

CAT – Zero Carbon Britain: Rising to the Climate Emergency¹

Transport.

- In 2017, 41% of UK energy demand and 37% of UK GHG emissions were from transport. Surface passenger transport accounted for about half of transport energy demand, aviation about a quarter, and freight around a quarter. Cars and vans account for about 50% of all transport energy use (BEIS, 2018).
- Increased walking, cycling, and use of public transport can reduce our energy demand and GHG emissions, as well as making our urban environments more pleasant and making us healthier.
- (For vehicular journeys) we can switch most transport to very efficient electric vehicles.

What's The Solution?

- Better infrastructure in towns and cities (cycle lanes and pedestrian areas, for example) can encourage people to walk and cycle shorter journeys. This has health as well as environmental benefits, and would decrease noise pollution in urban areas. Better public transport – bus, coach and rail – can also get people out of their cars, reducing road congestion, energy use and GHG emissions.
- When we do use cars, we can make better use of them by increasing the number of occupants. By arranging car sharing, either informally or via car share schemes, the average occupancy of cars could improve from the current average of 1.6 people per vehicle (Dft, 2009a).
- These changes will reduce energy demand from transport. Just as importantly, they could create more pleasant places in which to live, and could make us healthier.

Changing how we move 'stuff' - To reduce energy demand from transporting goods (freight) we can:

- Reduce the amount of goods we move.
- Reduce how far goods travel by sourcing them closer to home.
- Improve the efficiency of vehicles used.

CAT scenario: People walk and cycle more often, and the use of public transport – buses, coaches and rail – increases from 14% to 28% of domestic travel. As a result of these changes, car travel is reduced from 81% to 62%.

¹ <https://www.cat.org.uk/new-report-zero-carbon-britain-rising-to-the-climate-emergency/>