

To the Welsh Ministers,

Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 Reporting Duties

In accordance with the duties under sections 7 (3) and 10 (2) of the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, please find below Ceredigion County Council's annual report.

<p>The actions taken to promote active travel journeys</p>	<p>Kerbcraft training provided to 192 primary school pupils.</p> <p>National Standards cycle training delivered to 387 primary school pupils.</p> <p>Walk to School Week promoted and supported by the Road Safety Officer at several primary schools.</p> <p>The Authority contacted all Primary Schools to promote their nomination for inclusion on the Sustrans Active Travel Promotion in Primary Schools programme. This resulted in a high return of applications from Ceredigion and 10 schools were successfully accepted into the above programme by Sustrans. This represented approximately a quarter of the school places available across all of Wales.</p> <p>This led to Sustrans creating a new Ceredigion Schools Officer post, which is hosted by the Authority providing office and administrative support for the post holder.</p> <p>A new Active Travel webpage has been created on the Council's website.</p> <p>Active Travel requirements were requested and subsequently included as part of the planning conditions for the Aberystwyth Town FC housing development site.</p> <p>Active Travel requirements have been requested as part of planning conditions for Aberystwyth University's AIEC development site in Gogerddan near Penrhyncoch.</p> <p>Active Travel requirements have been included within the design plans submitted for the proposed new Transport Interchange in Bow Street which includes a new Rail Station.</p> <p>Presentation made to the Ceredigion Local Access Forum to inform them of Active Travel and related work in the County.</p> <p>A survey was made available online during February, for the public and stakeholders to provide comment and suggestions regarding Active Travel and the Integrated Network Maps that will be presented to the Minister in Nov 2017.</p> <p>Local press releases to promote grant funded works for</p>
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	new Active Travel and Safe Routes in Communities Scheme infrastructure.
The actions taken to secure new active travel routes and related facilities and improvements	Please refer to separate document titled 'Ceredigion Active Travel Report 2016-17'
Costs incurred for new active travel routes and facilities and improvements of existing active travel routes and related facilities carried out in the preceding full financial year	<p>Local Transport Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Travel Mapping £2,945 • Cardigan Active Travel Area £164,284* • Aberystwyth Area & Penparcau walking and cycling links £138,109* <p>Safe Routes in Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ysgol Bro Pedr, Lampeter £116,368* • Rhydypennau Primary School Footway links £109,350* • Talgarreg Primary School £35,487* <p>*includes match funding from Ceredigion County Council and third parties detailed below.</p> <p>Road Safety Revenue Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kerbcraft Training £16,199 • National Standards cycle training £8,575.63

In addition to the above (optional):

Indicative spending for new active travel routes and facilities and improvements of existing active travel routes and related facilities funded or part funded by third parties.	<p>Local Transport Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardigan Active Travel Area £5,000 match funding provided by Cardigan Town Council. <p>Safe Routes in Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ysgol Bro Pedr, Lampeter £8,000 match funding provided by Lampeter Town Council.
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Additional information (optional)

N/a

I confirm that this report will be published, in accordance with the statutory Delivery Guidance.



Eifion Evans
Deputy Chief Executive
Ceredigion County Council

August 2017



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Active Travel Report 2016-17 – Ceredigion County Council

Introduction

Under the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, three Ceredigion towns were designated as Active Travel locations – Aberystwyth, Cardigan and Lampeter. The Act conferred new duties upon both the Welsh Government and the 22 Welsh local authorities. Ceredigion has for many years been - and continues to be - at the forefront of providing safer and more accessible walking and cycling facilities across the County as a whole, providing safer access to education and training, employment, every-day services, leisure and recreation.

2016-17 was a particularly busy and successful year for Active Travel and Safe Routes to School improvements in Ceredigion as the Council received £526,225 of grant funding from the Welsh Government. With an additional £30,100 match funding, this resulted in over £550,000 worth of schemes delivered across the County during the financial year. These valuable capital grant-funded schemes compliment the Council's own Road Safety education, training and publicity activities (such as Kerbcraft and National Standards Cycle Training), provision of School Crossing Patrols and traffic management schemes such as implementation of the recent County-wide Speed Limit Review. In addition, these infrastructure schemes compliment the Welsh Government's improvement and safety schemes on Trunk Roads in the County, such as the introduction of part-time 20 mph limits outside schools.

The Council invests considerable resource in developing, making application for and successfully delivering schemes funded through available capital grants made available by the Welsh Government and others. However, whilst capital grant funding is of great benefit and is welcomed, going forward it is critical that sufficient revenue funding is made available to the local authority to maintain its walking and cycling infrastructure. Without this revenue funding for maintenance, repair and renewals, the networks will eventually fall into disrepair and eventually disuse, undoing all the current good work.

Local Transport Fund – Cardigan

The Welsh Government awarded a grant of £109,575 to undertake improvements in the vicinity of Cardigan Primary School, which were part-funded by Cardigan Town Council.



The scheme was implemented and also part funded by Ceredigion County Council and saw the introduction of a new 20 mph zone with traffic calming to help create a safer environment and encourage more pupils to walk, scoot and cycle to school.

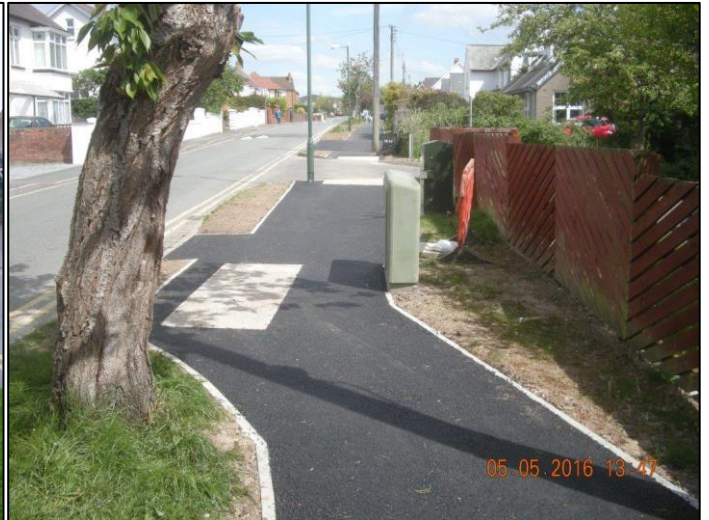
These Active Travel journeys help the children to be healthier, prevent obesity, improve concentration within the classroom and also help to reduce vehicle congestion and carbon emissions outside the school gates.

As a result of the grant funding, new cycle and scooter shelters have been installed on school grounds which are proving so popular with the pupils that an extra scooter shelter has needed to be installed!



Wider footways with new surfacing and raised table crossings have been installed to aid mobility scooters and pushchair users. A new path has also been installed to the swimming pool and the footway along Napier Gardens has also been widened and resurfaced as an additional improvement bringing additional community benefits.

Below: before and after photos at Napier Gardens.



An Active Travel Journeys flyer has been produced in partnership with the school which will be distributed to all pupils:



ABERTEIFI ACTIVE
JOURNEYS FLYER.pdf

(Also attached as a separate document)

The Council has successfully applied for a further grant award of £98,500 to deliver improvements in the vicinity of the Secondary School during 2017-18. With match funding of £5,000 from Cardigan Town Council and £11,500 from Ceredigion County Council there is a scheme total budget of £115,000 to deliver further improvements in the town.

Local Transport Fund – Aberystwyth Town Centre and links to Penparcau

Ceredigion County Council has completed path upgrade works in Penparcau, and the installation of enhanced cycle parking provision in the Town Centre, following an additional in-year award of £138,000 from the Welsh Government's Local Transport Fund.



The path from Fifth Avenue linking with the Rheidol Cycle Trail has been widened and resurfaced along with new railings fitted on St Brieuc bridge, bringing it up to Welsh Government Design Standards for shared use by cyclists and pedestrians.

The entrance to the Fifth Avenue allotments is now segregated for motorists, and the lighting along the route has also been upgraded making it safer for people using the path.



Left - pre construction





The path through Penparcau Park has also been widened and resurfaced providing an improved cycle and pedestrian link to Llwyn yr Eos Primary School. New lighting has been installed on the path, along with new scooter and cycle racks for children using the play area.

The Council's Parks and Gardens Team has planted several new well established trees in Penparcau Park and at Fifth Avenue to improve these green areas and help offset the loss of ecology

caused by widening the paths.

Right – pre construction



Rhodri Llwyd, Ceredigion County Council Highways Group Manager said: "The grant funding has also paid for much needed additional scooter racks at Plascrug Primary School and Ysgol Gymraeg. The numbers of pupils using scooters and bikes to make their Active Travel journeys has more than doubled over recent months, and it's really great to see the racks being so well used as this is having a positive effect on helping to reduce traffic congestion on Plascrug Avenue."

The cycle compound has also been reinstated at Llwyn yr Eos primary school and the Council has also provided each of these schools with two new scooters and safety helmets, which the schools allocate to their 'pupils of the week.'

In addition, new cycle parking facilities have been installed to help cyclists access the wide range of services and facilities available in Aberystwyth Town Centre. New cycle shelters have been installed near the Morlan Centre on the junction of Queens Road, and at the rear of the Matalan Store near the Railway Station and Yr Hen Ysgol Gymraeg which is set for development as a 'Café Quarter' as part of the Town's development plans.

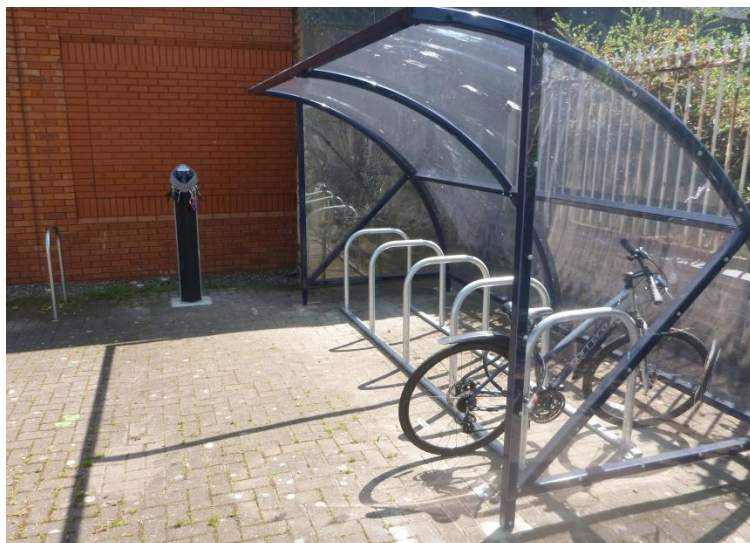
A new bicycle repair stand and tyre pump - the first of its type in Ceredigion - has been installed next to this new cycle shelter near to the Railway Station. The stand has a range of tools to help cyclists make minor repairs and adjustments to their bike, and inflate their tyres if needed. A new public bike pump has also been installed next to the cycle rack in Baker Street in the Town Centre.

Below: Team Wiggins professional cyclists using the new facilities ahead of the Ceredigion Grand Prix race in Aber Cycle Fest 2017.





These are further improvements to the cycling and walking infrastructure which have benefitted Aberystwyth Town and Penparcau in recent years to help encourage increased Active Travel journeys to schools, places of employment, services and facilities. These improvements also help Aberystwyth to assert its position as a leading cycle friendly destination that serves as a hub for accessing longer distance cycle trails and mountain biking facilities such as nearby Nant yr Arian. Improved pedestrian facilities also benefit local people and visitors to Ceredigion accessing the Town whilst walking the Wales Coast Path.



Active Travel Improvements at Ysgol Bro Pedr in Lampeter following Safe Routes in Communities Funding

Ceredigion County Council has delivered a number of road safety improvements outside Ysgol Bro Pedr during 2016/17 as a result of grant funding from the Safe Routes in Communities Scheme provided by the Welsh Government, with match funding contributions made by Lampeter Town Council and Ceredigion County Council. A new 20 mph zone with traffic calming measures has been installed with wider, re-surfaced footways and upgraded street lighting to help encourage increased walking, cycling and scooting journeys to the school and leisure facilities in Peterwell Terrace.





This scheme was coordinated within the Highways Department so that road re-surfacing work was undertaken at the same time and road closure, during the school summer holidays which helped minimise disruption for pupils, parents, school staff and local residents. This resulted in the high quality appearance of the overall scheme with new footways, street lighting and highway surfacing.

The Council has successfully applied for a further grant award of £56,800 to deliver more footway improvements in Lampeter during 2017-18. With match funding of £6,200 from Lampeter Town Council and £7,000 from Ceredigion County Council there is a scheme total budget of £70,000 to deliver further improvements in the town.

Safe Routes in Communities footway improvements to Rhydpennau Primary School in Bow Street

The Welsh Government provided a Safe Routes in Communities grant of £104,400 to improve the pedestrian link between Bryncastell Estate and the Primary School, which was 'Phase 2' of the Scheme. This follows the £102,000 awarded in the previous year to finally complete the footway link between the communities of Rhydpennau and Llandre – 'Phase 1'.

During 2015-16 a new cycle shelter and scooter rack were installed at the school to encourage more pupils to scoot and cycle to school.

2015-16 'Phase 1'



Before construction



2015-16 'Phase 1'



2016-17 saw the delivery of 'Phase 2' of the scheme, with a new footway constructed near the bridge leading to Bryncastell Estate.



Working in partnership with Network Rail and other relevant landowners, the Authority was able to set the existing path back in order to accommodate a new formal Give Way Priority System for vehicles negotiating the narrow bridge.

New safety fencing has been also been installed in addition to the new section of footway.

Red High Friction Surfacing has been used to help highlight the section used by pedestrians on the bridge.

Ceredigion County Council provided £11,600 match funding towards this scheme.

New footpath constructed to create a safer route to Talgarreg Primary School

A new artificial surface footpath has been constructed in Talgarreg Primary School grounds providing a safer route to school for pupils.

The project has been delivered by Ceredigion County Council and was funded by the Welsh Government's Safe Routes in Communities Scheme Grant of £31,500. Ceredigion contributed match funding of £3,500 to provide a scheme total of £35,000.

Local County Councillor Gareth Lloyd, Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Community Development, Culture and Leisure has welcomed the provision of this new footpath saying "We are delighted to have received this funding from the Welsh Government. The Council has worked in partnership with Talgarreg Village Hall who have kindly agreed that staff and parents are permitted to use the hall car park during school hours and then take a short walk on the path to the school." Cllr Lloyd is also a school governor and further commented "this has already seen a reduction in the amount of cars parking in front of the school which caused congestion and safety concerns. Instead of laying a tarmac path in the middle of the school playing field which wouldn't have been child friendly, highways officers at Ceredigion County Council have provided an innovative alternative by installing an artificial surface path which is the first of its kind in the County and can be used all year round.



Mrs Potter, Head Teacher at Talgarreg Primary School said: "We use the Village Hall during the week for physical education lessons and also regularly to practise for school concerts and Eisteddfods. Previously we had to walk the children on the road as there is no footway provision, so the new path is great as it provides a much safer route."



TALGARREG SAFE
ROUTES 2016.pdf

(Also attached as a separate document)

Ysgol Bro Teifi 3-19 School in Llandysul - Construction of new 20 mph zone with traffic calming and pedestrian crossing refuge at new school build.

Highways Services staff undertook design and consultation work to deliver the new 20 mph zone with traffic calming in time for the opening of the new 3-19 school in September 2016.



The school has over 1,000 pupils and the department also implemented the construction of a new shared use path adjacent to Llyn y Fran Road to provide a safe active travel route to the school.



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August 2017



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