



Transport & Infrastructure Committee	Agenda Item
14 June 2023	7

Title:	Active Travel Update
Report of:	Anna Graham, Transport Programme Manager
Lead Member:	Cllr Anna Smith, Chair of Transport and Infrastructure Committee
Public Report:	Yes
Key Decision:	No
Voting Arrangements:	Item a) and c) a simple majority of all Members present and voting, for item b) a vote in favour by at least two thirds of all Members (or their Substitute Members) appointed by the Constituent Councils, to include the Members appointed by Cambridgeshire County Council or Peterborough City Council, or their Substitute Members

Recommendations:

A	To note the outcome of the Active Travel 4 bid and recent programmes of work
B	To recommend the Combined Authority approve the drawdown of £55,485 subject to approval funding in the Medium-Term Financial Plan to approved budget, to enable the continuation of the Love to Ride behavioural change programme for a further year across the Combined Authority area and to drawdown £12,000 for Living Streets Walk to School Wow programme in Peterborough.
C	To recommend to the Combined Authority Board that it delegate's authority to the Interim Head of Transport in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to enter into Grant Funding Agreements with Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

Strategic Objective(s):

The proposals within this report fit under the following strategic objective(s):

	Achieving ambitious skills and employment opportunities
	Achieving good growth
x	Increased connectivity
	Enabling resilient communities

[Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Strategy and Business Plan 2023 / 24](#)

Sustainable transport is a key priority for improving connectivity and enabling resilient communities. Within the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) there is a commitment to reduce road traffic by 15%. To achieve the ambitions within the LTCP and the Combined Authority's Strategy and Business Plan 2023/24 will require the Combined Authority to continue to attract funding to enable investment in both infrastructure and behavioural change projects.

In addition, government's Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (CWIS 2) sets out key objectives of:

- 50% of short urban trips in England to be walked, wheeled, or cycled by 2030;
- Increase active travel from 41% in 2018 to 46% of short urban trips by 2025;
- Increase walking to 365 stages per person per year by 2025;
- Increase cycling from 0.8 billion stages in 2013 to 1.6 billion stages in 2025; and

- 55% of primary school-aged children to walk to school by 2025.

The active travel update provides an overview of the work that has been undertaken to attract investment, to build the Combined Authority's engagement with Active Travel England (ATE) and to support behavioural change programmes to encourage individuals to use active modes for transport in line with the Combined Authority's and government's strategic objectives.

1. Purpose

1.1	The paper provides an update on Active Travel Fund 4 and upcoming visit from Active Travel England. It also seeks approval to drawdown subject to approval funding from the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to continue the 'Love to Ride' behaviour change programme across the Combined Authority area and initiate Living Streets Walk to School Wow programme in Peterborough.
-----	--

2. Proposal

2.1	On the 19 th May ATE announced the outcome of the Active Travel Fund 4 bids. The Combined Authority working with its partners Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) and Peterborough City Council (PCC) were successful in securing £3,896,590. Exceeding the indicative allocation set by ATE for bidding of £2,996,590.
2.2	The funded projects include 3 construction schemes, Girton to Eddington, Buckden to Brampton, and the Thorpe Wood Cycleway totalling £2.7 million and 6 projects have been funded to establish feasibility and design with a total value of £1.2 million.
2.3	<p>The drawdown of £55,485 of subject to approval funding from the MTFP for the continuation of the Combined Authority areawide Love to Ride behaviour change programme. The programme would run between September 2023 to August 2024 and will include 4 campaigns within a rolling 12-month programme cycle. The budget includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Love to Ride web platform, app, and promotional campaigns; - Social media targeted engagement; - Project Management; - 60 days of dedicated Community Engagement Manager; and - Monitoring, research, and evaluation. <p>The Love to Ride web platform allows users to register their rides, with riders being encouraged and incentivised to ride through participation in the challenges. The site is also designed to help new cyclists or those that cycle occasionally to ride more by providing useful online training, including hints and tips, as well as being encouraged by the Love to Ride online community.</p>
2.4	The purpose of continuing the Love to Ride Programme is to build on the current programme particularly focussing on closer working with District Councils to promote participation and cycle routes and developing the Love to Ride presence in Market Towns to support people to cycle.
2.5	<p>The drawdown of £12,000 of subject to approval funding from the MTFP for PCC to initiate a trial of the Living Streets Walk to School Programme for one year. The funding would enable 8 primary schools, targeting between 4,500 to 5,000 pupils across the city, to run the Living Streets Wow programme. The project includes,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Baseline data for existing school travel patterns; - 1 academic year of delivery of the Living Streets WOW programme in 4 schools with no school streets initiative which have ongoing traffic issues and 4 schools with a school street initiative established; - Support to schools delivering the programme, including support with assemblies and communications; - Regular meetings with the schools to discuss the programme, issues, and feedback on the delivery of the programme; - Surveys undertaken at 6-months and 1-year after start of delivery to understand the impact of the programme; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report detailing the impact of the programme. <p>The project would start with the new academic term in September 2023.</p>
2.6	<p>ATE's Chief Executive Officer, Danny Williams, is due to meet with the Combined Authority, its partners and stakeholders on Wednesday 21 June. Officers are working collaboratively with ATE, member councils and stakeholders to develop the agenda. At the time of writing, the agenda is expected to focus on,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rural Accessibility; - Urban Environment; health and its role in Active Travel; - Access for All; and - Influencing Travel Behaviour. <p>In addition, a significant proportion of time has been allocated for questions, answers, and feedback. A further visit by ATE and its Commissioner Chris Boardman is also expected in August.</p>
2.7	<p>Since receiving the Capability and Ambition Funding from ATE the Combined Authority has been able to employ an Active Travel Lead who started in April, increasing the Combined Authority's ability to engage with its partners and stakeholders. CCC has also been able to fill Active Travel Manager, Principal Active Travel Officer – Active Travel Audit, Principal Active Travel Officer – Pipeline and Projects and an Active Travel Officer posts and will be starting in the coming weeks.</p>
2.8	<p>In addition to leading on the ATE visits in June and August, the CA Active Travel Lead will also consider the approach for appointing an Active Travel advocate to identify ways for the Combined Authority's Capability Level to increase from its current good level of 2 to the higher level of 3.</p>

3. Background

3.1	<p>Working with its partners, CCC, PCC and the Combined Authority submitted its Active Travel Fund 4 bid on 24 February 2023. The funding is capital with indicative funding ranges based on levels of capability. The guidance encouraged bids for up to 300% of this indicative allocation.</p>
3.2	<p>Authorities were invited to bid for either scheme construction, for schemes to be built over the next 12 months, or project development for schemes for construction in later years. There is also, 5% revenue funding in proportion to agreed capital schemes – this is within the total indicative allocation rather than in addition to it.</p>
3.3	<p>The total value of the bid submitted was £7,873,590, a total for Cambridgeshire of £3,187,000 and for Peterborough £4,686,590. Whilst the indicative allocation was apportioned between Cambridgeshire and Peterborough based on the Integrated Transport Block percentages, following both highway authorities putting forward their projects there remained headroom within the overall threshold. In agreement between the parties an additional Peterborough City Council Scheme was added to the bid.</p>
3.4	<p>The Transport and Infrastructure Committee noted the submission of the Active Travel Fund 4 bid on 15 March 2023 and later by the Combined Authority Board on 22 March 2023.</p>
3.5	<p>Love to Ride is a behaviour change programme that seeks to increase the numbers of people cycling and to make a sustained behaviour change. It looks to encourage non cyclists to ride and to get those already cycling for leisure to do so for transport. Three promotional campaigns have taken place so far with 956 people riding, 494,909 miles ridden and 218 workplaces getting involved (data up to 30 April).</p>
3.6	<p>The main highlights from the first campaign, Biketober, are encouraging with,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 49% of respondents noted an increase in the number of days they were physically active after the Challenge; - 50% of those classed as new riders at baseline, increased how often they were riding seven months after the Challenge; - 25% of new riders reported they were riding once a week or more seven months after the Challenge; - 50% of occasional riders reported riding regularly seven months after the Challenge; and - 25% of new riders had ridden to work at least once, seven months after the Challenge and 25% had ridden for transport purposes.

	May was Bike Month Challenge which has seen significant increase in the numbers of people registering to Love to Ride, after the Challenge further analysis will be undertaken.
3.7	Living Streets Walk to School Programme is a pupil-led initiative where children self-report how they get to school every day using the interactive WOW Travel Tracker. If they travel sustainably (walk/wheel, cycle, or scoot) once a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. Data from Living Streets suggests that on average, WOW schools see a 30% reduction in car journeys taken to the school gate and a 23% increase in walking rates.
3.8	Over the past 10 years, PCC has engaged in the Bike It programme to help encourage a travel behaviour change in schools and is due to end in July at the end of the academic year. The Living Streets Walk to School Programme offers a fresh approach in Peterborough targeting schools which are currently experiencing traffic and parking concerns. 8 schools are to benefit from the programme, four of the schools will have 'school streets' in operation and four schools without 'schools streets' giving the opportunity for PCC to analyse the benefits of the Living Streets Wow programme with differing travel circumstances.
3.9	Invitations to save the date of ATE's visit have been sent out in preparation with the agenda and further details to follow.

4. Appendices

4.1	Appendix A - List of funded Active Travel Fund 4 schemes.
4.2	Appendix B - Love to Ride Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

5. Implications

Financial Implications

5.1	The MTFP has £100,000 of revenue funding for Active Travel. A total of £67,485 is being sought for Love to Ride and Living Streets Walk to School Programme. Both projects are expected to run for 12 months.
5.2	The remaining £32,515 should remain as subject to approval funding and may be required for future active travel programmes.

Legal Implications

6.1	The Combined Authority will enter into Grant Funding Agreements with the two Highway Authorities. Whilst the Love to Ride is a Combined Authority wide programme it is administered through the County Council and the Living Streets Walk to School funding will be managed by Peterborough City Council.
-----	--

Public Health Implications

7.1	ATE's 2030 vision, for half of journeys in towns and cities to be walked, wheeled, or cycled. Love to Ride and Living Streets seek to encourage adults and children to undertake active modes of transport which has wellbeing, physical health and environmental benefits.
-----	---

Environmental & Climate Change Implications

8.1	As above
-----	----------

Other Significant Implications

9.1	N/A
-----	-----

Background Papers

10.1	N/A
------	-----