

CYCLING IN WEST LANCASHIRE REVIEW - FEEDBACK ON ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSE
<p>(1) That Lancashire County Council (LCC), as the Highway Authority, give due consideration to the following:</p>	
<p>(i) Take account of cyclists' safety on the highways, particularly at junctions when re-surfacing and upgrading road markings.</p>	<p>.</p>
<p>(ii) When considering highways changes, consider making the following adjustments: (a) Cycle priority signals at traffic lights. (b) Cycle priority through traffic. (c) Cycle junction improvements.</p>	<p>It is understood that LCC will continue to work with the Borough Council to upgrade junctions and where appropriate include cycle priority signals.</p> <p>In particular, the County are working with WLBC to upgrade junctions as part of the Ormskirk to Edge Hill University cycle route.</p> <p>It is noted that the County have introduced 20mph zones across residential areas in West Lancashire as proposed in their Local Transport Plan.</p>
<p>(iii) When reviewing the cycling network in the Borough and, prior to any future exercise, seek the views of Ward Councillors in respect of proposed cycle routes or maintenance of existing routes.</p>	<p>On-going. As part of our (WLBC) S106 protocol we will inform Ward Councillors of cycle infrastructure schemes as they come forward.</p>
<p>(iv) When examining widening access within the Borough through its proposed cycle hire initiative also look at the possibility to extend this to the hire of electric powered cycles.</p>	<p>The LCC West Lancashire Transportation & Highways Masterplan refers to a cycle hire scheme being introduced at Edge Hill University and the possibility of it being extended, if successful.</p>

<p>(v) When considering the Travel Plans for West Lancashire College, Skelmersdale, give due consideration to any cycling options coming through the Skelmersdale Vision Project.</p>	<p>Comments from Sustainable Travel Team, LCC - Currently being reviewed. “. . . a couple of meetings have included discussion regarding reviewing their <i>West Lancashire College</i>) travel plan. These meetings have included how best the college can actively promote cycling to staff and students through the travel plan process.”</p>
<p>(vi) That during future consideration of the Lancashire Local Transport Plan, and associated documents the potential to extend cycle recreation and other routes, particularly eastward, be considered.</p>	<p>The LCC Highways & Transport Masterplan includes an emphasis on sustainable transport links including cycling provision and refers to future work with the Borough Council to progress WLBC proposals for a linear park linking Ormskirk to Skelmersdale as well as improvements to the existing network in Skelmersdale.</p> <p>Through the joint Sefton/West Lancashire Visitor project there have been upgrades to the canal network between Wigan and Southport and a new Pier to Pier cycle route has been created and promoted.</p>
<p>(vii) For a pilot period, consider an amendment to the Traffic Regulation Order that currently prohibits cyclists from cycling in the pedestrian area of Ormskirk Town Centre in order to permit cyclists to cycle in that area. (Council, at its meeting on 17 April 2013 asked “that it be brought to LCC’s attention, that should a pilot scheme be introduced a Traffic Regulation Order to permit cyclists to cycle in Ormskirk Town Centre, it should exclude ‘Market Days)</p>	<p>Response from the Executive Director for the Environment (<i>August 2013</i>) “Following consultation with the County Council’s Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport I can inform you that the proposed Traffic Regulation Order for the pedestrianised area of Ormskirk Town Centre will be amended to exclude cycling on market days.</p> <p>There are two significant consequences which I would draw your attention to:</p> <p>Firstly, this will require additional signing at each of the three public highway access points to this area.</p> <p>Secondly, due to the constraints of the national signing regulations, it is not possible to allow contraflow cycling on some days and not others. This means that other than travelling with the flow of traffic in the pedestrianised area, cyclists will be required to dismount and proceed on foot against the one way flow on Aughton Street, Church Street, Burscough Street and Moor Street on non-market days too.</p> <p>The introduction of this proposal would require a traffic regulation order upon which public consultation will be required. Any comments or objections will be taken into account before making a decision on how to proceed.”</p>

<p>(2) That Council (subject to resource availability) work with our partners to:</p>	
<p>(i) encourage the potential to recycle otherwise discarded bicycles through established mechanisms.</p>	<p>It was agreed by Cabinet at its November meeting to use S106 funding to set up a scheme where job seekers are provided with a grant (up to £50) to purchase a reconditioned bike. This scheme will mean that more bikes are being recycled opposed to going to landfill. Work is being undertaken to set this scheme up for early 2014.</p>
<p>(ii) through Members links with schools in their Wards, encourage the continuation of initiatives adopted within their School Travel Plans.</p>	
<p>(iii) through established mechanisms with Edge Hill University and other education establishments, encourage the use of cycles as an alternative mode of transport and safe cycling through opportunities available to undertake cycling proficiency courses.</p>	<p>Comments from Sustainable Travel Team, LCC “Edge Hill University’s last Full Travel Plan ran from 2008 to 2012, since 2011 we have been providing advice on the development of a new Full Travel Plan which was originally scheduled to be completed by the end of 2012. . . . A Full Travel Plan was finally completed and accepted by us in September 2013.” Additionally: “As well as the travel plan, Edge Hill University have produced a cycle infrastructure delivery plan which seeks to develop a network of cycle paths in the University campus and improve cycle parking.”</p>
<p>(3) That the final report of the Corporate and Environmental Overview and Scrutiny Committees review ‘Cycling in West Lancashire’ be circulated to external contributors to the review, scrutiny at Lancashire County Council and published on the Council and Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) web-sites.</p>	<p>The final report was circulated to external contributors, scrutiny at Lancashire County Council and published on the Council and Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) web-sites.</p>

<p>(4) That the Corporate and Environmental Overview and Scrutiny Committee:</p>	
<p>(i) . consider the results, when available, of the Travel Survey being undertaken by Edge Hill University.</p>	<p>See comment at 2(iii) above.</p> <p>The Edge Hill University Ormskirk Campus Travel Plan 2013-2017¹. This has now been made available and a copy will be made available at the meeting and . Additionally the Head of Environment & Safety Management at Edge Hill University provided the following summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2.4 of our plan refers specifically to cycling, including information on activities taken to date- and those planned- to increase cycling (the report also makes reference to the ongoing work being undertaken by West Lancashire Borough Council and Lancashire County Council on improve cycling routes in the area), • Section 3.2 provided a summary of the travel survey and its key findings. • Finally, section 5.2.1 identifies those measures that the University will introduce to encourage cycling and walking as viable alternatives to travel to and from campus over the next few years.“ <p>A copy of the Cycle Infrastructure Strategy² will also be made available at meeting.</p>
<p>(ii) review its recommendations in December 2013.</p>	<p>Review of recommendations 5 December 2013.</p>

Notes:

- (i) The circulation of the final report of the Corporate and Environmental O & S Committee’s review into ‘Cycling in West Lancashire’ included copies to those external partners who had been involved in the review with a request that if they have any feedback on the recommendations or comments on the report generally.
- (ii) The County Council’s Commissioning Plan, <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/web/?siteid=6411&pageid=38106&e=e> gives an overview of what the County are doing to promote cycling in the Borough and lists proposed schemes, the relevant sections are:
2.5.1 Sustainable Travel (includes an overview of the LSTF project with Sefton)

2.6.1 Planning Obligations

3.3 Road Safety

- (iii) Copies of the Edge Hill University Campus Travel Plan 2013-2017 and The Cycle Infrastructure Strategy are available from Member Services on request.