

Appendix F – Annual Report

To the Welsh Ministers,

Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 Reporting Duties

In accordance with the duties under sections 7 (3) and 10 (2) of the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, please find Monmouthshire County Council's annual report for the year 2022-23.

<p>The actions taken to promote active travel journeys</p>	<p>2022 – 23 saw the continued realignment of Active Travel to within the MonLife directorate of Monmouthshire County Council. As well as securing and delivering Active Travel grant funding, during a challenging period, we placed a strong emphasis on data collection and scheme development as we look to continually develop our network to provide meaningful modal shift.</p> <p>Further works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provided input to the 'Healthy Weight: Healthy Gwent' stakeholder event, through Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, on the physical environment to support wellbeing.- Supported formation of the Gwent Active Travel Officer group and then monthly input to provide officer support and explore cross border working.- Input to the national Cross Party Working Group for Active Travel.- TfW Active Travel Officer meetings.- Input into the Gwent Healthy Travel Group and linking into wider networks.- Alignment of MCC comms with Active Travel messaging for a consistent local promotion, in conjunction with national communication.- Ongoing discussion with multiple partners within Sustrans on various active travel messages and improvements.- Primary school infrastructure – as part of installation works, further engagement with primary schools has been undertaken to
--	---

	<p>promote active travel journeys, including the provision of materials and wider council engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- WOW Tracker and localised Active Travel Primary School tracker scheme has been rolled out to record Active Travel users and support promotion in schools.- Integration of Active Travel messaging across Sport and Play holiday provision, providing positive conversations with children and families.- Prior to the national 20mph rollout, Highways colleagues have implemented 20 mph zones in 7 locations. This has supported the development of an environment conducive to walking and cycling.- Mapping – We have created a series of Active travel settlement maps for our 7 designated localities. These will be distributed to schools within the settlements to provide discussion points and information around active travel journeys and promotion of modal shift.- Consultation – As part of the WeITAG phases, large scale public consultation has occurred to engage with the public to educate, inform and gather opinion on a wide range of topics. This has been fed into our strategic projects.- Elected members - Briefings and engagement sessions have been undertaken with elected members of the council and with town councils. This has ensured the Active Travel agenda is front and centre of the Council's priority and elected members become ambassadors for the work being undertaken. This work has been reflected in the 'Taking Monmouthshire Forward' Community and Corporate Plan 2022-2028.- Press releases – as part of wider scheme development and Active Travel funding, MCC has pushed several dedicated Active
--	--

	<p>Travel press releases to promote schemes, consultations and Active Travel work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuation of Cycle to Work scheme to Monmouthshire County Council staff to encourage modal shift. With increased window frequency. During the year we completed 27 orders totalling £67k.
<p>The actions taken to secure new active travel routes and related facilities and improvements</p>	<p>Through the Active Travel fund, work has been undertaken on strategic and core funded projects to develop and construct new and upgraded active travel routes. This has been reported back to TfW and WG through the ATF reporting process, but an outline of the progress can be seen below:</p> <p>Construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Church Road, Caldicot Phase 2. MCC-S03I. Linking through to the success of phase 1, road and footway improvements have been implemented on Church Road to make Active Travel a more pleasant experience on this key connecting route. - King Henry School 3-19 through route. MCC-A09C. Linking into the new school build, a shared use path has been constructed across the south side of the site, providing an open to all East West link. - Williamsfield Lane, Monmouth phase 2 Shared Use Active Travel route was built last year. This route links a large housing development, to a school and beyond into the town centre. The new playground was installed alongside the route this year, providing wider benefits to this section of the overall scheme. <p>Scheme development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Across 3 settlements (Abergavenny, Caldicot & Monmouth), work in year has progressed to allow schemes to progress to construction in the future. <p>Abergavenny scheme development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Llanfoist Links WeITAG 2 has been completed. - Castle Meadows Progress on WeITAG 3

- Abergavenny/Llanfoist AT bridge – FRAP achieved and moved into tendering process.

Monmouth scheme development

- WFL Links to Town centre – WeITAG3 has been completed.
- Wye Bridge and Wyesham Links – WeITAG 2 has been completed.

Caldicot scheme development

- Caldicot Links – WeITAG 3 has been completed.
- Caldicot MUR WeITAG 2 has been completed.
- Caldicot Education and Town Links, WeITAG 2 has been completed.

Wider projects/works (core)

- An online counter dashboard has been implemented to collect base line data and usage trends from counters on a live feed.
- Barrier removal at key locations on ATNM network, as identified by route audits.
- Dropped kerb provision has been improved on 6 routes, allowing for easier walking and wheeling across our settlements.
- Improvements to town centre infrastructure – including bike parking at Monmouth Hub, Monmouth sports ground and Bulwark shops. Maintenance of existing infrastructure has continued including public bike pumps and stands.
- Work with Monmouthshire County Council building assets to improve Active Travel facilities for the public use; including Leisure centres, museums and Community Hubs.
- The Active Travel team are now direct Planning consultees for all major developments, ensuring that any new infrastructure is compliant from the start and designs can be influenced before build. A positive example of this has been seen through the 3-19 community focused school programme in Abergavenny.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - External sourcing of funds – S106 monies directed towards Active Travel improvements.
Costs incurred for new active travel routes and facilities and improvements of existing active travel routes and related facilities carried out in the preceding full financial year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - £2,883,161.48 of which £2,855,426.92 was from the Active Travel Fund and £27,734.76 was from match funding

In addition to the above, the following information provides an overview of infrastructure that has been implemented during the previous year.:


Indicative spending for new active travel routes and facilities and improvements of existing active travel routes and related facilities funded or part funded by third parties.	£27,734.76 was from match funding
Length of new routes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking - Cycling - Shared Use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking - 0m - Cycling - 0m - Shared Use - 535m
Length of improved routes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking - Cycling - Shared Use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking - 924m - Cycling - 0m - Shared Use – 7,373m
New and improved active travel facilities	Cycle/Scooter parking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monmouth Hub and Library, sheltered bike parking - Monmouth Chippenham fields - Chepstow/Severn Bridge Signage along NCN routes Barrier removal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monmouth Drybridge Park x2 - Caldicot Cornfield - Severnside improvements x 3

Additional information (optional)

--

I confirm that this report will be published online and made available in hard copy on request, in accordance with the statutory Active Travel Act Guidance (2021 edition).

Chief Executive Signature:



Chief Executive Name:

Paul Matthews

Date of submission to Welsh Ministers:

22nd September 2023