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Motorcycle Parking

- 3.48 There are no dedicated parking spaces for motorcycles in Blaenavon or at the surrounding tourist destinations. Careful consideration is required regarding the location, type and number of facilities which may be provided.

Pedal Cycle Parking

- 3.49 There are no stands or lockers within Blaenavon or at the tourist sites for parking cycles. Quality cycle infrastructure is important to attract and encourage cyclists to the area and to facilitate access to, and interlinks between, the town and tourist attractions from the National Cycle Network Route 46 and other circular tracks in the area. Cycle racks and other infrastructure proposed for Blaenavon should be of a quality design, to the specifications documented by the Torfaen County Borough Council for the World Heritage Site (Recommendation P10).

Disabled Parking

- 3.50 At present there are no parking spaces for disabled people in the town centre, with only eight planned within the regeneration works. None of the proposals have included plans for directional signing to the disabled bays. It should also be noted that the signing for disabled parking on site at the Iron Works is not obvious from the highway. The two disabled bays are only apparent if visitors drive into the first car park and see the location sign (Photograph 30). The disabled parking board at the Iron Works occasionally blocks the vehicle entrance or alternatively is not displayed at all, hence confusing visitors.
- 3.51 To provide 'access for all' adequate disabled parking spaces should be provided and enforced. Improvement to the signage of disabled parking bays is also required. This could be incorporated through orientation boards. All tourist attractions should have disabled parking bays and adequate parking provision should also be made within the town centre (Recommendation D1).
- 3.52 It is important that all attractions are Disability Discrimination Act compliant and enable all visitors to access the attractions regardless of ability. Spaces for blue badge holders should be provided as close to the facilities as possible.

4.0 Public Transport

4.1 Public transport can play a vital role in realising the potential of the World Heritage Site of Blaenavon, providing two main benefits:

- Facilitating access to and from Blaenavon for persons without access to a private car
- Minimising the negative impacts associated with increased travel (such as congestion and pollution)

4.2 In this section, the current level of public transport provision and main issues for providing an enhanced service in Blaenavon are identified.

Existing Provision

4.3 Route Coverage

Five regular bus routes serve Blaenavon^{xi}, providing a direct link with all towns between Brynmawr and Newport. Journeys with an origin or destination outside this core corridor require a change of service. Figure 3 (a-c) illustrates existing bus routes in and around Blaenavon.

4.4 There are no direct rail links or long distance coach services to/from Blaenavon.

4.5 Due to the structure of service patterns there is little demand for bus/bus interchange within Blaenavon itself, as users are more likely to catch a direct service or change at an alternative location to access destinations outside the Brynmawr Newport corridor. These include:

- Brynmawr Bus Station – Linking the Heads of the Valleys travel through service 30
- Cwmbran Bus Station – Linking local traffic with strategic routes 13/14, 30 and X24
- Newport Bus Station – Linking traffic originating from M4 Corridor and long distance coach services through 30 and X24
- Pontypool Town Hall – Linking traffic from the mid valleys through services 30 and X24

Whilst there is limited demand for interchange, the convergence of routes in Broad Street presents an opportunity to provide a focal point for bus services in Blaenavon. This could be achieved at relatively low cost through the provision of high quality shelters, possibility combined with CCTV to increase user perception of security.

Service Patterns

4.6 In contrast to many towns in South East Wales, Blaenavon enjoys a high frequency service (X24), with 4 buses per hour to/from Newport operating between 07:00 and 18:00 hours Monday to Saturday, after which an hourly service is provided until 22:20. An hourly service is provided between 11:30 and 22:30 hours on a Sunday.

^{xi} Photograph 31, 44, 50, 67

