

Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan: Part 3, Evidence Base

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Regulation 14 DRAFT for consultation

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SECTION 1. Plan-specific evidence

1.1 Void

1.2 Void

1.3 Residential parking and cycle storage requirements

NPPF [Part 2, 1.1] paragraph 111 states that if setting local parking standards for residential and non-residential development, policies should take into account:

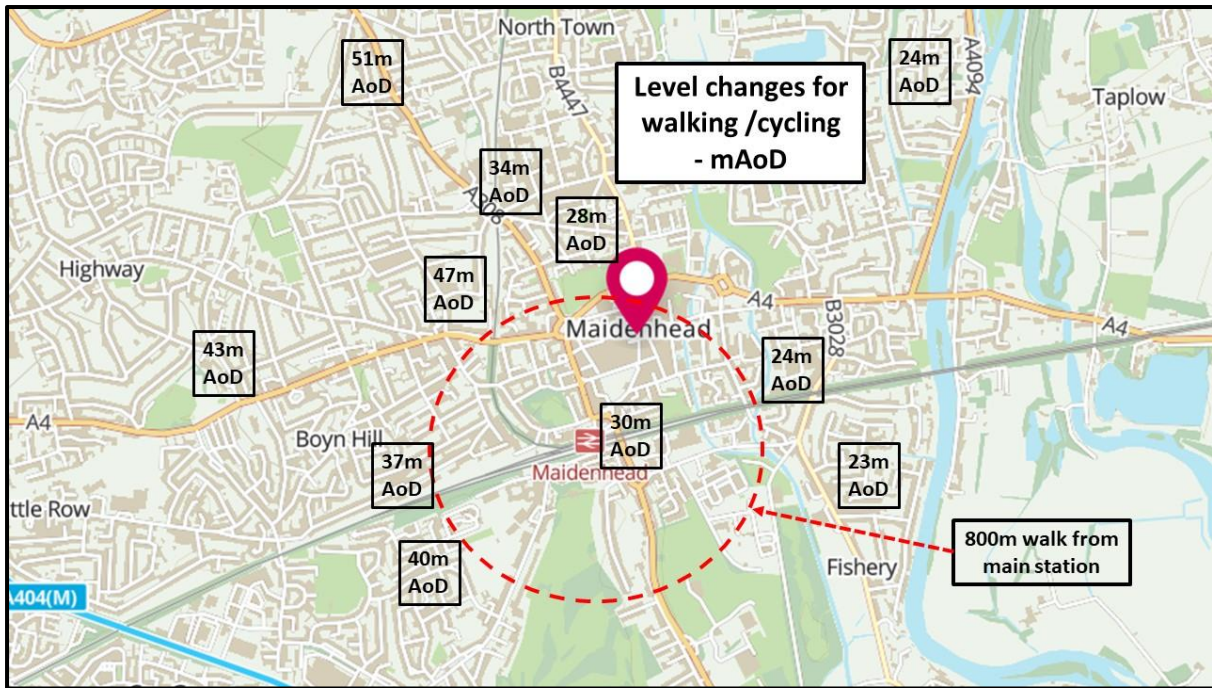
- a) the accessibility of the development
- b) the type, mix and use of development
- c) the availability of and opportunities for public transport
- d) local car ownership levels; and
- e) the need to ensure an adequate provision of spaces for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles

The following sections show how these factors have informed the policies.

1.3.1 Accessibility of the development

The MNP area has a population of 52,623 living in 20,856 households from the 2021 Census [Part 3, 1.7]. Maidenhead town centre sits towards the east, whilst the suburbs forming the main built-up area are to the North and West. This results in a range of accessibility for residents. Those near or in the town centre have local access to most essential services and transport, but those to the north, west and south-west are typically 1 to 2km from the main Town centre facilities. Services in the suburbs are limited and most public transport services to and from the town centre and nearby towns are infrequent (see section 1.3.3).

A minority of residents live within a comfortable 800m walking distance of the main station, but the land rises significantly by more than 20m towards the west and north of the station and town centre area. Due to the level changes, walking and cycling in/out of town is significantly easier from the east and south of the MNP area, where the land is low lying and rises only gradually.



Map 1.3.1-1 Walking distance to station and level changes

The MNP area has been notionally split into two zones - the town centre, where access to most services is good, and the surrounding “out-of-town” suburbs where access is less good.

When considering accessibility, destinations outside the Neighbourhood Plan area also need to be considered, both for work and leisure. Section 1.3.6 on Travel to work covers distance travelled to a place of work and the travel method used, which is a major driver of the residential parking requirement.

A further aspect of accessibility is that whilst Maidenhead has good East-West public transport links, especially by rail, destinations to the North and South are not well served (see section 1.3.3).

1.3.2 Type, mix and use of development

For planning purposes, parking requirements fall into two main categories - Residential (Use Class C3) plus Office, Commercial, retail and warehousing, mostly now under Use Class E. Sites specifically designated for car parking such as town or rail-related car parks are expected to provide their own analysis of parking requirements, based on location and purpose.

The type, mix and use of development determines local parking standards according to Residential or Office and Commercial, plus the specific location. This approach is similar to that taken by the RBWM Parking Strategy [Part 2, 2.12] which specifies parking standards according to Use Class and Accessibility, and also according to bedroom count for Use Class C3.

1.3.3 Availability of and opportunities for public transport

Scheduled Bus Services:

Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan.

Two public bus operators serve Maidenhead, the main operator Thames Valley Buses and also Arriva. Thames Valley Buses is a subsidiary of Reading Transport Ltd, which is owned by Reading Borough Council. N.B. Routes are currently under review after passenger numbers failed to recover fully after the pandemic, whilst temporary government funding support has recently been withdrawn.

Thames Valley Buses currently operates 4 circular routes into and around Maidenhead:

**Thames Valley Buses
'simplyMaidenhead'
Route map 2023**

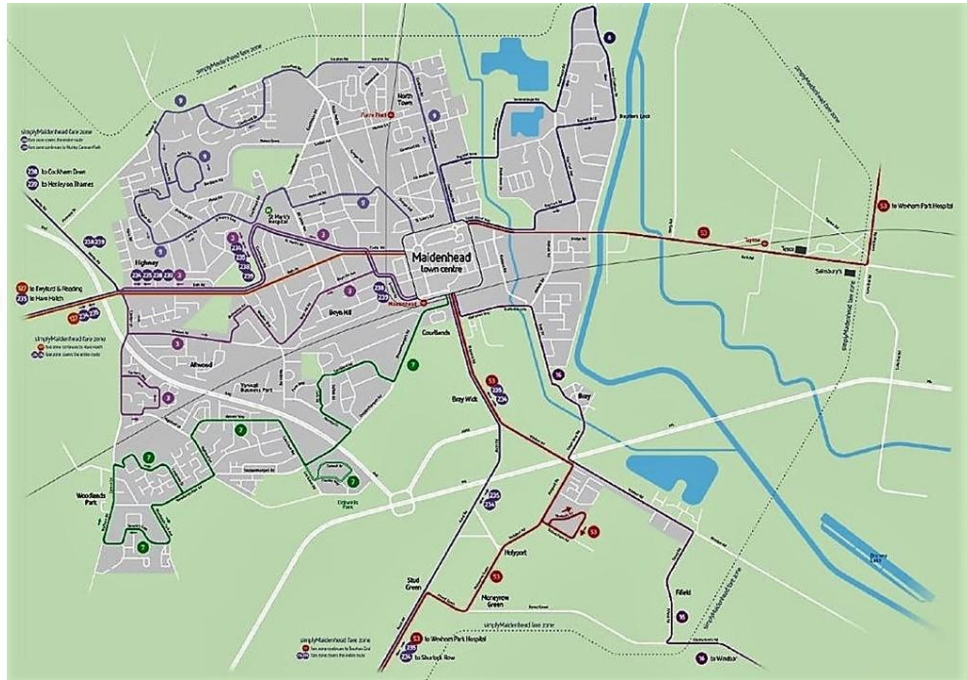


Figure 1.3.3-1 Thames Valley Bus Routes serving Maidenhead

- No 3** - to/from Highfield Lane via St Marks Hospital;
- No 7** - to/from Woodlands Park via Wessex Way shops;
- No 8** - to/from Boulters;
- No 9** - to/from Cranbrook Drive via St Marks Hospital

Four routes also link Maidenhead to nearby towns:

- No 7/7A** - to/from High Wycombe via Bourne End (operated by Arriva)
- No 16** - to/from Windsor via Fifield & Oakley Green (Thames Valley Buses)
- No 53** - Bracknell to/from Wexham Park via Maidenhead & Burnham (Thames Valley Buses)
- No 238/9** - to/from Henley via Marlow & Hurley (Thames Valley Buses)

Bus frequencies are most hourly, with the last departures early evening, while Routes No 8, 7/7A and 238/9 don't run at all on Sundays. Journey times are generally slower* than by car, as most routes are indirect, have frequent stops and divert into residential estates to encourage customer take up. Live departure information is available via the internet from both bus operators, but displays are not generally available at bus stops unless passengers have a smart phone.

Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan.

*- For example; A visit to Bracknell’s Lexicon centre from Maidenhead Bridge on the No 53 has 30 stops on the way, offers an hourly service only, and is scheduled to take 40 minutes. If a connection is needed to join the route, overall journey time by bus will be considerably longer. By comparison the AA Route Planner service estimates 20 minutes (door to door) by car for the same 9 mile journey. With no bus lanes or priority at traffic lights, delays caused by congestion at busy times or during road works affect bus services and cars equally.

The individual routes and service levels can be seen in Figures 1.3.3-2 to 1.3.3-9.

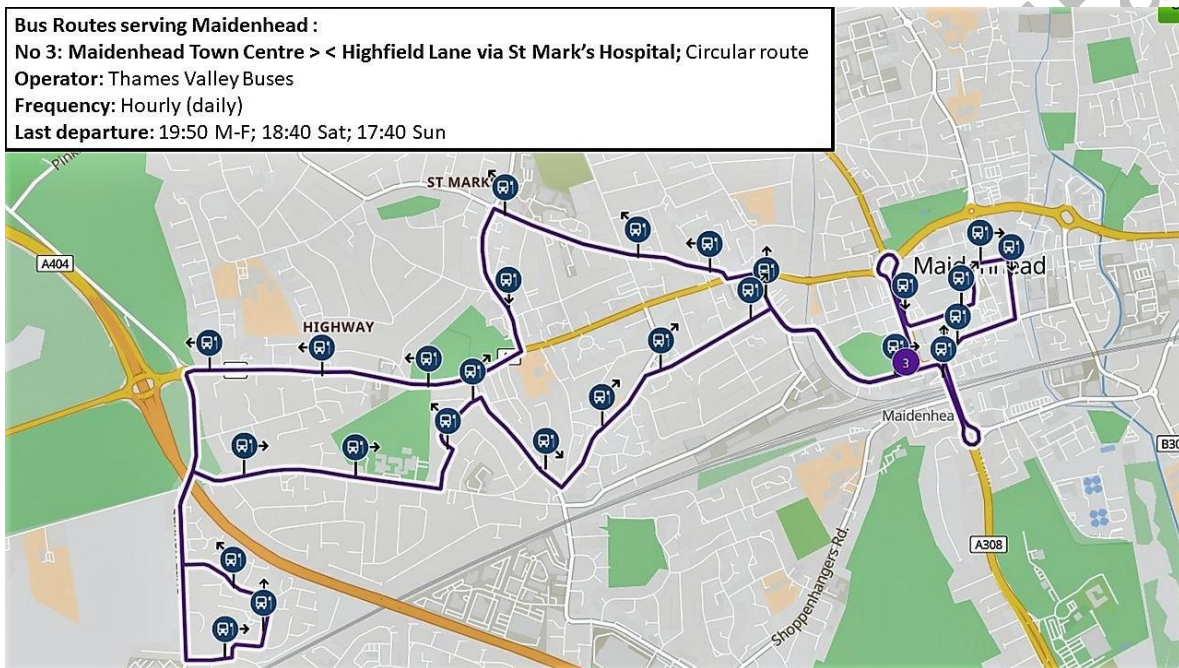


Figure 1.3.3-2 Thames Valley Bus Route 3

Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan.



Figure 1.3.3-3 Thames Valley Bus Route 7

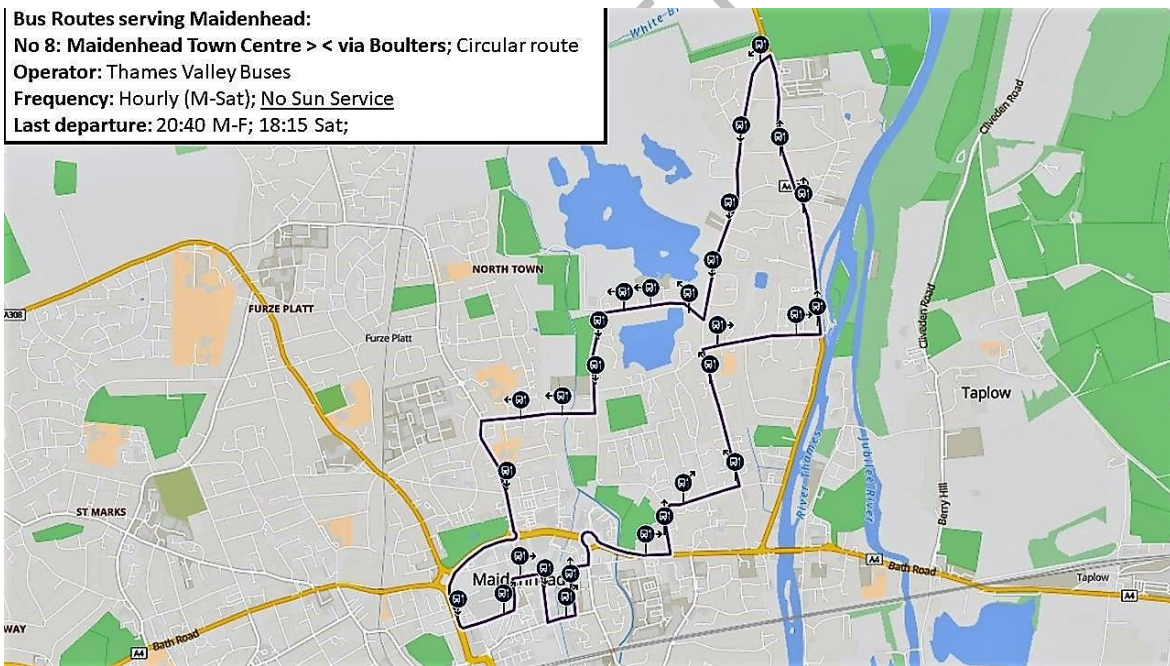


Figure 1.3.3-4 Thames Valley Bus Route 8

Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan.

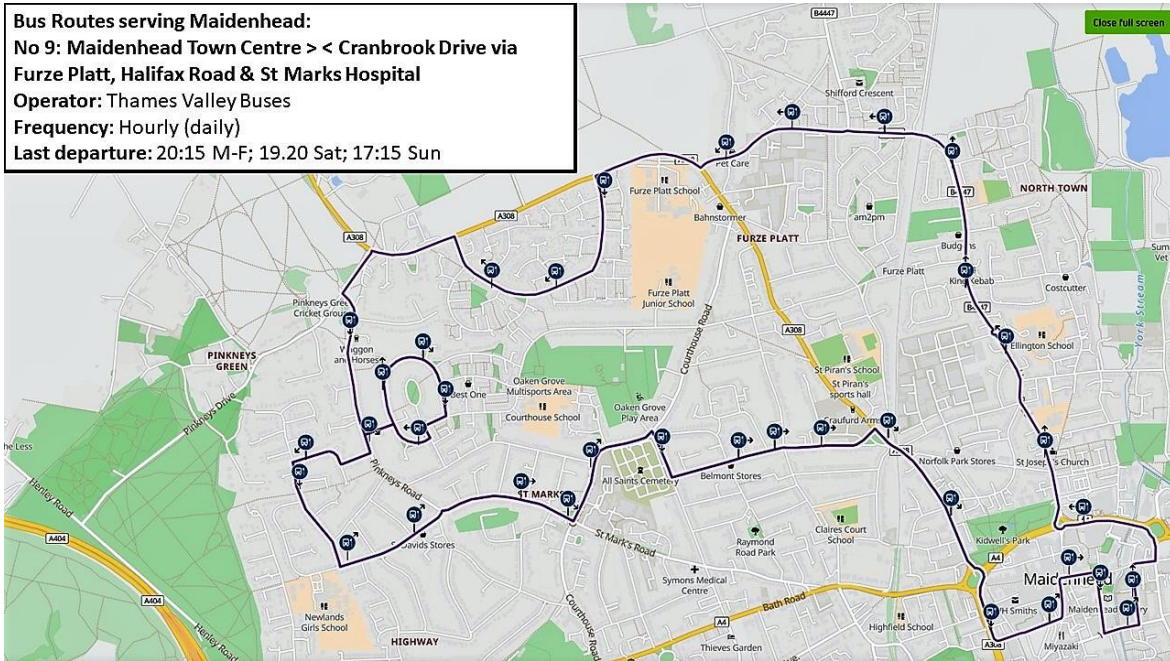


Figure 1.3.3-5 Thames Valley Bus Route 9

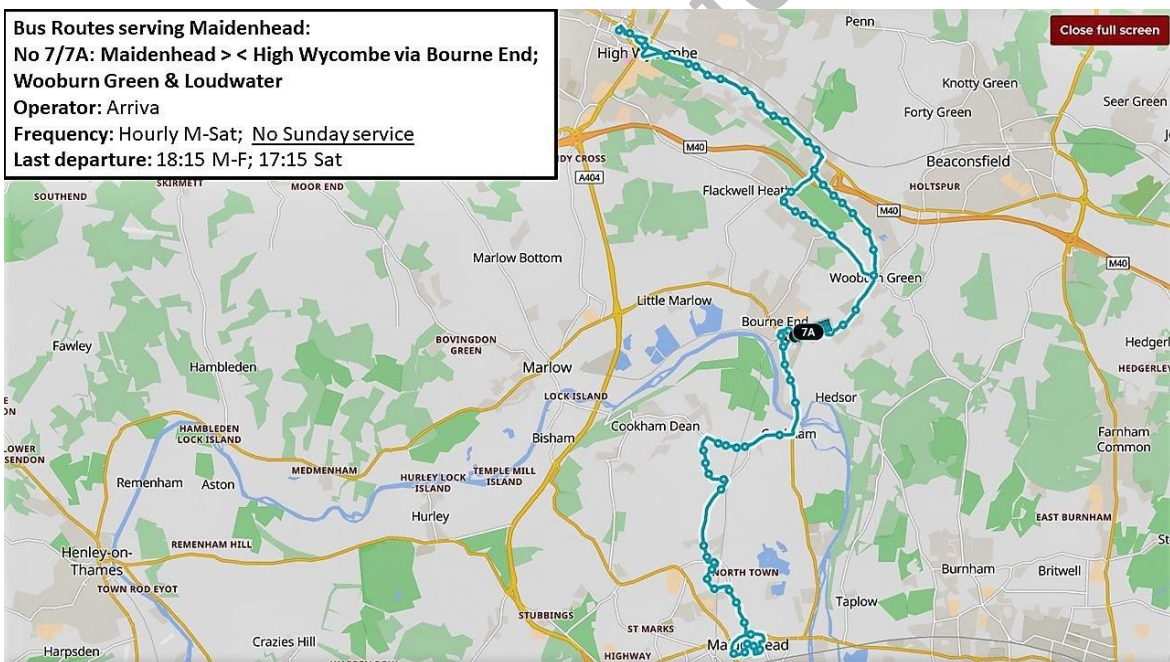


Figure 1.3.3-6 Arriva Bus Route 7/7A

Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan.

Bus Routes serving Maidenhead:
No 16: Maidenhead Town Centre > Windsor via Fifield & Oakley Green
Operator: Thames Valley Buses
Frequency: Hourly (daily)
Last departure: 20:15 M-F; 18.45 Sat; 17:15 Sun

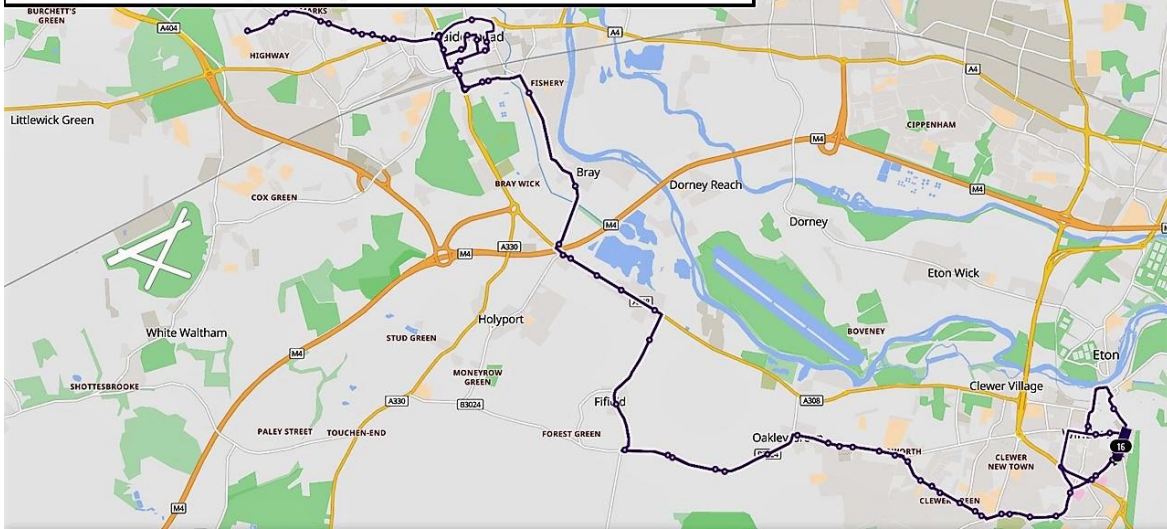


Figure 1.3.3-7 Thames Valley Bus Route 16

Bus Routes serving Maidenhead:
No 53: Bracknell to Wexham Park via Maidenhead & Burnham
Operator: Thames Valley Buses
Frequency: Hourly (daily)
Last departure: 18:10 M-F; 17:50 Sat; 18:10 Sun

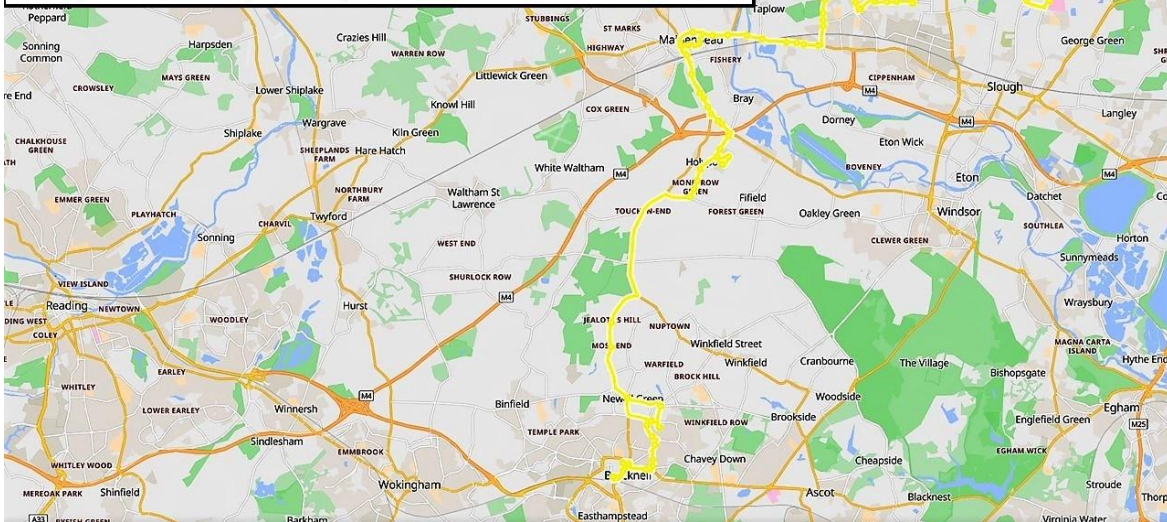


Figure 1.3.3-8 Thames Valley Bus Route 53

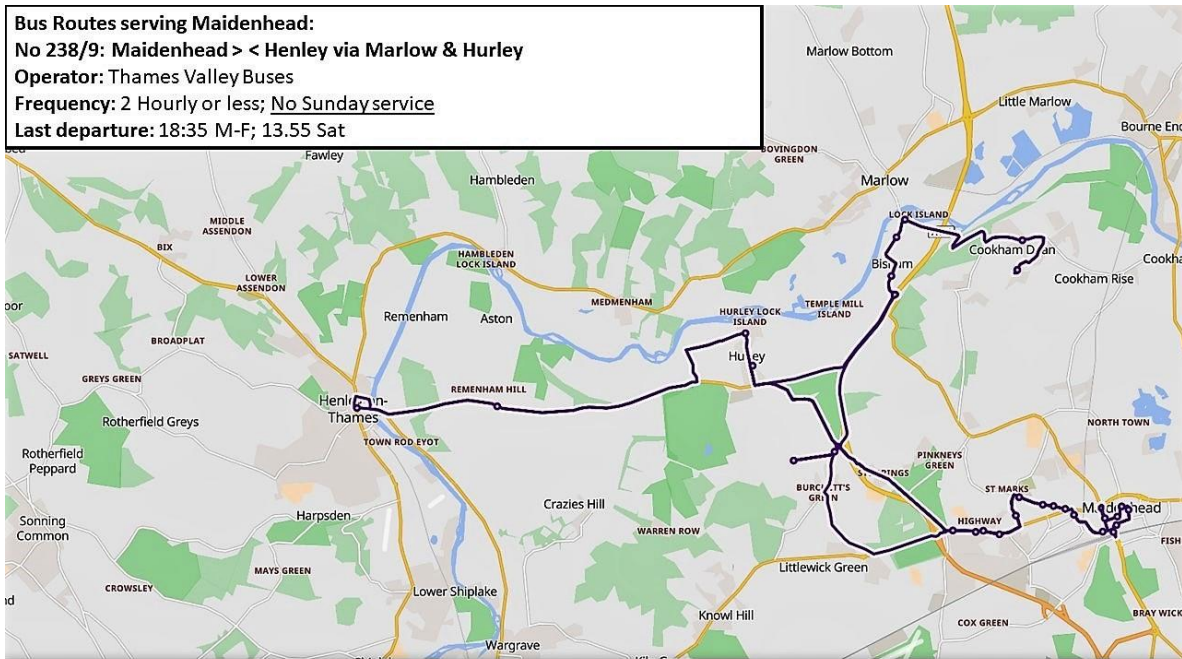


Figure 1.3.3-9 Thames Valley Bus Route 238/9

Bus usage nationally slumped during the pandemic and is only slowly recovering. In 2022/23 usage in the area was still approximately 20% below 2019/20 levels (source: RBWM Cabinet 27th September 2023). (<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/annual-bus-statistics-year-ending-march-2023/annual-bus-statistics-year-ending-march-2023>). In 2022/23 the borough reported 7 bus journeys per head, the second lowest rate in England and one fifth of the national average - the average number of bus passenger journeys per head in England outside London was 34 in the year ending March 2023. Inflationary pressures and the threat of lower subsidies following withdrawal of pandemic support risk permanent service reductions, which will further reduce convenience and hence usage.

Scheduled Train Services:

Maidenhead is served by two train operators – Great Western (mainline services to London, Reading and beyond) and tfl’s Elizabeth Line which has recently extended services to and through the west end and city. The Elizabeth Line now integrates fully with London’s main tube network. Great Western also operates an hourly service on a spur line from Maidenhead to/from Marlow via Bourne End (a 23 minute journey time).

Service frequencies and journey times from Maidenhead on the main line vary but generally offer:

Great Western - an hourly semi-fast (25 minutes journey time) service to/from Paddington, plus a half hourly service to/from Reading (14 minutes journey time);

Elizabeth Line - a 15 minute frequency service to/from London’s west end and the city. Journey time Maidenhead to Bond Street is around 42 minutes, or 56 minutes to Canary Wharf. The extension of Elizabeth Line services through to the city has made commuting into the city possible without the need to change trains.

N.B. As with bus services, rail operator subsidies are currently also under review after passenger numbers have not recovered fully since the pandemic. A permanent shift in working patterns seems likely.

1.3.4 Car and Van availability

ONS data from the most recent census (taken 21st March 2021), and from the previous census in 2011, has been used to assess local car ownership/availability levels. For residential parking policies, the key metric is the average number of vehicles per household. Vehicle availability in the Neighbourhood Plan area has not materially changed over the decade between censuses - vehicle numbers increasing in line with population and household growth to maintain an unchanged average of 1.4 vehicles per household.

Within the average there are significant variations by ward and in some of the smaller areas where Census data is available. The Neighbourhood Plan area can best be considered in two parts, the 'town centre' - broadly represented by the Inner Ring road - and the surrounding 'out-of-town-centre' suburban areas. The majority of the town centre lies within St Marys ward, with part also in Oldfield. Data is available for the Census Lower Level sub areas 005G and 005H, which together broadly cover the town centre, allowing comparison with the surrounding 'out-of-town centre' areas. Per the table below, average vehicle availability per household varies from a low of 0.96 per household in St Marys, up to 1.61 in Pinkney's Green. The ratio in the central town centre area (Census Lower output levels 005G & H) is 0.81 per household, where 38% of households don't have a vehicle at all.

Car or Van Availability by Ward (2021 Census): (Excludes motorcycles)									
Code	Electoral wards	No Vehicle		1 Vehicle	2 Vehicles	3 Vehicles	Total Households	Total Vehicles	Average Vehicles/ Household
E05012495	Belmont	291	11%	1,248	943	251	2,733	3,887	1.42
E05012497	Boyn Hill	318	12%	1,101	925	355	2,699	4,016	1.49
E05012505	Furze Platt	315	11%	1,112	1,146	392	2,965	4,580	1.54
E05012508	Oldfield*	483	17%	1,316	812	285	2,896	3,795	1.31
E05012509	Pinkneys Green	287	10%	987	1,131	457	2,862	4,620	1.61
E05012510	Riverside	286	9%	1,428	1,140	387	3,241	4,869	1.50
E05012511	St Mary's*	1,084	31%	1,571	648	157	3,460	3,338	0.96
	Total MNF Area	3,064	15%	8,763	6,745	2,284	20,856	29,105	1.40
Memo: Town Centre*									
	005G	296	40%	362	73	3	734	517	0.70
	005H	287	36%	339	141	35	802	726	0.91
	Town centre 005G+005H	583	38%	701	214	38	1,536	1,243	0.81

Figure 1.3.4-1 2021 Census extract: Car and Van availability

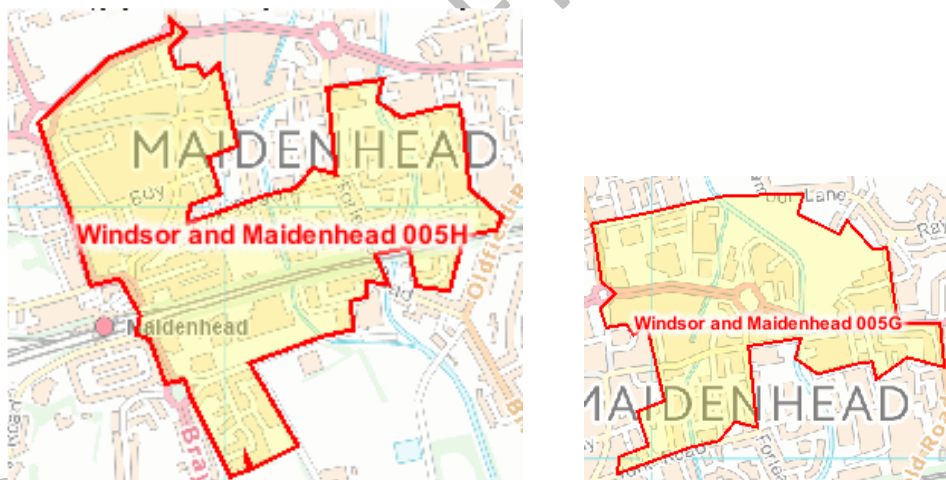
In summary, the main points evident from the latest Census data are:

- In the town centre, there is on average just under 1 vehicle per household
- Out-of-town, the number of vehicles per household is significantly higher
- The number of vehicles per household has remained at the same level from 2001 to 2021 as both vehicles and households have risen proportionately by the same amount.

The existing average ownership of around 1 vehicle per household in the town centre area is used to set the parking standard for 1 and 2 bed units, where the expected provision is set to 0.5 spaces for 1 bed units and 1 space for 2 bed units. This is higher than some recent developments where a 0.4 ratio has been accepted by the planning authority, leading to under provision and residents having to regularly use space in public car parks to keep their vehicles. Out-of-town, the number of vehicles per household increases further, and parking normally belongs to dwelling units. The standard is rounded up to 2 spaces for 2 and 3 bedroom units, with a standard of 1 space for 1 bed units and 3 spaces for 4+ bed units. Taking into account the 15% of households over the plan area that do not own a car or van shows that those that do have more than the average of 1.41, which together with additional visitor spaces, supports rounding to an integer of 2 spaces. Failure to provide sufficient off road spaces leads to residents parking on the highway, often on the pavement.

The conclusions here align quite closely with the RBWM Parking Strategy 2004 [Part 2, 2.12].

Oldfield sub-wards 005H and 005G chosen to give closest match to Town Centre area:



1.3.5 Provision of spaces for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles

The provision of Electric Vehicle charging points is covered under Part S of the Building Regulations and therefore not specified in the Neighbourhood Plan.

1.3.6 Travel to work

ONS data from the 2021 Census has been used to assess how people travel to work. Caution is however needed due to the Census date (21st March 2021) being close to the end of the pandemic, when restrictions on travel and on mixing were slowly being lifted. Flexible working, working from home and hybrid working all became common place during the pandemic and in many instances have continued since. Some respondents at the Census date were still furloughed but were advised to answer the transport to work question based on their previous travel patterns, before or during the

pandemic. Working from home in particular has had a major ongoing impact on commuter patterns and the related businesses that provide services aimed at commuters.

Travel to Work - MNF Summary by Ward (ONS 2021 Census)									
	Belmont	Boyn Hill	Furze Platt	Oldfield	Pinkneys Green	Riverside	St Mary's	Total MNF	% of those that travel to work
Work mainly at or from home	1,979	1,786	1,671	1,744	1,731	2,109	1,979	12,999	
Underground, metro, light rail, tram	11	8	7	10	5	14	10	65	0.5% }
Train	119	121	92	118	79	122	184	835	6.0% }
Bus, minibus or coach	13	16	18	24	19	19	34	143	1.0% }
Taxi	24	18	21	23	13	22	22	143	1.0% }
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	8	8	9	11	14	15	10	75	0.5% }
Driving a car or van	1,206	1,306	1,501	1,228	1,430	1,445	1,142	9,258	66.7% }
Passenger in a car or van	92	125	117	130	120	89	110	783	5.6% }
Bicycle	42	48	37	63	44	39	64	337	2.4% }
On foot	335	302	253	265	193	224	430	2,002	14.4% }
Other method of travel to work	24	41	37	35	25	42	25	229	1.7% }
Not in employment or aged 15 years and under	3,341	3,513	4,078	3,660	3,843	3,802	3,517	25,754	
Total in employment	7,194	7,292	7,841	7,311	7,516	7,942	7,527	52,623	26,869

Figure 1.3.6-1 2021 Census extract: method of travel to work

The table shows the Census 2021 recorded method of travel to work, where applicable, by ward and for the overall MNP area. The main points evident from the data are:

- Just under half (25,754 of 52, 623) of the population in the Neighbourhood Plan area were either not in employment or were age 15 and under at the time of the Census;
- Some 12,999 or 48% of the 26,869 recorded as in employment stated that they mainly work from home;
- Of those in employment that travel to work, 8.6% use one form or another of public transport;
- A significant proportion (14.4%) travel to work on foot, and another 2.4% cycle.
- By far the largest method of travel to work (72.4%) is as a driver or passenger in a car or van.

Distance travelled to work was also analysed using the 2021 Census data and is shown in the table below.

Distance Travelled to Work - MNF Summary by Ward (ONS 2021 Census)									
	Belmont	Boyn Hill	Furze Platt	Oldfield	Pinkneys Green	Riverside	St Mary's	Total MNF	% of those that travel to work
Less than 5km	697	683	768	660	648	623	742	4,821	35%
5km to less than 10km	238	293	259	274	231	340	319	1,954	14%
10km to less than 30km	434	424	469	399	485	414	404	3,029	22% }
30km to less than 60km	116	120	119	129	110	149	145	888	6% }
60km and over	23	29	18	23	21	24	22	160	1% }
Works mainly from home	1,979	1,786	1,671	1,744	1,731	2,109	1,979	12,999	
Works mainly offshore, no fixed place, or outside UK	366	445	458	422	445	481	399	3,016	22%
Total	3,853	3,780	3,762	3,651	3,671	4,140	4,010	26,867	

Figure 1.3.6-2 2021 Census extract: distance travelled to work

The table shows the Census 2021 recorded distance of travel to work, where applicable, by ward and for the overall MNP area. The main points evident from the data are:

- 35% of employees in the area travel less than 5km to their place of work.
- 28% of those that travelled to work travelled between 10km and 60km, which would include most London commuters.

Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan.

- A significant proportion (22%) of those are employed to work offshore, have no fixed base or work overseas.

For the 35% of employees travelling less than 5km to work, sustainable transport methods such as cycling are possible, and inform policies within this plan such as the provision of safe cycle routes and provision of cycle storage.

It is also clear that of those who travel further to work, the majority of employed residents travel to work outside the Neighbourhood Plan area, and taking into account Figure 1.3.6-1 the majority do so by driving a car or van. This forms a significant contribution to the local economy, and is dependent on provision of parking both at the source (residential) and destination (place of work). A number of employments, such as care workers and tradesmen/women are dependent on vehicle transport.

For Office and Business premises the main requirement is likely to be from staff who travel to their place of work, and are there for most of the working day. A useful study was carried out by Essex County Council and recorded as Parking Standards Design and Good Practice [Part 2, 3.1].

The Essex study covers a number of scenarios according to Use Classes at the time. Many Use Classes have since been merged and to simplify the requirement the most appropriate is B1, Offices, Research and Development, and Light Industry with the relevant standard extracted below.

Parking Standards for Use Class B1: Business

Offices, Research and development, Light Industry appropriate in a residential area.

Standard:

Use	Vehicle	Cycle	PTW	Disabled
	Maximum	Minimum	Minimum	Minimum
B1	1 space per 30 sqm	1 space per 100 sqm for staff plus 1 space per 200sqm for visitors	1 space, + 1 per 20 car spaces (for 1 st 100 car spaces), then 1 space per 30 car spaces (over 100 car spaces)	200 vehicle bays or less = 2 bays or 5% of total capacity, whichever is greater, Over 200 vehicle bays = 6 bays plus 2% of total capacity

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Informative notes:

A lower provision of vehicle parking may be appropriate in urban areas (including town centre locations) where there is good access to alternative forms of transport and existing car parking facilities.

In all cases adequate provision shall be made for the parking and turning of service vehicles serving the site, off the highway. Consideration should also be given to the requirement for any overnight parking and facilities.

For cycle storage, a similar requirement is also given in Table 11-1 of the Department for Transport’s guidance on Cycle Infrastructure Design LTN1/20, [Part 2, 1.12]

Regulation 14

Table 11-1: Suggested minimum cycle parking capacity for different types of land use

Land use type	Sub-category	Short stay requirement (obvious, easily accessed and close to destination)	Long stay requirement (secure and ideally covered)
All	Parking for adapted cycles for disabled people	5% of total capacity co-located with disabled car parking.	5% of total capacity co-located with disabled car parking.
Retail	Small (<200m ²)	1 per 100m ²	1 per 100m ²
	Medium (200-1,000m ²)	1 per 200m ²	1 per 200m ²
	>1,000m ²	1 per 250m ²	1 per 500m ²
Employment	Office/Finance (A2/B1)	1 per 1000m ²	1 per 200m ²
	Industrial/Warehousing (B2/B8)	1 per 1,000m ²	1 per 500m ²
Leisure and Institutions	Leisure centres, assembly halls, hospitals and healthcare	Greatest of: 1 per 50m ² or 1 per 30 seats/capacity	1 per 5 employees
	Educational Institutions	–	Separate provision for staff and students. Based on Travel Plan mode share targets, minimum: Staff: 1 per 20 staff Students; 1 per 10 students
Residential	All except sheltered/elderly housing or nursing homes	–	1 per bedroom
	Sheltered/elderly housing/ nursing homes	0.05 per residential unit	0.05 per bedroom

In the Essex County Council Parking Standards study introduction there is discussion on whether parking standards should be specified as maximum or minimum, and whether restricting car parking is effective as a method of changing travel behaviour. We note that the RBWM 2004 Parking strategy has maximum standards for Residential and Commercial, whereas the 2009 Essex SPD acknowledges that limiting parking by use of maximum standards does not necessarily discourage car ownership.

In the context of this rather confusing picture, ONS method of travel to work Census data from 2011 and from 2021 was compared, to observe any significant changes. Neighbourhood Plan area data from 2021 was given in Figure 1.3.6-1, and can be compared with data from 2011 in Figure 1.3.6-3:

Travel to Work - MNF Summary by Ward (ONS 2011 Census)									
	E05002350: Belmont	E05002352: Boyn Hill	E05002358: Cox Green	E05002362: Furze Platt	E05002365: Maidenhead Riverside	E05002367: Oldfield	E05002369: Pinkneys Green	Total MNF	% of those that travel to work
All categories: Method of travel to work	5,887	5,700	5,618	5,273	5,710	6,625	5,184	34,379	
	These numbers include those not working								
Work mainly at or from home	358	293	275	265	373	296	293	1,878	
Underground, metro, light rail, tram	19	28	11	17	29	30	15	138	0.6% }
Train	567	470	243	249	313	586	284	2,469	11.0% }
Bus, minibus or coach	61	50	77	37	53	98	68	367	1.6% }
Taxi	14	24	22	32	17	22	10	119	0.5% }
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	28	25	39	27	28	21	24	153	0.7% }
Driving a car or van	2,509	2,426	2,895	2,387	2,525	2,617	2,338	14,802	66.1% }
Passenger in a car or van	128	151	187	153	141	176	155	904	4.0% }
Bicycle	99	96	60	79	88	107	81	550	2.5% }
On foot	528	525	209	316	422	682	263	2,736	12.2% }
Other method of travel to work	19	25	21	20	30	35	24	153	0.7% }
Total in employment	4,330	4,113	4,039	3,582	4,019	4,670	3,555	24,269	70.1%

Figure 1.3.6-3 2011 Census extract: method of travel to work

The main observations from comparing 2011 and 2021 data are:

- The total number of people in employment had increased from 24,269 in 2011 to 26,869 in 2021, an increase of about 11%
- There had been a large increase in those working from home: 1,878 in 2011 rising to **12,999** in 2021, and being almost half those in employment
- There had been a large decrease in those travelling to work by train: 2,469 in 2011 falling to **835** in 2021
- Similar proportions travelled to work on foot or by cycle, in both 2011 and 2021
- By far the largest method of travel to work is as a driver or passenger in a car or van, and this proportion had risen slightly from 70.1% in 2011 to 72.4% in 2021, although the actual number of those driving to work had fallen by about a third from 14,802 in 2011 to 9,258 in 2021

1.3.7 How data informs policies

The policy for Residential parking and cycle storage requirements is informed by the data as follows:

- Accessibility of the development is taken into account in the parking and cycle storage requirement (better accessibility in the town centre allows a lower parking requirement)
- Type, mix and use of development is taken into account in the parking and cycle storage requirement (lower accessibility out-of-town and higher number of bedrooms drives a higher parking requirement)
- Availability of and opportunities for public transport are localised and directional, reducing the practical accessibility of many destinations and reducing choice. NPPF [Part 2, 1.1] paragraph 109 refers to “..offering a genuine choice of transport modes”, which does not exclude car travel. Provision of zero parking spaces can severely restrict choice.
- Local car ownership levels are taken into account in the parking requirement, both in the town centre and out-of-town. While the mix of car types (including EVs) in use is steadily changing, overall car availability (per household) has not reduced over the last 20 years.

In addition to the requirements of the NPPF [Part 2, 1.1] paragraph 111 the policy for Residential parking and cycle storage requirements has also been informed by:

- Method of travel to work, extracted from 2021 ONS data
- Distance travelled to work, from 2021 ONS data, and the need to..
- Avoid congestion from on-street parking causing a safety hazard for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians alike, by ensuring adequate provision of sufficient off-street parking in all new developments
- Opportunities for journeys to use sustainable transport methods, as stated in NPPF [Part 2, 1.1] where paragraph 109 refers to “..offering a genuine choice of transport modes” - for example encouraging cycling and walking by provision of safe and convenient routes

The policy for Office and Commercial parking and cycle storage requirements is informed as follows:

- For locations outside the Town centre, the Essex Use Class B1 vehicle parking standard of 1 space per 30 m² (translated as 3.3 spaces per 100m² of lettable internal area) is used, which also aligns closely with the previous 1 space per 35 m² figure in the 2004 RBWM parking

strategy. Formal Use Classes are no longer applicable, so the scope of the requirement includes more general Office/Commercial/Retail uses which had a similar requirement in the Essex parking standard and in the 2004 RBWM parking strategy.

- For Office/Commercial/Retail locations in the Town centre, a lower value of 1 space per 100m² of lettable internal area is used, which also aligns with the figure for accessible locations in the 2004 RBWM parking strategy.
- Warehousing is specified separately, as this has a significantly lower requirement, and specifies cars and lorries separately. Lower figures are specified in the Town Centre. Again the Essex parking standard and the 2004 RBWM parking strategy have been considered.
- Although retail usage, especially food retail, was previously considered with a higher requirement, this has not been specified as most users are likely to be using shared short-term parking spaces.
- The Essex Use Class B1 cycle parking standard of 1 space per 100 m² plus 1 space per 200 m² for visitors (translated as 1.5 spaces per 100m² of lettable internal area) is used, which is also fairly similar to the Department for Transport LTN1/20 figure
- Parking is specified as expected standards and cycle storage is specified as a minimum figures, as ONS data indicates that using maximum vehicle parking figures has not influenced the method of travel to work. With opportunities for public transport being localised and directional, it does not seem wise to reduce the practical accessibility of employment and business sites within the MNP area.
- Sustainable travel to work such as cycling is encouraged by inclusion of a cycle space requirement, which was absent from the RBWM 2004 strategy.

1.4 Void

1.5 Market Housing mix

BLP Policy HO2 on Housing Mix and Type refers to the 2016 Berkshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) [Part 2, 2.7]. Table 1.5-1 below is copied from paragraph 46:

Table 1.5-1: SHMA recommendation

Recommended Housing Mix – Eastern Berks and South Bucks HMA				
	1-bed	2-bed	3-bed	4+ bed
Market	5-10%	25-30%	40-45%	20-25%
Affordable	35-40%	25-30%	25-30%	5-10%
All dwellings	15%	30%	35%	20%

This gives a target mix for the whole BLP area, but is the only stated reference to assess compliance with the BLP policy HO2. There is however concern within the Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan Area that almost all completions to date have been 1 and 2 bed flats, with very few completions of 3 and 4 bed units. The concern extends to whether sites outside the town centre can redress the balance.

For Maidenhead itself, Table 5-13 of the Housing Needs Assessment in Appendix 3 suggests a mix of (11%+24%) = 35% 1&2 bed units, and (36%+20%) = 57% 3&4 bed units, with 8% 5+ bed units. Even allowing for Maidenhead's role providing flats for the wider area, this does indicate that Maidenhead's needs remain broadly aligned with the 2016 SHMA and the mix should be given significant weight.

Within Maidenhead the densification of Town centre sites, implemented as 1 and 2 bed flats, needs to be balanced with a higher proportion of 3 and 4 bed units outside the Town centre. This is acknowledged in the extracts below taken from section 6.5 and Appendix 3 of the RBWM South West Maidenhead Development Framework SPD [Part 2, 2.9]:

6.5.2 Having regard to the policy basis, given that a significant proportion of housing supply in the Borough, and particularly in Maidenhead, will come forward from developments of flats in the town centre, it is important that developments on greenfield sites provide a higher proportion of family housing. Appendix 3 sets out further information and evidence relating to housing mix.

6.5.3 The AL13 proforma in the Local Plan, supported by the design principles set out earlier, also highlight that the northern neighbourhood will be orientated to the town centre, making the most of proximity to the railway station and town centre facilities. It notes that building heights, densities and typologies will reflect those in the town centre. Conversely, in the southern (Harvest Hill) neighbourhood the Local Plan proforma recognises that residential areas will reduce in density away from the Local Centre, allowing for the provision of family homes with gardens.

As such, given the SHMA mix, the evidence on wider housing delivery, and the BLP policy for the two neighbourhoods, the proportion of 3 and 4 bed units and other family housing, will be expected to increase significantly in the Harvest Hill Neighbourhood and the proportion of flats and 1 and 2 bed units is expected to be much lower in the Harvest Hill Neighbourhood, especially south of Harvest Hill Road and away from the local centre.

From Appendix 3:

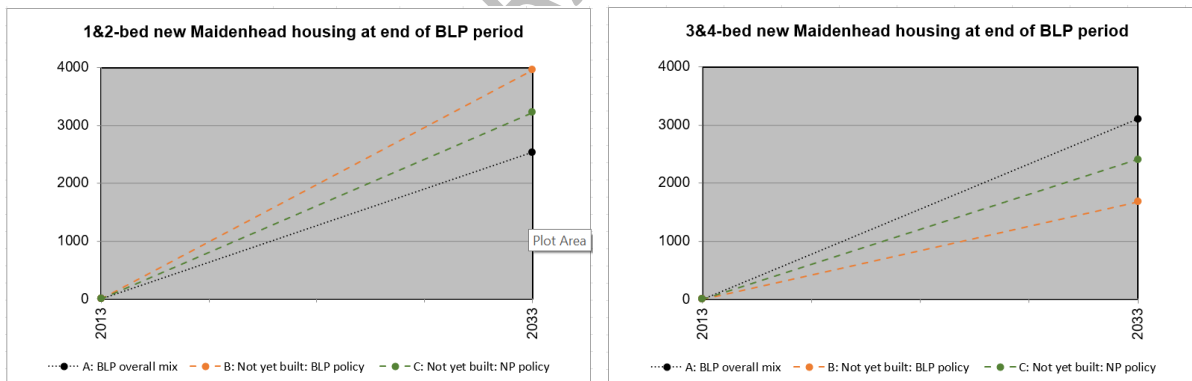
Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan.

Furthermore, it should be noted that the nature of the housing supply in Maidenhead in particular is for a high proportion of flats, due to the concentration of a significant number of allocations in the town centre growth location. A review of the housing allocations identified in Policy HO1 of the Borough Local Plan shows a total of 2,670 homes to be provided on town centre sites (which are likely to be almost exclusively for flats) out of a total 5,929 in total in Maidenhead. As such it is important that the opportunity should be taken to deliver a good proportion of houses on what is by far the largest greenfield site in Maidenhead, whilst taking advantage of its sustainable location to deliver higher density development where appropriate on the site.

Having regard to this evidence and local circumstances, as the single largest greenfield allocation in the Borough Local Plan, an appropriate housing mix on the AL13 site is one which takes every opportunity to deliver 3 and 4 bed homes, whilst recognising that the northern end of the site in particular and the area around the local centre provides an opportunity to deliver higher density development given their particularly sustainable location.

While recognising the high need for 3 and 4 bed homes outside the town centre, the SPD does not however specify a housing mix % or say how the overall SHMA mix is to be achieved. A separate analysis was carried out for the BLP-allocated Housing sites within the Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan Area, which considers what would be delivered at the end of the BLP period under 3 scenarios:

- Scenario A: All sites built according to the default BLP mix
- Scenario B: Not-yet-built sites outside the Town Centre according to BLP mix (assuming all Town centre sites are built as 1&2 bed units)
- Scenario C: Not-yet-built sites outside the Town Centre are built according to the recommended Neighbourhood Plan policy H0-2 mix with 80% 3&4 bed units (assuming all Town centre sites are built as 1&2 bed units)



The key points arising from this analysis are:

- Under scenario B where not-yet-built sites outside the Town Centre are according to BLP mix, there is a very large shortfall in 3&4 bed units, and over-provision of 1&2 bed units.
- Under Scenario C where not-yet-built sites outside the Town Centre have 80% 3&4 bed units, the shortfall in 3&4 bed units is approximately halved.
- Note that the modelled scenarios accept that all Town centre sites are built as 1&2 bed units.

The source data is copied below:

Maidenhead Neighbourhood Plan.

Scenario A: All sites built according to BLP mix		Allocated site information				Not yet built				At end of BLP		
BLP	Sites within Neighbourhood Plan Area	Allocation	% Built	% 1/2 bed	% 3/4 bed	1&2-bed	3&4-bed	Town	Outer	1&2-bed	3&4-bed	Total
AL1	Nicholsons Centre	500	0	45	55					225	275	
AL2	Land between High Street and West Street	300	0	45	55					135	165	
AL3	St Mary's Walk	0	0	45	55					0	0	
AL4	York Road	450	0	45	55					203	248	
AL5	West Street Opportunity Area	240	0	45	55					108	132	
AL6	Methodist Church, High Street	50	0	45	55					23	28	
AL7	Maidenhead Railway station	150	0	45	55					68	83	
AL8	St Cloud Gate	Office										
AL9	St Cloud Way	550	0	45	55					248	303	
AL10	Stafferton Way Retail Park	350	0	45	55			2590		158	193	
AL11	Crossrail West Outer Depot	Industrial										
AL12	Land to East of Braywick Gate, Braywick Road	50	0	45	55					23	28	
AL13	Desborough, Harvest Hill Road, South West Mhd	2600	0	45	55					1170	1430	
AL23	St. Mark's Hospital	45	0	45	55					20	25	
AL25	Spencer's Farm	330	0	45	55					149	182	
AL26A	Osbornes Garage St Marks Road	20	0	45	55				3045	9	11	
Totals		5635								2536	3099	5635
As %										45	55	

Scenario B: Not-yet-built sites according to BLP mix		Allocated site information				Not yet built				At end of BLP		
BLP	Sites within Neighbourhood Plan Area	Allocation	% Built	% 1/2 bed	% 3/4 bed	1&2-bed	3&4-bed	Town	Outer	1&2-bed	3&4-bed	Total
AL1	Nicholsons Centre	500	0	100	0	500	0			500		
AL2	Land between High Street and West Street	300	50	100	0	150	0			300		
AL3	St Mary's Walk	0	0	100	0	0	0			0		
AL4	York Road	450	50	100	0	225	0			450		
AL5	West Street Opportunity Area	240	0	100	0	240	0			240		
AL6	Methodist Church, High Street	50	0	100	0	50	0			50		
AL7	Maidenhead Railway station	150	0	100	0	150	0			150		
AL8	St Cloud Gate	Office										
AL9	St Cloud Way	550	100	100	0	0	0			550		
AL10	Stafferton Way Retail Park	350	0	100	0	350	0	1665		350		
AL11	Crossrail West Outer Depot	Industrial										
AL12	Land to East of Braywick Gate, Braywick Road	50	50	100	0	25	0			50	0	
AL13	Desborough, Harvest Hill Road, South West Mhd	2600	0	45	55	1170	1430			1170	1430	
AL23	St. Mark's Hospital	45	0	0	100	0	45			0	45	
AL25	Spencer's Farm	330	0	45	55	149	182			149	182	
AL26A	Osbornes Garage St Marks Road	20	100	0	100	0	0		3000	0	20	
Totals		5635				3009	1657			3959	1677	5635
As %										70	30	

Scenario C: Not-yet-built sites according to NP mix		Allocated site information				Not yet built				At end of BLP		
BLP	Sites within Neighbourhood Plan Area	Allocation	% Built	% 1/2 bed	% 3/4 bed	1&2-bed	3&4-bed	Town	Outer	1&2-bed	3&4-bed	Total
AL1	Nicholsons Centre	500	0	100	0	500	0			500		
AL2	Land between High Street and West Street	300	50	100	0	150	0			300		
AL3	St Mary's Walk	0	0	100	0	0	0			0		
AL4	York Road	450	50	100	0	225	0			450		
AL5	West Street Opportunity Area	240	0	100	0	240	0			240		
AL6	Methodist Church, High Street	50	0	100	0	50	0			50		
AL7	Maidenhead Railway station	150	0	100	0	150	0			150		
AL8	St Cloud Gate	Office										
AL9	St Cloud Way	550	100	100	0	0	0			550		
AL10	Stafferton Way Retail Park	350	0	100	0	350	0	1665		350		
AL11	Crossrail West Outer Depot	Industrial										
AL12	Land to East of Braywick Gate, Braywick Road	50	50	100	0	25	0			50	0	
AL13	Desborough, Harvest Hill Road, South West Mhd	2600	0	20	80	520	2080			520	2080	
AL23	St. Mark's Hospital	45	0	0	100	0	45			0	45	
AL25	Spencer's Farm	330	0	20	80	66	264			66	264	
AL26A	Osbornes Garage St Marks Road	20	100	0	100	0	0		3000	0	20	
Totals		5635				2276	2389			3226	2409	5635
As %										57	43	

Further evidence of the need for Larger/Family Dwellings can be found in the following sections of the Housing Needs Analysis in Appendix 3:

- **Executive Summary -30:** Waiting list evidence shows that rental demand is greatest for 3 and 4 bed housing. This is evidenced in **Table 4.7**.
- **Executive Summary-38:** High proportion of households with dependent children – Maidenhead 29.4% of households against 25.8% nationally.
- **Executive Summary-47:** There is evidence of a specific decline in the supply of 3 bed dwellings which should be a “priority” for future development. This is evidenced in **Table 5.3**.

- **Table 5.4:** Shows that Maidenhead has 32.9% of housing stock with 3 bedrooms, compared with 40.0% nationally. (Note: 28.4% 4-bed against 21.1% nationally). The combined 3 and 4-bed % is in line with national figures.
- **Table 5.13:** Shows that the Indicative Mix for 3 bed dwellings increases from 32.9% in the 2021 census to 36.3% in 2039. All other house sizes fall back in mix %.
- **Bullet Point 5.23:** Refers to the potential impact. of high density, smaller dwellings reducing choice for family households.
- **Bullet Points 5.46, 5.50 and 5.51** all refer to the need for more family housing – esp. 3-bed.
- **Overcrowding:** There is also evidence of overcrowding referred to in **5.21 to 5.24** and **5.48 and 5.49**. Whilst this supports the need for larger homes it applies to both the affordable sector and the open market sector.

Regulation 14 DRAFT for consultation