

Examination of the Tunbridge Wells
Borough Local Plan

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

**Introductory Note to
Highways Modelling
Reports**

Date: September 2024



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Introduction to Tunbridge Wells Local Plan Highways Modelling Reports

- 1.1 To inform the Council's response to the Inspector's Initial Findings letter [[ID-012](#)] the Council commissioned its highways consultants to produce a number of Highways Modelling Reports which enabled the Council to consider and amend the Development Strategy set out in the Submission Local Plan [[CD 3.128](#)] to address the initial findings of the Inspector.
- 1.2 The Council's proposed amended Development Strategy has been considered at the Stage 3 Examination hearing sessions held in June and July 2024. At some hearing sessions, in particular those relating to Matter 3 (The Strategy for Tudeley Village), Matter 4 (The Strategy for Paddock Wood), and Matter 7 (Highways Infrastructure), the Inspector and in some instances, other attendees noted that a number of additional highway reports had been submitted to the examination by the Council, mainly attached as appendices to the Council's Stage 3 Written Statements (namely documents [TWLP/123](#), [TWLP/124](#), [TWLP/125](#), [TWLP/137](#), and [TWLP/142](#)).
- 1.3 The Inspector requested that the Council produce a note setting out a comprehensive list of related highways reports, and explaining in simple terms the purpose of the highway documents.
- 1.4 The purpose of the Note therefore is to provide a summary of the suite of Highways Modelling Reports produced since the Stage 2 hearings, explaining the purpose of each of these. Hyperlinks to the documents are included for ease.

The Highways Modelling Reports

2.1 The Highways Modelling Reports are identified and summarised as follows:

Stage 1 Technical Note:

2.2 Stage 1 presents a review of previous modelling assumptions and sets out the methodology for the revised modelling. This was reported in the Stage 1 Technical Note:

[PS_047-TW-Stage-1-Technical-Note-Review-of-Strategic-Model-Methodology-and-Set-Up-for-Local-Plan.pdf \(tunbridgewells.gov.uk\)](#)

Stage 2 Reporting:

2.3 Stage 2 comprised the revised Local Plan runs without mitigation and identification of relevant hotspots. The results are presented in the Stage 2 reporting:

[TW Local Plan Stage 2 Reporting](#)

Stage 3 Part 1 – Modal Shift Note and Mode Shift Runs:

2.4 Stage 3 part 1 comprised Local Plan model runs with mode shift applied. The evidence and justification behind the modal shift assumptions are set out in Sweco's Modal Shift note. This also summarises how the mode shift has been applied in the model.

[PS_090 Modal Shift Analysis Technical Note \(tunbridgewells.gov.uk\)](#)

2.5 The results of the Mode Shift runs are presented in the Stage 3 Model Shift reporting:

[TW Local Plan Stage 3 areas of interest \(tunbridgewells.gov.uk\)](#)

Stage 3 Part 2 – Additional Model Runs:

2.6 Stage 3 part 2 comprises the additional model runs with highway mitigation measures. The highway interventions considered are set out on the Stage 3 part 2 Outcomes Technical Note:

[PS_059-Tunbridge-Wells-Local-Plan-Stage-3-Part-2-Outcomes-November-2023.pdf \(tunbridgewells.gov.uk\)](#)

Strategic Transport Assessment:

2.7 The Strategic Transport Assessment summarised the above Stages and presented the results of the Local Plan Highways Mitigation scenarios. In addition, it included a safety review and assessment of when interventions are likely to be required. This was included as Appendix 1 to the Hearing Statement for Matter 3:

[TWLP_123-Appendix-1-SWECO-Strategic-Transport-Assessment.pdf \(tunbridgewells.gov.uk\)](#)

Pembury Road Corridor Study:

2.8 Following the work detailed in the Strategic Transport Assessment, the Council's consultants, Stantec undertook a study to investigate the feasibility of potential improvements on the Pembury Road corridor. This is detailed in the Pembury Road Corridor report.

[PS_091_A264 Pembury Road corridor – Junction capacity assessment \(tunbridgewells.gov.uk\)](#)

Strategic Transport Assessment Addendum:

2.9 Following the Stantec Pembury Road Corridor Study, an update was made to the Local Plan Highway Mitigation Option 2 scenario to reflect the emerging Pembury Road schemes. The results are reported in the Strategic Transport

Assessment Addendum. This was included as Appendix 1 to the Hearing Statement for Matter 7 Issue 1:

[Matter 7: Highways Infrastructure - Issue 1: Strategic and Local Road Networks \(tunbridgewells.gov.uk\)](https://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk)

Hotspot Comparison:

2.10 A comparison of hotspots between the submitted and the revised Local Plan is presented in the Junction Hotspot Comparison Technical Note. This also included detailed results for all junctions.

[PS_092 Junction Hotspot Comparison \(tunbridgewells.gov.uk\)](https://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk)