

**COUNCIL: 29 NOVEMBER 2018**

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## **STRATEGIC PLANNING & TRANSPORT STATEMENT**

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### **NextBikes**

The number of rentals in October 2018 was 50,216 and the number of rentals since the scheme was launched to date is 149,359. The next phase of stations has been agreed, including a focus on connecting communities in the east of the city to the network.

### **Air Quality**

On 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018, the Cabinet considered the Initial Plan report, which was submitted to Welsh Government as part of our feasibility study to deliver Nitrogen Dioxide compliance in the city, in compliance with the legal direction received earlier this year from the Welsh Government. The study was undertaken by industry experts, Ricardo AEA, and follows similar studies that have been undertaken in other major British cities. It shows that only Castle Street in the city centre is likely to fail legal compliance beyond 2021 if nothing is done to reduce traffic derived pollution.

The next phase of the study is currently underway as we assess, in detail, measures to improve air quality in the shortest possible time. The measures will not only focus on the non-compliance area of Castle Street, but will also look to deliver wider improvements to air quality across the city, including the existing Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).

Whilst our immediate focus is to comply with the legal direction and deliver compliance in the shortest possible time, our longer term Clean Air Strategy for Cardiff will be to reduce air pollution levels to as low as reasonably practicable in order to protect the health of the citizens of our city.

### **Residential Landlords Forum**

I was pleased to speak recently to the Residential Landlords Forum to outline the thinking behind our two recently proposed Supplementary Planning Guidance documents (SPG's) relating to Flat Conversions and Student Accommodation. It was good to hear first-hand concerns from the sector and also their ideas for improvement. I would like to thank the Forum for the positive way they engage with the Council for the benefit of their members and, ultimately, many residents in Cardiff.

## **Institute of Civil Engineers (ICE)**

I was pleased to speak at the recent ICE Wales/Cymru Chair's annual speech. It was impressive to hear how the sector has its eye clearly on a sustainable future for Wales. If we are going to grow sustainably as a city, we need solutions and high quality work to come through at all stages of the development process.

## **Road Resurfacing Programme**

Following completion of the engineering assessment and analysis process, the programmes for those roads that will receive resurfacing and specialist treatments have been finalised. These will address roads with condition and deterioration issues, but will also align with other programmes of work and initiatives to ensure that maximum benefit is achieved. The works are scheduled to start during February 2019 and will continue for the remainder of the 2018/19 financial year. Letters detailing the selected roads, treatment type and outline costs will be sent to Members within the next two weeks.

## **Taxi Spaces**

I was pleased to work with the Chair of Licensing and Public Protection Committees, Councillor Mackie, to allocate a number of additional taxi spaces in the City Centre which should help both taxi drivers and their customers. Fortnightly meetings have also been set up with the trade and good progress is being made in working more closely together.

## **Sustrans Cymru Blog**

I have written a piece on how I feel the Metro can integrate active travel from the beginning. This can be found on the Sustrans Cymru website:

<https://www.sustrans.org.uk/news/sustrans-budget-focus-investing-active-travel-part-2-active-metro-councillor-caro-wild>

**Councillor Caro Wild**  
**Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport**  
**23 November 2018**