

To the Welsh Ministers,

Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 Reporting Duties

In accordance with the duties under sections 7 (3) and 10 (2) of the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, please find below Ceredigion County Council's annual report for 2018-2019.

<p>The actions taken to promote active travel journeys</p>	<p>A new Active Travel map for Aberystwyth was produced in conjunction with Sustrans. Paper copies were distributed and the web version was uploaded to the Active Travel webpage.</p> <p>Kerbcraft training provided to 350 primary school pupils.</p> <p>National Standards cycle training delivered to 482 primary school pupils.</p> <p>Walk to School Week promoted and supported by the Road Safety Officer at several primary schools.</p> <p>The Authority continues to host the Sustrans Schools Officer for West Wales with office and administrative support provision for the post holder.</p> <p>The Sustrans Schools Officer has continued to deliver the Sustrans Active Travel Promotion in Primary Schools programme in Ceredigion, and supported the following 19 primary schools in the County from September 2018 – July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talybont• Penrhyncoch• Craig-yr-Wylfa, Borth• Penllwyn, Capel Bangor• Syr John Rhys, Ponterwyd• Comins Coch• St Padarns, Aberystwyth• Plascrug, Aberystwyth• Llwyn-yr-Eos, Penparcau, Aberystwyth• Mynach, Devil's Bridge• Cardigan• Llechryd• T.Llew Jones, Brynhoffnant• Felinfach• Aberaeron• Llanilar• Cilcennin• Aberporth• Rhydpennau, Bow Street <p>The Authority funded a BMX skills display at 4 primary schools which was arranged by Sustrans as a reward for schools which performed well during the annual Big Pedal Challenge.</p>
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	<p>Press releases submitted to promote grant funded works for new Active Travel and Safe Routes in Communities Scheme infrastructure and these were featured in the local press. These were also featured on the Council news webpage and social media sites.</p> <p>The Annual Active Travel Report 2017/18 and supplementary information was uploaded to the Active Travel webpage.</p> <p>Flyers and other promotional materials produced by this Authority were displayed at the Active Travel Conference in Wrexham following a request from the Welsh Government.</p>
<p>The actions taken to secure new active travel routes and related facilities and improvements</p>	<p>Please refer to separate document titled 'Ceredigion Active Travel Report 2018-19' (below).</p>
<p>Costs incurred for new active travel routes and facilities and improvements of existing active travel routes and related facilities carried out in the preceding full financial year</p>	<p>Local Transport Fund Bow Street to IBERS shared use path £539,506.42*</p> <p>Integrated Network Map route development £105,465.94</p> <p>Active Travel Fund Ceredigion Package of Active Travel Schemes £221,616.25*</p> <p>Safe Routes in Communities Ysgol Henry Richard Tregaron 3-16 School £120,047.17**</p> <p>*includes match funding from Ceredigion County Council and **also from third parties detailed below.</p> <p>Road Safety Revenue Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kerbcraft Training £18,111 • National Standards cycle training £18,763 <p>Ceredigion Council (non-grant funded scheme) Fifth Avenue Footway, Penparcau, Aberystwyth £52,335.56</p>

In addition to the above (optional):

<p>Indicative spending for new active travel routes and facilities and improvements of existing active travel routes and related facilities funded or part funded by third parties.</p>	<p>Safe Routes in Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ysgol Henry Richard Tregaron 3-16 <p>£3,000 match funding provided by Tregaron Town Council.</p>
<p>Length of new routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking - Cycling - Shared Use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - n/a - n/a - 1,219 metres
<p>Length of improved routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking - Cycling - Shared Use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 191 meters - n/a - n/a
<p>New and improved active travel facilities</p>	<p>A new shared use path was constructed between Bow Street and IBERS measuring 1km in length. Existing narrow wooden footbridge replaced with new 2.5m wide steel bridge structure. 2 new seating benches were installed. Approximately 30 new Solar Eyes were installed along a section of the path where it moves away from the carriageway – these provide up-lighting of the path and have been installed as a first time trial basis. In addition a natural wildlife habitat area has been created, trees planted and a new hedge has now been replanted with a greater diversity of native species.</p> <p>A section of narrow and unbound surfaced footway on Fifth Avenue in Penparcau, Aberystwyth was widened and given a new smooth tarmac finish. This provided an improved link, particularly for mobility users in the area to access the nearby shared use path link into Aberystwyth Town Centre which had been improved in the previous financial year.</p> <p>2 new speed humps and a new raised table zebra crossing installed near Ysgol Henry Richard, Tregaron with a combination of new 20 mph zones and Part Time 20 mph speed limit signage. Footways in the vicinity of the school were improved and resurfaced with new bollards installed for pedestrian safety and a new buildout was constructed on one of the approaches to the school to overcome a very narrow footway pinch point.</p> <p>The Ceredigion Active Travel Package included the following works and improvements within Aberystwyth and Cardigan:</p>

A number of dropped kerb, tactile paving and access improvements were undertaken in Aberystwyth Town Centre to benefit pedestrians and particularly mobility / pushchair users and the visually impaired.

A new cycle ramp was installed on a section of steps at the approach to the National Library of Wales.

11 new E-bike Charging Stations were installed in Aberystwyth: 5 on the Penglais Campus of Aberystwyth University, 3 at the National Library of Wales for public and staff use and 3 at Canolfan Rheidol Council Offices in the staff cycle shelter. These are the first to be installed by a Local Authority in Wales and are free of charge to use; and requests have already been received from community groups to introduce more.

A new covered cycle shelter was also installed at the National Library of Wales and also at Aberystwyth University's Sports Centre, in conjunction with the installation of the new E-bike Charging Stations, to enhance cycle parking provision at these popular locations.

A new Public Bike Repair Station with integrated tyre pump was installed near Parc Kronberg Skate Park adjacent to the Rheidol Cycle Trail. There are now a total of 4 bike repair stations with tyre pumps installed in Aberystwyth along with a further single stand-alone cycle pump. These have proved very popular and requests for further units have been received.

Upgrade and widening of footway to shared use standard from Pont y Cleifion roundabout to the entrance of Parc Teifi Business Park in Cardigan. This included new dropped kerbs for improved access to the services and facilities at the Business Park which includes the Police Station. The crossing refuge at the roundabout was also widened with new dropped kerbs providing improved access between the Town Centre and the Business Park.

A new cycle shelter with 4 hoop toast rack was installed at Cardigan Police Station at Parc Teifi Business Park to help encourage more staff to cycle to work.

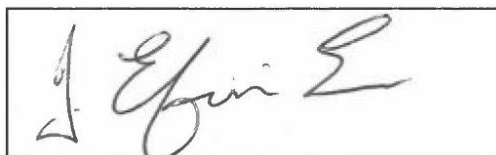
2 new cycle hoops to accommodate 4 cycles were installed outside Crwst Restaurant in Cardigan Town Centre.

Additional information (optional)

n/a

I confirm that this report will be published online and made available in hard copy on request, in accordance with the statutory Delivery Guidance.

Chief Executive Signature:



Chief Executive Name:

Mr Eifion Evans

September 2019



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CEREDIGION
County Council

Ceredigion County Council Active Travel Report 2018-19

Introduction

Under the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, three Ceredigion towns were designated as Active Travel locations – Aberystwyth, Cardigan and Lampeter. The Act conferred new duties upon both the Welsh Government and the 22 Welsh local authorities. Ceredigion has for many years been - and continues to be - at the forefront of providing safer and more accessible walking and cycling facilities across the County as a whole, providing safer access to education and training, employment, every-day services, leisure and recreation.

2018-19 was a very busy and successful year for Active Travel and Safe Routes to School improvements in Ceredigion as the Council received £929,800 of grant funding from the Welsh Government. With an additional £75,200 match funding, this resulted in £1,005,000 worth of schemes delivered across the County during the financial year. These valuable capital grant-funded schemes compliment the Council's own Road Safety education, training and publicity activities (such as Kerbcraft and National Standards Cycle Training), provision of School Crossing Patrols and traffic management schemes such as implementation of the County-wide Speed Limit and on-street parking reviews. In addition, these infrastructure schemes compliment the Welsh Government's own improvement and safety schemes on Trunk Roads in the County, such as the introduction of part-time 20 mph limits outside schools.

Local Transport Fund - Aberystwyth

Following an initial award of £400,000 from the Welsh Government (plus a further in-year award of £52,000) and £40,000 match funding from Ceredigion County Council, the Authority was able to deliver one of the largest Active Travel construction schemes in recent years within the County. One kilometre of new shared use path was constructed between Bow Street and IBERS in Plas Gogerddan where the new AIEC site is being developed by Aberystwyth University (INM Ref: CER-INMAB-617). The County Council worked in partnership with the University to accommodate this new shared use path which was Phase 1 of the proposed link between Penrhyncoch and the proposed Bow Street Rail Station and Interchange which is due to be completed in 2020.

The new 1km long path has been constructed to Active Travel Design Guidance standards and is minimum 2.5 metres wide with a green verge buffer strip of 1.5 metres from the adjacent carriageway. New 'Solar Eyes' have been installed in the centre of the path, to help provide some up-lighting where the path moves away from the carriageway. This innovative product is being trialled at this location with a view for potential roll out at other rural locations in the future.

The Council's Ecology Officer assisted with a number of environmental factors included within the scheme such as: otter fencing and installation of a new otter ledge under the carriageway bridge; selection of a variety of native species for the hedge replanting; the planting of 5 new trees; the branches and large trunk sections of a felled beech tree were relocated and stockpiled to create a wildlife habitat in a suitable area adjacent to the path. A new bench was also installed at this location next to the plaque acknowledging the scheme funding.

The new path is attractive to use and is already proving to be well-used by pedestrians and cyclists making Active Travel journeys where previously there was no safe off-road provision. This path also has added health and recreational benefits for those accessing the walks in the adjacent Natural Resource Wales' Gogerddan Woods.

A narrow wooden footbridge was replaced with a new 2.5 metre wide steel structure and further details of the scheme are shown below with photos during and after construction:





Active Travel Fund – Ceredigion Package of Active Travel Schemes

In August 2018, Ceredigion County Council secured an additional in-year grant award of £212,000 from the Welsh Government with £24,000 match funding from CCC providing a total value of £236,000 for a package of Active Travel improvements in Aberystwyth and Cardigan.

Aberystwyth Package



Left: A new cycle wheel ramp was installed below the National Library of Wales so that cyclists no longer need to lift their bikes up and down the steps (INM Ref: CER-INMAB-623).

Below: A new public bike repair station with tyre pump was installed at the entrance to Parc Kronberg Skate Park, adjacent to the Rheidol Cycle Trail (there are now a total of 4 bike repair stations with tyre pumps installed in Aberystwyth along with a further single stand-alone cycle pump):



A number of dropped kerb, tactile paving and access improvements were provided in Aberystwyth Town Centre to Active Travel Design Guidance standard which will benefit pedestrians and particularly mobility scooter / pushchair users and the visually impaired.

The image below shows the pre-scheme situation whereby there was a cycle and disabled user ramp with flush level kerb access to Pont yr Odyn Bridge in Trefechan but without a dropped kerb crossing point from the footway on the opposite side of the carriageway.



Therefore, as part of the scheme a new buildout with dropped kerbs and tactile paving was installed to create a new crossing point which allows easier and safer access for pushchair, mobility users and pedestrians.



E-bike charging station scheme



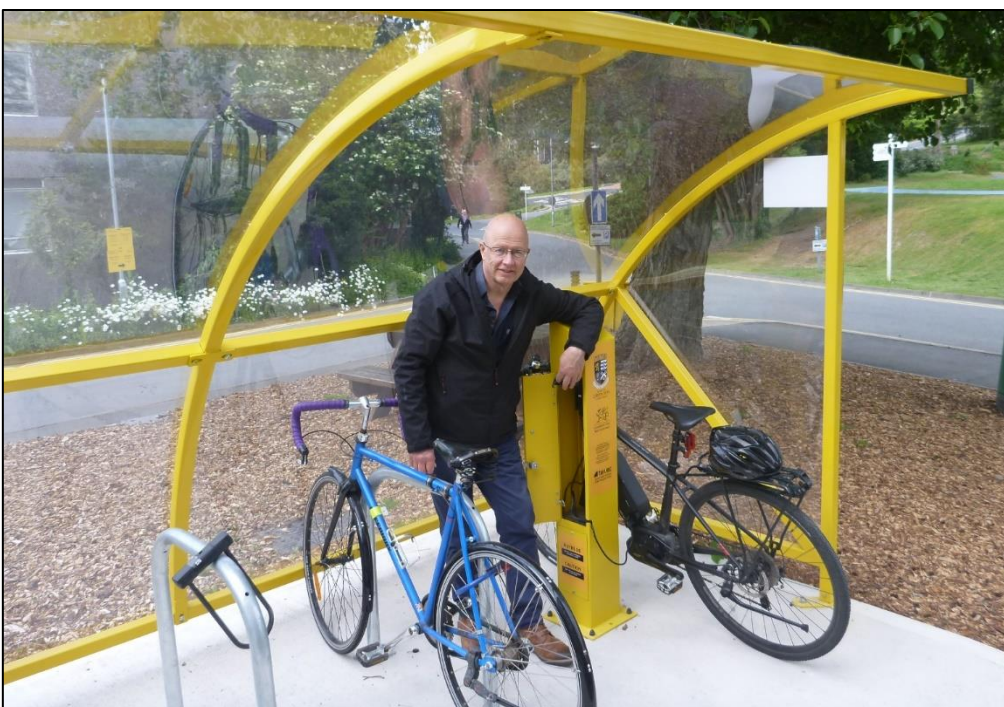
11 no. E-bike charging stations have been installed at various locations in Aberystwyth, which are free of charge for staff / public to use:

- 3 no. installed at the staff cycle shelter of Canolfan Rheidol Council Offices;
- 3 no. installed at the National Library of Wales for staff and public use (see photo left);
- 5 no. installed at Penglais Campus of Aberystwyth University for public, staff and student use.

This is a further example of innovative cycling infrastructure implemented by Ceredigion County Council, appearing to be the first Authority in Wales to install E-bike charging stations and helping to promote increased level of Active Travel and help to improve local air quality and meet carbon reduction targets.

Cycle Shelter Scheme

- A new cycle shelter has been installed at the National Library of Wales which incorporates the 3 no. E-bike charging stations.
- A new cycle shelter has been installed at the Sport Centre of Aberystwyth University which includes 1 no. E-bike charging station.
- An existing cycle shelter was relocated to the rear of the Arts Centre at Aberystwyth University which includes 1 no. E-bike charging station.



Left: Cllr Alun Williams charging his E-bike in the new cycle shelter outside Aberystwyth University Sports Centre.

Cardigan Package

The footway from Pont y Cleifion roundabout to the entrance of Parc Teifi Business Park in Cardigan was upgraded and widened to shared use standard (INM Ref: CER-INMCA-006). This included new dropped kerbs for improved access to the services and facilities at the Business Park which includes the town's Police Station. The crossing refuge at the roundabout was also widened with new dropped kerbs providing improved access between the Town Centre and the Business Park, which was a continuation of last year's footway widening improvement on Pont y Cleifion Road.

A wider refuge was installed at Pont y Cleifion roundabout to comply with Active Travel standards now providing a safer crossing between the Town Centre and Parc Teifi Business Park.

Before and after photos of the crossing arrangement are shown below:





Left: A new cycle shelter was installed at Cardigan Police Station in Parc Teifi Business Park in conjunction with the shared use path scheme referenced above.

Below: 2 new cycle hoops to accommodate 4 cycles were installed on the corner of Morgan Street in Cardigan Town Centre.



Tregaron Safe Routes in Communities Scheme at Ysgol Henry Richard 3-16 School

With the expansion of Ysgol Henry Richard Secondary School in Tregaron to a new 3-16 'all-through' school following the closure of the primary school in the Town and also at Llanddewi Brefi, an application was made to the Safe Routes in Communities Scheme grant to improve road safety near the 3-16 school. The County Council was successful in its application for a grant of £70,800 from the Welsh Government, with match funding of £8,200 from CCC and £3,000 from Tregaron Town Council providing a scheme value of £82,000. The installation of new electronic part time speed limit signage and also light columns with belisha beacons (at the new zebra crossing) incurred additional spend with Ceredigion Council contributing a further £39,847 towards the scheme, bringing the total investment to nearly £122,000.

New traffic calming measures were installed as part of the scheme which included a new raised table zebra crossing, alongside the introduction of new 20 mph zones and a part time 20 mph limit. Improvements at crossing points with dropped kerbs and tactile paving along with improved footways and new bollards help to provide safer routes to the school to encourage increased Active Travel journeys. The County Council re-deployed its School Crossing Patrol officer to the new school location to further ensure the safety of pedestrians accessing the school.



Left: New raised table zebra crossing installed between the Town Centre and the school.

Below: Pre and post scheme photos showing road safety improvements at the school entrance.



In addition to the above snapshot of grant funded construction schemes, Ceredigion County Council has utilised the Integrated Network Map Route Development grant from Welsh Government during the 2018-19 financial year to progress proposals and scheme designs for some of the aspirational Active Travel improvements within Aberystwyth, Cardigan and Lampeter.

This preparation work will help schemes to be taken forward in the coming years (subject to the availability of funding).

Ceredigion County Council funded footway scheme: Fifth Avenue, Penparcau, Aberystwyth

Responding to requests from local mobility users who could not use the narrow unbound path adjacent to the allotments on Fifth Avenue, the County Council funded a scheme to widen the path with provision of a smooth tarmac surface. This provided an improved link to access the nearby shared use path link into Aberystwyth Town Centre which had been improved in the previous financial year.



Left and below:
before and after
construction photos.



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