

## **Active Travel**

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# The Future – changing needs

The Wales Transport Strategy 2021 GOV.WALES [10/03/2021]

#### Priority 1: Bring services to people in order to reduce the need to travel

Reduce the need for people to use their cars on a daily basis:

- better physical and digital connectivity
- more local services & active travel
- more home and remote working (WG target 30%)

# Priority 2: Allow people and goods to move easily from door to door by accessible, sustainable and efficient transport services and infrastructure

Modal shift away from private car to more sustainable transport modes

- accessible, efficient & sustainable transport services
- infrastructure to encourage walking, cycling, use of public transport & low-emissions vehicles

#### Priority 3: Encourage people to make the change to more sustainable transport

Change travel behaviour to use low-carbon, sustainable transport.

- make sustainable transport more attractive & affordable
- adopt innovations that make it easier to use.
- transform the customer experience of public transport

[car-sharing, car clubs, bike sharing; road-user charging; disincentives to car use; needs of rural areas; new revenue sources to fund large improvements in public transport & active travel facilities]



# Sustainable Transport Hierarchy - WTS

Walking and Cycling

**Public Transport** 

Ultra-Low Emissions
Vehicles

Other Motor Vehicles



## What is Active Travel?

- Active Travel is defined as a journey by active modes (cycle or on foot) for a purpose such as work, school or shopping usually less than 5 miles.
- It does **not** include for leisure/tourism/sport journeys
- WG minister identifies and approves list of designated settlements (Not PCC)
- Designated Settlements (>2000); 11no. in Powys
- Rural Settlements **limited** funding opportunities



## **Benefits of Active Travel**

- Supports Vision 2025 (new plan being prepared)
- Relates to Wellbeing of Future Generations Act
- Fits with Decarbonisation agenda (not all about EVs)
- Contribute to improved Health through regular non-sport related physical activity that can be maintained throughout all age groups
- Helps towards reducing social inequality (transport poverty, generational inequality)



## **Active Travel Act (Wales) 2014**

The Act requires local authorities in Wales to produce maps of active travel networks that set out plans for these networks and to deliver **year on year** improvements in active travel routes and facilities.



## **Statutory Duties under Active Travel Act**



- To produce maps of existing active travel routes and related facilities in a local authority's area (designated settlements) and of the new and improved active travel routes and related facilities needed to create integrated networks for active travel
- To continually improve facilities for Active Travel within the designated localities in accordance with the networks identified through the AT Network Maps
- To have regard to those maps in preparing transport policies and to ensure that there are new and improved active travel routes and related facilities
- To report on levels of active travel
- In carrying out certain functions under the Highways Act 1980, to take reasonable steps to enhance the provision made for walkers and cyclists and to have regard to the needs of walkers and cyclists
- To exercise their functions under this Act so as to promote active travel journeys and secure new and improved active travel routes and related facilities



## **Active Travel Mapping**

Draft version of maps sent to cabinet and WG for early consideration (End of July 2021) and then open to public consultation approx. 2 weeks later

Minor changes made and final version to WG for approval (Dec 2021)

Last undertaken in 2016/17











1<sup>st</sup> phase Stakeholder and public engagement undertaken on-line (Oct 2020 – Mar 2021) 2<sup>nd</sup> phase public consultation (Mid Aug 2021 for 12 weeks) ATNM (2<sup>nd</sup> publication) needs to be published 31st Dec 2021

ATNM mapping process identifies routes via direct feedback from stakeholders and local residents



# Behaviour Change & Challenges



Affordability of EV technology for many rural residents especially in the short term

Welsh Transport Strategy rural offer may not be achievable

Road pricing may push more PCC residents into transport poverty

Active Travel provides low cost/low carbon travel within our towns and villages

Electric bicycles could be a game changer but remain expensive

Public transport will need to improve



## WG Rural Offer – WTS Annex

- An affordable public transport system fit for the challenge of tackling climate change.
- 2. Starting now, we will work towards giving every village and town guaranteed public transport service frequency standards according to size, working steadily towards an ambition of 'Every Village, Every Hour'
- 3. We will, with rural communities and local authorities, build an affordable, integrated universal train-bus-taxibus network, connecting villages with an inter-town network of frequent, fast bus services and linking to these and to train lines using buses and ondemand taxi-bus services, timetabled to provide easy guaranteed connections from all villages.
- 4. We will, with rural local authorities and the voluntary sector, contract or directly run bus and taxi-bus services to create local, good quality jobs right This document was downloaded from GOV.WALES and may not be the latest version. Go to https://gov.wales/cabinet-paper-llwybr-newydd-a-new-wales-transport-strategy-html for the latest version. Get information on copyright. across rural Wales.



## WG Rural Offer - WTS Annex

- 5. Starting now, we will work towards giving every village guaranteed safe cycling access to the nearest town by dates based on population and proximity, working steadily towards an ambition for 'Safe Cycling from Village to Town'.
- 6. We will, with local authorities, build 'hub-and-spoke' active travel corridors to connect all market towns and other significant local centres to surrounding villages and outlying developments with safe, We will, with local authorities and the voluntary sector, make electrically assisted bikes (e-bikes) an affordable and financially attractive option for hire or purchase throughout rural Wales, to make cycling a realistic alternative to the car for more local journeys by creating safe infrastructure to connect people to local towns and services.

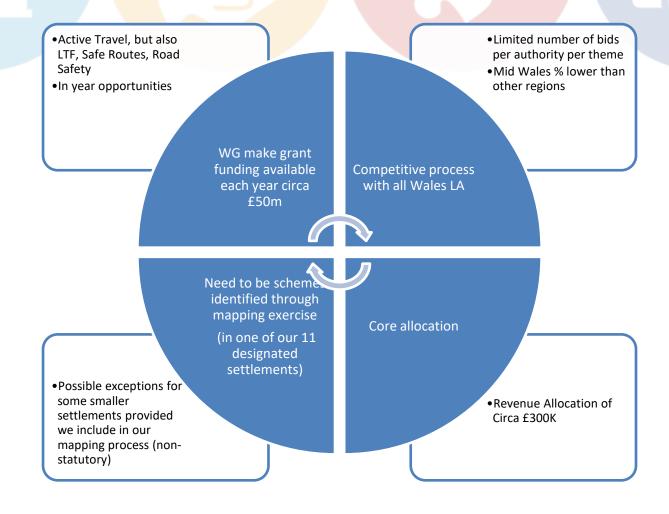


## WG Rural Offer – WTS Annex

- 7. We will test and roll out local superfast work hubs for rural communities where there is demand: giving people who cannot work from home the option of not out-commuting every day; helping businesses that cannot safely social distance within their premises; and keeping more people where they will use and support precious rural shops and services in their local communities.
- 8. We will make available an electric car share scheme (electric car club) in every rural community that needs one to reduce the need for car ownership.
- 9. We will invest in maintaining the highway network, to improve road safety for all road users and to increase the resilience of critical infrastructure to climate change.
- 10. We will back rural Wales's potential to support new transport technologies, such as hydrogen, battery, e-bike and e-vehicle manufacturing, and sales and after-sales service.



## **Grant Funding**





# Recent schemes 21/22....

- Llandrindod Central (Ddole Rd to Tesco £430k)
- Newtown Pedestrian bridge (£500k)
- Builth Wells SRIC (£50k)
- Welshpool towpath (School)
- Machynlleth archway (£1.3m)
- Core Allocation Prioritisation and scheme design
  - Machynlleth
  - Brecon
  - Llandrindod
  - Newtown



# Scheme highlights in recent years (Circa £4.5m over last 5 years)

- Presteigne phases 1 &2 £1m
- Knighton £450k
- Llandrindod (Cefynllys Lane phase 1 and 2) £500k
- Llandrindod Spa Rd (£300k)
- Newtown Plantation Lane (£200k)
- Newtown Riverside (£200k)
- Newtown Hub (£50k)
- Brecon Canal Rd (£100k)
- Newtown Llanidloes Rd (£200k)
- Newtown Nantoer Bridge (£400k)
- Newtown Bridge (£1.5m)
- Newtown Pool Rd (£250k)
- Mach archway (£1.3m)
- Montgomery canal improvements (£500k)
- Elan Valley improvements (£170k)
- Treowen Phase 1 (£500k)
- Llandrindod Central (£500k)



# **Current Schemes 2022/23**

- Treowen Phase 2 (£400k)
- Newtown Bridge (£1.5m)
- Builth Wells SRIC (£350k)
- LLandrindod to Howey Phase 1 (£300k)
- Scheme development and general upgrades £500k
  - Brecon
  - Builth
  - Crickhowell
  - LLanidloes
  - Newtown
  - Machynlleth
  - Welshpool
  - Barrier removal programme
  - Signage programme
  - Cycle storage programme



## Newtown Exemplar

- Newtown identified as one of 6 Exemplar towns for Active Travel in Wales based upon work already undertaken
- Focused resources
- Additional support from WG/Sustrans





**Newtown Cycle hub** 



# **Examples**

Ystradgynlais before and after







### **Knighton**









### **Presteigne before and after**







#### **Tiger Crossing Newtown**





### **Cefynllys Lane Llandrindod Wells**





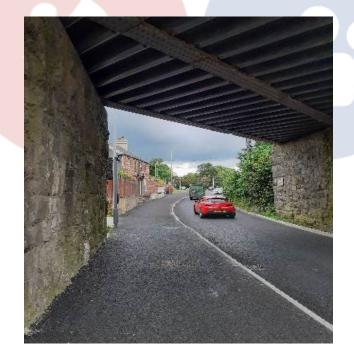




### Nantoer Bridge (Llandidloes Rd) Newtown













Questions.....

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