

# Travel Plan

## Introduction

As part of the planning permission for the University Centre Yeovil, Preston Road, the Travel Plan will be implemented to actively encourage both staff and students to use alternative forms of transport in their daily journey both to and from the University Centre campus.

It is particularly important that the students and staff are aware of the non-car travel options from the start of the academic year so that travel patterns become established in an appropriate manner.

Each student and staff member will have access to the following information:

- A copy of the Travel Plan – Staff and Student Guide
- A Car-Sharing Scheme for staff or student (as appropriate)
- Local bus and rail timetables

## Travel Plan Co-ordinator

The Travel Plan Co-ordinator is Lynne Stocker. The Travel Plan Co-ordinator will manage the Travel Plan and liaise with staff and students regarding car sharing scheme, public transport routes and arrange regular meetings of staff and students. The Student Information Services office will also issue student car parking permits.

## Local Amenities

The University Centre Yeovil campus benefits from a local convenience store (with cash point facility) on Preston Road, approximately 50 metres west from the site. There is also a Co-op supermarket and post office located on Westfield Road, approximately 10 minutes walk from the site. Walking to the main shopping area of Yeovil is approximately 20 minutes and to the main Yeovil College campus approximately 15 minutes.

## Cycle Routes

There are no existing on-road cycle lanes in the vicinity of the site, however the roads in and around Yeovil are relatively quiet, with a large

number of lightly trafficked streets around the vicinity of the site therefore providing an appropriate environment for cycling.

### **Pedestrian Routes**

1.5m wide footways are on both sides of Preston Road within the vicinity of the site, with good street lighting and signalised crossing facilities at strategic points along Preston Road, provides a good environment for pedestrians. A plan illustrating the cycle and pedestrian routes is included in the Travel Plan pack

### **Public Transport – Bus and Trains**

Visit <http://www.firstgroup.com> or [www.southwestcoaches.co.uk/timetables](http://www.southwestcoaches.co.uk/timetables) for up to date bus and train time tables.

### **Public Transport – Rail**

Yeovil benefits from two railway stations – Yeovil Penn Mill station, located approximately 1/2 mile north east of the town centre and Yeovil Junction, situated approximately 1 1/2 miles south east of the town centre.

Yeovil Pen Mill station is on the Bristol – Weymouth line. Local services are operated by Wessex Trains, who operate 8 trains per day to destinations such as Castle Cary, Bruton, Frome, Westbury and Bath in a northerly direction and Yetminster, Maiden Newton and Dorchester in a southerly direction. Changes at Castle Cary provide access to the London Paddington – Penzance line where First Great Western provide services to Reading in an easterly direction and Taunton, Exeter and Plymouth in a westerly direction.

Yeovil Junction is on the London Waterloo to Exeter line. First Great Western provides direct services operate from this station to a variety of locations including Crewkerne, Axminster, Honiton and Exeter in an easterly direction and Sherborne, Gillingham, Salisbury, Basingstoke and Woking in an easterly direction.

Yeovil therefore benefits from a range of direct local and national destinations. Students wishing to access the UCY from local areas such as Castle Cary, Crewkerne, Frome, Sherborne, Gillingham can do so via regular, direct train services.

**Other initiatives** Staff and students are encouraged to use sustainable forms of transport such as walking, cycling, and bus to access the site by the provision of appropriate facilities for example cycle parking facilities (bike sheds are available in the car park), car share parking spaces and the provision of public transport information.

### **Cycling**

Cycling is a key mode of travel in terms of sustainable transport. It is important therefore to encourage cycling as part of the University Centre Yeovil Travel Plan to staff, students and visitors alike, this will be achieved by implementing the below initiatives:

- The provision of safe and convenient cycle parking facilities. The University Centre Yeovil are providing a total of 12 Sheffield Loop Stands, equating to 24 cycle parking spaces as recommended in Somerset County Councils 'Cycle Parking Standards'. Sufficient secure, covered cycle parking spaces will encourage staff, students and visitors alike to use this form of transport to visit the site.
- Shower and changing facilities are available in the disabled toilet at UCY for staff and students to refresh prior to commencing work if they have cycled to the University Centre Yeovil. Secure lockers will be provided for staff and students to store cycling clothing or equipment. Keys are obtainable from Shirley Homa.
- Fluorescent waistcoats are available from the UCY for those students or staff who wish to use them whilst cycling to or from UCY.
- 'Bicycle User Groups' will meet occasionally (lunch breaks etc) to meet other cycle users and identify local cycle issues and routes.

### **Pedestrian/Walking**

In order to promote walking to and from University Centre Yeovil, the pedestrian environment has to be such that it provides pedestrians with

safe and convenient routes to and from their destinations. University Centre Yeovil has implemented the following initiatives to encourage this mode of transport;

The site benefits from existing 1.5m footpaths along the length of Preston Road, linking the site with Yeovil town centre facilities and amenities.

Shower and changing facilities are available in the disabled toilet for staff and students alike to refresh prior to commencing work if they have walked to work. Secure lockers will be provided for staff and students to store walking clothing or equipment as necessary.

The provision of adequate lighting in the site will provide pedestrians with a well-lit environment, hence enhancing safety and encouraging pedestrian movements.

Convenient access to bus stops/public transport provision for pedestrians also encourages this mode of transport. Bus stops are currently located on Preston Road, 10m to the west of the site access.

### **Car Sharing Scheme**

Car sharing is an excellent way of minimising the number of private cars used on the highway network. The University Centre Yeovil can not dictate car sharing, however it can seek to influence this form of travel by the provision of information and provoking interest where this is feasible. With the staff numbers proposed at University Centre Yeovil and the characteristics of the courses at the site, it must be appreciated that there will be a limited scope for car sharing

However there will be a number of staff and students visiting the site for similar hours i.e those on same courses, which enhances the feasibility of car sharing as staff and students will be starting/finishing lectures at the same time. The Travel Plan Co-ordinator will operate a car sharing database based on the recording of postcodes for staff and students as part of the induction process. Staff and students who wish to become part of the car sharing scheme must complete a registration form giving

their written consent to their name, contact telephone number and first part of their postcode being used to identify a car sharing partner. No other information will be passed to a third party.

In time and outside of the scope of this Travel Plan, the database may be shared with the existing Yeovil College site on Mudford Road. Staff and students from both sites will be encouraged to car share if another member of staff or student lives close by. With the sites only being a 10–15 walk from each other, it is feasible for car sharing to work between the two sites.

Please note that only staff to staff and student to student introductions will be made. There will be no cross-introduction of staff to student within the car sharing scheme.

Course tutors are encouraged to reinforce the advantage of car sharing on an occasional basis at the beginning/end of lectures and direct any information/comments back to the Travel Plan Co-ordinator for monitoring purposes

A total of 10 car park spaces will be allocated specifically for those cars which arrive at the site with 2 + passengers, this will encourage staff and students to car share. The Co-ordinator will monitor the use of the 'car share spaces' and will adjust the allocation accordingly. The initial allocation is for 10% of the car park spaces available for University Centre Yeovil.

### **Public Transport**

As previously highlighted, Yeovil College already subsidise a number of bus services to locations that are within the catchment for the University Centre Yeovil. These will be available for new students, as will the existing offers on subsidised bus passes for students from within Somerset and Dorset In addition there will be certain groups of students for which arrangements will be made for specific bus journeys. As an example, a number of students attending the Adult nursing courses will be provided with buses from Dorchester and Weymouth.

### **Visitors**

Visitors will be sent directions to the site that will promote sustainable travel to the site first and will also include travel information to the site by car, therefore encouraging visitors to travel using sustainable forms of travel where feasible.

### **Car Parking**

To manage student parking, students will be asked to give details of their vehicle (make, model, registration number etc), this information will be stored on a database to enable the identification of illegally parked cars. As mentioned previously a total of 10 spaces will initially be allocated for car sharing use and 12 covered Sheffield cycle loops will be provided for cycle parking.

Students should try not to use the surrounding residential roads for parking in order to maintain good relations with our neighbours.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The Travel Plan Coordinator should carry out a annual review of the following items, in addition to the regular update of public transport information

- Travel Characteristics (modal split)
- Car parking management
- Off -site parking concerns

The review of the Travel characteristics will take the form of a survey of all students and staff using the University Centre Yeovil.