

Nottinghamshire Cycling Strategy Delivery Plan 2016

Executive summary

The Cycling Strategy Delivery Plan has been developed to complement Nottinghamshire's wider transport strategy, the Local Transport Plan (LTP), in the delivery of local and national objectives. The Delivery Plan sets out how the County Council, working with partners, aim to make cycling improvements that will deliver the strategy in the LTP, its goals and objectives; particularly those relating to improving access to jobs and reducing the impacts of congestion on the economy. The Delivery Plan details Nottinghamshire's cycling vision and the actions the County Council, working with partners, will undertake to deliver the vision.

The vision for cycling in Nottinghamshire has been developed to help deliver national and corporate objectives, particularly those relating to the economy and health. To help ensure a clear, consistent approach to cycling provision across administrative boundaries we will work with partners at a local and national level (including central government) to:

1. Raise awareness of all aspects of cycling throughout the Council to help Nottinghamshire become a local authority exemplar in the development of cycling in the UK.
2. Secure central government funding and Local Growth Funds to increase the amount of funding available for cycling improvements within Nottinghamshire; and to allow for the offer of free cycle training for school pupils of all ages.
3. Work towards increasing the amount of transport funding spent on cycling to 5% of total highways capital spent in Nottinghamshire; and increase cycling levels from 3% to 10% of all trips by 2025 to reflect the cycling investment.
4. Develop and provide a prioritised high quality, comprehensive, cycle network linking people to jobs, training and other essential services in all of the major towns/local centres in the county.
5. Develop prioritised high quality, well connected, and safe leisure/tourist cycle routes to help develop and promote the local visitor economy and encourage healthy leisure activities.
6. Encourage more people to cycle more often by creating opportunities for people to ride and enabling them to do so.
7. Improve safety for cyclist through the provision of targeted safer infrastructure as well as education and training for all road users.
8. Ensure that neighbourhoods are designed with the needs of pedestrians and cyclists as the priority road users. This will include 'cycle proofing' all new and improved highway infrastructure and broader 'place making' schemes.
9. Provide for the integration of cycling with other longer distance passenger transport modes.
10. Maintain, repair and upgrade our existing cycle routes and other cycling facilities to ensure they remain high quality.

The County Council recognises that it cannot achieve its cycling vision alone and therefore partnership working will be a major feature of the Council's approach to delivering cycling improvements.

Raise awareness of all aspects of cycling throughout the Council

Whilst the County Council has a long history of encouraging cycling through the provision of infrastructure, promotion and training there is still a need to raise awareness of cycling. To raise awareness, working in partnership with the relevant organisations, the County Council will:

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- Appoint a cycling 'champion' at senior member level to provide leadership and focus amongst both members and senior management
- Raise awareness of the Nottinghamshire cycling vision and aims amongst County Council officers, members, and partner organisations
- Raise awareness of the cycle design standards amongst County Council officers, members, and partner organisations
- Work with neighbouring authorities, local and national cycling organisations and others to learn and share best practice
- Secure and commit sufficient funding to deliver the County Council's cycling vision.

Develop and provide a prioritised high quality, joined up, safe, well connected cycle network

Nottinghamshire has cycle networks in most of its towns and some rural areas. The existing network is, however, often fragmented and does not serve all of the destinations people would like to travel to. To deliver a cycling network that provides for existing demand and encourages cycling the Council, working in partnership with the relevant organisations, will:

- Develop and deliver strategic cycle routes in, and between, the main urban areas in the county to provide links to key destinations to help stimulate and meet cycle travel demand
- Work with economic development colleagues, destination management and tourism partners to develop and prioritise cycle networks that enhance the local visitor economy
- Prioritise available capital funding for cycling to develop the strategic urban corridors and the visitor economy cycling priorities
- Review the guidance on the types of facilities provided for cyclists.

Encourage more people to cycle more often

In addition to overcoming the physical barriers to cycling (e.g. through the provision of infrastructure), 'softer' measures, such as training and promotion, will be required to encourage more people to cycle more often (which will also maximise the investment in cycling infrastructure). The Council, working in partnership with the relevant organisations, will:

- Provide suitable and adequate infrastructure to enable people to make journeys by bicycle
- Help provide a safer environment (both real and perceived) for cyclists
- Work with local communities, businesses, schools, and health providers to promote cycling as a realistic means of transport to work, school, services etc.
- Provide safe, secure cycle parking at key destinations where feasible
- Provide cycle training to people of all ages and abilities
- Provide accurate, clear, detailed online cycle route mapping, showing all of the facilities currently provided for cyclists in the county; and produce printed cycle route maps for targeted campaigns
- Identify and develop mechanisms for increasing the number of adults who participate in training and increase the levels of adults taking up cycling to improve their health and well-being
- Provide cycle hire facilities
- Involvement in enabling community based participation rides.

Cycling safety

The County Council will look to improve cycle safety through the provision of targeted safer infrastructure as well as education and training for all road users as necessary. The Council, working in partnership with the relevant organisations, will:

- Analyse reported injury accidents involving cyclists to determine the causes of such accidents
- Develop a forward programme of evidence led targeted road safety campaigns (education, training and publicity) aimed at all necessary road users (cyclists, drivers etc.) to reduce cycling casualties
- Develop appropriate targeted engineering measures to address sites with a history of reported road casualties
- Work with the police to identify enforcement programmes if required

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- Look to provide a cycling education, training and awareness programme to people of all ages to increase cycling levels. The programme will be based on the concept of lifelong learning to ensure that it encompasses the issues faced by people of all ages at the appropriate time
- Work with central government to secure sufficient revenue funding to continue to provide free Bikeability training to children of all ages in the county
- Increasing cycling levels to help improve cycling safety through the recognised 'safety in numbers' effect.

Ensure that the needs of cyclists are considered in all new and improved highway infrastructure schemes

To ensure that provision for cyclists is provided whenever possible, the Council, working in partnership with the relevant organisations, will:

- Undertake 'cycle proofing' audits on proposed new significant highway improvements, including public realm improvements (i.e. pre and post-implementation audits)
- Work with developers to deliver adequate provision for cyclists in new employment and housing development, both on-site and off-site, with links to the urban and leisure cycle networks
- Review the County Council's Cycling Design Guide which sets out the recommended provision for cyclists.

Provide for the integration of cycling with other longer distance passenger transport modes

In order to better integrate cycling with longer distance passenger transport and provide seamless door to door journeys the County Council, working in partnership with the relevant organisations, will:

- Incorporate passenger transport interchange, such as bus and rail stations, into its strategic cycle network; and look to provide high quality routes to enable cyclists to access them
- Work with partners, such as operators and other relevant organisations, to provide high quality, safe, cycle storage facilities to enable cyclists to interchange with passenger transport for longer distance journeys that are not made wholly by bicycle.

Maintenance, repair and upgrade of existing cycle routes and other cycling facilities

Maintaining the network (including both repair and seasonal [e.g. winter] maintenance) is essential so that it remains in a useable condition. The Council will therefore:

- Include cycle routes, crossings and parking facilities in its annual inspection process
- Allocate funding for the maintenance and repair of cycle facilities as part of its annual maintenance budget
- Develop and undertake an annual programme of prioritised maintenance and repair of cycle facilities when necessary
- Develop a programme of upgrading existing facilities on the strategic cycle network to meet current design standards, where practicable.

Secure and allocate funding for cycling improvements within Nottinghamshire

In addition to making allocations from its integrated transport block capital allocation, the County Council will work to secure and allocate central government funding, local growth fund and developer contributions to increase the levels of funding available for cycling improvements within Nottinghamshire. To do this the Council, working in partnership with the relevant organisations, will:

- Work towards allocating 5% of the total highways capital spent in Nottinghamshire on cycling improvements
- As part of the devolved powers transport request, seek funding of £10 per head for cycling improvements in designated areas to be determined by the Combined Authority
- Work with D2N2 LEP partners to secure Local Growth Funds for cycling improvements in Nottinghamshire
- Work in partnership with Government to ensure funding opportunities currently only available to cities (e.g. Cycle Ambition funding) are available to counties such as Nottinghamshire

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- Work with Central Government to secure sufficient revenue funding to continue to provide free Bikeability training to children of all ages and abilities in the county
- Work with local planning authorities to secure and allocate sufficient developer contributions for cycling improvements
- Work with other partners such as Sustrans and Network Rail to secure other funding sources for cycling improvements in Nottinghamshire.

Measuring our success

In order to justify the programmes of work to increase cycling levels and the safety of cyclists, the County Council will develop a number of outcome and output indicators to monitor the delivery of the Cycling Strategy Delivery Plan and its individual elements. The definitive list of measures will be developed in partnership with government but examples of the likely indicators are included in the Delivery Plan. These indicators will be used to monitor the delivery of improvements but most importantly the success in increasing the numbers of people cycling. The indicators included within the Plan will be selected with a view to ensuring that all aspects of the strategy delivery are monitored for effectiveness. This helps ensure that all projects/actions can be justified in terms of their contribution towards achieving the cycling vision, as well as their contribution to wider national and local objectives.