DORSET STRATEGIC TRANSPORT STUDIES
UK

Dorset County Council wanted confidence that the county’s transport systems would successfully accommodate the planned growth in both population, and levels of employment in the future. They also required strategies for transport improvements that could be implemented to address any future transport concerns identified.

BuroHappold Engineering was appointed to undertake a full and comprehensive assessment of transport networks in Dorset and parts of the immediate surrounding counties. Our team examined all major transport modes, including walking, cycling, public transport and vehicular travel, as well as existing and future settlement and employment patterns throughout the county. Our team then carried out modelling work to assess future development scenarios, which included the production of a strategic transport model (SATURN) to assess the road capacity implications throughout the county.

As well as proposing more traditional transport improvement options, such as the adoption of cycle infrastructure and park and ride sites, a number of more innovative strategies were proposed by our team to accommodate or reduce future travel demand, including Community Travel Exchange Centres which would provide a number of rural residents’ needs locally, minimising their need to travel, and also acting as centres for other progressive transport measures such as car clubs and electric vehicle charging points.

Over a number of years our team built a successful client relationship as one of the consultants on the client’s consultancy framework. Our further involvement on other more specific transport and highway projects in the county provided the council with an insight into the transport merits and likely impacts of future development in the county, that would otherwise have not been possible.

As a result of our work, future development in the county has been planned with transport at the forefront. This will benefit the accessibility of new developments and their residents, and will ensure that transport systems in the county will continue to operate effectively into the future, even as population and development increases.