

To/
PONTARDDULAIS COUNCILLORS

BY EMAIL

Please ask for:

Jack Palmer
(Active Travel Officer)

Direct Line:

E-Mail: activetravel@swansea.gov.uk

Our Ref:

ATF23-24

Your Ref:

Date:

July 2023

Dear Councillors,

I am pleased to inform you that the Council has been awarded grant funding from the Welsh Government's Active Travel Fund (ATF) of £5,367,000 for the delivery and development of walking and cycling schemes within City and County of Swansea, and includes a scheme/s for delivery in your Ward area. The schemes proposed for implementation during 2023/24 will increase the walking and cycling network across the area, facilitating everyday journeys being made by more sustainable modes such as walking and cycling.

In a meeting of Swansea Council's Cabinet on 15th June 2023, the awarded grant funding was formally accepted by the authority, which enables work to commence on the active travel programme for delivery over the 2023/24 period.

The following scheme/s in your Ward has secured funding for delivery, having previously been identified as a future route for delivery during the consultation of the authority's statutory Active Travel Network Map (ATNM), which identifies a network of future active travel routes which the Council can then consider applying to the Welsh Government for funding to undertake feasibility, design and subsequent delivery, if feasible. The ATNM was informed by two rounds of extensive public and stakeholder engagement and consultation during 2021, whilst further detailed engagement is undertaken at a scheme level with stakeholders and communities in project areas if and when proposals are developed as part of a schemes design.

SCHEME FOR DELIVERY

Pontarddulais Connect – This scheme will complete the north-south link which will connect the town of Pontarddulais with the existing off-road active travel network, and facilitate journeys to and from Carmarthenshire, which borders Pontarddulais. The development of a northern spur of the Swansea Northern Strategic Route, ensures that a route across the north of Swansea connects with NCN4, but also offers northern connectivity for journeys to and from both Pontarddulais and Carmarthenshire. The route

has been named 'Pontarddulais Connect', as this scheme will deliver the final sections required to 'connect' Pontarddulais to the Swansea Northern Strategic Route.

The proposals combine two previous development schemes 'Public Transport Link' and 'Residential Link' schemes in Pontarddulais to deliver an integrated package of walking and cycling links. The routes will connect key residential areas of Pontarddulais with three schools, Pontarddulais train station, leisure facilities, retail outlets and south via the recently delivered 'Pontarddulais Active Travel Link' which leads south via Grovesend and Gorseinon to become the northern spur of the Swansea Northern Strategic Route.

Phase 1 (2023/24) - The 'Public Transport Link' element of the scheme will provide an off-road, traffic free shared use path measuring 1.1 km between Tidal Reach and B4296 Pentre Road. This will be split across two-years, with the first year focusing on the construction of the Coed Bach Park section. The 'Residential Links' element of the scheme is a package of works offering complementary localised feeder links from the residential areas of Pontarddulais to the strategic link outlined above, which is subject to further design development and consultation over the coming year.

This project is funded by financial year and subsequently there is a substantial programme of work to deliver over the coming months.

The authority will continue to work with stakeholders and the community on the development and delivery of the active travel programme to maximise health, environmental and transport benefits across Swansea.

I trust that this letter provides an overview of the scheme/s to be delivered in your Ward area. Should you require any further information please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Yours Sincerely,

Andrew Stevens
Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure