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TRAFNIDIAETH CYMRU
TRANSPORT FOR WALES



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

Active Travel Network Map Update 2026

FAQs

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| <p>What is the ATNM?</p> | <p>The Active Travel Network Map (ATNM) is a planning tool that shows the existing and future walking, wheeling and cycling routes in an area. It helps identify where improvements are needed to make it easier, safer and more convenient for people to travel actively for everyday journeys, such as getting to work, school or local services.</p> <p>It is a statutory requirement for local authorities to produce and keep an ATNM under the Active Travel (Wales) Act, ensuring that active travel is properly planned and prioritised.</p> |
| <p>What is a 'Future Route' and how can I see what the design of the route will be?</p> | <p>Future Routes show where improvements to walking, wheeling and cycling are planned for the future. At this stage, they are just lines on a map showing the general location of the route - there are no detailed designs yet.</p> <p>Improvements could range from larger changes such as new cycle tracks, to smaller improvements such as better crossings, or safer on-road cycling.</p> <p>These routes are part of a long-term plan rather than confirmed projects. As each route is taken forward, designs will be developed in stages, with opportunities for the public to see design proposals and give feedback.</p> |
| <p>What is an 'Existing Route'?</p> | <p>An Existing Route is a walking, wheeling or cycling route that is already in place and currently available for people to use. These routes form part of the existing active travel network and can include footways, shared paths, cycle tracks and quieter streets.</p> <p>To be included on the Existing Routes layer of the Active Travel Network Map, a route must be assessed through an audit process and achieve a sufficient score against Welsh Government standards. Where a route does not meet the required standard, improvements may be identified to help bring it up to the necessary level.</p> |
| <p>Who is the network of routes for?</p> | <p>The network is for everyone, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wheelchair and mobility aid users • People walking or running • Cyclists of all abilities • Children, families and older people <p>A key priority is to ensure routes are inclusive and accessible, so more people feel confident choosing active travel.</p> |

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| <p>Why is the Council updating and consulting on the map?</p> | <p>Through the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, the council is responsible for producing, maintaining and updating Active Travel Network Maps across the borough. The maps are important because we are able to apply for funding from the Welsh Government each year to implement the proposals on the Active Travel Network map. If routes are not on the map, they are not eligible for funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are asking for your views to ensure the network: • Reflects how people actually travel • Identifies where routes feel unsafe or inaccessible • Creates better connections between communities and key destinations <p>Your feedback helps make sure the network is inclusive, usable and relevant to local people, not just based on technical assessments.</p> |
| <p>Why hasn't my suggestion from the previous engagement been included in the updated ATNM?</p> | <p>Unfortunately, not every suggestion could be included in the updated ATNM. All suggested routes were carefully reviewed, taking into account how practical they are to deliver and whether they are likely to secure funding. In some cases, routes could not be included because of physical constraints or because they did not meet funding criteria.</p> <p>Some routes that were suggested for removal have been kept. This is because they are important links in the wider network, helping to connect key places and make it easier for people to travel around Neath Port Talbot.</p> |
| <p>Should I respond again if I already took part last year?</p> | <p>We carefully reviewed all feedback from last year's engagement, so please be assured that your comments have been recorded and you do not need to submit another response if you have nothing further to add. However, if you have any new comments on the updated map, we would very much welcome your feedback.</p> |
| <p>How is the ATNM and active travel funded?</p> | <p>The delivery of the ATNM from planning to delivery is typically funded through the Welsh Government's Active Travel Fund. It's a dedicated pot of funding, which means it's been specifically set aside for these types of projects and can't be used for other council services. This helps make sure the money is spent on making everyday journeys safer, more accessible and more sustainable for everyone.</p> |

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| <p>How are routes prioritised for delivery?</p> | <p>Future Routes on the ATNM are assessed using Welsh Government’s Route Prioritisation process. This looks at a range of factors, including how many people are likely to use the route, how well it connects key destinations (such as schools, workplaces and local centres), and the potential to improve safety and accessibility. Each route is scored based on these criteria by the Transport for Wales Active Travel team, and the resulting prioritised list helps inform the Council on which schemes to take forward first when funding becomes available. While prioritisation helps guide decisions, it does not guarantee when or if a route will be delivered, as this will also depend on funding opportunities and further design and feasibility work.</p> |
| <p>Will this affect roads, traffic or parking?</p> | <p>Some future schemes may involve changes to how road space is used.</p> <p>At this stage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No detailed changes are being proposed• Any specific scheme will be subject to further design and consultation <p>This ensures that impacts are fully understood and balanced with the benefits of improved safety and accessibility.</p> |
| <p>How can I have my say?</p> | <p>You can take part by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completing the online survey• Attending engagement events (if available)• Emailing activetravel@npt.gov.uk and/or keeping up to date with our webpage: Active Travel - NPT Council for further information around Active Travel and the Network Maps <p>We particularly welcome feedback on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Barriers to walking, wheeling or cycling• Locations that feel unsafe or difficult to use• Missing links or opportunities to improve connections <p>For More Information: e-mail: activetravel@npt.gov.uk Alternatively, you can visit the Welsh Government Website.</p> |