

Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 Consultation 2021 Frequently Asked Questions



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL



**LIVERPOOL
CITY REGION**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

METROMAYOR
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

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For any other questions or to be sent a printed copy of the survey, please contact:

www.sthelens.gov.uk/contactus

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ACTIVE TRAVEL FUND FAQs

What is the Active Travel Fund?

Last year, the government announced they would invest in Local Authorities across the UK to make it easier for people to travel during COVID-19 restrictions.

The first stage of the initiative involved cycle lanes separated from traffic on Chester Lane, Jubits Lane and Clock Face Lane. We have now been awarded more funding to make walking and cycling in St. Helens a more attractive choice of travel for everyone who lives and works here.

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Who is involved in the project?

The project is being delivered by St. Helens Borough Council, in partnership with the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

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Where are the schemes and what do they involve?

Our proposals include providing new cycle lanes which are physically separated from traffic, new cycle tracks which are separated from pedestrians, reducing traffic speeds and safer crossing facilities for people walking and cycling. These improvements are proposed on:

- Route 1: Warrington Road (from the St Helens boundary to Clock Face Road)
- Route 2: Clock Face Road (from Warrington Road to Gartons Lane)
- Route 3: Sherdley Road (from Sherdley roundabout to Peasley Cross Lane)
- Route 4: Sherdley Road / Peasley Cross Lane junction
- Route 5: Peasley Cross Lane (from Sherdley Road to the roundabout at the Linkway/St Helens Retail Park)

The routes will support a continuous cycle route that links the south of the Borough to the town centre.

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Why is this happening?

COVID-19 and lockdown restrictions have meant that more of us are walking, running, cycling and scooting for our daily exercise. We have come to value active travel and the benefits it has for our mental and physical health.

The Active Travel Fund was launched to encourage walking and cycling while it was advised against using public transport during the pandemic. The project aims to improve cycling and walking infrastructure so people will incorporate healthy and green travel habits into their lifestyles permanently.

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What are the benefits of the schemes?

Cycling and walking in St. Helens will be safer: The scheme aims to make cycling in St. Helens safer. Unsafe road conditions are one of the main barriers for people wanting to cycle, so the schemes aim to alleviate this problem and encourage more people to enjoy active travel.

Connecting communities: Once completed, there will be a continuous cycle route from the Town Centre to the South of the Borough that meets to government's new design standards. The option of Active Travel will be more accessible and connect communities to schools, jobs, leisure and recreational facilities.

Cleaner air and healthier communities: When more people choose active travel, it reduces congestion on the road and, in turn, reduces air pollution. This improves our air quality and health. It also makes travelling around St. Helens more pleasant for everyone.

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What stage is the Active travel Fund at?

We are currently at the design stage of the project. As part of the process, we are now consulting with residents, businesses, and local stakeholders. We are looking for feedback on proposals where responses will be fed into designs.

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How will the project be funded?

The Liverpool City Region has been awarded almost £8 million from the Active Travel Fund with over £1 million of this funding being allocated to cycling and walking routes in St. Helens.

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CONSTRUCTION FAQs

When will construction begin?

Once designs are completed, construction is expected to start in June 2021.

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Will there be road closures while improvements take place?

Access to all roads along the proposed schemes will be maintained throughout the works.

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When will the project be complete?

Construction must be completed by the end of March 2022.

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TERMINOLOGY FAQs

What is Active Travel?

Active Travel means making journeys by physically active means - like walking, cycling or scooting.

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What are segregated cycleways?

Segregated cycleways are separate from pedestrian pavements and motor vehicles. They are protected by small dividing features that prevent vehicles from entering the mandatory cycle lane. St Helens Borough Council have recently installed 'wands' on Chester Lane and Jubits Lane which physically separate people on bikes from motor vehicles.

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Example of cycle lane defenders (wands) on Chester Lane



What are cycle lane defender bollards (wands)?

Cycle lane separators are dividing features that segregate cyclists from traffic. They prevent motor vehicles from entering the mandatory cycle lanes.

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What is a toucan crossing?

A crossing operated by traffic signals where pedestrians and cyclists can cross together.

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What is a mandatory cycle lane?

A mandatory cycle lane is a bicycle lane on roads that motor vehicles cannot drive in. They are marked by a solid white line painted on the road. Motor vehicles cannot park in a mandatory cycle lane.

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What is an advisory cycle lane?

An advisory cycle lane is a bicycle lane on roads that motor vehicles can drive or park in if the circumstances are unavoidable. They are marked by a broken white line painted on the road.

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