

Devizes Gateway Station

Plans to restore rail access to the Devizes Community Area

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*Business, community and local government,
working in partnership for Devizes*

Wiltshire Council



Agenda

- Background
- Project Update
- Station Location Assessment
- Train Service Options
- Online Demand Survey
- Next Steps & Timeline
- Questions

Restoring Your Railway

Background

- DDP and Wiltshire Council successful bid to RyR(1) - early 2020
- DfT funding for feasibility study - Strategic Outline Business Case
- SOBC - which transport mode will best solve the “strategic” transport issue?

Strategic Issues

- **Connectivity** - for people (especially young), businesses and tourism
- **Sustainable transport** - traffic congestion and air quality issues in the town and improve impacts in the wider area
- **Regional and local strategic plans:**
 - SWLEP Rail Strategy - 2018 (estimated GVA p.a. £6.56m)
 - Wiltshire Core Strategy (2015) and Devizes Transport Strategy (2012) - largest town in Wiltshire without connectivity to the rail network.
 - Emerging Plan Updates: Wiltshire Local Plan and Devizes Neighbourhood Plan

Project Update

- **Atkins (Transport Consultants)** - formal transport study to include:
 - Options identification and sifting, Station operational feasibility assessment, High level demand forecasting, Capital Cost estimation;
 - Scheduled to complete mid April.
- **Devizes Development Partnership**
 - Stakeholder Engagement Programme - Communities and Local Government organisations, Businesses, Tourism bodies, Schools and Colleges, Environment, Planning and Heritage organisations, Transport organisations;
 - Two demand surveys to inform SOBC: i) Devizes Community Area - 2500 responses, ii) Bedwyn extension - 450 responses
- **Wiltshire Council** - project management and other transport integration assessment and planning

Devizes Gateway Station

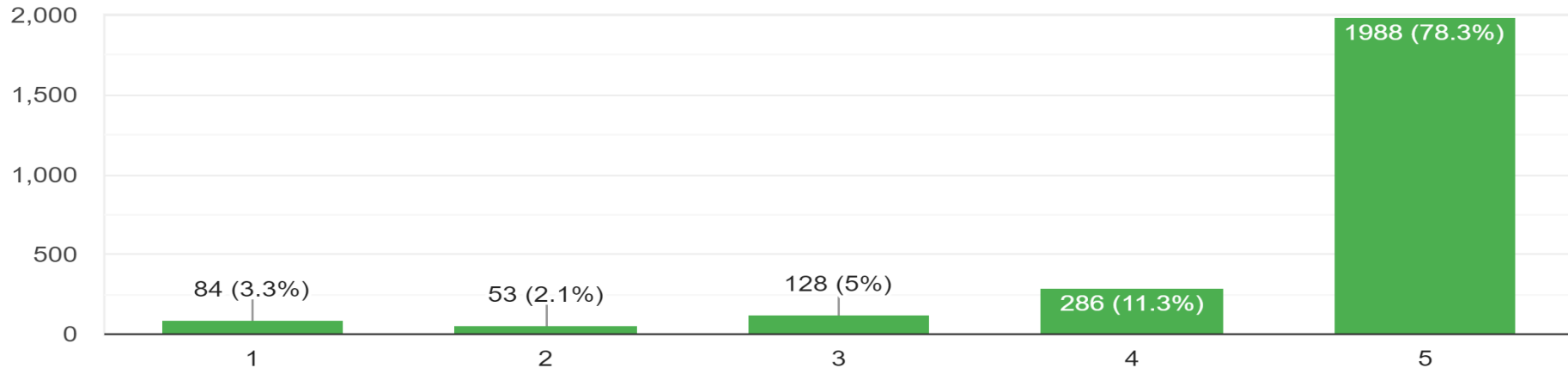


- Station site is 3.4 miles from the Market Place
- East of the A342 close to Clock Inn Park
 - Track is flat and straight
 - Extent of existing railway land
 - Cycle/walking routes & shuttle bus
- Atkins Study will also review other potential sites between A342 and A360 - former Lavington station site; Ledge Hill area site + Devizes town.
- And consider improving other transport modes to access rail network at Pewsey, Chippenham etc, as an alternative.

Online Demand Survey

Informal Survey distributed across the Devizes Community Area through various platforms 11 - 31 January (2539 responses).

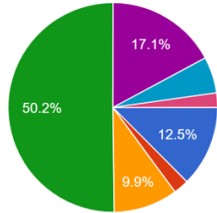
Q1. How likely would you be to use Devizes Gateway Rail Station when it opens?
2,539 responses



Survey Responses

Q2. What would be the purpose of your MAIN journey by rail to/from Devizes Gateway? give one answer only

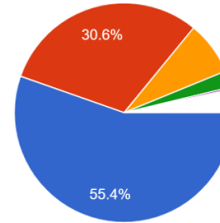
2,539 responses



- Commuting to work
- Travelling to school/college/university
- For business purposes
- Leisure trips - e.g. days out, shopping, sports events, theatre, cinema etc.
- Leisure - visiting family and friends
- Leisure - longer trips e.g. holidays, travel to air/seaports etc.
- I wouldn't use Devizes Gateway Rail Station

Q4. Where would you travel to/from for your MAIN rail journey? give one answer only

2,539 responses

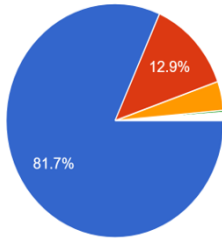


- London, Newbury, Reading etc.
- Bristol, Bath, South Wales etc.
- South West (Exeter, Plymouth, Cornwall)
- None - I wouldn't use Devizes Gateway Station
- Pewsey
- Swindon
- Pewsey
- Chippenham

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Q7. What form of transport do you currently use to make your most FREQUENT journey over 10 miles from Devizes? Tick one only.

2,539 responses

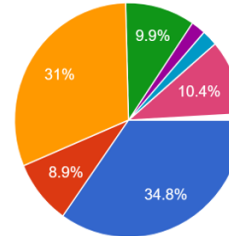


- Car
- Train from another station (e.g. Chippenham)
- Bus/Coach
- Van
- Bicycle
- Motorbike
- You said currently, in covid times, so currently I don't use any of these
- Motorcycle

▲ 1/4 ▼

Q9. How would you prefer to travel to Devizes Gateway Rail Station? Tick one answer only

2,539 responses



- Car/car share
- Cycle
- Connecting Bus
- Walk
- I wouldn't use Devizes Gateway Station
- Taxi
- Dropped off
- DEPENDS WHERE IT IS

▲ 1/4 ▼

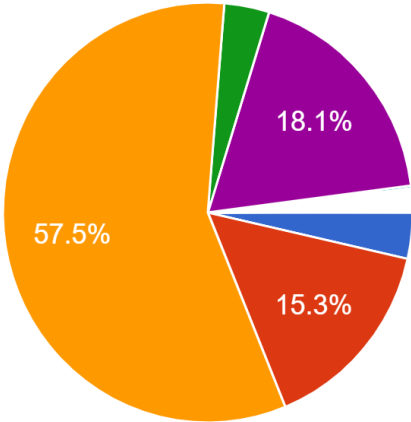
Q6. If COVID-19 had not happened in 2020, what would have been the DESTINATION of your most FREQUENT journey this year OVER 10 miles (by any means of transport)?

Respondents listed pretty much everywhere in the UK and some abroad



Q12. Are you:

2,539 responses



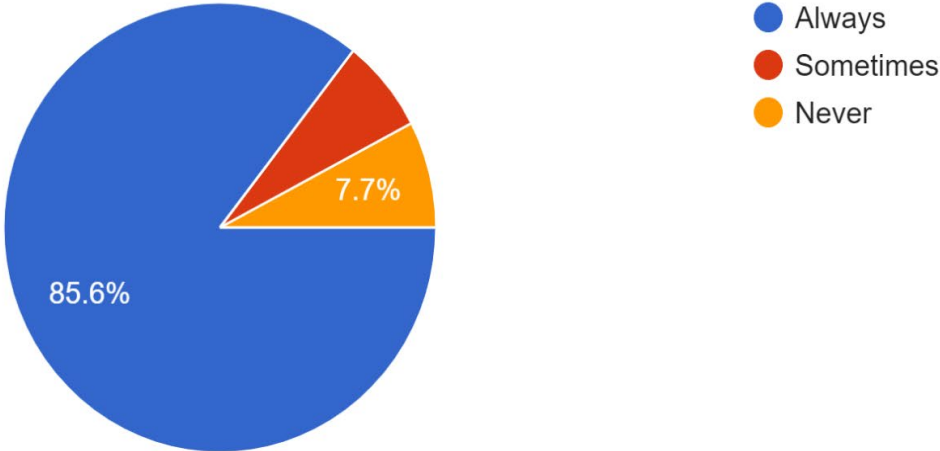
- A student
- Working part time
- Working full time
- Not working
- Retired
- Carer
- Housewife
- Self employed

▲ 1/6 ▼



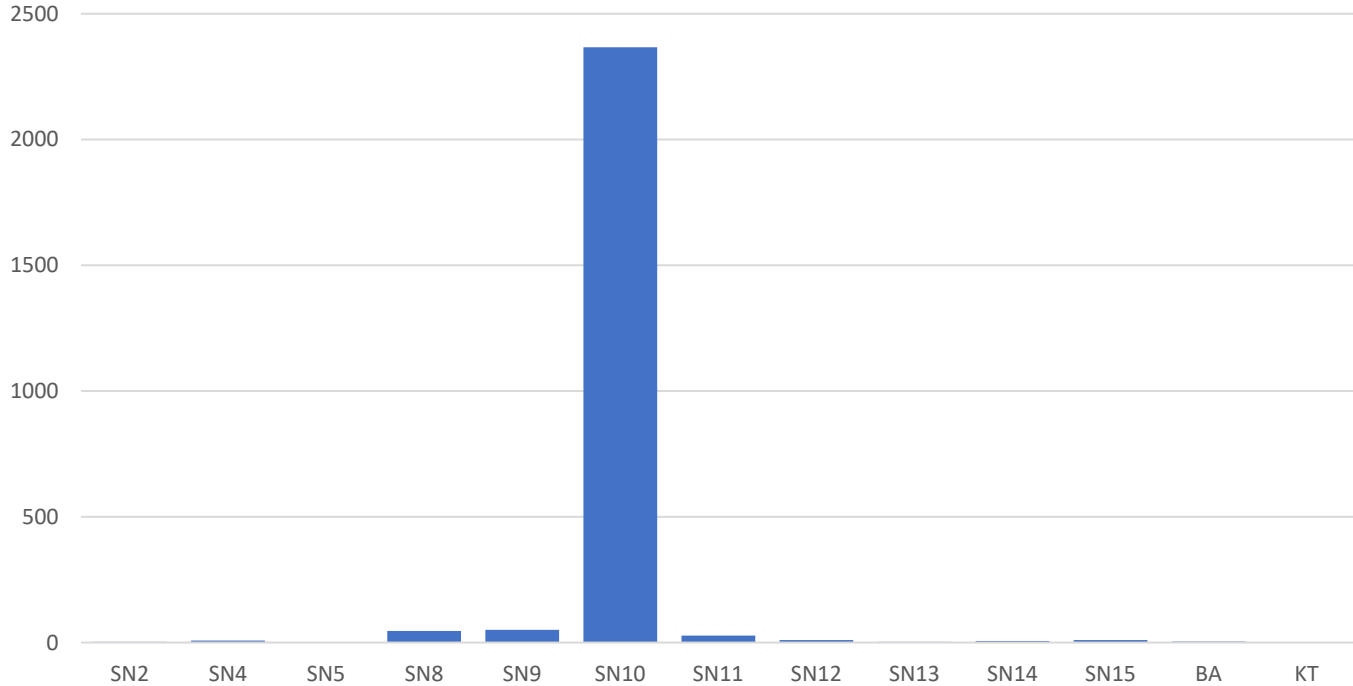
Q13. Do you have access to a car that you are able to drive?

2,526 responses



Post Code of respondents

SN2	3
SN4	8
SN5	1
SN8	46
SN9	51
SN10	2367
SN11	28
SN12	10
SN13	3
SN14	6
SN15	10
BA	4
KT	2



Open Questions: Devizes Gateway Themes

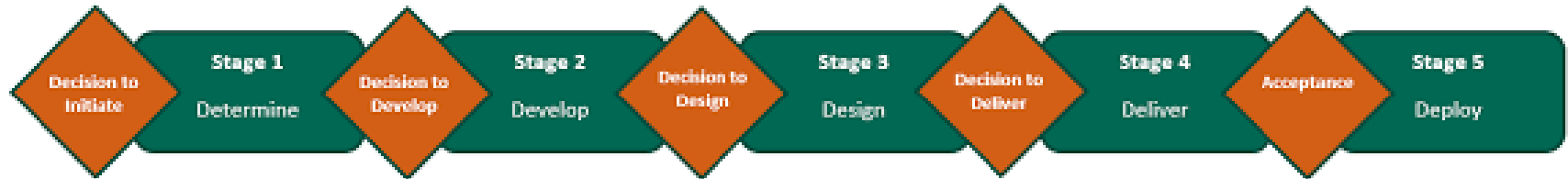
- “I think the station would be a **huge benefit to Devizes** and surrounding areas. It will also **ease road congestion.**”
- “You must timetable **early morning westbound services to Bath and Bristol** so people can commute. The line is currently too London centric and does not serve Westbound commuters. An evening Eastbound service to return home required.”
- “Absolutely fantastic news for the people of Devizes and surrounding districts and long long overdue. It will be great for the **economic growth of the town** and really put Devizes on the map.”
- “A **regular shuttle bus** to meet it would be ideal.”
- “Fantastic idea. The town should be centred around this development - with any future growth of the town that side. A **fully lit cycle path** along the old train line would make absolute sense too.”

Open Questions: Local Transport Themes

- “We need better faster links to other towns/cities whether it be bus or rail. **Our town seems to be isolated.**”
- “Improve condition of - and increase no of - **cycle routes**, to also connect the new station.”
- “**Bypass** to sort Devizes congestion and poor air quality.”
- “SMETS2 Smart meters available for homes for electric car home smart charging. More **public EV charge points** in town car parks.”

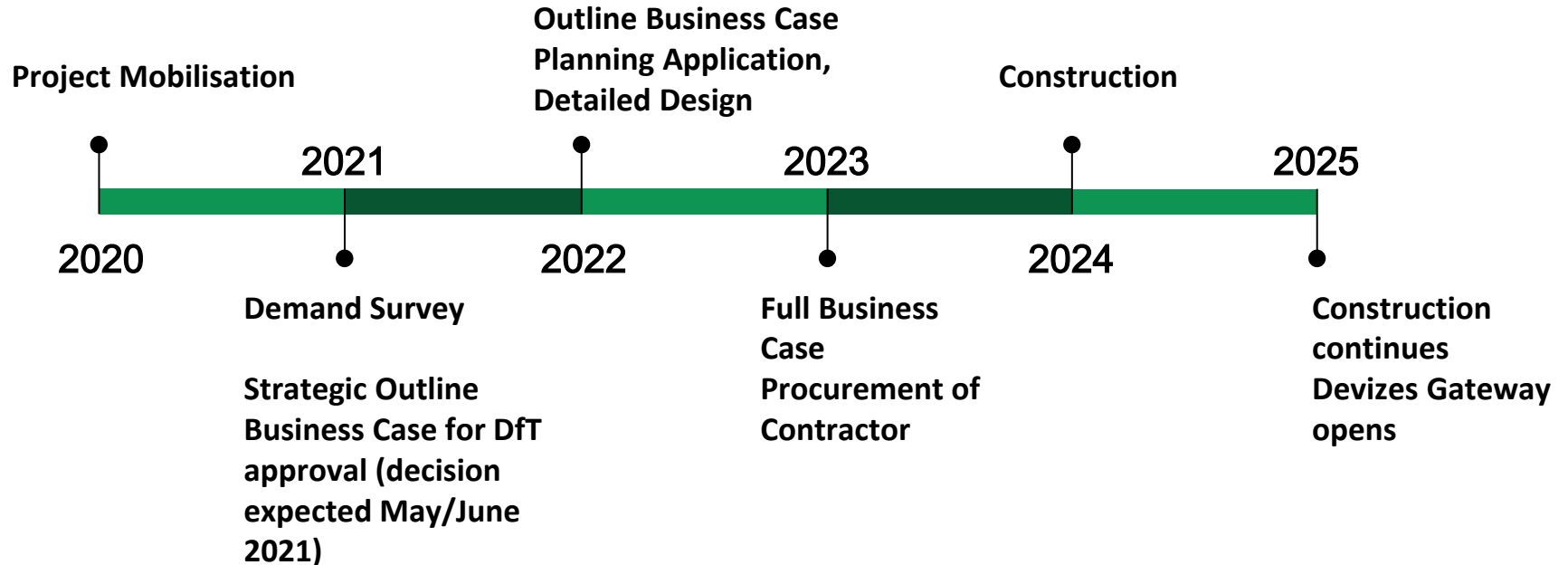
Next Steps

- Following SOBC approval (Stage 1), the project is expected to follow DfT's Rail Network Enhancement Pipeline 5 stage process:



- Next Stage - **Outline Business Case & Full Business Case** – to include options selection, concept design, timetable modelling, passenger capacity and rolling stock requirement, sustainable station access, detailed site surveys etc. Cost c£200k
- Devizes Town Council £34k for Outline Business Case - other sources being explored.
- New Station Funding will provide **75% of total capital costs** (anticipated c£15m)

Indicative Timeline



Questions?



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