£2bn Transport Vision Revealed for Cardiff

A transport vision designed to transform Cardiff and South East Wales' transport network has been unveiled by Cardiff Council.

The council's Transport White Paper, lays out an ambitious 10-year plan to tackle the climate emergency, reduce congestion and improve air quality in the Welsh capital.

It lists a series of projects which could revolutionise public transport options in Cardiff and the region, including:

- **Delivering safer walking and cycling routes**
- **Offering real travel options designed to get people out of their cars and onto public transport**
- **Expanding current Metro plans to deliver more new tram/train routes and stations in Cardiff and the region**
- **Introducing new Bus Rapid Transit services and Park & Ride site**
- **Lowering the cost of bus travel significantly**

Delivering the vision will require considered partnership working with government, Transport for Wales and other regional partners but the £2bn cost could be part-funded by a daily road-user-charging scheme, which could include an exemption for Cardiff residents, the council has revealed.

Sophie Howe, The Future Generations Commissioner, said, "I am pleased to see Cardiff Council is thinking and planning long-term, creating a transport strategy that looks to improve the health and well-being of people in Wales. Creating low-carbon, integrated transport infrastructure, investing in active travel and identifying future trends in the growth of the city's population and new technology available for moving around the city, are exactly the kind of things our cities need to be doing in the interests of future generations.

"I expect to see other public bodies moving in the same direction as Cardiff Council and working to implement their duties under the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Find out more [here](#).

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Stay At Home And Save Lives

Restrictions to prevent the spread of Coronarvirus are now in place, public compliance will be essential if the spread of the virus is to be addressed.

Under the new lockdown, members of the public must not leave their house except to:

- **Shop for essentials, as infrequently as possible**
- **Receive medical treatment or provide care**
- **Travel to and from work if impossible to work from home**
- **Exercise outdoors once per day, alone or with household members**

Now more than ever, the public must follow the lockdown advice from the government. Stay at home and when outdoor movements are essential, maintain safe road safety practices, to limit any further strain on stretched NHS and Emergency Services.

Limiting all forms of travel and avoiding the Fatal 5 - the five main causes of road traffic collisions and injuries in Wales - is the objective.

Staying home = Saving lives. Play your part to beat this virus.

Welsh Government Consultation on Active Travel Guidance

The passing for the Active Travel (Wales) Act in 2013 was a reflection of the Welsh Government's ambition to make walking and cycling the default option for everyday local journeys.

The Design Guidance published in 2014 was seen as ground-breaking and has been emulated elsewhere. It's now time to update it to reflect international best practice, and to take the opportunity to review the Delivery Guidance that Welsh Government's partners have worked to over the last six years.

Therefore, the Welsh Government has recently issued a consultation on its revised Active Travel guidance, which combines:

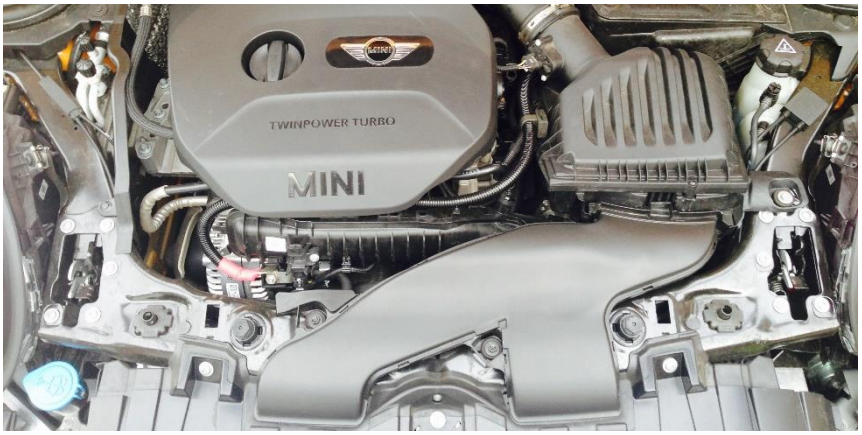
- **Active Travel delivery and planning guidance**
- **Active Travel design guidance**

The revised guidance supports the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 and intends to:

- **Improve collaboration between planners and designers**
- **Take account of changes in regulations**
- **Reflect current best practice**

The consultation and associated documents, can be found here. Responses are welcome online, or via email by 8 May 2020.

MOT Exemptions Granted During the Coronavirus



Vehicle owners have been granted a six-month exemption from MOT testing their vehicles, enabling them to continue to travel to work where this absolutely cannot be done from home, or to shop for necessities.

All cars, vans and motorcycles which usually would require an MOT test will be exempt from needing a test from 30 March, 2020.

Vehicles must be kept in a roadworthy condition, and garages will remain open for essential repair work. Drivers can be prosecuted if driving unsafe vehicles, possibly facing a fine of up to £2,500, penalty points and a potential driving ban.

Advice on keeping a vehicle in a good condition can be found here.

Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said, "We must ensure those on the frontline of helping the nation combat COVID19 are able to do so.

"Allowing this temporary exemption from vehicle testing will enable vital services such as deliveries to continue, frontline workers to get to work, and people get essential food and medicine.

"Safety is key, which is why garages will remain open for essential repair work."

Practical driving tests and annual testing for lorries, buses and coaches have been suspended for up to three months.

Tispol Rebrands as ROADPOL

Tispol, the network of European traffic police forces has rebranded as Roadpol – European Roads Policing Network.

The network has issued a statement saying that it will continue to devote its energy to making Europe's roads safer, with its mission remaining the same: "Crossing borders to save lives."

The well-known project "EDWARD", will also continue and will be rebranded with a self-explanatory name, which will be published shortly.

Visit the new website at www.roadpol.eu

Conference Postponed

Due to the current COVID19 pandemic, the Road Safety Wales Conference, scheduled for Thursday 21 May 2020, is postponed.
New arrangements will be issued at a later date and announced via the website www.roadsafetywales.org.uk

Government Consultation on e-Scooters

The Department for Transport (DfT) is currently consulting on what rules are required to allow e-scooters to be legalised for use on UK roads.

While they are already a popular form of transport in many cities around the world, it is currently illegal to use them on public roads and pavements in the UK.

The consultation covers a series of areas in relation to the safe use of e-scooters, including a minimum age for riders, speed limits, licensing, insurance and helmets.

Other topics include minimum design standards, whether they should be allowed in cycle lanes, and what powers local authorities should have to manage e-scooter hire firms.

Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said the UK is, "on the cusp of a transport revolution" as emerging technologies are "ripping up the rulebook."

"Our ground-breaking Future of Transport programme marks the biggest review of transport laws in a generation and will pave the way for exciting new transport technology to be tested, cementing the UK's position as a world-leading innovator.

"This review will ensure we understand the potential impacts of a wide range of new transport types such as e-scooters, helping to properly inform any decisions on legalisation."

To respond to the consultation click here.

Welcome Back Gwenda

After a brief spell working in politics, Gwenda Owen, is delighted to be back in the world of cycling as Engagement Officer in Wales for Cycling UK.

Many Road Safety Wales partners will already be familiar with Gwenda and will be pleased to see her return in this important role for Wales.

"As some of you may know, I first started working for Cycling UK almost 10 years ago on a cycle training project, shortly after that I was elected as a trustee and councillor representing Wales. I had been a member for a while before I started that role and I've ridden a bike for pleasure as well as practicality since I was a child.

"Whilst I'm based in Cardiff, I'm looking forward to riding my bike (and catching the occasional train) around Wales, working with members and stakeholders to ensure that everyone who wants to, is able to cycle."

Further information and advice can be found at www.cyclinguk.org