

Highways, Traffic and Parking

The Council is responsible for the maintenance and management of Westminster's highways and road networks and is committed to promoting safer streets by improving air quality, encouraging sustainable travel, and reducing traffic. Roads managed by the council include the Strategic Road Network, which are signposted as primary routes and distribute traffic within Westminster and neighbouring boroughs as well linking into the TfL-managed 'red routes', and the Local Road Network which distributes local traffic and provides access to residential and local centres.

The Council's transport agenda is supported by the strategic ambitions outlined in the Mayor's Transport Strategy, which includes targets for reducing carbon emissions, promoting healthier lifestyles in the Vision Zero plan, and implementing the Healthy Streets agenda.

The London Plan and City Plan emphasise the transition to space-efficient and low-emission transport, with Westminster exceeding the electric vehicle charging point standards set by the London Plan. However, the City Plan differs from the London Plan regarding parking provision. While the London Plan aims to become "car-free" in high Public Transport Access Level areas, the City Plan takes a customised approach to ensure that the absence of parking provision does not lead to an increase in on-street parking demand.

The Fairer Westminster Strategy further emphasises that promoting the use of sustainable and active modes of transport, including the use of more environmentally friendly cars for those unable to travel by foot, bike, or public transport, are key transport priorities over the City Plan period.

Planned Projects

Strategic Road Network

Westminster's Strategic Road Network carries large volumes of traffic including heavy goods vehicles and abnormal loads. Key strategic improvement projects on streets including Regent Street and Warwick Way, Sackville Street Shepherd Market, 29km of new bus lanes, and over 200 new or upgraded pedestrian and cycle crossings by 2025, plus management of Bulleid Way Express Coach Facility.

Known planned provision includes replacing the temporary Hostile Vehicle Mitigation barriers across Waterloo Bridge with a permanent solution that protects pedestrians and cyclists using the bridge.

Strategic Road Network	
Lead	Westminster City Council has responsibility for the Strategic Road Network in collaboration with TfL and other transport agencies and providers.
Current Provision	Westminster's road networks include the Strategic Road Network, TfL Road Network, and local roads, as well as locally maintained footways. Westminster has more than 150 electric vehicle charging bays.
Known Planned Provision	Strategic improvement projects include new bus lanes, new or upgraded pedestrian/cycle crossings, and other improvements.
Future Needs	Promoting active travel and decreasing reliance on petrol and diesel cars and mitigating unsustainable traffic to alleviate congestion and improve the city's air quality.

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Funding	£184m investment in 2023/24, multi-year capital programme of £2.8bn, TfL and GLA funding, parking revenue, workplace parking levy, CIL, S106 Agreements, LIP funding, grant funding.

Local Road Network

Westminster's local roads have a general priority for people over traffic while distributing local traffic and providing access to residential and local centres. Network encompasses roads that primarily serve local communities.

Planned provision includes various improvement projects to regenerate areas like Edgeware Road, increased dropped kerbsides and support for sustainable travel initiatives such as additional electric vehicle points and residential cycle hangars.

Local Road Network	
Lead	The Council is responsible for Westminster's Local Road Network.
Current Provision	The Council prioritises people over traffic on local roads, while distributing local traffic and providing access to residential areas. Roads maintenance is performed constantly. Improvements, such as upgrades to pedestrian crossings, are made regularly.
Known Planned Provision	There are various planned local road improvements in regeneration areas like Edgeware Road, increased dropped kerbsides and additional electric vehicle points, supporting the roll-out of rapid and ultra rapid charges for electric vehicles, and residential cycle hangars.
Future Needs	Enhancing pedestrian and cyclist safety, reallocation of kerb and carriageway space, ongoing provision and upgrade of pedestrian crossings, support for sustainable travel initiatives.
Funding	Capital Programme funding, S106, S278, and CIL Developer contributions, private sector investments, TfL grant funds.

Schedule

Prioritisation	Programme / Strategic project	Location/s	Description	Provider	Estimated WCC cost	Total Funding gap
Essential	Planned Maintenance (Highways, Lighting, Bridges and Structures)	Various across City	Highways Assets Maintenance for safety, efficient use of funds, limiting risk of injuries etc. Statutory requirement as Highways Authority	WCC	£80.4m	£77.4m

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Essential	Bridges, Underpasses / Structures - Major Projects	Various across City	Highways Assets Maintenance for safety, efficient use of funds, limiting risk of injuries etc. Statutory requirement as Highways Authority	WCC		
Desirable	Ceremonial Streetscape projects	Various across City	Streetscape improvement projects	WCC	£10.4m	Nil
Crucial	Bus and Coach Infrastructure	Various across City	Bus and Coach Infrastructure to facilitate safe and efficient movement on our network	WCC		
Crucial	Local Safety Schemes and Traffic Management and Accessibility Improvements	Various across City	Junctions and safety improvements to reduce risks of injuries, collisions, and encourage active travel	WCC	£11.7m	£6.7m
Crucial	Crossings / Junction Improvements	Various across City	Junctions and safety improvements to reduce risks of injuries, collisions, and encourage active travel	WCC		
Crucial	Kerbside	Various across City	For efficient use of limited kerbside space	WCC		
Important	Lighting	Various across City	Lighting for safety of pedestrians and other highways users	WCC		