

MY mode choice



BARRATT  
HOMES



## Blackdown Heights, Chard

### Travel Plan Welcome Pack

Your travel options. Your sustainable community.





# CONGRATULATIONS ON MOVING INTO YOUR NEW HOME!

**// Welcome to your new home. We hope that you will settle in quickly and soon feel at home in your new surroundings.**

Your **new home is part of a new** sustainable community.

We have worked hard to design your local area in a way that encourages the creation of a strong sense of community and that will allow you to make your own contribution to reducing climate change (and saving money) by making use of the excellent non-car travel options that exist on your doorstep.

We want you to know about your travel options and the various benefits that changing your daily travel choices, even just for one day a week, can have on your local environment and community. We have therefore prepared this document to introduce you to the various options available, and to show just how easy it is to make a contribution to your sustainable community.

To help you, we have made available a dedicated **Travel Co-ordinator** who can assist with any queries you may have. **//**

**hello@mymodechoice.com**



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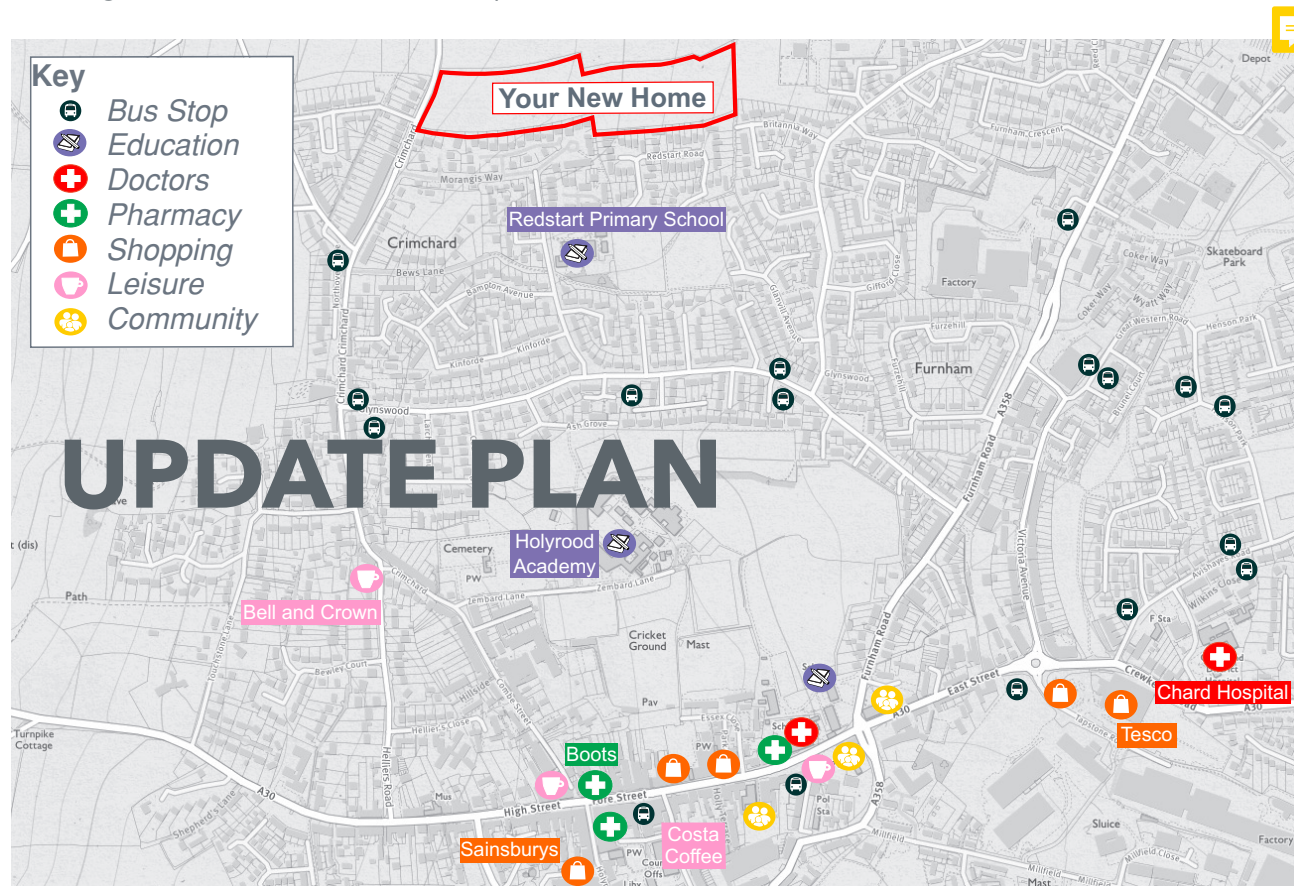
# 1. Welcome

Welcome to your new home at Blackdown Heights, **Crimchard**. We do hope that you are able to settle in quickly and that you are able to familiarise yourself with **you** new surroundings.

Your new home is part of a sustainable community and is located approximately **20 miles** southwest of Yeovil and 13 miles southeast of Taunton. Once the development is completed you will be within walking distance of number of shops, schools, and leisure facilities.

The Redstart Primary School and Chard Town Centre are within walking distance from your new home.

The nearest bus stops are located within 4-minute walk of your new home, on **Crimchard** to the south west. From here you can access a regular bus service that can get you to Taunton.



We want to help you become familiar with the various opportunities you have available to you to leave the car at home, save money, improve your health and support your local community, so please familiarise yourself with this document.

Your Welcome Pack can also be accessed at any time via the following link:-

[bit.ly/BDW\\_Blackdown\\_Heights](https://bit.ly/BDW_Blackdown_Heights)





## 2. Walking

One of the easiest and cheapest ways to travel is to walk, particularly if your destination is within 2-kilometres of **the** your new home. Walking is also a versatile mode of travel -there's no waiting around, no congestion and its free!

Walking has other benefits too. It not only makes you feel good but provides genuine health **benefits:** for adults, just 30 minutes of walking, five times a **week,** dramatically cuts the risk of developing heart disease, diabetes and obesity.

The need to walk more is promoted by the NHS via their 10,000 steps a day challenge. The aim is to improve the nation's health and to change our increasingly sedentary lifestyles. The NHS say:

**// research shows that walking 10,000 steps a day (8 kilometers) will significantly improve your health. Putting one foot in front of the other can build stamina, burn excess calories and give you a healthier heart. //**

Walking more, whether it is for work or leisure, is an easy way of being more active without trying too hard and is a great way to spend more time with your family.

Setting yourself a target of walking 10,000 steps a day can be a fun way of increasing the amount of physical activity you do.

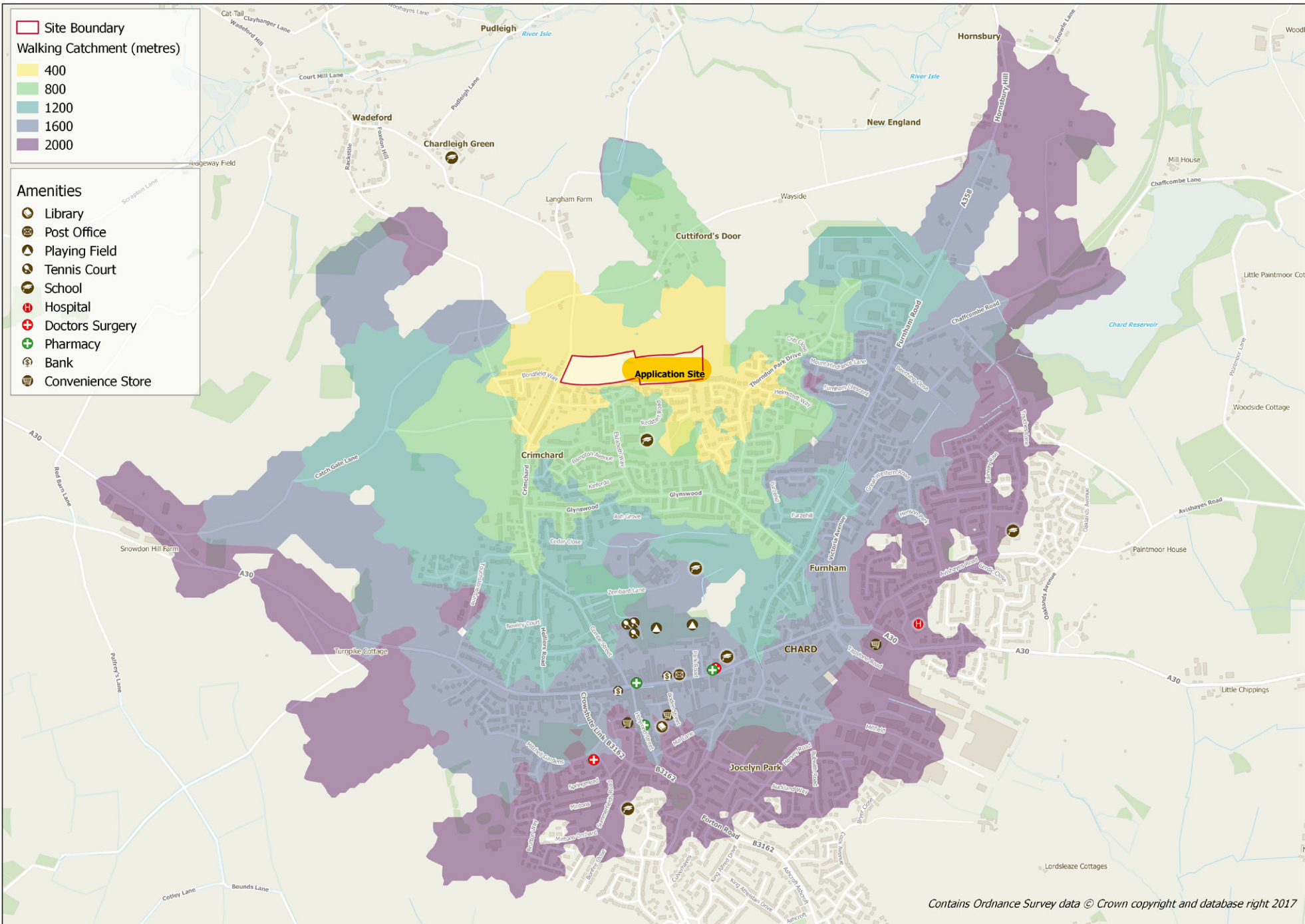
### Help to Plan Your Journey

There are a number of online journey planners and smartphone apps available to help you plan your walking trip. **Googlemaps** is a particularly useful resource, freely available on all platforms including iPhone, Android and Windows. These mapping tools will provide you with a route map between any two points, providing detailed turn-by-turn directions tailored for pedestrian journeys.



There are also a number of free smartphone apps that will help you to monitor your walk and calorie consumption through the use of GPS tracking. Why not try the MapMyWalk app or the NHS Active 10 **App** to see how far you walk each month, or even challenge other members of your family or community by setting up a group.

Further to this there are a number of activity trackers available on the market, allowing you keep track of your activity, calories and even sleep patterns.



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## 2. Walking

### What Facilities are Within Walking Distance?

Walking to the centre Chard will take around 15 minutes at an average pace and there are good value local amenities there including a Doctor's Surgery, Sainsbury's Supermarket and Lloyds Bank

The Redstart Primary School is within a 5 minute walk of your home via Morganis Way and the Holyrood Academy is a further 5 minutes from there.

There are a number of other useful facilities located within a 15minute walk of your new home. These include Essex House Medical Centre, and a number of pharmacies, as well Sainsburys, Tesco, and a post office as well as a pubs, restaurants and cafes.

If you don't fancy walking the whole way, why not combine it with a bus. Most journeys can be undertaken at least in part by bus. Bus services are available on Crimchard, adjacent to your community. Find out more about the bus services available at Section 4.

To help you to familiarise yourself with the local services and facilities within an easy walk of your home, we have provided you with a local area walking map on the adjacent page.

Some useful numbers and address are provided opposite.

### Useful Contacts

#### The Redstart Primary School

Redstart Rd, Chard TA20 1SD | 01460 67457

#### Holyrood Academy

Zembard Ln, Chard TA20 1JL | 01460 260100

#### Boots Pharmacy

5 Fore St, Chard TA20 1PH | 01460 63114

#### Essex House Medical Centre

59 Fore St, Chard TA20 1QA | 01460 65046

#### Co-op

43 Fore St, Chard TA20 1PT | 01460 61722



## 3. Cycling

Cycling is fast, convenient, healthy and cost-effective, and is a realistic way to travel from your new home, especially if your destination lies within 5-kilometres. Of course, cycling can still be a viable option for longer journeys, particularly for experienced cyclists who may wish to incorporate their cycle journey as part of their daily fitness regime.

### How to Plan Your Journey

There are a number of online journey planners and smartphone apps available to help you plan and evaluate your journey by bike. **Googlemaps** is a particularly helpful application, freely available on all platforms including iPhone, Android and Windows. These tools will provide you with a route map between any two points and provide you with turn-by-turn directions, tailored for cycle journeys.

Other free smartphone apps allow you to keep track of your cycle journeys and help you to stay motivated. Apps such as Strava, **Endomondo** and MapMyRide can track your journeys by GPS, and provide you with useful stats and goals.



### Want to Give it a Go?

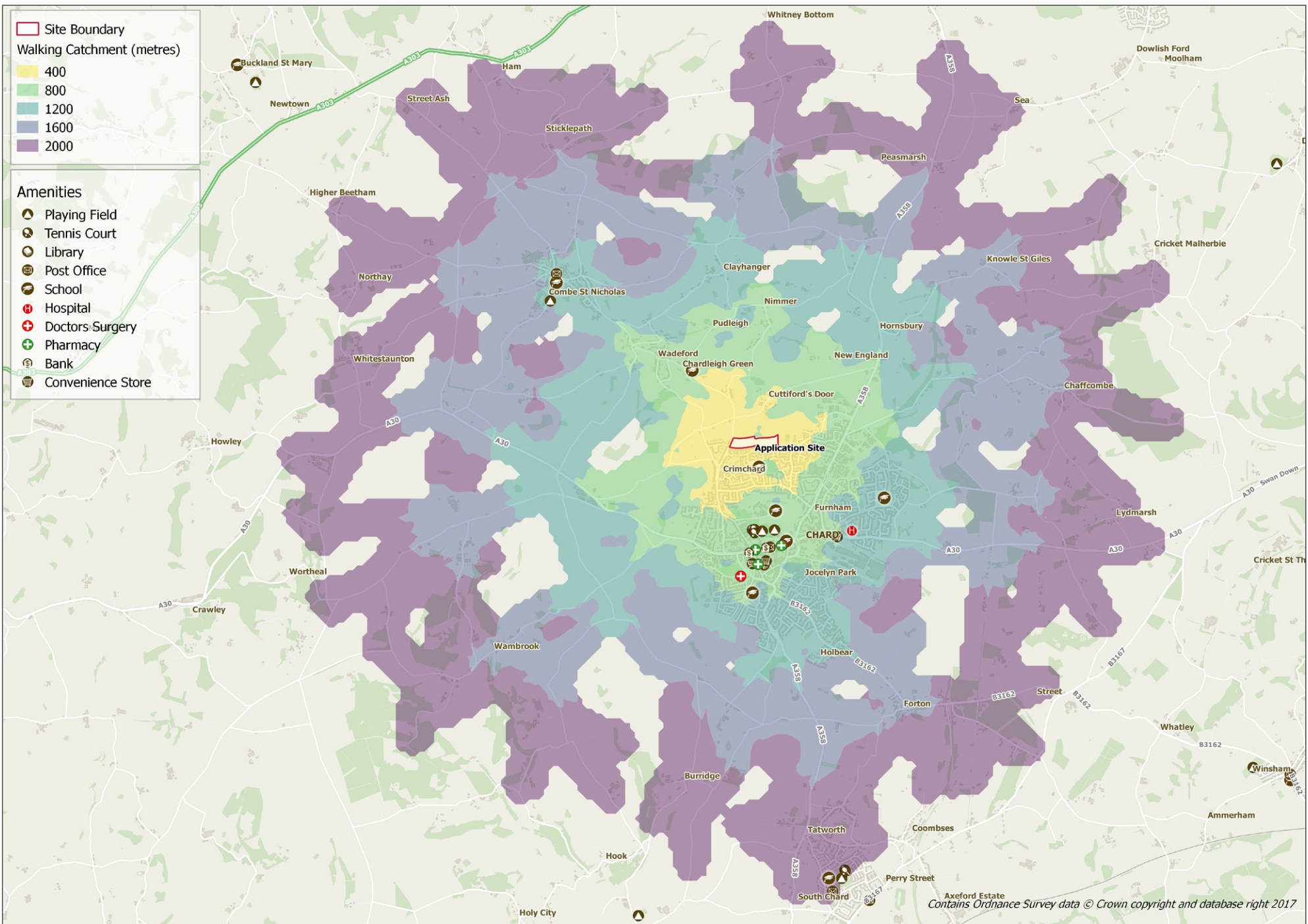
We are committed to helping you minimise the use of your car so we are offering every household Green Travel Vouchers **which will allow you to be reimbursed against expenditure of things to help you make more sustainable travel choices.** To claim your Green Travel Voucher please send an email to the below email address with your name, address and move-in date.

Please note that it is limited to one free **membership** per property.  
[hello@mymodechoice.com](mailto:hello@mymodechoice.com)

### Find out about the Cycle to Work Scheme

If there are more members of your **family** that want to give cycling a go, why not ask your employer if they are part of the Government's Cycle-to-Work initiative, which would allow you to make savings of up to 40% off a brand-new bike and safety accessories costing up to £1,000.

Find out more information about the scheme via:  
[bit.ly/cycle2work-initiative](https://bit.ly/cycle2work-initiative)



## 3. Cycling

Cycling from your new home gives you the potential to access jobs, shops and leisure activities in a **sustainably** conscious way. The roads in **Crimchard** are generally quite quiet and suitable for cycling.

Within 5-kilometres (3.1-miles) of your new home (roughly 16-minutes at an average pace), you could get to the surrounding villages of Combe St Nicholas, Tatworth, South Chard and Wadeford.

To help you, we have shown the 5-kilometre cycle catchment on the adjacent page.

### Useful Contacts

#### **Wheels in Motion**

86 Holyrood St, Chard TA20 2AL | 01460 63223

#### **Ilminster Cycle Repair**

The Rockery, 22 North St, Ilminster TA19 0DG | 07739 884826

#### **N D Cycles and Off Road Motorcycle Spares**

3A Roman Rd, Taunton TA1 2BD | 01823 365917

[www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)





## 4. Bus Services

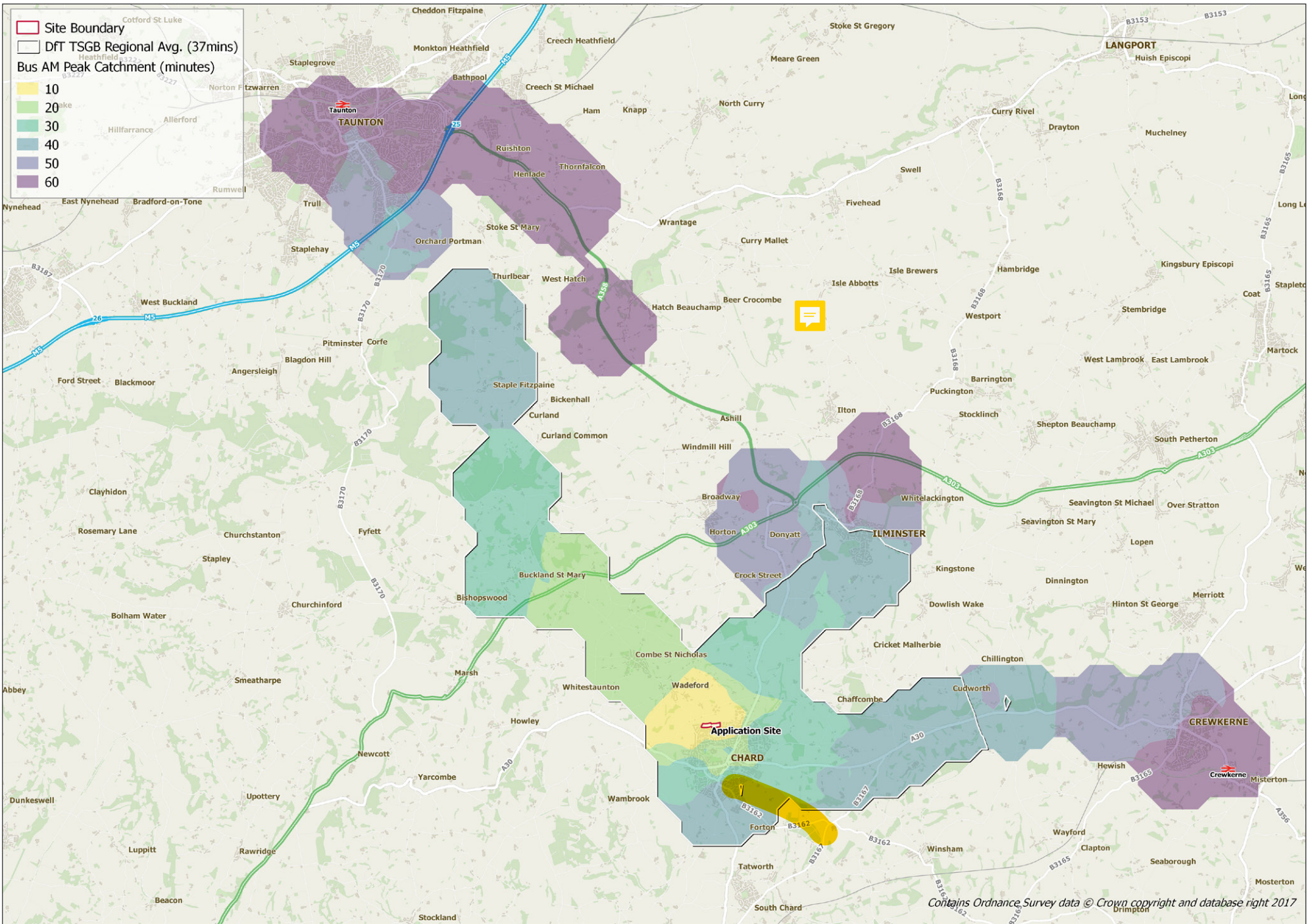
You can access the bus service through Chard, within a short walk of your new home, on Crimchard. To help, we have highlighted the locations of the bus stops on the adjacent page.

As a guide we have provided a summary below of the available bus services and their typical frequencies.

From Chard, the bus route links you to Taunton, and the employment, retail and leisure opportunities located there.

Service	Route	Frequency	Bus Stop
99	Taunton - Chard Chard - Taunton	Every two hours Monday to Saturday. No service on Sundays	Catchgate Lane, Crimchard







## 4. Bus Services

### Give it a Go!

As part of our commitment to creating a sustainable community we want you to see just how easy and convenient bus travel can be, so we are providing Green Travel Vouchers to each household. You will have the option to be reimbursed for some bus travel.

### First Bus Somerset

[www.firstgroup.com/somerset/](http://www.firstgroup.com/somerset/)

### Traveline South West

[www.travelinesw.com](http://www.travelinesw.com)


For more information on Green Travel Vouchers, email **is your** name, address and move-in date to the following address:

[hello@mymodechoice.com](mailto:hello@mymodechoice.com)





## 5. Rail Services

Axminster Railway Station is accessible via bus by taking the **Number 30 bus**  which departs from Chard Town Centre. The station has storage for 46 bicycles, which is covered by CCTV coverage. **There are also 100 car parking spaces** at the station.

Crewkerne Railway Station can be reached via the Number 96/96A bus which also departs from the Town Centre. It provides storage space for 8 **bicycle**, as well as 51 car parking spaces including two accessible spaces.

Both stations are located on the West of England Main Line and are served by hourly trains between London Waterloo and Exeter St Davids. From here you can jump on to high frequency rail services to other local, regional and national destinations.

### Axminster & Crewkerne Railway Station

#### Facilities



**Ticket Office**



**Ticket Machine**



**Prepurchase Collection**



**Car Park**



**Bus Services**



**Cycle Storage Availability**



**Step Free Access**



**Toilets**

### Useful Contacts

**National Rail Enquiries**  
[www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

**South Western Railway**  
[www.southwesternrailway.com](http://www.southwesternrailway.com)



## 6. Car Sharing

Car sharing is when two or more people travel together in the same car for all or part of their journey and it provides users a wide range of benefits. The main advantages are as follows:

-  Saving money on fuel, parking and wear & tear
-  Helping to reduce congestion
-  Helping to reduce your environmental impact
-  Sharing the stress of driving








You can register for free with Somerset Liftshare to be paired with people **that** have compatible journey requirements.

The registration process is quick and easy, and you can select whether you want to travel with people of the same gender if that makes you feel safer. Only those people with matching criteria will be shown.

Access the database here:

[bit.ly/liftshare-somerset](https://bit.ly/liftshare-somerset) 

If you are driving, there are 7 useful eco-driving tips that can really make a difference:

-  Service your car regularly to maintain engine efficiency.
-  Check your tyre pressures regularly (and before long journeys) as under inflated tyres increase rolling resistance and use more fuel.
-  Don't carry any unnecessary baggage as extra weight means extra fuel.
-  Combine your trips. Fuel efficiency is poorest when the engine is cold so combine your errands into one trip.
-  Drive smoothly, accelerate gently and look ahead to avoid unnecessary braking.
-  Cut down on the air-con, which increases fuel consumption at low speeds.
-  Stick to the speed limits. The faster you go the greater the fuel consumption (cruising at 80mph can use up to 25% more fuel than travelling at 70mph).

For more advice on eco-driving visit [smartertravelchoices.co.uk](https://smartertravelchoices.co.uk)

Your travel options. Your sustainable community.

For further information and advice regarding travel opportunities from your new home, please contact: [hello@mymodechoice.com](mailto:hello@mymodechoice.com)

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