

APPENDIX B

To the Welsh Ministers,

Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 Reporting Duties

In accordance with the duties under sections 7 (3) and 10 (2) of the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013, please find below Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's annual report for 2019 - 2020.

<p>The actions taken to promote active travel journeys</p>	<p>During 2019 - 2020, the Council had been involved in the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implemented an ongoing programme of works to upgrade / improve sections of footway across the County Borough including resurfacing, provision of dropped kerbs, new railings and footway widening.• Undertook the removal of barriers, at selective locations and on a case-by-case basis, following an assessment of criteria at each location.• Continued its involvement in initiatives to promote RCT as a tourist destination for walking and cycling.• Continued its involvement in the Active Journeys (in Schools) programme at Ynysboeth, Gwaunmeisgyn, Llwynypia, Brynnau and Llanhari. Arranged in conjunction with Sustrans.• Ensured the Council's website pages covering active travel were updated.• In conjunction with Halfords, continued the Council's Cycle2Work Scheme for staff as part of its Staff Benefits Programme.• Delivered National Standards cycle training to 905 pupils in 2019 - 2020 which provided young cyclists with the necessary training to be safer and more competent cyclists.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered Kerbcraft / Child Pedestrian Training to 1,175 pupils in 2019 - 2020 to give young pupils the skills and road safety awareness to be safer pedestrians. • Held regular meetings of a cycle working group which it established. Participants include representatives from various Council departments, Sustrans and Public Health Wales. The group shares knowledge and best practice.
<p>The actions taken to secure new active travel routes and related facilities and improvements</p>	<p>The following information relates to 2019 - 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A study has been commissioned to investigate the potential alignment and construction of feeder links from nearby communities to the Church Village Community Route. This study is also examining the possible extension of the CVCR across the Taff Valley to Trefforest Industrial Estate and the Upper Boat Retail Park. • Installation of a replacement bridge at Nant Cae Dudwg, which is north of Pontypridd and along the Taff Trail, to improve resilience during inclement weather. • Completion of a new active travel route through Cross Inn, Llantrisant. Links existing routes at either end and now provides a continuous active travel route from Church Village to Talbot Green. • Improvements were carried out to the main footpath through Gelligaled Park, Ystrad to ensure that it meets current active travel standards. • A study has been commissioned to examine potential improvements to a section of the Taff Trail, between the new Metro depot at Taffs Well and the boundary with Cardiff CC, to ensure that this section meets current active travel standards. It coincides with proposals being developed by Cardiff CC to upgrade the Taff Trail near Tongwynlais.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In conjunction with partner organisations, business cases for reopening the disused rail tunnels (between the Rhondda Fawr and Gwynfi Valley and between the Cynon Valley and Merthyr Tydfil) to walkers and cyclists are continuing to be progressed. • Completed or further progressed a number of 'Safe Routes in Communities' Schemes to take account of the planned reorganisation of schools and the creation of new walking and cycling routes in local areas. eg Llwynypia and Pontyclun Phase 2. • Implemented a number of highway improvements which benefit cyclists such as surface treatment works at various locations across RCT, construction of new lanes at key junctions and masonry repairs to river bridges and retaining walls. • Implemented a number of improvements to footways, footbridges, retaining walls and crossing points to improve pedestrian safety. For example, at YGG Castellau in Beddau in which a grass verge was converted into a footway to link two existing footways. Other improvements were implemented elsewhere following the completion of new residential or commercial developments. For example, along Bridge Street in Pontypridd.
<p>Costs incurred for new active travel routes and facilities and improvements of existing active travel routes and related facilities carried out in the preceding full financial year</p>	<p>Principal scheme works and costs are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £6.3M – improvement / maintenance works to the carriageway and footways in RCT such as the construction of new footway near YGG Castellau, Beddau. A total of 98 Schemes were completed. • £652,000 – construction of the new active travel route through Cross Inn, Llantrisant. • £331,000 - completion of Safe Routes in Communities Schemes in Llwynypia and Pontyclun Phase 2. • £305,000 – enhancements to Taff Trail and Cynon Trail.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £287,000 - installation of new bridge along the Taff Trail over Nant Cae Dudwg. • £274,000 – improvements to the main footpath through Gelligaled Park, Ystrad. • £248,000 – pedestrian crossing improvements along Brithweunydd Road, Trealaw; Holly Street, Rhydfelin; A4059, Mountain Ash and B4275 Penrhiwceiber. • £127,000 – improvement works and progress study along the Rhondda Fach. • £60,000 – implementation of 20mph zones in Abercynon and Llantrisant.
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In addition to the above (optional):

Indicative spending for new active travel routes and facilities and improvements of existing active travel routes and related facilities funded or part funded by third parties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport for Wales is progressing proposals and studies to improve active travel provision to rail stations in RCT and across South East Wales.
Length of new routes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking - Cycling - Shared Use 	Walking (new footways) 0.02km Cycling (on road lanes) 0km Shared Use 1.1km
Length of improved routes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking - Cycling - Shared Use 	Walking (improved footways) approx. 19km Cycling (on road lanes) 0km Shared Use 1.7km

New and improved active travel facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 new cycle storage facilities were provided in the Glamorgan Vale Retail Park, Talbot Green.• New and updated directional signage installed at various locations throughout RCT.
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Additional information (optional)

The Council has established a Climate Change Cabinet Steering Group whose remit is to ensure that the Council's activities can meet the decarbonisation targets that have been set.

I confirm that this report will be published online and made available in hard copy on request, in accordance with the statutory Delivery Guidance.

Chief Executive


