
TRANSPORT & STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT

Highways Resurfacing

The first carbon-neutral road resurfacing work in Wales has been carried out by Cardiff Council. The scheme entailed the resurfacing of 13,000m², approximately 1.2 kilometres, of existing aged and deteriorating carriageway on the A470 Northern Avenue between the Coryton roundabout overbridge and Curlew Close.

The overall carbon footprint of the scheme will reduce carbon emissions by up to 40% compared to traditional surfacing. The asphalt was sourced from a local plant that uses a recycled slag by-product from Celsa steel production instead of virgin aggregate in the manufacture of the material, which will further reduce carbon emissions. Specialist lining products and installation methods were utilised to further reduce the carbon footprint.

The remaining carbon created in the resurfacing work will be offset using a Verified Carbon Scheme – preventing further deforestation in Brazil – and by planting 100 saplings in the city in recognition of the scheme.

The scheme was funded through One Planet Cardiff and Highways capital investment.

Speed Limits

The 20mph trial area in Central North Cardiff is now fully implemented and live. The project is one of eight being implemented across Wales to trial 20mph speed limits on restricted roads (roads that currently have a 30mph restriction and have street lighting). The trials are being used to test technical processes, develop an enforcement and communications strategy, and help overcome any unforeseen issues before 20mph limits are rolled out nationally in Wales in autumn 2023.

Active Travel Schools

Active Travel School Gold Award

Radnor Primary School in Canton has become only the second school in Wales to achieve Sustrans Cymru's Active Travel School Gold Award. I was pleased to attend the school on 13 July 2022, alongside the Director of Sustrans Cymru and the Chair of Wales's Active Travel Board, to celebrate this tremendous achievement.

The school's journey towards achieving the Gold Award has been based on promoting active travel by walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling to school, and putting it at the forefront of the school's ethos and culture. I am pleased that the Council has been

able to assist Radnor Primary School with its active travel planning and the provision of a bike fleet and cycle storage. In addition, a number of improvements have been made to the streets outside the school to improve safety and further support active travel to school, including the widening of pavements, increased parking restrictions, improvements to road junctions, as well as providing a new zebra crossing.

The Council's Active Travel Schools Team has also been working with pupils at the school on an art project, which is due to be installed in September 2022, that will support the school's 'Two-street-stride' campaign for pupils to walk and scoot at least the last two streets to school.

Cycle Training

The Council's Road Safety Team exceeded its target for pupils receiving National Standards Cycle Training, with over 700 trained to Level 1 and 520 achieving Level 2 since April this year. There has been a huge response by children wishing to take up cycle training during the school summer holiday period, with over 500 people enquiring about the Learn to Ride (beginners) and on-road cycle training courses. The daily sessions are being run on weekdays during July and August and are being funded through the Welsh Government's Summer of Fun initiative.

Bike Shelters

The Council has recently completed a third phase of bike shelter installation in Cardiff schools. 58 schools have received new bike shelters, bike racks and scooter racks over the last three financial years, representing an investment of around £500,000.

Living Streets WOW Tracker

Living Streets' WOW Tracker is an active travel to school engagement tool, which also gathers daily travel to school data throughout the year. Pupils log their daily journeys to school on the system. The WOW Travel Tracker records this data and confirms which pupils have walked enough to earn a badge each month. Thanks to a grant from Welsh Government's Active Travel Fund, 52 Cardiff schools are now taking part in WOW. Figures for March and April 2022 indicated that 82% of pupil journeys to and from participating schools were made by active modes. This compares to the baseline of 59% before the WoW Tracker was implemented.

Engagement on the Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP)

As part of the work to prepare the Preferred Strategy for consideration by Cabinet and Council later this year, Planning Officers have been engaging with children and young people to inform the preparation of the LDP. This has included school visits where children were given the role of 'Planning Pioneers' and led planners on walks around their local areas to give their views on what worked and what could be improved. This exercise concluded with an engagement session at the first ever virtual 'Schools Grand Council' meeting on 28 June 2022, which was attended over 1,000 Year 5 and Year 6 pupils from 35 Cardiff schools. Participants were also the first children in Wales to use a new and innovative online platform called 'Maptionnaire', which enabled them to feed their views into the LDP process and submit over 300 questions to the Council's Head of Planning.

Planning Officers also attended the Urban Room consultation event organised by Cardiff University's Community Gateway project that was held at the Grange Pavilion in Grangetown in May 2022, which enabled engagement with local residents and groups. The Council has prepared a user-friendly guide to Planning and the Replacement LDP, which was used as part of the engagement work with schools and the Urban Room consultation.

Councillor Dan De'Ath
Cabinet Member for Transport & Strategic Planning
15 July 2022