

Survey of transport needs

in

Wembury



Survey of transport needs in Wembury parish and the surrounding areas

We understand that transport can be an issue for many people in the South Hams. This survey will help us learn more about the needs of individual families and individuals. The findings will be used by Wembury Parish Council, voluntary organisations and other partners to work on the identified needs, where possible, and to make a difference to residents in Wembury parish.

We would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes completing this survey.

1. How do you get out and about? (please tick all applicable options):

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Walking: | ☐ | Own/household car: | ☐ |
| Cycling: | ☐ | Friend/neighbour's car: | ☐ |
| Bus: | ☐ | Motorcycle: | ☐ |
| Community transport: | ☐ | Mobility scooter: | ☐ |
| Train: | ☐ | Taxi: | ☐ |

Other (please write your comment below):

2. Are you unable to undertake any of the following regularly due to lack of transport?

- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Health appointment: | ☐ | Shopping: | ☐ |
| Employment: | ☐ | Volunteering: | ☐ |
| Education/training: | ☐ | School/nursery: | ☐ |
| Activities/groups: | ☐ | Seeing friends/family: | ☐ |

Other (please write your comment below):



Background: the need for this survey

The South Hams is among the lowest 10% for population density across English local authority areas according to the 2021 census. Information in this census also showed that, at 88,600 residents, the South Hams has the joint highest average (median) age in the South West.

According to the Office of National Statistics (ONS), 8.7% of the district's population was income-deprived in 2019. While the visible affluence of the South Hams district masks its hidden deprivation, there will be other residents who are not 'income deprived' but impacted by higher costs not faced by those living in large towns and cities, such as transport being more costly to distant hospitals. This is an important consideration especially when, according to ONS statistics, over 27% of residents have a disability that limits day-to-day activities—or a long-term physical or mental health condition.

This issue is further compounded the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) being based on concentrated population areas. The IMD data is often used by strategic bodies and grant funders to assess funding need.

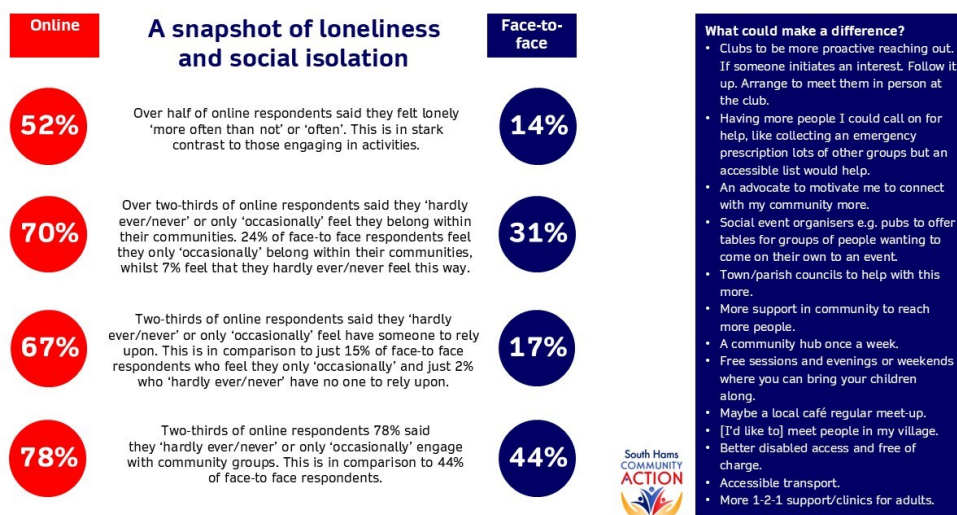
Directors of public health, working in rural areas, also noted in the 'Health and

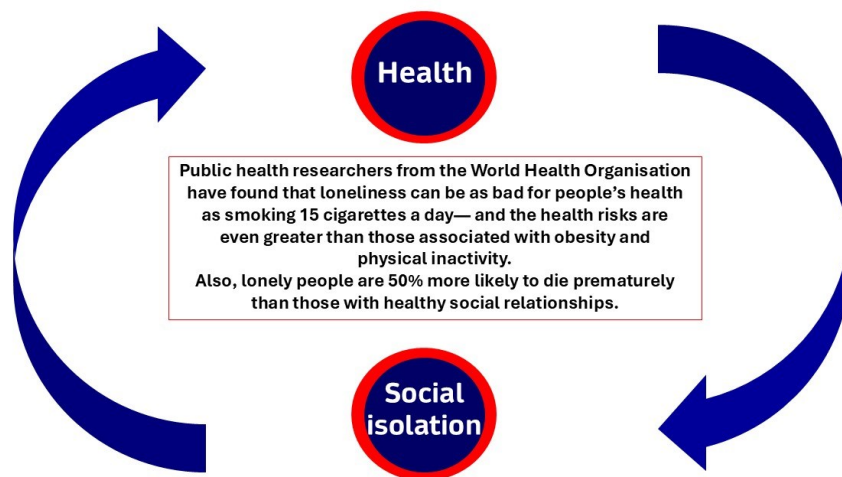
wellbeing in rural areas' report that 'the IMD may not reflect cost of living and other wellbeing issues in rural areas. These can arise in areas where there is reduced choice and availability of services, shops and amenities; where access to transport and communications may be more limited; some unemployment or underemployment may be hidden; the prices of fuel, food and other items may sometimes be higher, and there is poor or no digital access. Older rural housing stock is also less energy efficient and more expensive to heat.'

Our team at South Hams Community Action also noted that, in addition to barriers to access health, food and employment, many residents were struggling to get to activities that are essential for maintaining ongoing health and wellbeing.

According to the ONS statistics, feelings of happiness are lower in the South Hams, while anxiety and feeling that life is not worthwhile is much higher than the median for other areas. ONS statistics also show that 10.6% of South Hams residents say they are 'often or always' lonely.

Through our team and other feedback we





have known what the rurality impacts were, but we needed to evidence these. So, in 2023/24, South Hams Community Action undertook a survey to explore the issue of loneliness and social isolation in the South Hams.

We attended groups, went into pubs, cafés, post offices and local shops to ask people about their feelings of belonging within their communities and about the barriers they have encountered to reducing their social isolation. We also undertook an online survey.

We found that the top overall barrier (both for those responding face-to-face and online in the survey) was transport.

For those responding online, the top barrier was mental health (a substantial issue for many), with transport second.

Timings and health conditions were also barriers to reducing social isolation.

We needed to better understand the transport barriers. This needed to be undertaken at a parish/town level, as each parish or town will have very different needs, current transport provision and transport barriers.

Also, we wanted to evidence local need to better support our community transport providers—eg. Ivybridge & District Community Transport who offer a community car scheme and the Ring & Ride service—and other charities who are working to

support our residents through health and wellbeing activities and cost of living support.

Our aim was to use the findings to support our voluntary groups with funding and potentially capacity building. We also were looking to hold a transport event to see if there were areas where the South Hams voluntary groups and parishes could work together to bring change—and how we could support this.

In addition, we wanted to better understand the impact of health on transport need—hence the questions addressing potential health issues, such as bus shelter seating or distance to bus stops.

The survey was also designed to provide parish/town councils—and wider strategic bodies—with information on local needs relating to transport.

It was a challenge to find locations for the paper surveys and boxes. Agreed locations were Wembury Surgery (no box but surveys were available), The Odd Wheel in Wembury, Eddystone Inn in Heybrook Bay, the Mussel Inn in Down Thomas. Paper copy responses are important for people who do not access social media platforms. Our team attended the Wembury Community Hub and Wembury Coffee Stop to encourage responses. We publicised the survey online through many parish Facebook groups too. In total, 149 people responded.

How do you get out and about?

It should be noted that people responding to this question could choose more than one option. Also, the survey was self-selecting in that—other than those attending the Wembury Coffee Stop or Community Hub—people chose to complete this survey without being specifically asked. Therefore, people who have transport needs or an issue with local transport are *potentially* more likely to have responded to this survey.

The highest response was 'own or household car' with 128 people saying they had access to a household car. This means that 21 people do not have access to a household car and, even for those who do, there may be one car that is almost exclusively used by another family member. A further 11 people were given lifts by a family member or friend.

The second highest response was walking, although 42 people didn't 'tick' that they walked anywhere, eg. into the village for the shops or appointments. Perhaps this is because they thought of walking in terms of leisure, rather than going to the shops or getting to the bus stop. Or possibly this is due to the topography of Wembury with some being unable to walk up the hills. This issue has cropped up a number of times previously with the South Hams Community Action social prescriber and community link worker prior to the survey taking place.

Bus use was the third highest figure with 85 of the 149 total responses stating that they use local buses.

Only those responding online reported that they cycled. There were similar figures for those cycling and using taxis—but these figures were much lower than car, walking and bus use.

- This question had a 100% response rate with all 149 respondents advising how they got out and about.

I do not drive and my husband is 86 and has mobility problems so cannot always drive me.

Would cycle if there was a path.

Own a car as no other option.

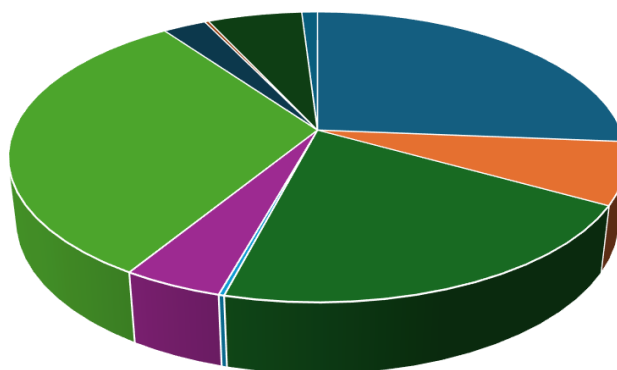
My journeys are mainly by cycle and walking.

Carer's car once a week.

Family member car.

Tractor, quad and trailer.

How do you get out and about?



- Walking
- Cycling
- Bus
- Community transport
- Train
- Own/household car
- Friend/neighbour's car
- Motorcycle
- Taxi
- Mobility scooter

How do you get out and about?	Total
Walking	107
Cycling	28
Bus	85
Community transport	1
Train	18
Own/household car	128
Friend/neighbour's car	11
Motorcycle	1
Taxi	24
Mobility scooter	4

Are you unable to undertake any of the following regularly due to lack of transport?

It should be noted that people responding to this question could choose more than one option. Residents also responded on behalf of family members, e.g. a child or grandchild who struggled to get to school or work.

The top areas where people encounter transport barriers are seeing friends and family, attending activities and groups, and shopping. Access to health appointments also scored highly.

Although a lower number of residents quantified issues around access to employment (14) and education/training (11), these are likely to be more substantial issues relative to the lower number of responses in the age groups most likely to be in employment/training and/or without easy access to a vehicle. These issues can also have ongoing future impacts on these residents.

Many residents recognise that having a car is crucial. Some people voiced concern about what would happen when they can no longer run a car. Issues with buses are noted, particularly the lack of an evening service, Sunday service and bus timings, including the regularity of buses, and direct access to Derriford.

My father picks up my daughter from school, he is unable to drive so catches the bus from 'new Staddy' (by Asda garage) - we did not realise that on school days no bus departs the village between 3.10pm and after 4pm, so he has to get a taxi back with her to Staddiscombe.

If our car breaks down, we've had it. We live in Heybrook Bay with only 2 daily buses!

- 60 of the 149 responses replied to advise they were unable to undertake some of the following regularly due to lack of transport.**

If I didn't have a car, it would be impossible to use public transport from Wembury to get to work and very difficult to get to appointments etc.

Hospital. No easy route to Derriford. Taxis are extortionate.

I wouldn't be able to access any of these if I did not have a car

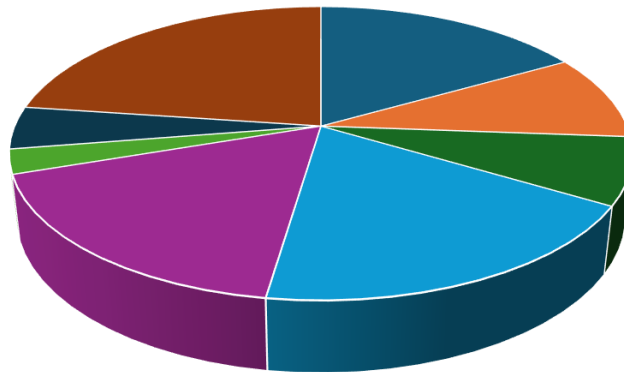
No issues at present but I don't know what it'll be like when we can't get out and about without help.

Derriford hospital. Would be good to have a direct bus without having to change in Plymstock or Plymouth city centre with long waits between buses.

Plymouth city centre—only one bus a day out and one bus a day back.

Frustrating that when I occasionally use the train to see friends at the weekend it's a struggle to get back to Wembury on a Sunday due to no bus service on that day.

Are you unable to undertake any of the following regularly due to lack of transport?



- Health appointment
- Employment
- Education/training
- Activities/groups
- Shopping
- Volunteering
- School/nursery
- Seeing friends/family

Are you unable to undertake any of the following regularly due to lack of transport?	Total
Health appointment	25
Employment	14
Education/training	11
Activities/groups	28
Shopping	26
Volunteering	4
School/nursery	7
Seeing friends/family	34

The only way I am able to access all of the above is due to having a car. If I did not have a car, all of these would have a barrier. Some of the smaller roads feel too dangerous to walk or cycle on due to the speed of cars and are quite well used roads.

No bus on a Sunday. Last bus 6.45 into the village.

Car parking at Derriford increasingly difficult.

ARE YOU UNABLE TO UNDERTAKE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING REGULARLY DUE TO LACK OF TRANSPORT?

- 1) I am increasingly choosing to work from home rather than work from Langage business park due to the worsening traffic and a lack of transportation options.
- 2) There is no bus returning to Wembury at around 3pm, my son is at 6th form and the gap in the afternoon timetable means additional car journeys are needed to collect him.
- 3) There is no bus service on a Sunday which means any shopping trip needs to be done by car.
- 4) The last bus back to Wembury leaves Royal Parade at 18:15. This either curtails the trip into Plymouth or requires the expense of a taxi.
- No late buses into the city. So, I have to drive or get a taxi.
- Without a car I wouldn't be able to do many of these living in Heybrook Bay.
- When car won't start [I can't do anything].

Derriford hospital. Would be good to have a direct bus without having to change in Plymstock or Plymouth city centre with long waits between buses.

Can do all I want because I can afford to run a car. Would much prefer to be able to use public transport and leave my car at home but that is just not practical from Wembury.

- Due to lack of buses on a Sunday (none at all) and last bus home 6.15 on a Saturday.
- Going out for evening meals with lack bus service.
- Going to the theatre or shows in the evening.
- No, but much of this would be true if I lost my driving licence due to age etc. Bus link is not good.
- Two buses a day here (Heybrook Bay), we feel (and are not alone in doing so) inadequate for all our needs. If it happens that our car is out of action, life becomes that much less easy.
- I don't have a transport issue.
- Everything if didn't have my own car.
- Wouldn't be able to do any without a car.
- Unable to get into town in the evenings.

All accessible whilst I am still able to drive. It is very difficult and restrictive if one is not able to drive.

Is there an organisation/location/town/village you need or want to access but cannot?

Many people responded to say they would like to go to Plymouth, while others mentioned Derriford and other locations. However, many residents noted that they struggled to connect with the other villages within the parish.

Bus timings and public transport connections were also shown to be barriers,

- This question asked respondents to comment on their need.

particularly in the evenings and on Sundays.

Many recognise that car ownership seems necessary in Wembury parish.

- Plymouth centre more regularly.
- Other villages.
- Derriford.
- Local garden centre and library.
- No bus on Sundays.
- I am able to access places as I have a car, but I would struggle if I had to get the bus. How would I attend Fort Stamford Gym if I had to get public transport at least two buses for a 45-minute class.
- Plymouth City centre and back more than the one bus we have from Heybrook Bay.
- Garage.
- Preschool.
- We need more dentists.
- Plymouth in the evening. No late bus service to return to Wembury.

It's also difficult—nigh impossible—to use public transport if you live in Wembury to socialize in neighbouring parishes of Heybrook Bay, Down Thomas and Brixton. Which means reducing isolation is difficult unless you have a car. There is very little in Wembury despite the population size.

Plymouth - we have one car and I commuted by bike before I moved here. I am too scared to use the road between Wembury and Staddiscombe so I have had to limit my office days.

- The train station.
- Roads work great for connecting places with each other, if there were less potholes it would reduce the cost of ownership too.
- No direct route to Plympton although presumably you'd get off in Plymstock to get another bus.
- Bovisands.
- No access to Saltram via a bus.
- More frequent buses.
- Plympton.
- My partner also used to cycle and now we have to juggle the car/use buses which can be costly.
- We both want to change our jobs, but realistically we will be forced to purchase another car. It's bonkers given the amount of commuters in the village.
- More direct access to city centre. Current bus can take up to an hour sometimes.

- No buses in the evening.
- Buses not running late enough on the weekend.
- No school bus to Plymstock school and back and no bus from Wembury between 7.30am and 9.45am.
- Modbury is tricky to get to because it involves two buses which is costly. Same goes for Plympton where family lives.
- Wembury from Heybrook Bay.
- Getting to Plymouth train station early enough to get to Exeter for 0900 And getting a bus home again in the evening.
- Wembury to Heybrook Bay link would be useful to be able to tie the villages. Events/ friends/family. Not possible for the elderly or those without transport between villages.
- Sherford, Plympton, industrial estates.
- Plymouth at night.
- Plymstock.
- Down Thomas and Heybrook Bay.
- Plympton.
- I would like to walk from Heybrook Bay to Down Thomas but I worry about walking on the road. A safer cycling route to Plymstock from Heybrook Bay would also be useful.

Heybrook Bay needs more buses. It's hard to get anywhere without a car. The Drs are in Wembury and it's impossible to get there without a car. I don't always have the use of our only car. I have walked but it's too far if you're unwell.

It's very difficult to attend hospital appointments as you have to catch two buses there and back.

- Wembury, from Staddiscombe at school time.
- Derriford Hospital.
- Plymouth City Centre.
- Plymouth in the evenings.
- Getting into Plymouth and around the area- there are two buses in the day which really restricts ability to get in and out. These are not at work times either so could not be used to get into work. If going for a day trip it only allows a few hours, so cars are the only reliable option.
- I'd like to be able to go into Plymouth and get the bus back.
- Derriford.
- Westpoint Exeter. This is Devon's show ground. Plymouth is Devon's biggest city yet it's incredibly difficult to access by public transport.
- Exeter Airport is Devon's airport. Plymouth is Devon's largest city yet it's incredibly difficult to access by public transport.
- Plymouth.
- Everywhere outside of Wembury parish!
- Be great to have a few buses into the city centre on a Sunday to visit the shops and the Barbican.
- Plymouth centre.
- Otter nursery/garden centre.

What barriers have you experienced around transport access and provision?

Again, people responding to this question could choose more than one option.

By far the highest response was to the issue of bus timings. 100 of the total 133 responses to this question advised that they had encountered issues with bus timings. When reviewing the comments, the issue is not simply about the timetable but the lack of evening and Sunday buses.

The lack of taxis and cost was the second highest barrier, with safety concerns about using a cycle on the road the third. Concerns about traffic speed and road condition were noted in the comments.

13 respondents had a disability which created or exacerbated transport barriers. A similar number said that more bus shelters or seating was needed.

Interestingly, 19 people said there was no provision of transport or community transport. More volunteers for the community car scheme is a prior identified need in Wembury—particularly for accessing wellbeing activities. So, while publicising the Ring & Ride and community car scheme would be beneficial, this should be undertaken in conjunction with publicising volunteer need—as the availability of the community car scheme transport will depend on volunteer numbers.

No bus on Sunday. Hourly buses are poor, means terrible time to arrive into town for work or college. Last bus from town is too early.

Safety concerns for using a bicycle.

- **133 of the 149 respondents replied to quantify their barriers to access. There were a few people not quantifying barriers but providing additional comments.**

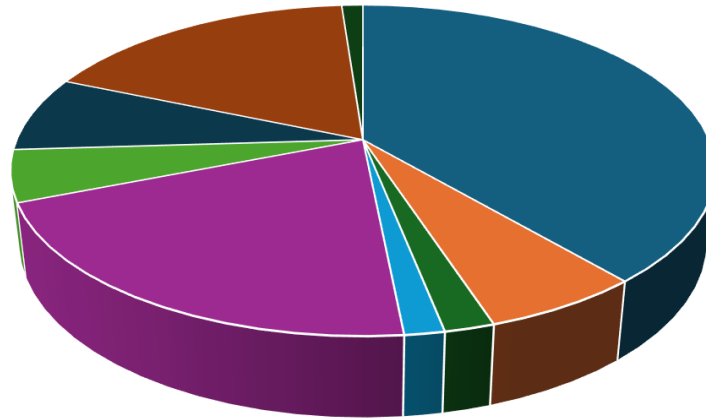
No bus stop service within walking distance.

The bus provision is totally unsatisfactory. My daughter can't get to work for 9am in the city because the buses could either get her there for 7.45am or 9.10am. Most people start work at 9am, there should be a bus that can get people to work. There should also be a bus later in the evening and some on Sundays.

Cycling is dangerous due to the condition of the roads and their narrowness. You can't walk to the Asda garage as no path or footpath and road is narrow with fast cars. I would like to be able to get a bus to Brixton and Yealmpton but you can't. Also, there is no pavement to walk to Wembury beach or the church. You have to dodge the cars. I know there isn't a great demand for buses to rural areas and it's an uneconomic prospect, but you could do something about creating pavements

I live in Staddiscombe and my child attends Wembury Primary School. I have often wanted to use the bus to drop off/collect my child from school but the service is so poor that timings never align with the school day.

What barriers have you experienced around transport access and provision?



- Bus timings
- No bus shelter or seating
- Distance to bus stop is too far
- Location of bus stops
- Lack of taxis or cost
- Disability or health condition
- No provision of public or community transport
- Safety concerns for using a bicycle
- No suitable stands for cycle parking

What barriers have you experienced around transport access and provision?	Total
Bus timings	100
No bus shelter or seating	16
Distance to bus stop is too far	5
Location of bus stops (please provide more information below)	4
Lack of taxis or cost	53
Disability or health condition	13
No provision of public or community transport	19
Safety concerns for using a bicycle	45
No suitable stands for cycle parking	3

WHAT BARRIERS HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED?

- The 49 bus times aren't great for most activities.
 - Only two buses a day!
 - Poor bus time schedule.
 - Wembury Point has two buses a day. We do not use them as we have cars.
 - Taxi was £60 last time we went in and out of Plymouth.
 - Not enough buses from Heybrook Bay to Plymouth City centre, i.e.. 11.20am into town and 15.10 to Heybrook.
 - Only 1 bus to Plymouth City centre at 11.20am and back home to Heybrook at 3.10pm.
 - Having no bus home from town at 3.05 on school days or no buses on Sundays.
 - My children are now older and get the bus into town. If they miss the last bus home (which is very early at 18.15) they get the bus to Staddiscombe and I have to drive out to pick them up. If there is not a parent available, they walk back across the fields as the road is extremely dangerous for pedestrians, especially in the dark. I have seen other young people walking along the road to get back to Wembury and fear there will be a serious accident if this isn't addressed. It's also really inconvenient that there is no bus between 07.30 and 09.30. It would be really helpful to at least have an 08.30 bus into town. On the return trip, there is no bus back from town between 14.05 and 16.10 which means my child at 6th form in Plymstock has no way of getting home on the bus and again someone has to drive out to get him.
 - Poor maintenance of roads and markings.
 - A more regular bus service would mean I could get out more independently without having to ask for lifts. It would mean I could be more flexible with working with three small children.
 - Bus service is a joke only one per hour. Last bus home 6pm and no buses on Sunday or Bank Holidays.
- Bus shelters have been removed and not yet replaced. A later bus back into Wembury from Plymouth would be lovely. At present the last bus arriving into the village is 6.30pm. Far too early for young people, and anyone who would like to be able to visit a restaurant or bar in town.
- The 48 bus stops very early and I therefore can't partake of even very early evening meetings.
 - Two-hour gap in the afternoon leaving Plymouth, due to school buses. No Sunday buses.
 - The last bus to and from Wembury is very early in the evening.
 - There are no buses home to Wembury in the evening and taxis often refuse to take passengers to Wembury or turn the meter off and charge extortionate fares. We have to rely on the private car which is expensive due to lack of transport options locally. I would not feel safe cycling the road out of Wembury.
 - No buses on a Sunday to/from Wembury is frustrating. Also, no buses later on in the evening esp Friday/ Saturday night. I'm too scared to cycle through the lanes.
 - The problem with the state of our roads in Wembury—Knighton Road, Church Road and Wembury Road. I cycle in the dark to care for my grandchildren and cannot see the very dangerous bad road surface. The road urgently needs to be resurfaced. Repairs don't work as they break up very quickly.
 - No late buses and none on Sundays so we have to own a car which means we don't use the bus!! Vicious circle.
 - There is no bus that would allow me to get to work or home from work. There is no bus at weekends so I can access the town centre for shopping or to go to the gym. I am entirely reliant on my car. I can't imagine how difficult things are for those unable to drive for any reason.

- No Sunday bus. No evening bus.
- Taxis put a lot extra on charge to travel to Heybrook bay from Plymouth city.
- Only 2 buses a day to/from Wembury, so very rare that return trip anywhere is doable.
- There are no buses on Sundays so my son is unable to go out unless he gets a lift.
- No bus route from Wembury to Brixton.
- Bus stop at top of Knighton hill Wembury on a blind corner with no pavement. Have to cross the road on foot at a dangerous busy junction. Unsafe for schoolchildren to catch bus from here.
- Buses not regular enough or early / late enough.
- No buses in Sundays or bank holidays. This also creates more traffic coming into the village and parking problems as people can't use public transport to get to the beach.
- The early bus leaves just before school breakfast club opens so it's not an option for me. I need to be in Plymouth by 9:30am so I have to use a car. My partner and I used to cycle everywhere in Plymouth and are confident riders but the Hollacombe road is just too dangerous to use. My company has offered to buy me an e-bike but I really don't want to put myself at risk. I'm I am used to being able to walk everywhere too and I was shocked at the lack of accessible paths to Stadiscombe when we first moved to Wembury. It limits my family and our job opportunities massively and means the village really is only designed for high earners who can afford multiple cars per family. I am concerned about my kids being isolated when they are older. Lack of options has a massive impact on us as a family. We are really governed by very few options given the proximity to a city. I know so many people who would cycle if there was a safe route.
- The bus times are awful. Always late, sometimes doesn't show up at all. And so infrequent. If you work till 5:30 there's no chance of getting the bus back.
- Poor cycle network and no other public transport option other than a very rare bus.

Buses aren't late enough in the evening
There isn't one between Wembury and Heybrook bay so I can't always work my late shifts as its too dark to walk or cycle home and there are no buses. I am on an apprenticeship so this is tricky. My mum has to collect me most evenings but that is difficult if the younger children are in bed when I finish.

Could do with a park and ride train/tram from Sherford or Brixton.

- Only 1 bus in and out of Heybrook Bay each working day. No free parking in Plymstock to catch a bus from there.
- More frequent buses and buses that run into the evening and on Sundays would be better.
- Only one bus out and one back so have to be out for all the time during this time.
- No buses early enough to get a train from Plymouth to Exeter college. Also, none after 6.15 home again.
- In Heybrook Bay we only have one bus a day! It's not conveniently timed either, at 11.15am, returning at 3.35pm. Much better when it was just after 9.30, with another one at 11.30.
- Buses stop too early in the evening for my son to attend clubs in Plymouth after college. He cannot get back to Wembury after 6pm.
- Lack of late bus (c11pm) back to Wembury.
- Heybrook Bay has 2 buses a day. Taxis are expensive and reluctant to come from city centre as they 'miss a fare or 2 for the time it takes!'
- Buses to infrequent can't get to industrial estates for working hours. Bike - far too dangerous to cycle from the village no cycle track from Wembury to Billacombe road, even walking it is dangerous especially at peak times.
- They are only once an hour and stop at 6pm, there's no opportunity for me to go out later than that or get home.

- I would use the bus if I felt it was reliable - going into town in an evening or on a Sunday but I can't rely on it.
- The last bus from Plymouth is 6pm so can't be used for nights out. Also, no bus at 8.30am.
- Buses are not regular enough to be used consistently. Especially in late evenings/ weekends (Sundays).
- A bus at 8-30 would be useful. Maybe a bus to Derriford hospital every couple of hours, not everyone has a car or can afford £25 taxi fare.
- Some bus timings could be more convenient, but there must be a need.
- Can't get a taxi before about 10 as they say they are fully booked on school journeys.
- There is only one bus each day in Heybrook Bay for outward and inward journeys.
- No buses later in the evening if you want to go out.
- Need evening buses to and from Plymouth to 11pm. Also need Sunday buses so visitors to Wembury can catch the bus rather than drive.
- The 2-hour gap between buses is far too long. Buses on a Sunday would be good.
- I have used Uber since it started in Plymouth. Much cheaper than other taxis. Buses do not run late enough in the evening.
- Buses finish too early back to Wembury could do with a bus coming around Wembury maybe at 9pm and 11.30pm.
- Bus service from Wembury is very limited and doesn't link up with other routes without having to go all the way into Plymouth. A bus service to a train station would also be helpful. Cycling into and out of Wembury is frankly frightening.
- With a teenager he would like to use the bus and be independent but no buses on a Sunday or Sat night.
- Unable to get a bus that gets me from Wembury to Plymouth around 9am and no return bus at 3.15pm.
- No bus after 1815 from Plymouth to Wembury.

No evening buses, only one an hour last one quite early. Need to rely on taxis which don't like coming to Wembury.

- The bus service to and from Wembury ends too early in the evening. In the past the last bus arrived in Wembury after 11pm There are no buses running on Sundays. As a result, the NT car park gets full quickly, resulting in cars parking on nearby roads. This means that roads such as Southland Park Road become single lane. Once a week I drive to Down Thomas. This village and the pubs and restaurants there can only be accessed directly by car.
- The morning buses leave Wembury at 7am, 7:25 and 9:30. There is no bus around 8:30. Strangely enough, there is a 8:30 service during school holidays. A permanent hourly service would give better options in the morning. 2) In the afternoon, there is not a service around 3pm which travels towards Wembury. This causes problems in my household as my son either has to wait for over an hour or has to call home for a lift. 3) I work at Langage business park and considering that Plymstock and Plympton have a combined population of 55k there is a severe lack of connectivity between the two suburbs and surrounding areas. The only option for many working in the two localities is to use a private vehicle. The traffic around Langage, Sandy Road, the Deep Lane junction intersection is now unbearable and will get worse with the growth of Sherford, the development of the Langage free port and the proposed park and ride development at the deep lane junction. I have found that over the past year that I have to choose whether to work at home or commit to a dreaded car journey. Travelling by bus is not an option because it would take far too long. 4) I cycle from Wembury whenever possible but the road in and out of the village to Staddiscombe can be dangerous for both cyclists and pedestrians. A complete game changer for the village would be a shared path on the complete length of the road until Plymstock.
- Sunday bus service would be great.

- I would use the bus to travel to work in the city centre if the service ran later into the evening. I also don't feel comfortable cycling out of the village on the narrow lanes.
- Bus timings are not good. No shelter at bottom of Mewstone Avenue. No bus to Wembury from Plymouth in evenings after 18.00 hours.
- The 1st bus is at 11.30. I drive 2 miles to another bus stop. Where buses are every 30 minutes.
- Have only one bus out of Heybrook Bay at 1120 and back at 3pm so cannot always get suitable appointments outside these hours. 3 hours is a long time just to go to shops at Plymstock Broadway. Also, when in Plymouth to be walking around when you are in your mid 80s.
- No buses after 6pm. Therefore, unable to go into Plymouth in the evening.
- I would use buses more frequently if they were more regular e.g. no buses on Sundays or public holidays, no evening buses, and hourly with gaps at times and even not turning up, so it's easier if more expensive to just use our car.
- Nothing stop sign nor a shelter £50 at junction of Mewstone Avenue and Church Road.
- You cannot guarantee the bus will turn up, sometimes you have to wait another hour, therefore I never use the bus
- It would be nice to have a Sunday bus service, also an evening service.
- Only 1 bus a day.
- No evening bus service of any kind and no Sunday service especially during the summer months can be problematic.
- Cars drive far too fast through the villages of Wembury, Down Thomas and Heybrook bay. We need speed humps to try and slow cars down. Dedicated cycle paths or pavements would also help. Anything to make cycling safer!! There are so many people that cycle, we live in Down Thomas and would love to cycle our children to school in Wembury but the roads aren't safe enough.

Live in Down Thomas and bus service is much too infrequent to be of use. Cycling would be lovely but there is a lack of cycle paths as alternative to dangerous narrow country roads. Walking would be more pleasant if there were a suitable path between Down Thomas and Heybrook Bay (along the fields with farmers permission as has been done in other villages). Taxis will often refuse to leave the Plymouth boundary so can't go past Staddiscombe!

- Only one bus in and out per day.
- Bus timings through Down Thomas are twice a day 1123 and 1540. There needs to be at least two more at say 0700 going into town and 1730 returning to improve commuting availability.
- Also bus times as no evening service and only hourly service rest of day.
- One bus a day, time is late morning 11.20 back into the village 15.40.
- No evening buses to Plymouth from Wembury. It would be nice to go to Plymouth in the evening maybe to the theatre, cinema or for a meal out with a drink.
- I drive a car because 2 buses a day, one out, one in is not sufficient for me to visit the places I want to go to.
- Only 1 return bus 6 days a week, timings not suitable for work in Plymouth.
- The fact that you cannot go to town after 6pm because there are no more buses isolates the community. A late-night bus from town at 11pm is essential.
- Bus finishes very early in the evening to be able to useful an evening out. Taxis rarely want to go out to Wembury at night
- No buses in the evening or on Sundays. Taxis at Plymouth Railway Station seem to be non-existent. Luckily a friend picked me up last time I needed to get home to Wembury after a train journey.

Are there any parts of the parish which you find inaccessible for walking due to the condition or lack of footpaths?

- Unable to safely walk to Staddiscombe.
- Uneven paths when using walker/manual wheelchair all over village.
- Wembury.
- Staddiscombe.
- Uneven pavements and lack of dropped kerbs.
- Coastal footpath after periods of rain can be treacherous. Other footpaths vary due to amount of usage by horses etc which churn the surface up.
- The poor state of the coastal footpath between Wembury and Wembury Point after any rain.
- From the village to Staddiscombe, better access through the fields would be helpful.
- Wembury to Staddiscombe.
- Yes, Knighton Road and Church Road.
- Church Road - not inaccessible but lack of pavement can be dangerous. There are other routes but can really add to your journey to the beach.
- Hollacombe to Ridge Cross. The footpath in the field is impassable frequently due to wet weather. Walking along Hollacombe on the pavement can be hard due to cars parking on pavements. Also, Leyford Lane has a fair amount of traffic, particularly school run times so it's very difficult walking along there.

Centre of Wembury is unsafe for pedestrians due to lack of footpaths and lots of vehicle traffic.

- This question was requested by Wembury Parish Council.

Having recently moved into the area I've realised that walking to a shop isn't easily possible without wellies!

- Knighton Field path which we have been waiting 7 years for and path through allotments which is unsafe in winter/ wet weather.
- Muddy field to get out of Hollacombe or having to walk on main busy road.
- Beach, local shops facilities, church pavements, are unsafe due to lack of maintenance.
- Brownhill Lane, Wembury.
- Wembury Beach.
- Access route to village on foot impassable at times with surface water and mud.
- Between odd wheel and Staddiscombe on either road.
- The route between Wembury and Staddiscombe.
- No useable roadway footpath out of the village.
- Out of Heybrook. It is too far and too dangerous to walk the lanes.
- From Hollacombe into Wembury as Traine Road can be dangerous with cars speeding through.

- I can't comment on foot paths but the roads are awful with pot holes!!
- Yes- to my allotment - middle path is often inaccessible due to mud - many other path eg 29 are too muddy.
- Bovisand beach due to the amount and speed of traffic Down Thomas has no footpaths so difficult walking around
- Poorly maintained footpaths mean that wheelchair users have to ride on the road on main village streets.
- Pavement parking all over Wembury. Opposite school, on bends in road, near junctions, near bus stops. Buses too big for roads. Over subscribed for passengers.
- Brixton, Newton Ferrers and Noss.
- Coastal path across fields in winter e.g. behind Wembury House, Brown Hill Lane.
- Muddy path Ford Road to beach even in summer.
- The coast path is impassable after heavy rain. It is my route to Wembury. It's also clearly for leisure and keeping active.
- Heybrook Bay to Down Thomas.
- Yes. When walking I'm frequently finding cars parked on pavements, particularly along Hollacombe. I frequently cycle or walk along Traine Road and more and more cars, many local, use it as a cut through, particularly during the school run.
- The field footpath between Hollacombe and Ridge Cross is impassable frequently due to wet weather as it floods at the bottom.
- Horses are cutting up church walk and the coastal footpath between Wembury and Heybrook Bay is inadequately drained and becomes impassable.

From Knighton to the school/shop. I have young children and the road is unsafe. Hoping for a path to be built through the field behind Langdon View.

There is no tarmac footpath between Hollacombe and Crossroads garage. Very dangerous stretch of road to walk or cycle.

- The narrow part at the bottom of Knighton Hill is very dangerous. The cars speed through and are very close to pedestrians. There is an accident waiting to happen. When it is wet, pedestrians are splashed by the cars.
- Walking down the footpath behind Langdon View to get from the top of Knighton Road to the shop is ok when it's dry and daylight.
- Walking back to Wembury from Staddiscombe is difficult due to lack of lighting and regularly very muddy.
- Difficult to get between Wembury and Hollacombe safely on foot.
- I take great care when walking on footpaths and also on the uneven pavements.
- Only after extreme weather conditions when paths become too muddy.
- It's not possible to walk, or cycle, on a dedicated path out of the village towards Plymstock.
- Heybrook Bay to Down Thomas - a proper foot path (less hazardous than the main road) is needed. if pedestrians are not wearing high visibility clothing, there is a real danger of injury to people and particularly with dogs.
- Heybrook Bay to Down Thomas have to walk on road no footpath is dangerous sometimes due to fast traffic.
- Steps to beach too steep.
- The path between the top of cliff Road and Veasy Park is impassible and dangerously wet and slippery a lot of the time.
- In winter the path from Wembury Beach to Wembury Point.

- Most of Down Thomas village has no footpaths.
- Heybrook Bay to Down Thomas.
- The pavements are in a terrible state of repair all around the village. Very difficult with an electric wheelchair (my daughter). Lack of dropped curbs in appropriate places are also an issue.
- Proper surfacing on Brownhill Lane (Veasy side) would make access much easier, currently bumpy and muddy (especially near stables).
- Complete footpath between Down Thomas and Staddiscombe would be good.
- Down Thomas to Heybrook Bay.
- Footpath to Holbrook.

Just due to my mobility. Footpaths more plentiful in Wembury than most areas. However, the condition of the pavements are bad. One expects footpaths to be 'rough' but pavements in the urban area of Wembury are bad.

If you are able but it's accessible for only part of the year. A proper lit footpath all the way to the road would help, for all to use, ie. Mobility scooters.

- I haven't tried the coast path past South Barton Farm which has been fenced since last year again as it's now far too narrow. Absolutely ridiculous what's been done there.
- 20 mph speed limit or speed bumps need to be in place around Down Thomas and Heybrook bay so that pedestrians can walk safely on the road between the villages.
- It is difficult to think of a part of Wembury that is easy for walking. I have reduced mobility and have to walk in the road, squeeze past cars parked on the pavement and the paths that do exist are in such poor condition that there is increased risk of falling.
- Footpath needed between Down Thomas and Heybrook Bay.

Walking is important for my physical and mental health yet the lack of pavements and their poor condition presents challenges and risks.

Do you have any other comments on transport that haven't already been addressed?

- As a young person in the Bay who cannot drive, it is nearly impossible to get around for employment.
- A community bus to a supermarket would be helpful or down to the Broadway.
- Limited taxi service.
- Some form of occasional transport up from the beach would be good.
- Use train if going to London.
- A later bus from Plymouth on a Friday or Saturday. A small hopper bus that leaves Plymouth at about 9pm would allow us a drink and meal in town.
- Bus service seriously lacking from Heybrook to Plymouth City centre and return.
- Please consider an evening bus to Wembury—even better if it just a minibus shuttle from Plymouth. It will keep the young people of Wembury safe and I'm sure the older generation would use it to go to the theatre etc.
- School transport is very expensive if you choose not to send your children to the closest school. It costs £1800 for my two children to attend Ivybridge school. If they go to a club or GCSE revision session after school. I need to make the hour round trip to pick them up as there is no other transport options available.
- All year, regular transport across the Yealm would be really useful for locals, walkers, tourists.
- Seating on buses are too low for mobility impaired passengers.

The condition of the roads is very concerning due to potholes etc Also the speed of traffic traveling through the village is concerning at all times of day.

- This question asked respondents to comment on their need. Many comments—not all—were similar to those previously given.

As a young person in the Bay who cannot drive, it is nearly impossible to get around for employment.

- Potentially if we can more buses on a Sunday it would help that little bit with regards to traffic/congestion/ parking issues on Sunny weekends.
- Knighton road narrows is unsafe for pedestrians.
- I can't get a taxi. Our council tax is so high, please provide a bus on a Sunday and in the evening.
- Cycle path and better footpath to Staddiscombe garage, please!
- Down Thomas has one bus a day at a time that is not convenient to most people. They gave us a bus pass and took the buses away.
- Wembury has a regular bus service i.e. double deckers and see they are not that well used!
- Our local road surface condition is appalling.
- We need a regular bus service for school children to and from Wembury during school hours and so starting employment out of village is easier for parents of primary school children. The school breakfast club starts at 7.30am which is around the same time as the bus leaves Wembury so impossible to navigate both.

- **Need more buses in Heybrook Bay!** The lack of provision is not adequate, to say the least!
- Buses are too wide for the road, and assume right of way.
- Wembury used to have well maintained footpaths they are now not cared for, so it is hard to walk those not maintained by the National Trust.
- The road surfaces in Wembury, especially Knighton road are awful, damaging cars and incredibly dangerous for bicycles. They need to be resurfaced. A cycle path would be a great addition as many residents cycle to work.
- Need a later bus back into Wembury. At the moment the last bus is about 6.30. If you go out for the evening you cannot get home unless you get a taxi.
- **POTHOLE**s on main routes around the village are dangerous for cyclists pedestrians and car users. Knighton Road, Church Road especially.
- A cycle or multi-user path to join Wembury to rest of world would change everything. Currently in winter it is not realistic to run/ walk/cycle to, say, Elburton.
- Heybrook Bay is poorly served by public transport compared to Wembury and yet it is a large community.
- Just not cutting off buses during school times. And a later bus on a Friday.
- I cycle a lot and I find cars going too fast between Crossroads Garage and Wembury. The state of the road surface on Knighton Road has become very dangerous for cyclists.

Shame one of the school buses couldn't accommodate passengers, even to drop off at the Staddy in the morning, so people could get onward travel. We are so limited that people don't use the bus as it's so inconvenient and limited.

Hospital appointments are the big issue. They are all at Derriford. When I can't drive anymore how will I get there? Taxis are very expensive in Wembury. Getting on from Heybrook Bay to Wembury at 20.00 hrs for three miles cost me nearly 25 quid.

- Traffic in Wembury is very high due to the numbers of people visiting the pub (parking issues double yellow lines needed outside the pub) and the beach. Buses need to be available on Sundays and in the evening to alleviate this traffic.
- Better subsidiaries on public transport for students using buses.
- Bus availability restricted due to low frequency and too early last bus.
- The state of the roads is wrecking the cars in the village and makes it very unsafe for bikes too.
- Considering that Wembury is in the South Hams, there is not any transportation options available from the parish to the rest of the Council area.
- I am often the only person using the bus in the evening. The bus service should be promoted to encourage more passengers.
- The last buses in the evening are too early. If we head into town we must return by 6:15. It would be great if there was buses until 10pm instead of having to get a taxi.
- The 48 bus is frequently a double decker which is usually empty. It would make more sense to use a single decker or a minibus.
- No evening bus service.
- Travelling anywhere is impeded by the number of potholes. Wembury is fast becoming a slalom course.
- I would use the bus service more frequently if it was more regular, as two buses a day doesn't really give much freedom to travel, and makes cars the only reliable option.

- No bus from Plymouth at 22. 00.
- The lack of public transport forces people into using cars.
- Cars going too fast in Down Thomas-it is scary walking my young children to the park on the road (there is no pavement) and having cars go fast past us. Our family cat was killed on that road, I suspect by a car going much faster than 20mph.
- Just lack of transport at Heybrook Bay forces most people to have cars.

Would cycle more if there was a safe cycle route into Staddiscombe. The Wembury Staddiscombe road is too narrow and the drivers not considerate enough to be safe.

Regular community run buses offering trips out of the village for those unable to get out and about would be good.

- Apart from the condition of the roads e.g. potholes, given that Wembury is a suburb of Plymouth, the roads are inadequate for the amount of traffic using them. It is terrifying for both cyclists and horse riders as well as the motor traffic to use them.
- Difficulties caused by road closures in Renney Road/Bovisand Lane when repairing South West Water leaks. There have been several in past year with no apparent urgency to complete work or consider viable alternate route or traffic control.

My needs will change as I get older. I know people who have moved to Plymstock as they felt isolated out here as they aged.

How much on average do you spend on transport each month?

These total figures were divided by the number of individual respondents, rather than the total as not everyone responded to each item or to this section of the survey.

Anomalies:

- There was a substantial difference in reported petrol costs with many under £50. A large number were circa £100-200, with several between £300-500. However, one of the responses gave petrol costs averaging £1200 per month.
- We did not include people who had completely free travel due to free bus passes. However, of the bus costs a number were in the region £100-200. This was offset by a the majority who

are paying less than £15. A substantial number are paying an average of £50-£60 per month.

- We removed costs in 'other' relating to car maintenance as these costs weren't part of the survey questions (and would have 'skewed' the response figures), although they are relevant to the cost of car ownership.

The wider survey

This specific question about transport costs was asked as part of a wider survey taking place in other parts of the South Hams. This would have enabled us to assess costs for people living in rural parishes or market towns, and other factors such as car ownership or the topography of the area.

How much on average do you spend on transport each month?		
	Number of responses	Average figure
Petrol	108	£124
Taxi	36	£48
Community transport	2	£17.50
Bus	42	£33
Train	20	£125
Electricity eg. for car/mobility scooter	5	£57
Other—Water taxi	1	£20

Age ranges

This was a passive survey in the sense that we didn't go into schools, youth groups or sports clubs to encourage more response from younger age groups.

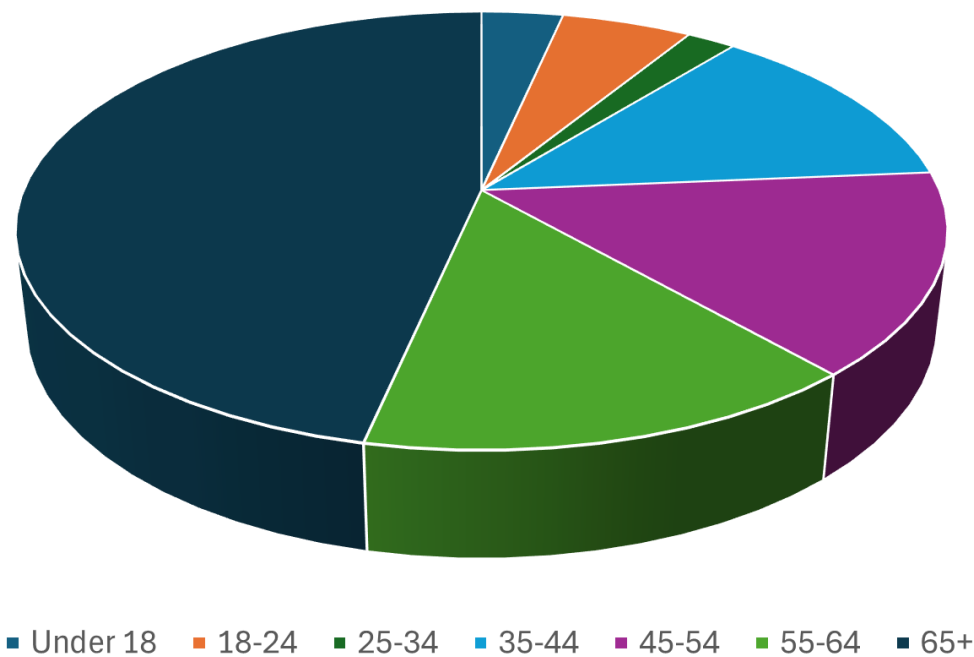
We attended the Wembury Community Hub and Coffee Stop to speak to residents about their transport needs.

Therefore, as expected, the highest response rate came from the over 65 age group, which made up almost half of all survey respondents.

- 148 of the total 149 responses gave their age ranges.

Interestingly, more of the 18-24 age range took the opportunity to respond by paper copy in proportion to the other age ranges—with the exception of the over 65s.

Please can you give your age range?



Please can you give your age range?	Total
Under 18	5
18-24	8
25-34	3
35-44	19
45-54	22
55-64	22
65+	69

Bus pass holders

We asked this question to assess the number of bus pass holders .

The vast majority were in the older age groups—either 55-64 or 65+—so more than likely these were bus passes provided due to age rather than disability.

- 145 of the total 149 respondents answered this question.

Do you have a bus pass?	Total
Yes	56
No	89

Car sharing

There are formalised community transport and car schemes in other areas for people who need to get to medical, including hospital appointments.

In Wembury, Ivybridge & District Community Transport offers the Ring & Ride service and also the community car scheme.

However, we were asked by a district councillor to frame this question around **car sharing**, eg. for employment. While informal lifts between friends are likely to be already happening, if this type of car sharing scheme is going to meet any local need, it would need to be formalised or encouraged by a local group. This brings additional restrictions, eg. it would

- 142 of the total 149 respondents answered this question.

mean that those signing up to drive would need business insurance cover.

Noting this, we were going to investigate whether an online site offering ‘liftbanking’ could potentially work in a similar format to timebanking, but with potential other incentives. It would also need to enable additional insurance costs to be covered under the umbrella of the scheme.

Are you interested in car sharing (eg for work)?	Total
Yes	64
No	94

**South Hams Community Action would like
to extend our thanks to the following for
their support:**

The Odd Wheel in Wembury

Wembury Surgery

Wembury Community Hub

Wembury Coffee Stop

Eddystone Inn in Heybrook Bay

The Mussel Inn in Down Thomas

Wembury Parish Council

