



## A vision for cycling in Wales

A Wales where more everyday journeys are active travel journeys, where our countryside is more accessible, our air cleaner and our health and wellbeing are prioritised.

### Time to move up the gears

Cycling should be for everyone – from a child learning to ride using a balance bike to an older person visiting friends on an e-bike; from a daily commuter to a disabled person using a hand cycle as a mobility aid. Cycling is all about being physically active whilst getting about for whatever reason we choose.

The climate emergency and post-Covid recovery are challenges the next Welsh Government must grapple with, and with transport accounting for 15% of our climate changing emissions, cycling and active travel provision must be part of the solution to these issues.

During the Covid-19 lockdown we saw a huge increase in cycling and walking as people were encouraged to take physical activity and found their local roads were less busy and felt safer. It proved that people will choose to cycle when they feel safe.

It's time to move up the gears and build the cycling infrastructure, improve access to the countryside, and invest in behaviour change programmes so that more people can cycle and experience its benefits. Together we can create a healthier, happier, more attractive and low-carbon Wales for our wellbeing now, and that of future generations.









### Our asks for the next Welsh Government:

## **E** Spend the money! **Investment**

- 1. Spend at least 10% of the transport budget on active travel cycling and walking, applying the sustainable transport hierarchy and with active travel a priority in all transport and neighbourhood decision-making.
- 2. Fund a Wales wide national standards cycle training programme free cycle training must be a part of every child's school life and widely available to adults of all abilities.
- 3. Invest in practical and innovative behaviour change projects that break down the barriers to cycling. Owning or having access to pedal cycles must be an option for everyone. That requires investment in hire bike schemes, e-bikes grants and loans, and bike recycling projects, all supported by behaviour change projects and initiatives to give people confidence, enable them to be more active, and improve everyone's health and wellbeing.

# Make it happen! **Delivery**

- **4.** Ensure that both national and local authorities consistently apply the Active Travel Act design guidance in all highway and traffic schemes, new developments and highway maintenance schemes, supporting councils with funding and training to develop comprehensive active travel networks for everyone.
- 5. Increase the number of liveable neighbourhoods in Wales by promoting the co-production of measures that prioritise the movement of people, reducing car dependency and ensuring that planning, transport, health and development policies put people first.
- 6. Set ambitious targets for cycling and walking for adults and children, ensuring that success against targets can be measured through high quality surveys and that Welsh Government is accountable for delivery against targets through a strengthened Active Travel Board.
- 7. Deliver a Clean Air Act within the first 100 days and set up Clean Air Zones around all schools in Wales.





# Across Wales: Rural & urban

- 8. Invest in an integrated sustainable transport system across Wales and prioritise active travel as a means of accessing transport hubs. Allow and increase the space available for carrying pedal cycles on trains and provide secure cycle parking at stations to help make cycling a part of everyday journeys and days out, reducing reliance on the car.
- 9. Every school should have travel plans and support available to roll out school streets. All new 21st Century Schools must prioritise access by active travel, and Active Travel Network maps should incorporate plans for safe cycle routes to schools so that children can cycle every day.
- **10.** Introduce 20mph as the default speed limit on urban roads and provide resources for communicating the changes.
- **11.** Recognise the value of cycling to the rural and tourism economy and the nation's wellbeing by improving access to the outdoors, linking communities and opening up the countryside.









#### Who we are

Cycling UK is a charity that has championed the cause of cycling for 142 years and has over 70,000 members, 2000 in Wales. In Wales we campaign for policies and investment which will encourage more people to benefit from cycling. We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to cycle in order to live a healthy, active and low-carbon lifestyle.

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