



North Pembrokehire Transport Forum Fforwm Trafnidiaeth Gogledd Penfro

February News Briefing, 2021

Regional Transport Conference for South West Wales 'Moving Forward Together'

This two day online event in early February was organised by Swansea Environmental Forum and 4theRegion and sponsored by South West Wales Connected and Natural Resources Wales. The meeting included brief introductory remarks from Lee Waters MS, Deputy Minister for Economy and Transport, Welsh Government.

The conference aimed to:

- Get people thinking and talking about their travel habits, to effect behaviour change.
- Share and celebrate good practice in travel and transport innovation.
- Raise the profile of the transport agenda and influence decision makers.
- Widen engagement and strengthen collaboration on transport and travel across the region.
- Identify multiple benefits and business opportunities from improving sustainable transport.
- Improve understanding of barriers and inequalities in access to travel options.

South West Wales was well represented. In the break-out group discussions participants from all parts of the region identified a wide range of challenges and aspirations. The challenges were reflected in the aspirations that were identified. For example:

- More public transport consideration by changemakers. Stronger collaboration between authorities and transport providers.
- Community driven solutions. Investment in rural transport. More frequency in services.
- Behavioural changes. Changing mindsets. Workplace incentives to use public transport. More active travel. Bikes on buses. Bike share schemes.
- Seamless commuter services. Truly integrated connecting transport. Inclusion of water/marine travel.
- Accessible public transport. Accessibility in welcoming, safe and comfortable waiting areas. Accessibility to timetables and information. Simplifying ticketing systems.

Visit www.4theregion.org.uk/event/moving-forward-together-regional-transport-conference for further information.

Pembrokeshire County Council Active Travel Website Consultation

The consultation has now gone live on <https://pembrokeshire.commonplace.is>.

Introduction

1. About the project. The project focuses on 10 towns in Pembrokeshire: Fishguard/Goodwick, Haverfordwest, Johnston, Milford Haven, Narberth, Neyland, Pembroke Dock, Saundersfoot and Tenby.

- The main focus is to improve areas where there is the greatest need for change and highest potential for more people to choose active travel.
- The locations were chosen because they are where facilities are that people travel short distances to regularly - schools, leisure centres, employment sites, local shopping districts and transport interchanges.

2. The consultation. The consultation asks where priority areas for improvements are needed:

- 'Think about the local journeys you make and tell us where the problem areas are'.
- 'Give us the details about where things could be better'.

Later in 2021 feedback from the consultation will be shared, asking respondents what they think of the plans that are being proposed. There will be more detailed consultation events regarding specific transport schemes.

The resulting Active Travel Network Map (ATNM), produced for each of the designated towns, will be the blueprint for walking and cycling. It shows where walking and cycling routes already exist, but also where upgrades or brand new routes are planned. 'The map captures the Council's 15 year plan for infrastructure improvements so it is really important that it reflects what local people think are the priorities'.

3. The wider picture. The Active Travel (Wales) Act - sets out a clear ambition to put walking and cycling centre-stage for local journeys. Crucial to getting this right is for local people to be involved in the conversation about where facilities are needed, so that more people feel they can choose walking and cycling instead of the car for short local journeys.

Pembrokeshire will be submitting its Active Travel Network Map to the Transport Minister late in 2021 for approval. 'You'll be able to see the final version before it gets signed off. Once approved we are able to apply for funding from the Welsh Government each year to implement the proposals on the map. If schemes aren't on the map they aren't eligible for funding, so you can see why it is important as many people as possible tell us what matters to them'.

North Pembrokeshire Transport Forum

Due to problems associated with the coronavirus pandemic the Forum will not be holding its Annual General Meeting this year. An Annual Report will be produced and widely circulated. We hope that next year this will no longer be necessary.

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)

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