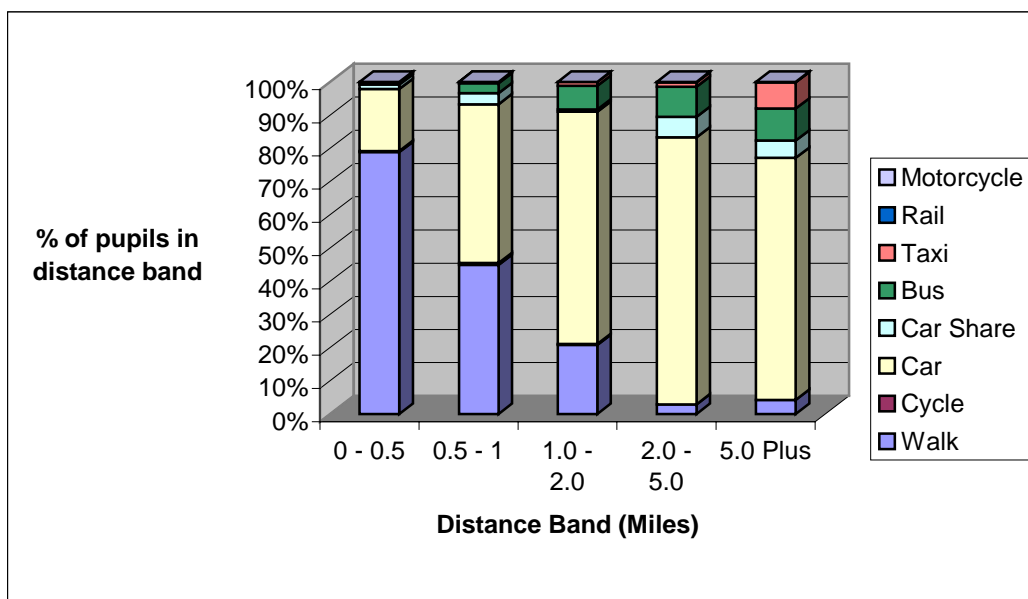


Figure B2: Mode of travel and distance to Primary School

Figure B3 shows the effect of distance from school on Secondary School pupil mode choice. 81% of secondary school pupils (including post 16) living within 0.5 miles of their school choose to walk. In contrast to primary pupils, the proportion walking remains high up to 1 mile. As distance from school increases, bus use also increases.

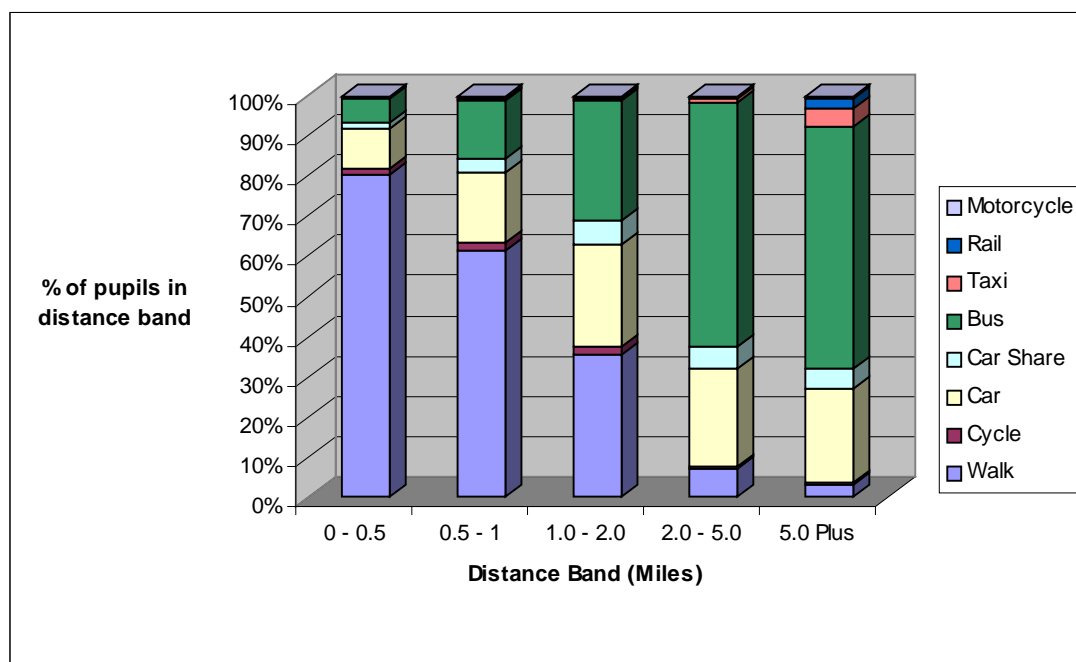


Figure B3: Mode of travel and distance to secondary school

Figure B4 shows the percentage of children travelling to school by car by individual school.

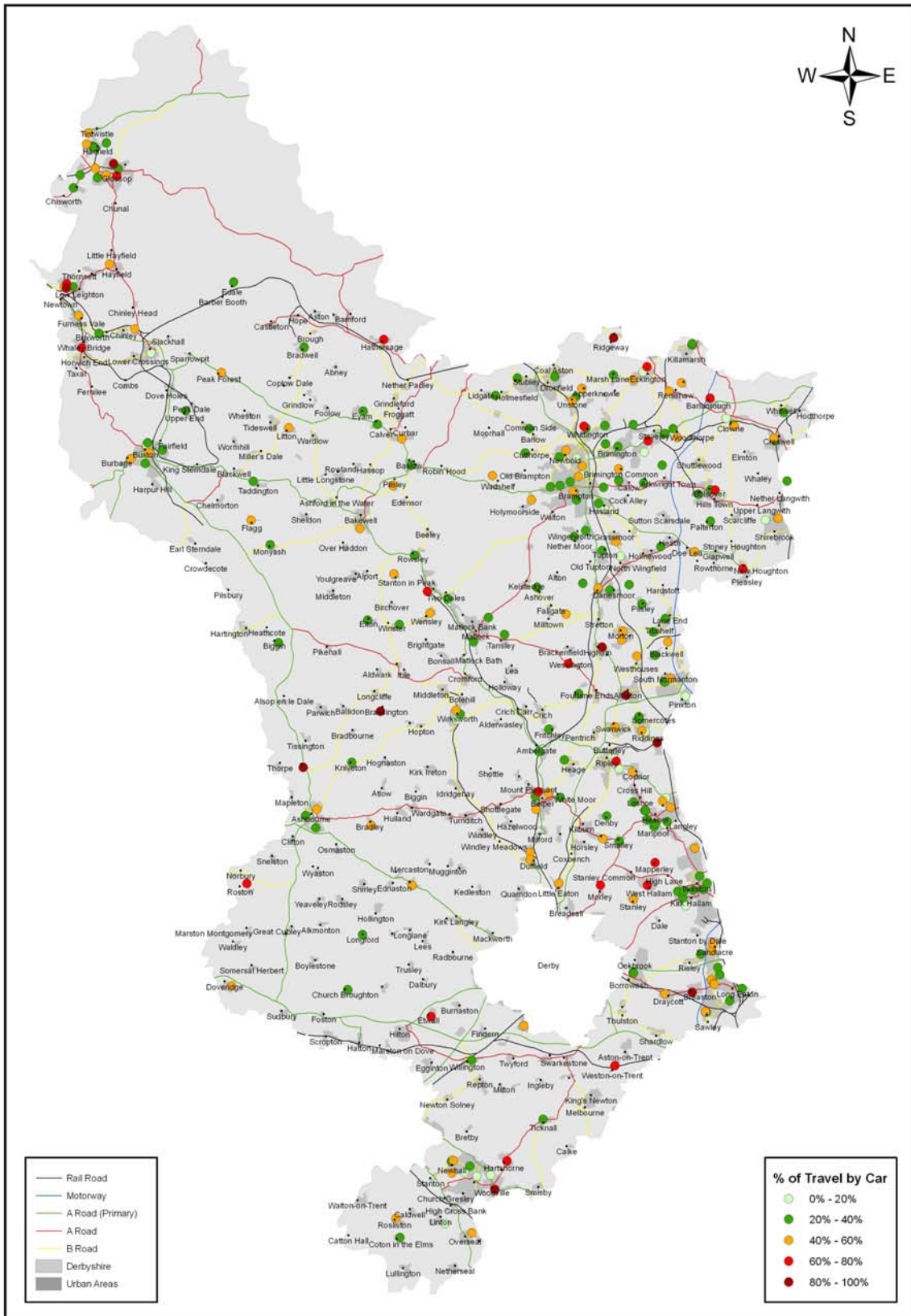


Figure B4: Percentage of children travelling to school by car by school (Note the above figure only shows data for schools that have completed Travel Plans in Derbyshire, and excludes Derby City)

The Annual School Census

The annual school census in January 2007 included for the first time a question on how pupils usually travel to their school. Schools were included in the school census if they had a School Travel Plan or were in the process of producing one, as such it provides a more comprehensive picture than the Travel Plan Questionnaire data, in this respect.

School	Walk	Cycle	Public Transport				Car		
			Public Bus	School Bus	Train	Metro	Single Child	Car Share	Taxi
Primary	54.1	0.4	0.6	1.5	0	0	39.4	2.7	0.6
Secondary	44.6	1.5	6.6	20.3	0.4	0	16.0	3.1	0.8

Table B4: Derbyshire County Council, School Census Data, 2007 (%)

Pupil Travel Preference

The above analysis illustrates how children currently travel to school. However, the School Travel Plan questionnaires also asked how children would prefer to travel to school. This, alongside actual mode, more fully describes transport need within Derbyshire and assists to inform initiatives.

Figure B5 shows that over half of all pupils in Derbyshire currently walk to school with 29% travelling by car and 15% by bus.

Figure B6 shows that more pupils are driven to school than would prefer to, but also that more pupils take the bus to school than would prefer to. There is a large difference in the number of pupils that would prefer to cycle to school but who currently do not do so.

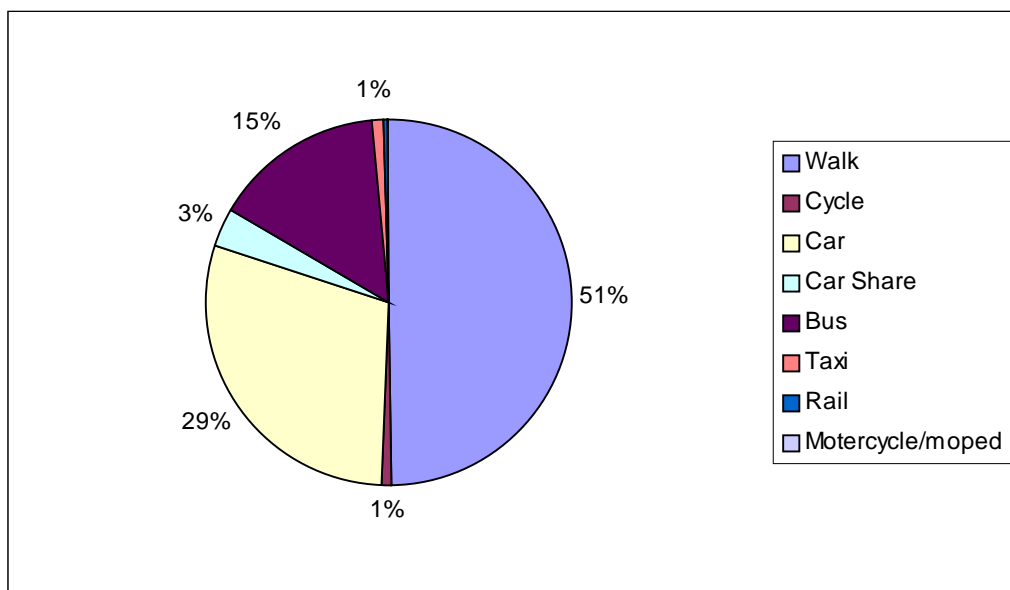


Figure B5: Current mode of travel to school

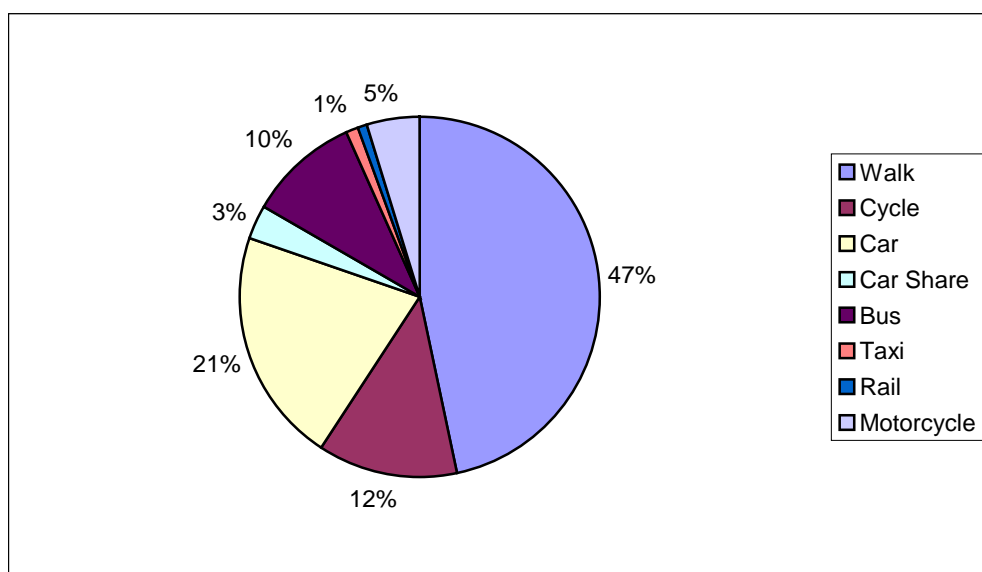


Figure B6: Preferred mode of travel to school

Figures B7 illustrates in more detail the differences between how primary school pupils currently travel to school against their preferred mode of travel.

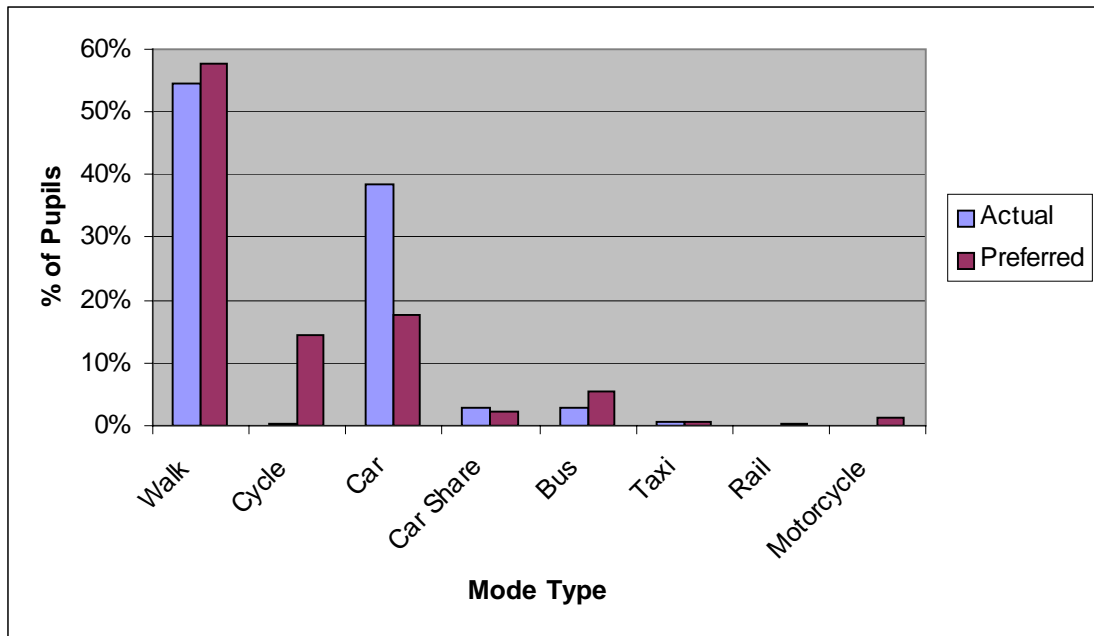


Figure B7: Primary School Pupils Actual Mode to School against their Preference Mode

Figure B8 compares how secondary school pupils currently travel against their preferred travel. Secondary school pupils who would prefer to walk or travel by bus is less than those who currently do so with the preferred options either travelling by car or motorcycle.

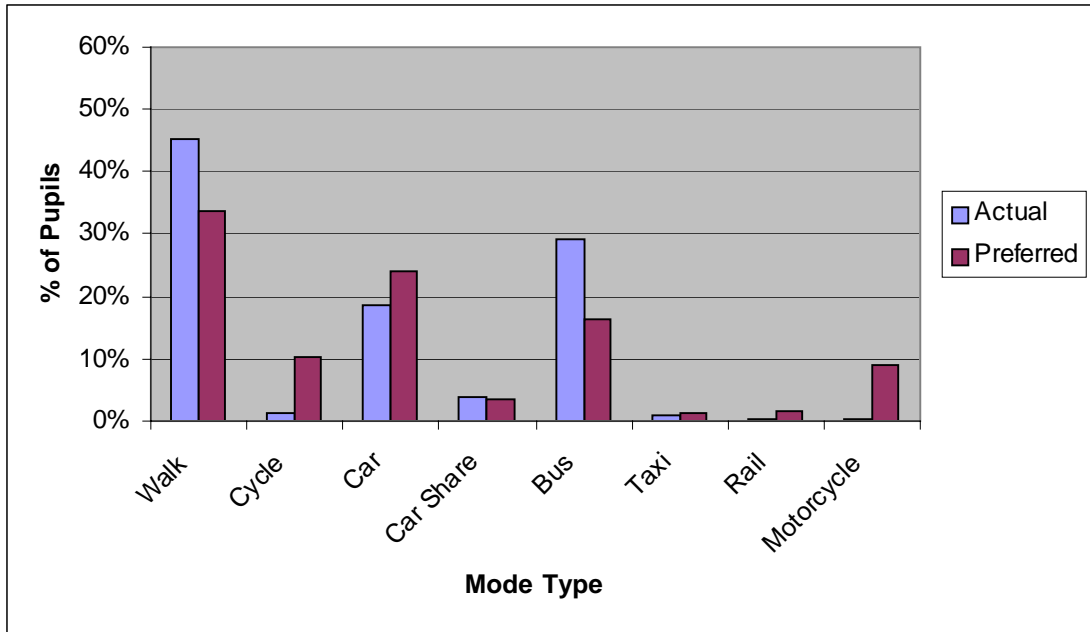


Figure B8: Secondary School Pupils Actual Mode to School against their Preference Mode

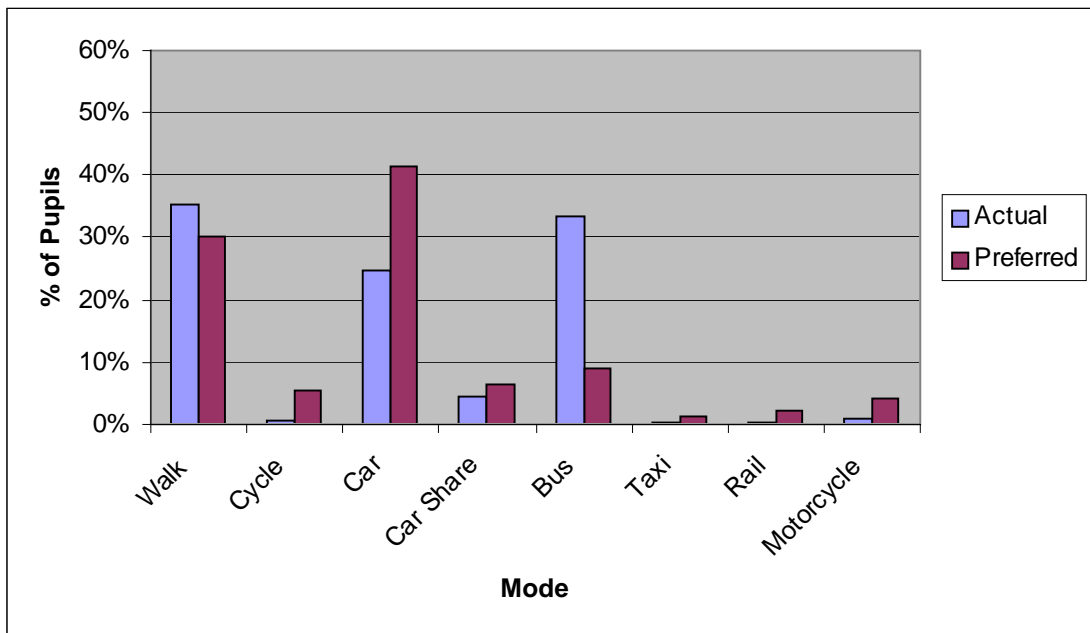


Figure B9: Post 16 Pupils Actual Mode to School against their Preference Mode

Figures B7 – B9 show that as pupils get older, the attractiveness of walking and the bus decline, and that the attractiveness of the car markedly increases. The attractiveness of cycling remains constant across the age range.

Extended School Day Journey Information

Central Government encourage individual schools to provide pre and post school activities to extend the activities of children during their education. However, there is no requirement for Local Authorities to provide transport for the extended school day and it will remain the responsibility of parents to make suitable transport arrangements. In many cases, the public bus network is available (though free passes would not be valid).