Welcome to this first edition of our Active Travel E-newsletter. It’s been a few months since the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 received Royal Assent. Since then, we’ve been working hard to develop the guidance necessary to implement the Act. Today we are launching three consultations. The aim of the Delivery Guidance and the Design Guidance is to support local authorities in delivering their new duties in relation to the Active Travel Act. The third consultation is on the Active Travel Action Plan. This sets out a broader range of activities that the Welsh Government will do to encourage more people to walk and cycle more often.

We want to make Active Travel the most attractive option for short journeys. Enabling more people to undertake active travel will mean more people can enjoy the health benefits of active travel, help reduce greenhouse emissions, tackle poverty and disadvantage and help our economy to grow. These consultations are an important step towards making this a reality.

John Griffiths
Minister for Culture & Sport.

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**Delivery Guidance**

The delivery guidance sets out the processes and procedures to create the maps the Act requires, and meet the other requirements of the Act. Read the consultation document.


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**Active Travel Action Plan**

The Active Travel Act is key to increasing levels of active travel by improving the availability and quality of cycle paths and footpaths. However, legislation is only one part of the jigsaw, there is much more to do to enable and encourage more people to walk and cycle. The Active Travel Action Plan sets out the actions we are taking across the Welsh Government to get more people walking and cycling, be it in the Health, Transport, Sport, or the Education Departments, as well as action of our key partners. Read the consultation document.

Design Guidance

The design guidance changes the way we plan and build walking and cycling infrastructure. It sets out the standards that walking and cycling routes should meet, at a level of detail on par with routes for driving. The design guidance is really important for tackling the major barrier for people walking and cycling, which is that the infrastructure is insufficient and not suitable for all users. One of the major reasons for bringing forwards the Act in the first place was to lead to better infrastructure, so more people can walk and cycle safely. The guidance was developed by a consortium of experts in their field, and reflects the latest thinking on walking and cycling infrastructure design. Read the consultation document.
http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/transport/active-travel-design-guidance/?skip=1&lang=en

Safe Routes in Communities

On 1 April, the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport announced the schemes who will receive £5m capital funding under the Safe Routes in Communities programme in 2014/15. Thirty schemes across Wales will benefit from funding to make improvements to local active travel infrastructure.
http://wales.gov.uk/topics/transport/roads/safety/saferoutes/?lang=en

Local Transport Fund

The Minister for Economy, Science and Transport has recently agreed capital funding of £4.6m under the Local Transport Fund for active travel schemes that will be implemented in 2014/15. Twenty schemes across Wales will benefit from this funding.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ALL 3 CONSULTATIONS IS:
4 AUGUST

SAVE THE DATE

This year’s Active Travel Conference will be held on 25th September at the Pierhead Building in Cardiff Bay. More information will follow in the next few months.