



North Pembroke Transport Forum Fforwm Trafnidiaeth Gogledd Penfro

March News Briefing, 2021

Active Travel - Pembrokeshire County Council Consultation

In February the consultation was launched at <https://pembrokeshire.commonplace.is>, asking residents to give their views on local walking and cycling routes with regard to preparation of the next edition of its Active Travel Network Map (ATNM). The main focus being to improve areas where there is the greatest need for change and highest potential for more people to choose active travel. Fishguard/Goodwick is one of the 10 selected towns - because they are where the facilities are that people regularly travel short distances to: e.g., schools, leisure centres, employment sites, local shopping districts and transport interchanges.

Consultation feedback will be analysed and considered during the production of the next edition of the Council's Active Travel Network Map (ATNM). The ATNM is 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.

As the ATNM is a legal requirement, Pembrokeshire will be submitting its plan to the Welsh Government Transport Minister for approval late in 2021. Once approved, each year the Council will be able to apply for Welsh Government funding to implement the proposals on the map.

Swansea Bay & West Wales Metro Consultation

Launched on 16th March, this Welsh Government consultation presents options for improving rail services within the Swansea Bay and West Wales area. Responses are due by 8th June. The consultation document is available at <https://gov.wales/swansea-bay-and-west-wales-metro>.

1. Notes from the Introduction

- Welsh Government and Transport for Wales are working in partnership with the Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Swansea councils to develop proposals for the Swansea Bay and West Wales Metro.
- The proposals are all about making it easier to travel, whether travelling by train, bus, bike or on foot. It's about making it easier to get to work or school, to get to a hospital appointment or to get out and about in the evenings and weekends using public transport. The proposals include: Increased frequency of long-distance strategic services; Increased local services from West Wales to Carmarthen and Swansea; New stations and improvements to existing stations; and Development of a Swansea Bay and West Wales Metro network.

2. Issues with existing public transport

Previous work has identified the need for service improvements to address the following key issues:

- The lack of competitive/long journey times to South West Wales compared to the car.
- The lack of through services to the area.
- Low frequency of direct trains to Swansea.
- Lack of local commuter services to serve the Swansea Bay area, in particular the opportunity to use the Swansea District line.

3. *Improvements that the Swansea Bay & West Wales Metro network programme will be working towards in the future.*

Improvements of particular relevance to North Pembrokeshire:

South Wales Main Line:

- Increase service frequencies between south west Wales and London and Cardiff.
- Increase the number of trips made by public transport, focusing on commuter trips.

Swansea Bay Metro Region:

- Increase service frequencies across South West Wales to improve suitability for daily commuting.
- Improve regional transport accessibility through widening the spatial reach of the rail network and services.
- Increase the number of trips made by public transport, focusing particularly on commuter trips.

4. *Information about areas and improvements that have been identified:*

Frequency and connectivity: West Wales (page 10)

- Option 11. Reconfigure Swansea to Fishguard Harbour services: Additional frequency: Two trains per day. Total Frequency: One train every two hours.

5. *Some Remarks about the Consultation Questionnaire*

In the 13 consultation questions, with regard to North Pembrokeshire the following questions are pertinent:

Stations: **4.** Which station do you travel from the most? **5.** Which station do you travel to the most? **8.** How do you get to the railway station? (*Includes 'if other, please explain'*).

Use of Trains: **6.** On average how frequently do you use the train? **7.** What is your main reason for using the train? (*Includes 'if other, please explain'*). **9.** Based on your experience of using rail and the type of journeys you make, or you'd like to make in the future, which of the following would improve your experience the most?

Priority Options: Which of the (46) options listed below would be your top five priorities? Choose only five. Suggestions: **Option 1:** London Paddington to Swansea every 30-minutes all day (half hourly service), **Option 6:** Review of line speeds between Cardiff and West Wales to provide faster journey times, and **Option 11:** Reconfigure Swansea to Fishguard Harbour so there is a regular two-hourly service.

Question 13. Do you have any other comments you'd like to add which you believe would be useful in developing the future of the Swansea Bay and West Wales Metro? (Max. 200 words)

Final Instructions

Complete the online questionnaire or print, complete and return the questionnaire at the back of the online document to: Swansea Bay and West Wales Metro, Capita, St David's House, Pascal Close, St Mellons, Cardiff CF3 0LW. Email: SWWMetro@capita.com. Also available in Welsh at: <https://llyw.cymru/metro-bae-abertawe-gorllewin-cymru>

Further information and related documents: Large print, Braille and alternative language versions of this document are available on request.

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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