TOPIC PAPER 6 OF 7 · POSTER 1 OF 2

Transport and Connections

Buses, roads, walking and cycling in a car-dependent parish

East Peckham is rural, poorly served by public transport, and its roads flood. For most residents the car is the only practical option.

1

90.7%

of households own at least one car or van

Nine in ten households have a car

56% have two or more, more than double the England rate. Only 9.3% of households are car-free, against 23.5% nationally. Car-free households have fallen from 14% in 2001.

2

Hourly

Route 6 on weekdays, about 09:00 to 15:00; every 90 minutes on Saturdays

The village bus runs hourly in the daytime, then stops

Route 6 (Arriva, Maidstone to Tunbridge Wells) is one of only two year-round buses that stop in the village. Towards Maidstone there is nothing between 15:37 and 18:33. There is no evening service and no Sunday service, so a hospital trip outside those hours means a car or a taxi.

3

9

weekday departures on Route 208 (4 on Saturdays)

The only bus to Tonbridge runs right through the village

Route 208 (Go-Coach) is the other year-round service. From Branbridges Road and the Co-op it runs through the village centre (Crown Acres, Orchard Road, the Library, Westwood Road), then past Bullen Corner and the Man of Kent to Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells Hospital and Pembury. Weekday buses run from 07:20 to 17:40, with the last bus back from the hospital at 16:52. Four trips on Saturdays; nothing on Sundays or in the evening.

4

40

passengers a day (about 14,500 a year)

Beltring Halt (railway) is little used

The halt sits just outside the parish boundary, 2.5 km from the village centre, with no safe, lit path, no car park and no toilets. Kent Online has named it one of the five least-used stations in Kent. Paddock Wood station is 4.5 km away along the A228 with no safe walking or cycling route.

5

45

DfT Connectivity Score (England 65, borough 55)

Well below average connectivity

The Indices of Deprivation, the government's official ranking of every neighbourhood in England, place the parish in the bottom 15% nationally for physical access to services (2025).

Read the full topic paper on the Parish Council website: **eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk**, Neighbourhood Plan pages. Ask a committee member today.

Our Village · Our Voice · Our Plan

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6

20,000+

vehicles a day, including over 1,000 lorries

The A228 carries heavy traffic through the parish

Paddock Wood's distribution hub generates much of the HGV traffic. Four people died on the A228 Boyle Way in the year to June 2026, and a Public Space Protection Order is in place against nuisance racing. Maidstone Borough objected to the East Peckham allocations on transport grounds.

7

15+

roads that flood, from Hale Street to Church Lane

Floods close the roads in and out

Addlestead Road, Snoll Hatch Road, Pound Road, Old Road, Branbridges Road and Stanford Lane are among them. Modelled depths reach 400 mm on Hale Street and 600 mm elsewhere. The village has 8 flood wardens against a recommended 15.

8

<1.5 m

effective pavement width across much of the village

Pavements too narrow, parking on them

TMBC's 2025 walking audit found pavement parking on Old Road, Pound Road, The Freehold, Orchard Road, Fellmead and Stockenbury, and pavements on only one side of Snoll Hatch Road, Addlestead Road and Church Lane.

9

1 km

of marked cycleway in the whole parish

Flat land, but almost nowhere safe to cycle

The only designated section is beside the A228 between the Branbridges and Hop Farm roundabouts. Rat-running commuters, farm machinery and lorries make the lanes feel unsafe. TMBC did no cycling audit for the Local Plan.

10

1,045 m

from The Pound to the Co-op

The walk to the Co-op is 15 minutes, or 35

Fifteen minutes for a fit adult, 23 for someone over 80 and 35 with a walking aid. Footpaths have stepped bridges and waterlog in winter. Housing for older residents only works within a narrow zone around the centre. The Wealdway, Greensand Way and Medway Valley Walk all cross the parish.

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