

BACKHOUSE HIGHWORTH WELCOME PACK

Helping you get around
your new area

**FREE
OFFERS!**

**Two 5-Day "Flexi 5"
Stagecoach Tickets!**

**Borrow a Bike
for 6 Weeks!**

See inside
for details



BACKHOUSE



INSIDE YOUR WELCOME PACK

BACKHOUSE HIGHWORTH RESIDENTIAL TRAVEL PLAN

This Travel Plan has been developed to help you:

- Reduce your need to travel by private car
- Help inform you on how to get around locally by foot, cycling and public transport
- Provide useful tips on travelling in greener and healthier ways

To find out more about the Backhouse Highworth Residential Travel Plan, contact Harry Pearce, the Backhouse Highworth Travel Plan Coordinator:

tpc@pfaconsulting.co.uk

BENEFITS TO YOU & YOUR COMMUNITY

Getting involved with your development's Travel Plan has plenty of positive benefits including:

- ✓ Improving your health and well-being
- ✓ Reducing your travel costs
- ✓ Improving your accessibility to local services
- ✓ Improving road safety
- ✓ Reducing your travel times
- ✓ Improving your travel choices
- ✓ Creating a cleaner, more vibrant local community

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BACKHOUSE

Dear Backhouse Highworth Resident,

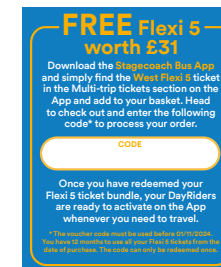
WELCOME TO BACKHOUSE HIGHWORTH!

We hope that you are settling into your new home and getting to know your local area. This leaflet provides you with useful information regarding travelling in and around Highworth and forms part of a Travel Plan for Backhouse Highworth which aims to help residents travel in greener, healthier ways and reduce journeys by car.

The Swindon Travel Choices website includes further travel information relating to Backhouse Highworth and the Swindon area and also provides up-to-date news and events.



To help you along the way, Stagecoach and Backhouse are offering each household **TWO FREE 5-Day "Flexi 5" Stagecoach Tickets** (see page 8 for more information). Download the Stagecoach App and use your personal voucher code to get your tickets. Backhouse are also offering to **lend you a bike for FREE for 6 weeks** (see page 7 for more information).



For more details feel free to email: tpc@pfaconsulting.co.uk or phone PFA on 01793 828000 and ask for the Travel Plan Coordinator for Backhouse Highworth.

Kind regards,

Harry Pearce, PFA Consulting
Your Travel Plan Coordinator



WALKING

Backhouse Highworth by Foot

Walking is the greenest, healthiest and cheapest way of getting around. It's a great way to fit regular exercise into your day and it's absolutely free!

Highworth town centre with its independent shops and supermarkets is just a few minutes' walk away, so why not try discovering the area by foot? A great place to start is the Highworth Visitor Information Centre on the Highstreet, open 10-3 Tuesday to Friday and 9-2 on Saturdays. There is a popular weekly **Saturday Market** in the town centre - with a wide range of stalls, shops and cafes. Local amenities including a doctors, dentist, post office, library and schools are all within walking distance.

Looking for a place to Walk the Dog or take a Countryside Stroll?

Backhouse Highworth is well connected to the beautiful local countryside and there are several areas of greenspace **right** on your doorstep. The **Old Golf Course Public Green Space** is right opposite Backhouse Highworth and **Pentylands Country Park** is just a short walk away. The beautiful **Stanton Park** is 2 miles away - you can walk there (if you want to make a day of it!) or it is accessible by bus (Stagecoach Bus Service 7 is nearby). You can also walk (or cycle if you don't mind using some roads) to local attractions **Roves Farm** and **Nightingale Wood** via Sevenhampton.

The wide network of local footpaths, bridleways and byways can be found on Swindon Borough Council's website or for other local areas to walk in take a look at the All Trails website. The "Get Walking in North Swindon" magazine can also be downloaded from the Backhouse Highworth website. Highworth Visitor Information Centre sells a book on local walking routes. Highworth Wellbeing Walks run every Thursday @ 2pm meeting in the Leisure Centre car park. Click on the QR codes below.



Public Rights of Way Map



All Trails



Highworth Wellbeing Walks



Photo: pentylandscountrypark.co.uk

Pentylands Country Park



Photo: keepphighworthgreen.com

Old Golf Course Public Green Space

YOUR LOCAL AREA

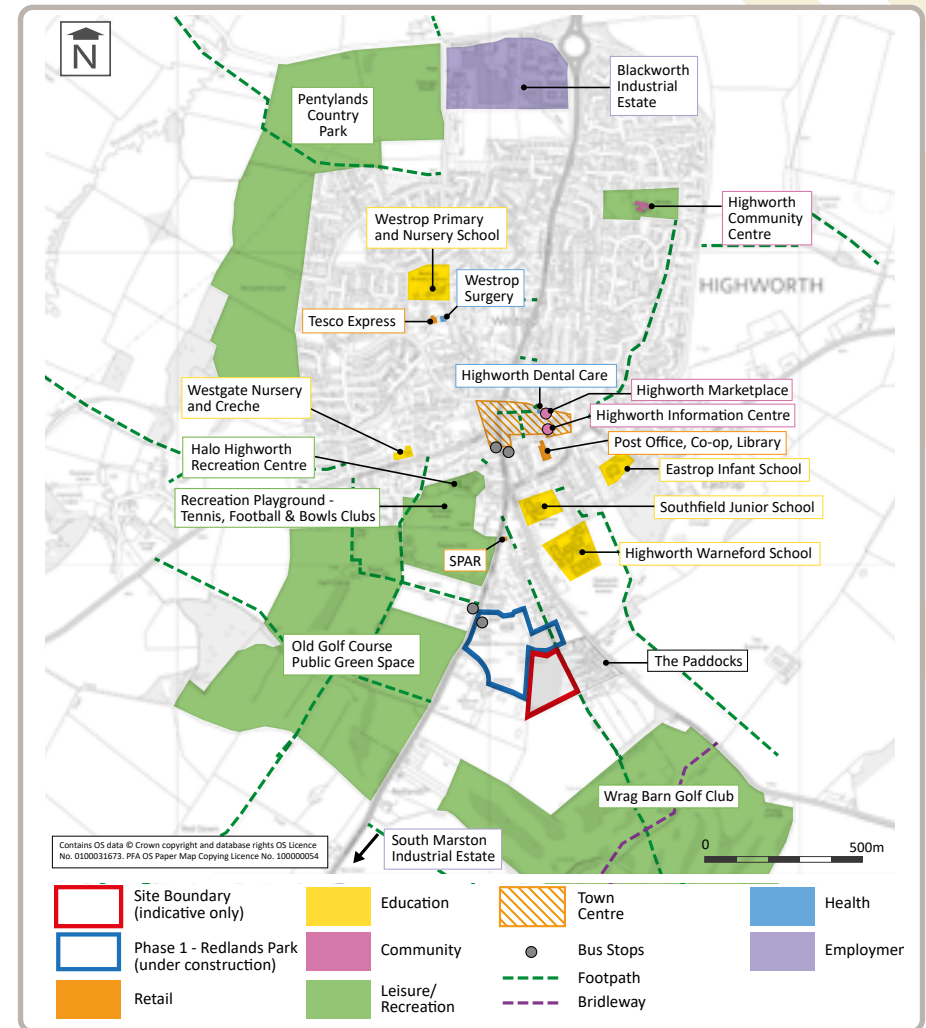


Photo: highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Saturday Market



Photo: www.swindonadvertiser.co.uk

Warnford School

CYCLING

Backhouse Highworth by Bike

Cycling is a great way to get around - its often quicker than driving and certainly cheaper. Cycling is a green and healthy way to travel and with a rucksack, basket or pannier bag you'll be surprised with how much you can carry on two wheels. There are great country lanes near Highworth to cycle along.

If you are looking for a more leisurely ride or to make hills a bit easier, why not consider an electric bike which you can try out for FREE with the **Borrow a Bike Scheme** (see details on next page). Secure cycle parking is available in Swindon Town Centre and most key destinations.

Useful Cycle Map Links

For more information about cycling locally take a look at the **Swindon Travel Choices** website.



Get yourself a free copy of the **Swindon Cycle map** to help you navigate Swindon by bike or alternatively you can download an app such as **Cyclestreets** to help you get around www.cyclestreets.net/mobile



To join free local bike rides in the area or find a good traffic-free route from your doorstep take a look at **British Cycling's Let's Ride** site with free bike rides to join, and great cycle routes to explore www.letsride.co.uk



Top Tips

Before you ride always do a quick "ABC" check.

- **Air** – squeeze your tyres to check if they have enough air in them, they should be firm and not easy to squeeze. Tyres need inflating roughly every 6 weeks and flat tyres are no fun to ride on!
- **Brakes** – before you ride make sure that your brakes are working and not rubbing on the wheel.
- **Chain** – Chains need lubricating roughly every 6 weeks, you can get some chain oil from your local bike shop.

Highworth to Swindon Cycle Path Campaign

Join the campaign to develop a cycle path between Highworth and Swindon and to improve cycle/pedestrian paths within Highworth. If you're interested in supporting this why not get involved in Sustainable Highworth and Swindon Cycle Campaign.



FREE Learn to Ride and Cycle Confidence Sessions

Do you know an adult, teen or child who would like to learn to ride a bike or develop more confidence cycling?

Follow Swindon Cycle Campaign on Eventbrite to find out about upcoming training.



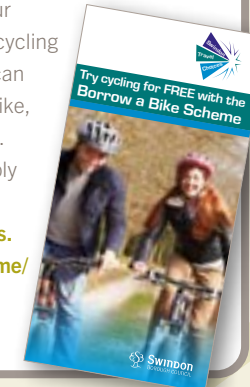
Reporting Footway/Cycleway Faults

If you find any faults on footpaths/cycleways they can be reported on the 'Report a Problem' page on the Swindon Borough Council website.



Borrow a Bike Scheme

Backhouse are offering your household a chance to try cycling for **FREE** for 6 weeks. You can choose between a hybrid bike, electric bike or folding bike. For more details and to apply go to: www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/borrow-a-bike-scheme/



Thinking of Buying a Bike?

If you're looking to purchase a new bike or get repairs done on your faithful old steed, there are plenty of bike shops in the surrounding area. They include **Swindon Cycles** off Beechcroft Road and **Recycles** in Swindon Town Centre. Alternatively, the **Mobile Cycle Medic** offers a mobile bike repair service with pick up and drop off from your doorstep.

You can also obtain a bike with up to 42%* off through the **Government's Cycle to Work Scheme**. The scheme allows employees to obtain bikes tax-free.

Ask your employer if they are signed up to the scheme. **Further charges may apply*



BUS AND COACH TRAVEL

Save Money in 2025 and take advantage of the **£3 price cap on single bus tickets across the UK** until the end of December 2025. Using the bus can save money that you may otherwise spend on parking!

Your nearest bus stops are located close to Backhouse Highworth on Swindon Road (near Redlands Close). **Stagecoach Service 7** operates a good regular service from here to Swindon including South Marston Industrial Estate. www.stagecoachbus.com

Local Highworth Bus Services

Stagecoach & Pulhams Coaches Bus Services

- 7 **Highworth** - Swindon Bus Station
- 64 Witney - Lechlade - **Highworth** - Swindon
- 76,77 **Highworth** - Lechlade - Fairford - Cirencester
- 807 Warneford School - Blunsdon
- C7 Faringdon - **Highworth** - Cirencester College

Swindon Bus Services

- H93 Warneford School - Thornhill Drive, St Andrew's Ridge, Swindon

Travelling Further Afield?

National Express and Megabus coaches run from Swindon, offering a range of destinations across the UK. National Express Service 401 travels between Bristol and London, operating approximately every two to three hours, Monday to Sunday. Buses stop at Swindon Bus Station/ Great Western Hospital/Marlborough Rd and Sussex Square. Megabus offers services from Swindon to over 20 UK-wide destinations with bus stops at Stratton Park, Sainsburys/Dunelm.



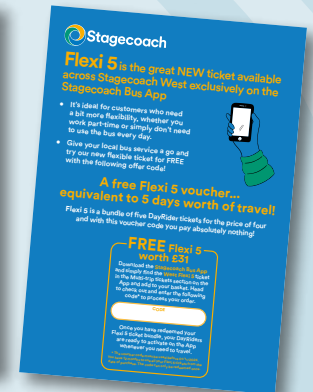
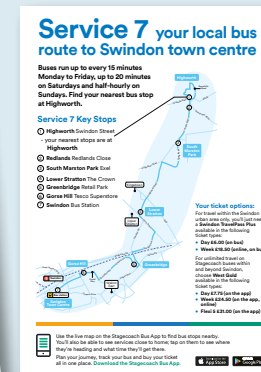
Photo: www.swindonadvertiser.co.uk



Photo: Helen Iwanczuk [CC BY-SA 2.0]

Stagecoach and Backhouse are offering two free Free 5-Day “Flexi 5” Tickets as a special offer for Backhouse Highworth residents try out the local bus services.

For more details, send an email to the Travel Plan Co-ordinator at TPC@pfaconsulting.co.uk



Save Money

Have you reached state pension age or do you have a certain disability? You may be eligible for a concessionary bus pass from Swindon Borough Council. This is a free bus pass that allows you to travel on most Stagecoach buses for free. For more information, scan the QR code.



Useful Apps for Smartphones and Tablets



The Trainline



Stagecoach



National Express



Traveline



RAIL TRAVEL

Rail travel provides a fast and convenient option for travelling further afield. It can not only be quicker than travelling by car, but can also save you money in parking charges!

Swindon Station is the closest railway station, located 6 miles from Backhouse Highworth. The station offers frequent services to a wide range of destinations. Trains to London Paddington run approximately every 15 minutes, with half-hourly trains to Bristol and Cardiff and hourly trains to Cheltenham Spa. Cycle and car parking is available. Bikes travel free on trains but non-folding bikes must be pre-booked on the high speed services.

Stagecoach Service 7 runs from Backhouse Highworth to Swindon Bus Station, which is a short walk from Swindon Railway Station.



Photo: www.swindontowncentre.co.uk

GWR

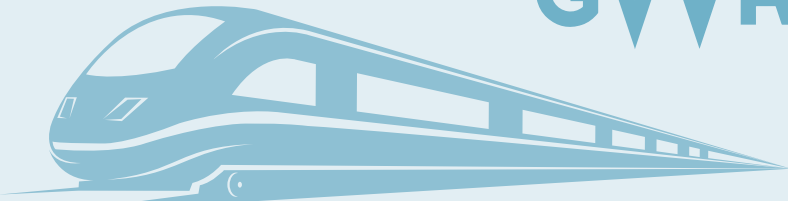


Photo © Brian Robert Marshall (cc-by-sa/2.0)



Save Money

Aged over 60 or between 16 and 30? You can save a third off most rail fares with a railcard.

Travelling as a family? With a Family Railcard you can get a third off standard class adult rail fares and 60% off standard class child rail fares for up to four adults and four children. For more information, visit the www.railcard.co.uk website.

Travelling as a group? Groups of three to nine adults can travel with a 34% discount using a Group Save ticket. More details can be found on the National Rail website.

If you book early you can save up to 85% on your rail journey using advance fares. Looking for more saving still? You can often find a much cheaper train fare through using the Split Ticketing website www.splitticketing.com



Stay Informed

Journey planning assistance can be found on www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/plan-a-journey

Live departures and arrivals for all UK rail stations are available from www.nationalrail.co.uk

DRIVING

Even when driving is the only option there are still ways that you can save money and reduce your carbon footprint.

Driving more efficiently is an easy change to make. To learn some simple techniques visit: www.theaa.com/driving-advice/fuels-environment/drive-economically



Car Sharing

Car sharing provides the convenience of the car, whilst alleviating the associated problems of congestion and pollution. It is a great way to save money and reduce your emissions, while providing a fun way of meeting new people.

Your employer may run a car share scheme or offer priority parking and other incentives for car sharers. If you share daily on a 20 mile (each way) commute, you could save over £1,500 on fuel per year*!

Alternatively, find a car share partner by visiting the Swindon Carshare service at: www.carshareswindon.com The website is part of the Liftshare network which matches regular drivers with those on similar routes. There are currently over 700,000 members on Liftshare, so the chances are that you'll find a match. The scheme is completely free to join and use. You do not need to own a car as you can register as a potential passenger and share the fuel costs with someone driving. You can be flexible and don't have to car share every day.

**Based on two people sharing in a car with a petrol engine size between 1.4 and 2.0 litres with petrol costs at £1.65 per litre.*



Electric Vehicles

Electric vehicles are a more sustainable option if you do need to drive. Grants are available to reduce the cost of purchasing electric vehicles, visit www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/getting-around/car/electric-vehicles/electric-vehicle-grants for more information.



Making an Irregular Journey?

Visit www.blablacar.com where you can either choose to travel in somebody else's car, or advertise your journey for other people to book seats on. A rating system ensures that members will always be confident and comfortable planning a car share. Furthermore, it is a great way to save money on long distance or one-off journeys.

OFFERS!

TWO Free 5-Day "Flexi 5" Stagecoach Tickets!



Download the Stagecoach App and use your personal voucher code to get your tickets.

Borrow a Bike Scheme

Backhouse are offering your household a chance to **try cycling for FREE for 6 weeks**. You can choose between a hybrid bike, electric bike or folding bike. Just fill out the application form online at

<https://www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/borrow-a-bike-scheme/>



Email tpc@pfaconsulting.co.uk or phone **01793 828000** and ask for **Harry Pearce, Travel Plan Coordinator for Backhouse Highworth.**



ECO-DRIVING TIPS

Eco-Driving Tips

Although driving a car is the least sustainable choice of travel, sometimes it's a necessity, so here are some eco-driving tips that can really make a difference.

1

Get your car serviced regularly for best efficiency and always use the right specification of engine oil.

2

Check tyre pressures regularly and before long journeys – under-inflated tyres make your car use more fuel.

3

Save weight – extra weight means extra fuel so if you don't need it, take it out.

4

Cut drag – roof-racks and boxes add to your fuel consumption. Pack carefully or take off roof racks.

5

Don't start the engine until you're ready to go – idling wastes fuel and your engine warms up more quickly when you're moving.

6

De-icing – scrape ice in the winter rather than leave your car idling to warm up.

7

Plan your journey – getting lost wastes fuel. Check traffic news before you go.

8

Combine short trips – cold starts use more fuel so it pays to combine trips if you can.

9

Drive smoothly – accelerate gently and avoid braking unnecessarily. Decelerate smoothly by releasing the accelerator in time, leaving the car in gear.

10

Keep rolling – stopping then starting again uses more fuel than rolling. Slow early for traffic lights or approaching a queue and you might not have to stop completely.

11

Change gear earlier – don't labour the engine but try changing up at an engine speed of around 2,000 rpm (diesel) or 2,500 (petrol). Since 2014 new car models have been fitted with a gear shift indicator to encourage use of the most efficient gear.

12

Use air-con wisely – at low speeds, air-con increases fuel consumption but at higher speeds the effect is less noticeable. Try opening the windows around town and save the air-con for high speed driving. Don't leave it on all the time but running it at least once a week helps keep the system in good condition.

13

Cut down on the electrics – turn off your rear window heater, demister fan and headlights if not needed.

14

Stick to the speed limit – going faster uses more fuel. Drive at 70mph and you'll use up to 9% more than at 60mph and up to 15% more than at 50mph. driving at 80mph can use up to 25% more fuel than at 70mph.

15

Is it best to idle or switch off?

Unless your car has an automatic stop/start system, don't switch off to save fuel unless your engine's warm, you expect not to move for 3 minutes or so (at a level crossing for example) and you know you've got a good battery.





Further Information

We hope that the information in this leaflet has been useful for you.
If you have any queries or feedback, please contact
Harry Pearce, your Travel Plan Co-ordinator:

PFA Consulting
E: tpc@pfaconsulting.co.uk
T: 01793 828 000

