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## **STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT STATEMENT**

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### **Welsh Government Announcement of Preferred Bidder for Wales & Borders Franchise**

I welcome the recent announcement by the Welsh Government that KeolisAmey is their preferred bidder for the Wales & Borders rail franchise, which includes the delivery of the new Metro project that will bring significant benefits to both residents and businesses in our city. Currently, 90,000 people commute into Cardiff each day to work and over 70,000 of these people travel by car, which is not sustainable. The transformation of the rail network across South East Wales will make it far more attractive to travel by train and will reduce the reliance on the private car.

The Council will now work with both Transport for Wales and KeolisAmey on the detail of the Metro Project to ensure that their planned investment integrates with the Council's plans for a high quality transport network with rail, tram, bus and active travel that will offer customers a seamless transition of travelling between different modes of transport to get to work, home or visit different parts of the city and we look forward to working with all those involved to make this possible.

### **Nextbike**

The Nextbike cycle hire scheme was officially launched on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May at the Senedd with 250 bikes available for hire from this month. The next phase of the scheme, which will see an additional 250 bikes installed bringing the numbers to 500 bikes at 50 docking stations, is firmly on schedule. This will provide hire locations further away from the initial city centre focused scheme, meaning that there will be bikes available in the majority of wards across the city. The planning of docking stations has taken account of the feedback received from the online survey (nearly 1000 responses have been received) where space and overall network efficiency allows. Following the availability of the full 500 bike scheme, we will look at where additional docking stations could be provided to fill any obvious gaps in the network.

<b>LATEST WEEKLY RENTALS</b>	4,556
<b>REGISTRATIONS TO DATE IN CARDIFF</b>	7,793
<b>RENTALS IN CARDIFF TO DATE</b>	15,353

## **Rights of Way Improvement Plan Survey**

The Council is currently undertaking a survey to support the development of a new Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP), which aims to make it easier for walkers, cyclists and equestrians to enjoy the countryside:

<https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=152292770165>

A video clip was also presented at the Wildlife Summer Festival event that was held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May, which is available on social media via Facebook.

The Public Rights of Way team welcomes ideas and views from Members and local residents who use Public Rights of Way (PRoW) in Cardiff for walking, wheelchair use, cycling, horse riding or just getting outdoors. These include Footpaths, Bridleways and Restricted Byways, but not roadside pavements.

We aim to improve Rights of Way in the city by reviewing the aims and tasks of the first [10-year Rights of Way Improvement Plan \(ROWIP\)](#) that was published in 2008; by checking the standards of the current network of paths and by planning a new 10-year ROWIP, with aims and tasks checked annually. We will also be working with other Council services to ensure that we link into other initiatives (e.g. Active Travel) and will be asking for feedback at events, group meetings, through social media and via the Council's website in order to fulfil the statutory requirements of [section 61 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000](#).

## **Car Free Day**

Car Free Day was held successfully on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018. A full city centre closure, plus extra road closures allowed the city to host its second Car Free Day. Working with British Cycling, we also held the HSBC Let's Ride family cycle ride on the day, with families being able to cycle 5km of traffic free roads. In addition to a stand encouraging people to sign up to the Nextbike scheme, Car Free Day was packed with free family entertainment, including BMX stunt performances, cycle training, cycle repair, skateboard workshops, music and community dancing. Discounted bus travel, bus re-routing and park & ride was provided on the day. I would like to thank the many partners that helped to make the day a success.

**Councillor Caro Wild**

**Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport**

**15<sup>th</sup> June 2018**