



North Pembrokeshire Transport Forum Fforwm Trafnidiaeth Gogledd Penfro

News Briefing – June 2012

Award for Fishguard & Goodwick Station

Pembrokeshire County Council's Fishguard and Goodwick Station project won the Partnership Award at the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CiLT) Cymru-Wales' National Transport Awards event in Cardiff on 22nd June. The Awards celebrate best practice and highlight organisations that can make a difference; with the judges looking for a demonstration of sustainable development and new ideas that will make a lasting difference to services in Wales. The Station's award citation noted that 'the project showed how to grasp an opportunity despite a challenging timescale. The fast track approach to station re-opening should become a template for future developments'.

Community Transport

The Clydau Connections Project. The Preseli Rural Transport Association (PRTA) reports that this Community Transport Association (CTA) sponsored project is moving ahead with a meeting in the Bwlchygroes Community Hall on 2nd July to discuss the finer elements of setting up the accessible car club. The club will provide an affordable transport option for private car users and improve transport in the area by developing on-demand accessible transport provision.

The Collaborative Communities Project. PRTA has had confirmation of funding for this project (the operation of dial-a-ride and other demand responsive transport services), and they can now start work and advertise for the project's full time Operations Manager. Day-to-day delivery and financial management of the project will be the responsibility of the new manager, supported by PRTA's Board of Directors. Development support for the project as a whole will also be provided by the Pembrokeshire Association of Community Transport Organisation's (PACTO's) Community Transport Development Manager. Support for the development and marketing of the new rural and evening services will be provided by PACTO's Rural Transport Project Officer.

Passenger Focus - Sharing Best Practice Workshops

Passenger Focus has held a series of regional workshops around Britain, in order to develop ways of working effectively with user groups in future. The final workshop was held in Cardiff on 1st June. The organisation has also used these events to gather information on how groups would like Passenger Focus to support their work. The intention is to create a "toolkit", which will be made available as a resource for all User Groups.

The objective of these workshops has been to identify key strengths and skills that groups have; how they can share best practice with and learn from other bus and rail groups, and to shape priorities for resources that are being compiled for a Passenger Focus toolkit. The toolkit will be available on the organisation's new website which is currently under construction. Groups will be invited to view the new website once it is available, and future event details will be forwarded as programme develops.

Trains - Arriva Trains New 'Journey Check' Alerts Service

Arriva Trains Wales (ATW) is working on improving passenger information during disruptions by adding 'Journey Check' Alerts to its website. Passengers can now set up and receive FREE daily e-mail alerts on the running of any Arriva Trains Wales services. To register for this service, visit www.journeycheck.com/arrivatrainswales/registration.

To select the journeys they use and define when they would like to receive running information alerts by e-mail, passengers log into www.journeycheck.com/arrivatrainswales/login. They may use their work or personal email addresses for the service, and they will automatically be kept up-to-date on the good running or delays affecting their regular commute or favourite journeys at the time they want the information. Those who have previously registered with Journey Check Alerts during the testing stages in March and April don't need to do anything, as their details and alerts have already been moved over to the live system.

Walking and Cycling - Welsh Government Consultation Active Travel (Wales) Bill

Start of consultation: 09/05/2012

End of consultation: 14/08/2012

Comments in the Ministerial Forward by Carl Sargeant (Minister for Local Government and Communities):

'I want to see a Wales where people are healthier and more active...with lower greenhouse gas emissions...where poverty and disadvantage are tackled...where businesses can flourish, the economy can grow and where communities are strengthened. All these reflect our commitment to sustainable development in Wales...enabling people to get out of their cars and travel in healthier and more sustainable ways'.

'This Bill is aimed at tackling some of the major barriers that are preventing more people from walking and cycling...more than just new cycle paths and footways. We are looking at a cultural change similar to that of smoking. In 1962, before the dangers of smoking were known, around 70% of men and 40% of women smoked. Now only 23% of adults in Wales smoke...a combination of law, education, and culture change has brought us here'.

'This Bill...is aiming to shift attitudes and change minds so that we all think about travel in a different way...starting a long term programme to continually improve the provision for walking and cycling. It is the next step on the journey to building a healthier, stronger and wealthier Wales, and by no means the last'.

The White Paper sets out proposals to require Local Authorities in Wales to:

- identify and map the network of routes within their areas that are safe and appropriate for walking and cycling;
- identify and map the enhancements that would be required to create a fully integrated network for walking and cycling and develop a prioritised list of schemes to deliver the network;
- deliver an enhanced network subject to budget availability and following due process;
- consider the potential for enhancing walking and cycling provision in the development of new road schemes.

Throughout the development of the White Paper, many groups have raised the complexity of the legislation surrounding rights of way and cycle tracks as a major barrier to the provision of new routes. As part of this White Paper consultation, we are seeking views on whether some of the definitions of rights of way should be amended in Wales.

Many of the footpaths regularly used by walkers, particularly in urban and semi-urban areas are of a quality and type which would allow for use by cyclists. There are also a number, particularly in more rural settings, which may be sensibly utilised by other users such as horse riders or carriage drivers.

How to respond. Please submit your comments by 14 August 2012, in any of the following ways:

- Online form: <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/transport/activetravelbill/?lang=en>
- Email: LGCTransportMailbox@wales.gsi.gov.uk
- Post: Active Travel Bill Team, Transport Policy and Legislation, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NQ.

Full information, including the Consultation Documents, can be found on Welsh Government: Home > Topics > Transport: Have Your Say: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/transport/?lang=en>.

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The North Pembrokeshire Transport Forum is an independent voluntary group that works for the provision of an effective integrated transport system in the North Pembrokeshire area, promotes the benefits of public transport and works towards the greater use of public transport systems.

The Forum is a member of Bus Users UK Cymru, the Environmental Network for Pembrokeshire and the Pembrokeshire Rail Travellers Association.

The Forum's work is supported by:

Individual Members (£5 p.a.), Family Members (£8 p.a.) & Corporate Members (£12 p.a.)

(Corporate members include town and community councils, transport operators, and groups, organisations and associations with a transport interest)

For further information, contact the Secretary, 2 Hill Terrace, Fishguard SA65 9LU
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