

## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2017
<b>Report Subject</b>	Active Travel Plan
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
<b>Report By</b>	Chief Officer (Streetscene And Transportation)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Strategic

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 aims to make non-vehicular travel the most attractive option for most people's short journeys. Its purpose is to enable more people to choose active travel rather than using their cars, where it is suitable for them to do so.

A report was presented to Cabinet on 1st September 2015, detailing the duties placed on Local Authorities under the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 and explained that the duties were placed on the Authority as a whole, not just the Highways Authority.

This report provides an update on progress in delivering those duties and advises Cabinet on the commencement of the formal consultation period for the Councils own planned future integrated network map.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	That Cabinet approves the content of this report and the forthcoming consultation period on the Councils Planned Integrated Active Travel Network Maps - which will commence in July 2017.
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## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE ACTIVE TRAVEL ACT
1.01	<p>The Statutory Guidance for the delivery of the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 states how Welsh Government (WG) expect Local Authorities to comply with the requirements within the Act. It also includes details of the prescribed settlement areas within Wales in which the associated requirements of the Act will apply.</p>
1.02	<p>The Act requires Local Authorities in Wales to produce active travel maps for the defined settlement areas and deliver year on year improvements on active travel routes and the active travel facilities within them. It also requires Highway Authorities in Wales to make enhancements to the routes and to consider facilities for pedestrians and cyclists in all new road improvement schemes and to have regard to the needs of walkers and cyclists in a wide range of other Highway Authority and Planning functions. It also requires Welsh ministers and Local Authorities to promote active travel journeys in exercising their functions under the Act.</p>
1.03	<p>The Act requires two sets of maps to be produced for each settlement area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="411 972 975 1010">1. The existing active travel route map.</li><li data-bbox="411 1010 1082 1048">2. The planned future integrated network map.</li></ol> <p>The existing route maps are primarily intended to inform the public of the existing safe and suitable routes for active travel and were submitted to WG for approval in January 2016.</p> <p>The integrated network maps are intended to set out the plans of the Local Authority for the next 15 years and were required to be submitted to WG for approval by 24 September 2017.</p>
1.04	<p>Flintshire County Council submitted its existing active travel route maps to WG in January 2016 and subsequently received approval of their content in August 2016. Details of the maps have now been published on the Council's website.</p>
1.05	<p>The Act requires each Authority to undertake active and effective consultation and engagement in the preparation of their planned future integrated network map which will set out the plans for walking and cycling infrastructure for the next 15 years and will become a basis for future grant funding opportunities.</p>
1.06	<p>On the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Rebecca Evans AM, Minister for Social Services and Public Health issued a direction to all Local Authorities revising the deadline date for submission of the integrated network maps as it was considered the original timetable posed significant problems for many Local Authorities, due to the Local Government Elections on 4 May and the difficulty to consult on the draft maps during the pre-election period. The revised date for submission of the maps was put back to 3 November 2017.</p>
1.07	<p>The Streetscene and Transportation portfolio has now developed the</p>

	<p>County's planned integrated network maps which are now ready for informal engagement and consultation. The development of the routes was achieved by utilising the network planning principles contained within the WG Design Guidance and the support of a group of officers from Streetscene, Highways Development Control, Public Rights of Way, Regeneration, Planning Policy and Sustrans.</p> <p>Suggestions for walking and cycling interventions have also been included from the joint Regional Transport Plan and from route suggestions made during the consultations on the existing route map in 2016.</p>
1.08	A series of informal engagement events with key stakeholders have been ongoing since March 2017 on the planned integrated network maps ahead of the statutory consultation process with the wider public, which will be promoted on the Council's website and in the local press.
1.09	Prior to submitting the integrated network map to WG by the 3 November 2017, a report will be submitted to Cabinet in October 2017 seeking approval of the planned future integrated network map and accompanying schedules of proposed walking and cycling improvements that are required on the network – following the consultation period.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	In 2016/17 Welsh Government provided £10,000 to Flintshire to create and consult on the active travel maps required as part of the duty in the Act. For 2017/18 a further £10,000 has been provided for development of the integrated network map.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	Between March and April Streetscene Officers have undertaken informal engagement events with Flintshire Disability Forum in Mold, Shotton and Buckley.
3.02	On the 24 <sup>th</sup> April Sustrans held an Active Travel Journey Planner engagement event in Mold Alun School with the support of Streetscene Officers.
3.03	An informal engagement event was held with the Local Access Forum on 5 <sup>th</sup> May at Wepre Visitor Centre and the proposals on the integrated network map were received positively.
3.04	Streetscene will hold drop in events for Council Members and Town and Community Councillors on the 30 <sup>th</sup> and 31 <sup>st</sup> May in County Hall.
3.05	A presentation will be delivered on the draft integrated network map at the Town and Community Council Forum on the 28th June 2017.

3.06	The 12 week statutory consultation on the integrated network map will begin in early July. During this period the consultation will be available on the Council's website and will be promoted through social media, press releases and further drop in events which will be advertised on the Council's website and in the press. Stakeholders will be emailed the link to the consultation and will be asked for their feedback on the proposals.
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<b>4.00</b>	<b>KEY RISKS AND MITIGATION</b>
4.01	Meeting the WG deadline date for submitting the Active Travel Integrated Network Map to Ministers by 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2017.  <b>Mitigation.</b> Gantt Project Planner has been completed to monitor activities and timescales.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	None.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2013/7/contents">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2013/7/contents</a> <a href="http://gov.wales/docs/det/policy/141105guidanceen.pdf">http://gov.wales/docs/det/policy/141105guidanceen.pdf</a>  <b>Contact Officer:</b> Stephen O Jones <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704700 <b>E-mail:</b> stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	None.