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## **STRATEGIC PLANNING & TRANSPORT STATEMENT**

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### **Active Travel Fund**

The Council has secured over £1million from the Welsh Government's Active Travel Fund for delivery of active travel schemes in the current financial year 2018/19. £880,000 of this is funding will go towards the construction of the first section of Cycle Superhighway between St Andrews Crescent and Cathays Terrace, via Senghennydd Road, as well as a feasibility study into establishing a Cycle Superhighway between the city centre and the Ely Mill development via the Leckwith Road area. The funding also includes £178,000 towards the feasibility and design work for cycling and walking improvements in the Roath Park, Lakeside and Cyncoed Road areas. We are continuing to engage with the Welsh Government to make the case for significant additional funding to support the delivery of the city's Cycle Superhighway network and our wider ambition to make Cardiff one of the UK's leading cycling cities.

### **Nextbikes**

The Nextbike on-street cycle hire scheme has proved a huge hit with Cardiff's residents and visitors. Around 20,000 people are now registered as Nextbike users in Cardiff and there have been 80,000 rentals since the scheme was launched in May 2018. Additional bikes are being installed over the next week, which will result in a fleet of 500 bikes in the city. Locations for a further 16 docking stations are under consideration, including a number of locations in the east of Cardiff. We are also currently in dialogue with Welsh Government with a view to securing funding to enable a further expansion of the Nextbike network that would see Nextbikes installed in a number of new locations across the city.

### **Operation Close Pass**

South Wales Police and South Wales Fire & Rescue Service undertake regular joint operations as part of Operation Close Pass approximately every two months and are supported by officers from the Council's Road Safety Education Team. On 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018, an operation was undertaken in the Whitchurch area of Cardiff, which took place over three hours. During the operation, six drivers received educational advice, with a number of drivers commenting that it had benefitted them in terms of a greater awareness of cyclists. In addition, there was one seizure for no motor insurance and a driver was also reported for use of a mobile phone whilst driving.

## **Air Quality**

Following the legal direction from the Welsh Government, the Council commissioned specialist consultants to undertake a city-wide study on air quality. The study is still underway and the results will be provided to the Welsh Government by 30<sup>th</sup> September, as per their formal request. Cabinet will receive a report on the findings of the study at the meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> October.

We understand that the findings of the study will then be reviewed by an expert panel appointed by the Welsh Government. When we have received the response from Welsh Government, which is expected at the beginning of November, we will bring forward a White Paper on Transport and Clean Air. I repeat my commitment to giving all Members a chance to feed into this paper and any key proposals in advance of any decisions being taken.

## **Cities Today Network – Future of Transport Event**

In June 2018, I attended an event in Brussels on the Future of Transport. Attended by over twenty other cities from across Europe, the event was hosted by the [Cities Today](#) network, whose purpose is to exchange best practice and innovative ideas in urban development. I wrote a blog on some of the key issues that were discussed as part of the event, which can be found on the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales' website at: <https://futuregenerations.wales/news/future-transport-in-the-capital-city-guest-blog-by-councillor-caro-wild/>

**Councillor Caro Wild**  
**Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport**  
**21<sup>st</sup> September 2018**