



CABINET REPORT

Date Written	March 2020
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Service Area	Community Regeneration
Committee Division	Cabinet
Exempt/Non Exempt	Non Exempt
Committee Date	25 th March 2020

To: Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen

ACTIVE TRAVEL FUND AND SAFE ROUTES IN COMMUNITIES FUND

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 In May 2018 the Cabinet Secretary for Finance announced significant funding being made available over three years to support Active Travel schemes as part of the Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan. The funding will create new active travel routes across Wales, connecting people's homes to schools, jobs and their local community with the aim of encouraging more people to walk or cycle.
- 1.2 The report gives an update on the funding bids that have been submitted for Active Travel and Safe Routes in Communities Funds for 2020/21.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that

- 2.1 The submission of an application for £394,000 to the Active Travel Fund 2020/21 and an application for £20,000 to the Safe Routes in Communities Fund 2020/21 be approved.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In May 2018, the Cabinet Secretary for Finance announced significant funding being made available over three years to support active travel schemes as part of the Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan. The funding will create new active travel routes across Wales, connecting people's homes to schools, jobs and their local community with the aim of encouraging more people to walk or cycle. In addition,

the annual Safe Routes in Communities Fund is available to deliver walking and cycling infrastructure within local communities to make them safer and more attractive environments for active travel journeys.

- 3.2 Only schemes that are identified on the relevant Integrated Network Map, submitted to Welsh Government, are being considered for funding and an internal officer group was established to identify the priority projects that could be delivered this financial year.
- 3.3 As part of the £30M available in 2020/21 within the Welsh Government’s Active Travel Fund, a proportion is identified for each local authority as Core Active Travel Funding. This can be expended on work such as the feasibility and detailed design of Active Travel routes, minor infrastructure improvements on the current walking and cycling network, and promotion and future consultation on the Integrated Network Map. For MTCBC in 2020/21 this sum has been identified as a minimum of £200,000.
- 3.4 In addition, initial feasibility work has been carried out in 2019/20 on the provision of an Active Travel route on the Trevithick trail along Tramroadside South, linking to the Rail Station. To enable further development and design work to be undertaken, a bid for Active Travel funding has been submitted for 2020/21.
- 3.5 With regard to Welsh Government’s Safe Routes in Communities programme, a funding bid has been submitted for initial work on walking and cycling access improvements to Trelewis Primary School.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 MTCBC have submitted an application for £394,000 to the Active Travel Fund 2020/21 and an application for £20,000 to the Safe Routes in Communities Fund 2020/21.

5.0 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1

	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Not Applicable
1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives	4 of 4	0 of 4	0 of 4
2. Sustainable Development Principles - How have you considered the five ways of working: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term • Prevention • Integration • Collaboration • Involvement 	5 of 5	0 of 5	0 of 5

3. Protected Characteristics <i>(including Welsh Language)</i>	10 of 10	0 of 10	0 of 10
4. Biodiversity	1 of 1	0 of 1	0 of 1

Summary:

The main positive impacts are increased walking and cycling routes that will have an improved impact on people's health & well-being. Further positive impacts on the environment as an increased volume of people would be encouraged to walk and cycle rather than driving.

No negative impacts have been identified.

ALYN OWEN
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COUNCILLOR GERAINT THOMAS
CABINET MEMBER FOR
REGENERATION & PUBLIC
PROTECTION

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?		No

Consultation has been undertaken with the Corporate Management Team in respect of each proposal(s) and recommendation(s) set out in this report.