

BUCKLEY - SETTLEMENT SERVICE AUDIT

Settlement Commentary

Buckley was a location for coal mining and also developed as a centre for pottery and brick manufacturing and this led to people moving into the area to find work. Although the mining and brickworks have now ceased, Buckley still has a number of industrial estates, as well nearby Castle Cement, and benefits from its proximity to and good communications with other major centres of population and employment within Flintshire, Wrexham and Chester. Buckley has continued to be a popular residential area, and brownfield (and greenfield) sites have been redeveloped for housing. Buckley is one of the largest towns in Flintshire and is located between Mold and Broughton. It has good links with Mold, Wrexham and Chester and is in close proximity to the junction of the A55T and A494T. Buckley also benefits from a railway station on the Wrexham – Bidston line at Little Mountain and has a good level of both local and regional bus services, linking with Chester, Ellesmere Port, Wrexham and Mold.

The town physically adjoins Mynydd Isa to the west, Alltami to the north and Drury to the north east and enables each of these settlements to benefit from shared services and facilities. The town has a pedestrianised town centre and an indoor shopping precinct and has a supermarket, with a second supermarket under construction. In addition to the range of shops and services in the town centre, there are also a range of other services and facilities strung out along Mold Road, Brunswick Road and Chester Road. It has several primary schools and a secondary and a new health centre. The town's industrial and mining legacy has resulted in significant areas of land being reclaimed as a country park and also features extensive areas of common land, but has also resulted in landfill. Many of these areas are either SSSI or SAC on account of its importance for Great Crested Newts.

	Settlement No. of Dwellings
2000 UDP Baseline Figure	5,330
2014 Housing Land Study	6,191

	Settlement Population
2001 Census	12,753
2011 Census	13,893

Summary of Recorded Service Provision

The survey work was undertaken in November 2014 and has since been updated to take account of new information or feedback from Members / Town and Community Councils.

Education Facilities		Swimming pool	Yes, Buckley Leisure Centre, Mill Lane	Hospital	No
Pre-School / Nursery Provision	Yes Mountain Lane Primary School, Knowle Lane, Southdown Primary School, Linderick Avenue, Westwood Primary School, Tabernacle Street	Formal outdoor sports facility	Yes, Bowling Green, Mill Lane / Cricket Club, Chester Road / Tennis courts, Buckley Leisure Centre, Mill Lane	Doctors surgery	Yes, Buckley Medical Centre, Mill Lane / Marches Medical Practice, Mill Lane Surgery, 46 Mill Lane / Clwyd House Surgery, Argoed Road
Primary school	Yes, Mountain Lane Primary School, Knowle Lane, Southdown Primary School, Linderick Avenue, Westwood Primary School, Tabernacle Street	Formal outdoor play facility /area	Yes, various spaces through the town as well as Etna Country Park and Buckley Commons	Dentist surgery	Yes, Dental Surgery, 19 Padeswood Road, Bistre Dental Practice, 85 Mold Road
Secondary school	Yes, Elfed High School	Community & Health		Pharmacy	Yes, Lloyds Pharmacy, Buckley Medical Centre / Rowland & Co, 12 Brunswick Road / Superdrug, Unit 25, Central Precinct
College	No	Community centre / hall	Yes, Hawkesbury Youth and Community Centre, Bistre Youth and Community Centre, St Matthews Church Hall		
Other Education Facility	Yes, Westwood Early Years and Sure Start Centre, Westwood School, Tabernacle Street,	Civic offices / facility	Yes, Town Council Offices, Citizens Advice Bureau, Police station		
Leisure & Recreation Facilities		Library	Yes, Precinct Shopping Centre		
Indoor leisure centre / sports facility	Yes, Buckley Leisure Centre, Mill Lane				

Place of worship	Yes, Emmanuel Church, Mold Road / Buckley Christian Centre, Brunswick Road / Ebezeener Baptist Church, Brunswick Road / St Matthew's Church, Church Road / All Saints, Lane End / Our Lady of the Rosary, Jubilee Road / Bistre Methodist, Spon Green / Brickfields, Buckley Cross Methodist, Padeswood Road	Convenience shop	Yes, Spar, 72 Mold Road / Iceland, Central Precinct / AM PM Convenience, town centre / Bargain Booze, Daisy Hill, Brunswick Road / Buckley Express, Brunswick Road / Spar, town centre / Centrepoin, Churrrch Road	Free Standing of a Bank - Cashpoint	Town Centre Banks, Spar, 72 Mold Road, Co-op, Precinct Way, Buckley Express, Brunswick Road, Buckley Service Station, Liverpool Road
Retail & Commercial Related		Other shops	Yes, wide range of shops, services and other commercial enterprises in town centre and along Mold Road, Brunswick Road and Chester Road	Public house / club / restaurant	Black Lion, town centre / Black Horse, town centre / The Shamrock, Chester Road / Cross Keys, Brunswick Road / Hope and Anchor, Ewloe Place / White Lion, Mold Road / Blue Bell, Brunswick Road / Buckley Conservative Club, Liverpool Road / Buckley Working Mens Club, Brook Street / The Academy Dance Hall, Mold Road / Tivoli, Brunswick Road / Indian Restaurant, Mold Road / The Windmill Bar and Grill, Mill Lane / Horse and Jockey, Church Road
Supermarket	Yes, Coop, Precinct Way, (Aldi, Precinct Way - under construction)	Café / Take away	Various take aways and cafes in and around town centre and along Mold Road, Brunswick Road and Chester Road	Post office	Yes, 10 Brunswick Road (moving to Spar)
Non-food retail units	Yes, Ex Catalogue Stores, Brunswick Road / Bathroom Showrooms / C&S Glaziers, Builders Merchants etc	Bank/Building Society	Barclays, 3-4 Brunswick Court / HSBC, 9 Brunswick Road / Lloyds TSB, The Cross / Natwest, 20 Central Precinct (closing)	Post box	Yes, various

Petrol Filling Station	Yes, BP, 72 Mold Road / Shell, Liverpool Road (Ewloe Hall Motors) / various car sales and garages including Bistre Car Sales, Mold Road, Williams Car Sales, Church Road, Buckley Tyres	Bus service frequency	21,21A,21B – Buckley Station, Precinct Way, Southdown – 11 services Mon-Fri 5 services Sat (not all services follow complete route) / 3 – Mold to Chester every 30mins Mon-Sat / 4 – Mold to Chester every 30mins Mon-Sat every 30mins Sun and BH's / X44 – Mold to Chester every 1hr Mon-Sat / X55 – Mold to Chester every 1hr Mon-Sat / Mold – Deeside College 1 service morning and afternoon / 28/28A – Wrexham, Mold, Flint every 1 hr Mon-Fri every 2 hrs Sat / SP1/SP2 – Mold to Ellesmere Port every 1hr Mon-Sat every 1hr Sat	Cycle route	No
				Access to main highway network	Yes, Access to Mold via A549 / Access to A494T via Alltami Road, Pinfold Lane, Liverpool Road / Access to A55 via A549 / A550 Dobs Hill
Employment	Yes, Spencer Industrial Estate, Catheralls / Pinfold Industrial Estate, Little Mountain Industrial Estate, Castle Cement				
Transport					
Rail station	Yes, Little Mountain (Hourly service to Liverpool and Wrexham Mon-Sat and every 2/3 hours on Sun)				
Bus station / stop	Yes, various				

Broadband Provision

According to the latest OFCOM data (2013) Buckley post codes (where data is available) have a median average broadband range of 4 – >30 mega bytes per second with the average speeds in Buckley being 10mbps. Clearly broadband provision in Buckley is mixed with the majority of the settlement having less than average broadband provision. Broadband provision is important even for a town like this because of the impacts of slow speeds upon the ability of businesses to operate within the area and to provide investment and local employment.

Other Comments

The new health clinic on Mill Lane has replaced the former health clinic.

Previous Surveys of Service Provision

Buckley benefits from a town centre and local shopping facilities on Mold Road and Lane End. Buckley town serves a wider rural area. Information for the town centre goes back to the 1980's (a number of town centre land use surveys have taken place in recent years). Services and facilities within the town have changed particularly within the town centre and there are now ongoing regeneration efforts which are delivering new services within the town. For example the new Mill Lane Medical Centre was recently completed and the Potters Wheel public house has also demolished with work beginning on the new Aldi foodstore (expected to open December 2015).

Mapping Service Provision

Buckley benefits from an extensive range of services and facilities most of which are within the Town Centre, some of the service provision has been mapped for illustrative purposes and is presented overleaf. As the illustrative map of service provision suggests service provision in Buckley is excellent.

