

North Somerset Council

Safer Active Routes to School Action Plan – Summary

Active Travel Action Plans 2023-30

One of our seven Active Travel Action Plans (ATAPs) for 2023-30 to help deliver our Active Travel Strategy's vision, to:

'Make walking and cycling the natural choice for a cleaner, healthier and more active North Somerset'

Our Vision: This Safer Active Routes to School Action Plan will identify infrastructure and tools to support and enable children and families to walk, scoot, wheel and cycle to school more often.



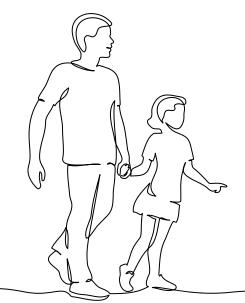




Guiding principles

- 1. We want an environment safe for active travel outside every school in North Somerset.
- 2. Develop schemes to address road safety as part of wider community schemes including Liveable Neighbourhoods and 20mph schemes.
- 3. Continue to work with stakeholders and communities to identify other priority locations to develop our infrastructure delivery programme.
- **4.** Continue to monitor collision data and develop road safety programmes of work to reduce the number, and severity of injury of casualties.
- 5. Continue to develop a programme of work to reduce the requirement for Home to School Transport for mainstream education, where a safe walking route can be provided through improved infrastructure.
- **6.** Any new developments should mitigate the need for providing Home to School Transport within the catchment area for a school through the provision of active travel routes for walking and cycling.
- 7. We will systematically review all our Emergency Active Travel Fund (EATFI) sites with a view to removing or making these permanent.

- **8.** Ensure we consider school streets in all other infrastructure projects that are being progressed.
- **9.** We will work with schools to confirm their school entrances so that we can be sure that we cover all entrances when developing routes to school
- 10. Develop school travel plan action groups
- 11. Review tools used to develop school streets inline with best practice and with the publication of the Local Traffic Note for school streets.





Benefits

- Building active adults starts at school and with families.
- Children who walk or cycle to school tend to be more attentive and achieve better results.
- Walking/wheeling and cycle-friendly environments promote more physical activity throughout our lives.
- By supporting active travel to school routes, we aim to raise the number of children travelling by active travel to 55% by 2025.

Above: Liveable Neighbourhood (with school street improvements), Christchurch School, Weston-super-Mare

























Example scheme proposals

Listed are scheme proposals that we could progress subject to funding and engagement. This isn't a list of all our scheme proposals – we want to hear what you think about the proposals listed below and any that you want for your area. We'll collect all scheme requests and use our new scoring and prioritisation process to help us prioritise the most needed and best value for money schemes across the district. This will inform our network planning for when funding becomes available.

Good current examples



Improved footways on the way to school in Wrington



School Streets: Highdale Avenue, Clevedon

Location	Brief issue/improvement concept	Status
Various – review EATF1 schemes to remove or make permanent	10 schools have EATF1 schemes which include at least one Temporary Traffic Regulation Order – these need to be reviewed with a view to make permanent	Concept only at present
Review travel to Nailsea Schools to support active travel to and around the school sites	Improvements to support active travel to and around Nailsea schools site as part of feasibility work on a Nailsea Active Travel Package	Feasibility
Various – Active Travel Fund 2 (ATF2) and 3 (ATF3) – funded schemes	Delivery of 3 school streets around Milton Park Primary, Crockerne (Pill) and Windwhistle (Weston-super-Mare) primary schools	Feasibility and design
Various locations around Churchill, Banwell, Winscombe and Sandford	The Housing Infrastructure Fund (funding the Banwell Bypass) will deliver some elements of safe walking and cycling routes but there are improvements required which are out of scope	Some feasibility, some concept only at present
Various – safer routes to school schemes identified in our 2022-23 Capital Programme	Several routes are currently on our Capital Programme for this financial year – including (but not limited to) near St Anne's (Puxton), Winford, Station Road (Backwell), Broadoak (WsM), Wrington, Wraxall and Worle School	Some feasibility, some concept only at present
New scheme proposals from communities and stakeholders	To be added following consultation – all proposals will be subject to review, scoring, prioritisation and funding being available	Awaiting issues/ requests from our communities and stakeholders



Challenges to delivery

- Securing sufficient funding to develop and deliver our initiatives and scheme proposals with our communities.
- Some parents/guardians will be concerned if developing safer active routes to schools removes Home to School Transport.
- Schools and the school community have to be onboard with proposals for them to be fully effective

We want to hear from you!

We want your ideas about active travel interventions you want in your area.

Residents, businesses, visitors and other stakeholders – we encourage you to discuss issues local to you with your Town or Parish Council and your Elected North Somerset Councillor for your ward area.

You can also add your requests at Widen My Path.

Town and Parish Councils and North Somerset
Council Elected Members – please use the
Highway Improvement Request Form to submit
your transport network improvement requests.



This publication is available in large print, Braille or audio formats on request.

Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English.

For all enquiries please contact the Transport Team transport.policy@n-somerset.gov.uk