
STRATEGIC PLANNING & TRANSPORT STATEMENT

Air Quality

On 21st March 2019, the Cabinet approved the Clean Air Feasibility Study Outline Business Case Report, which recommends the Council's preferred option to achieve compliance with the legal limit for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂).

We will be commencing a consultation and engagement exercise with the general public and key stakeholders on these measures, which will enable us to refine and develop our Final Plan that must be reported to Welsh Government no later than the 30th June 2019.

Highway Resurfacing

The resurfacing and surface treatment schemes are well underway throughout Cardiff, with 29 resurfacing schemes and 41 surface treatment schemes having been completed to date. The programme will continue through to the end of the financial year, although allowance for adverse weather conditions must also be managed. Whilst these works are ongoing, the patching works, minor works programmes and reactive maintenance continue to be delivered to ensure that the highway remains safe and available for use.

Nextbike Update

Rental Figures:

December 2018	22,709
January 2019	28,696
February 2019	36,456
Total to date	278,612

Whilst the number of rentals dropped as anticipated over the winter months due to weather/seasonal impacts, the number of rentals is now rising steadily with an increase of nearly 8,000 (7,760) rides over the last month. February 2019 saw an average of over 9,000 rides per week (9,114).

The expansion of the scheme is currently underway and the initial wave of stations will be installed during March with further waves planned over the next few months. A map of proposed stations will be published shortly.

Separated Cycleways

Work has commenced on the first separated cycleway in the city. This first section of the route will run between Stuttgarter Strasse and Cathays Terrace via St Andrews Crescent, St Andrews Place and Senghennydd Road. Construction will take place over the next few months and the works are scheduled to be completed by the autumn.

This will be the first phase of five proposed separated cycleways in Cardiff as part of the Council's commitment to improving cycling infrastructure in the Welsh Capital. This first phase could make up 13 kilometres of designated cycling space in the city, which would run through nine wards on the following routes:

- St Andrew's Crescent through to Heath High Level
- Dumfries Place to Broadway in Splott
- Cardiff Bay to Smart Way
- Sophia Gardens through to Llandaff Village
- City Centre through to Ely Bridge

Provision for cycling through dedicated cycleways will also be delivered in the city centre. This includes schemes which are being proposed for Central Square; Westgate Street; Castle Street; Boulevard de Nantes; Stuttgarter Strasse; Dumfries Place; Station Terrace and Churchill Way.

Clamping and Removal of Untaxed Vehicles

On 7th January 2019, the DVLA devolved powers to Cardiff Council to clamp and remove untaxed vehicles in accordance with The Vehicle Excise Duty (Immobilisation, Removal and Disposal of Vehicles) Regulations 1997.

Education is as important as enforcement and, for two weeks prior to the scheme commencing, we issued warning notices to 18 vehicles. A media campaign was also launched in national and local news, as well as on social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter.

The scheme started with a controlled number of resources so that we could become accustomed to the process and ensure legal compliance. After testing the process, we are now moving to a digital solution to allow for wider enforcement. To date, we have responded to 32 customer reports, of which 28 led to enforcement action. We have clamped 44 vehicles and impounded a further 11 vehicles.

Bus Routes

Early in the New Year, Cardiff Bus announced that they would be withdrawing some bus services in the city with effect from 31st March 2019 due to low passenger numbers, which meant that routes were failing to generate sufficient revenue to cover operating costs. This would have left significant areas of the city, such as Channel View, Caerau, Heathwood Road and Lisvane without bus services. In view of this, and in order to enable the Council to exercise its powers to step in to provide uncommercial but socially necessary bus services, extra funding was provided in the 2019/20 budget for two years.

In accordance with current legislation, a procurement exercise was undertaken to ascertain whether bus operators were willing to provide services to those areas affected on a subsidised basis. Following the procurement exercise, I can confirm that the following bus routes will be covered on a like-for-like basis by Cardiff Bus or Stagecoach:

- 12 – Drope to Leckwith (operated by Stagecoach)
- 15 – City Centre to UHW via Ely/Caerau (operated by Cardiff Bus)
- 51/53 – City Centre, Cathays, Pentwyn (operated by Cardiff Bus)
- 66 – City Centre to Fairwater (operated by Cardiff Bus)
- 86 – City Centre, Heath, Lisvane (operated by Stagecoach)

The withdrawn 54 service from Channel View to Cyncoed via City Centre will be covered by creating a new standalone service from Grangetown that will be operated by Cardiff Bus and will link with the existing 52 and 28 services.

The existing 52 service operated by Cardiff Bus will extend to Cyncoed following the route of the withdrawn 54 service and will increase in frequency to two buses per hour.

In addition, the 28/28A/28B services operated by Cardiff Bus will re-route via Albany Road, Wellfield Road and Lake Road East as a partial replacement for the withdrawn 54 service. The implications are that the 28/28A/28B services will no longer serve Mackintosh Road, Lake Road West and Celyn Avenue. However, there are alternative bus services within close proximity of these locations.

These services have been contracted to operate for two years from 1st April 2019 and I am pleased to confirm that there will be no break in bus services for the communities involved.

Councillor Caro Wild
Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport
22 March 2019