



Have your say

Public Consultation from:
14 July to 6 August 2021

For more details and links to the
questionnaire please visit:
**[cumbria.gov.uk/
cyclingandwalking](https://cumbria.gov.uk/cyclingandwalking)**

Whitehaven Cycling and Walking Consultation





31% of people in the Whitehaven area travel less than 5km to work, compared to the national average of 35%.

15% of people in the Whitehaven area travel less than 2km to work, compared to the national average of 17%.

2% of people in the Whitehaven area cycle to work, compared to the national average of 3%.

7% of people in the Whitehaven area walk to work, compared to the national average of 11%.

83% of the internal trips in the Whitehaven area are made by car.

19% of children in the Copeland District walk to school compared to the County average of 35%.

<1% of children in the Copeland District cycle to school compared to the County average of 2%.

Summary

We are holding a consultation on proposals to improve the cycling and walking network in Whitehaven and the surrounding area, to promote more active travel and to make everyone feel confident they can walk or cycle.

The consultation focusses on shorter urban journeys in Whitehaven, but we also welcome feedback on journeys to and from surrounding communities.

Details of the proposed routes are included in this consultation document. We want you to provide feedback on these proposals so we can develop the best possible Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Whitehaven.

Please take the time to get involved, read this consultation document and provide your feedback.

Background

Cumbria County Council and Copeland Borough Council are working together to deliver the shared ambition to increase cycling and walking in the Whitehaven area in line with the Government's 'Gear Change: A Bold Vision for Cycling and Walking' (July 2020) document. The Gear Change sets out a vision for travel revolution in England's streets, towns and communities:

“Because the potential benefits are huge: Increasing cycling and walking can help tackle some of the most challenging issues we face as a society - improving air quality, combatting climate change, improving health and wellbeing, addressing inequalities and tackling congestion on our roads. Bold action will help to create places we want to live and work - with better connected, healthier and more sustainable communities. It will help deliver clean growth, by supporting local businesses, as well as helping ensure prosperity can spread across the country and level up our nation”.

The steep valley sides of Whitehaven can make it a challenge to plan active travel routes, but there is still excellent potential for increased numbers of cycling trips between the places that you want to travel from and to. The implementation of good quality cycling and walking infrastructure is key to getting more people to walk and cycle. A large proportion of the residential population within Whitehaven also live and work in the area, with 31% of people in the Whitehaven area travelling less than 5km to work.

Many of us recognise the challenges of climate change and the urgent need to act. We know that being active is good for us and as more of us have been walking and cycling throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, we would like to encourage this to continue.

As part of this partnership working we are developing a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for Whitehaven. This will identify a cycling and walking network and the improvements identified will make it easier for everyone, regardless of age or ability to feel confident that they can walk or cycle.

The improvements identified in the LCWIP will be used to help to secure funding. Delivery of the improvements is subject to funding being secured.



Development and delivery of the Plan

The Whitehaven LCWIP aims to support green growth through improving connectivity within the town for everyday short journeys. Suggested cycling routes have been identified alongside the existing cycling routes and a draft priority cycling network is presented as part of this consultation.

The Whitehaven LCWIP proposes the following:

- To increase the numbers of cycling trips between Whitehaven town centre and areas to the south and south-east which are relatively flat.
- The Coast to Coast cycleway (C2C - National Cycle Network 72) already provides north to south connectivity in Whitehaven. Upgrading infrastructure along this cycleway to support increased usage.
- Improved west to east cycling links across Whitehaven, linking into the National Cycleway.
- Investigate an off-road cycle lane from the Harbour, heading south along Swingpump Lane and connecting back onto the National Cycleway on Preston Street.
- Upgrading of pedestrian routes between the train stations and the town centre which do not have the necessary infrastructure (e.g. dropped kerbs and tactile paving) to be accessible for all people.
- Improved cycle parking in the central shopping and commercial area of Whitehaven.

Having a clear plan for cycling and walking in Whitehaven will provide the best chance of securing funding for future phases.



Cycling



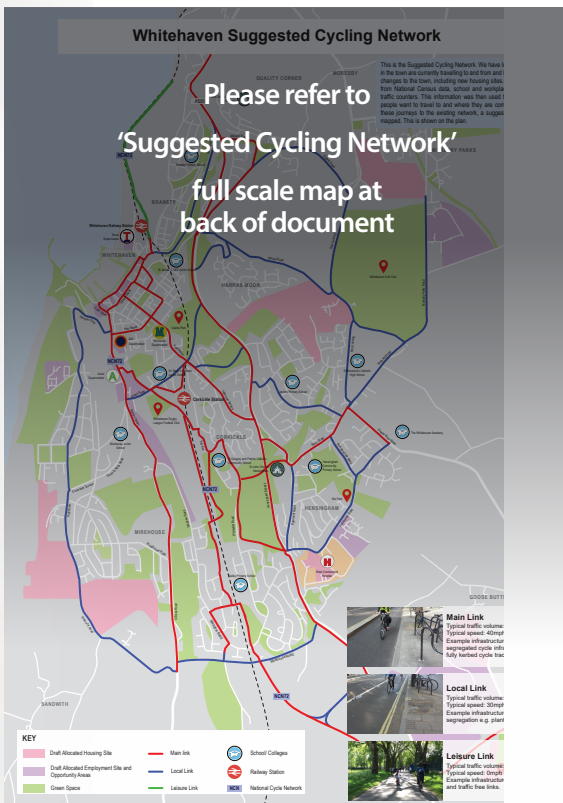
Existing Cycling Network

As part of developing the Plan for cycling in Whitehaven the existing network has been considered.

Although there is already some existing network provision for cycling, this may not meet the standards set out in the new government guidance.

We have also looked at where people want to travel from and to. This includes travel from residential areas to key destinations such as employment centres, rail and bus stations, schools, key services, supermarkets, green spaces and employment sites.

This plan shows key destinations and the existing cycle network. From this we can see gaps and where improvements could be made.

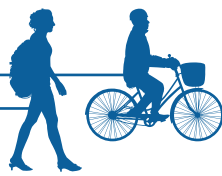


Suggested Cycling Network

We have looked at where people in the town are currently travelling to and from and have considered future changes to the town, including new housing sites.

Information has come from National Census data, school and workplace travel surveys and traffic counters. This information was then used to identify where most people want to travel to and where they are coming from.

By applying these journeys to the existing network, a suggested network has been mapped. This is shown on the plan.



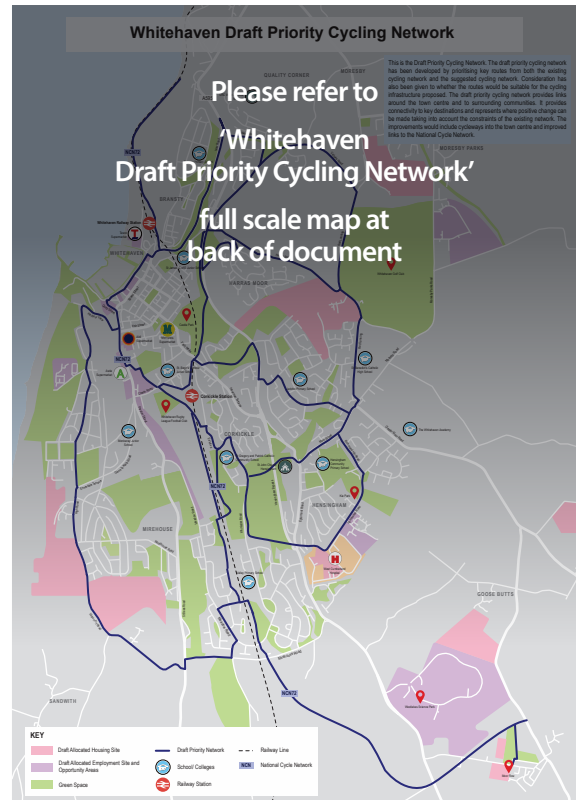
Draft Priority Cycling Network

We have held workshops with partners and stakeholders to help identify a draft priority cycling network.

The draft priority cycling network has been developed by prioritising key routes from both the existing cycling network and the suggested cycling network. Consideration has also been given to whether the routes would be suitable for the cycling infrastructure proposed.

The draft priority cycling network provides links around the town centre and to surrounding communities. It provides connectivity to key destinations and represents where positive change can be made taking into account the constraints of the existing network.

The improvements would include cycleways into the town centre and improved links to the National Cycle Network.



Cycling Improvements

The new cycling improvements will be following the updated guidance from the Department for Transport on Cycle Infrastructure Design. This guidance emphasises the requirement of inclusive cycling so that people of all ages and abilities are considered. The new standards of design for cycling will be much higher than in the past and look to include cycle provision that is physically protected from traffic and separation of pedestrians from cyclists on main routes.

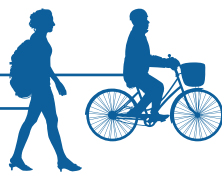
There are five fundamental design principles for all cycle infrastructure that will ensure it is accessible to all. When people are travelling by cycle, they need networks and routes that are:

- **Coherent** - part of a wider strategic network that provide access to key destinations;
- **Direct** - reach their destination as directly as possible;
- **Safe** - of a high quality and designed to standards that meet safety requirements;
- **Comfortable** - accessible and attractive for all abilities;
- **Attractive** - contribute to good urban design by integrating with and complementing their surroundings.

Designs following these guidelines should provide infrastructure that is accessible to all and should help ensure that designs deliver a network that is safe and encourages more people to cycle.

Funding could come from a range of sources including the Department for Transport funding for Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans It is key that any funding bid to Government demonstrates local support.





Walking

Walking forms part of most daily journeys in Whitehaven. In developing the Whitehaven LCWIP, existing local walking routes and the improvements that could be made to encourage walking will be considered.

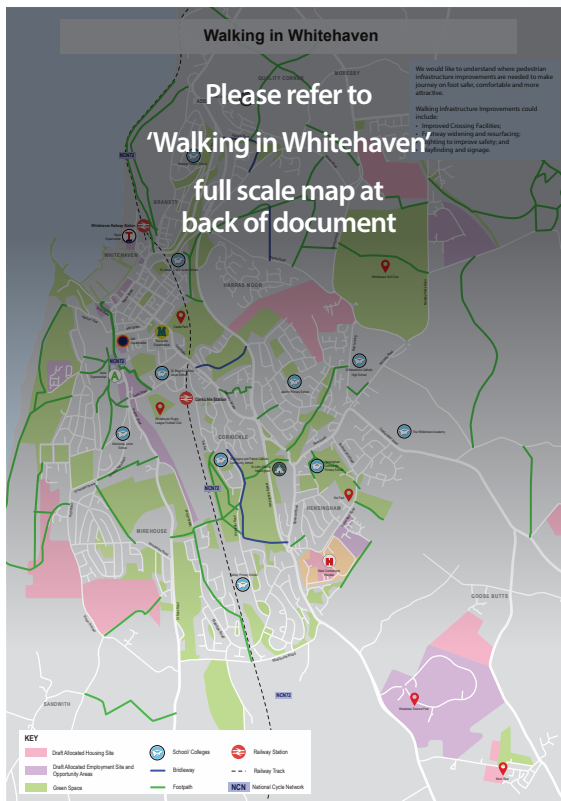
The extent to which people enjoy walking can vary significantly based on their ability, confidence and circumstances, for example a missing dropped kerb can become a serious barrier for those with a pushchair or those with mobility difficulties; likewise uncontrolled crossings or a lack of tactile paving can prove a major barrier for the visually impaired.

A plan has been produced to help gauge opinion on the existing walking routes and any required improvements that people think are needed.

The plan features residential areas, employment sites, rail stations, bus stops, supermarkets, local community hubs, local parks and green spaces as well as key features such as controlled and uncontrolled crossing points.

We would like to understand what improvements are needed to encourage more walking; features such as road crossings, pavements, dropped kerbs and places to rest, as well as improvements to the environment of the route.

The response to this consultation will help us to understand the localised issues to walking in Whitehaven and where you would like to see improvements made.







Have your Say

We want your feedback on the proposals for cycling and walking in Whitehaven. Please let us know:

- Does the cycling network connect the places you want to go to?
- Where would you like to see improvements to walking routes?
- What would encourage you to cycle and walk more?

If possible please respond at: **cumbria.gov.uk/cyclingandwalking**

If you do not have internet access, please complete the following questionnaire and return FREEPOST CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL by 6th August 2021.

Paper copies of this consultation document are available, please see our webpage for further details.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes. These are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI), the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Under the FOI, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals with our confidentiality obligations among other things.

Next Steps

Feedback from the consultation will be shared on Cumbria County Council's Cycling and Walking web pages and used to inform the networks we take forward as part of developing the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Whitehaven.



Questionnaire

Whitehaven Cycling and Walking Consultation





The suggested and draft priority cycling and walking plans demonstrate how the networks can connect people with the places they travel to on everyday journeys including employment, schools or leisure.

We would like to know if our plans have connected the right places and, if they have not, give you the opportunity to tell us and share your ideas with us. We would like to hear about your own cycling and walking trips and tell us about the barriers that you face that may prevent you from cycling or walking, and how you would change the places you live to remove these barriers. Your responses will help us to identify and develop the cycling and walking schemes that will be included in the LCWIP.

Before completing this questionnaire, please read the consultation document and look at the cycling and walking network plans. These plans will help to inform your response. Please answer as many questions as you are able. General comments can be provided at the end of the questionnaire.

About you

1 Which of the following best describes the reason for your interest in this consultation? (please tick all boxes applicable)

- I live here I work here I study here I live nearby
 I own a business here I do my shopping here I'm here for leisure
 I/my children go to school here I am a visitor here
 Other

2 What is Your Postcode?



3 a) Do you currently make journeys by cycling and if so how often?

- Yes every day Yes every week Yes occasionally No

b) Do you currently make journeys by walking and if so how often?

- Yes every day Yes every week Yes occasionally No

c) For what purpose are the journeys you make by cycling and walking?

(Please describe the purpose and tick the way you travel)

Purpose	Cycling	Walking

Your local cycling and walking network



4 Do the existing cycling routes connect you with the places you wish to go?
 Yes Partially No



5 a) Do the routes shown in the draft priority cycling network plan, connect you with the places that you wish to cycle?
 Yes Partially No

b) If you have answered 'Partially' or 'No' to the above question, please provide further feedback.

Location	Comment



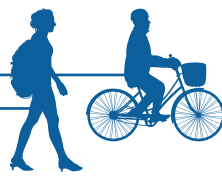
6 a) Do the existing walking routes connect you with the places you wish to go?
 Yes Partially No

b) If you answered 'Partially' or 'No', please provide further feedback on where and what improvements would you like to see.

Location	Improvement



7 Would you like to see more money spent on cycling and walking in Whitehaven?
 Yes No Don't know



Barriers to cycling and walking



8 Do any of the following make it difficult for you to cycle? (Please select your top 3)

- Quality of routes
- Busy roads
- Feeling unsafe
- Difficult junctions to cross
- Lack of cycle parking
- Quality of street scape and public space
- Poor air quality
- Lack of street lighting
- Not enough information on possible routes / lack of wayfinding
- No access to a bike
- Confidence / own mobility / fitness
- Indirect Routes
- Unsuitable terrain / geography
- No access to an adapted bike
- Nowhere to store a bike
- Other, please state



9 Do you experience any barriers which prevent you from walking? (Please select your top 3)

- Quality of route
- Busy roads
- Feeling unsafe
- Difficult junctions to cross
- Quality of street scape and public space
- Poor air quality
- Lack of street lighting
- Confidence / own mobility / fitness
- Indirect Routes
- Unsuitable terrain / geography
- Not enough information on possible routes / lack of wayfinding
- Other, please state

Changing to cycling or walking



10 a) Do you make any journeys by car to places within walking or cycling distance?

- Yes Partially No

b) If yes, for what purpose do you make journeys by car to places that are within cycling or walking distance?

- To or from work
- To or from school, college or adult education
- To or from the shops
- To transport children or other people
- To or from a leisure/sports activity
- For leisure
- Other - please specify



11 What would encourage you to cycle more?

(Please select your top 3)

- Cycle routes separated from other modes of travel
- Traffic free neighbourhoods - including road closures
- Greater priority for cyclists at junctions and crossings
- Direct cycle routes
- Better wayfinding / signage
- Cycle training, information and initiatives
- More secure and convenient cycle parking facilities
- The cycling routes proposed in this consultation document
- Lower speed limits
- Less traffic on the roads
- Higher costs of motoring
- Higher public transport fares / less public transport availability
- Better driver attitudes towards cyclists
- Nothing would encourage me to cycle more
- Better air quality
- Access to a bike
- Access to an adapted bike
- Storage for a bike

Other, please state



12 What would encourage you to walk more?

(Please select your top 3)

- Better maintained pavements / footways
- More road crossings
- More CCTV cameras
- Less traffic on the roads
- Lower speed limits
- Having more time available
- Higher costs of motoring
- Higher public transport fares
- Better air quality
- More direct walking routes
- Nothing would encourage me to walk more

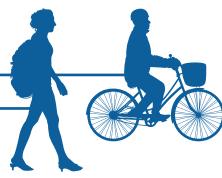
Other - please specify



13 Would improvements to cycling and walking routes encourage you to walk and/or cycle more often?

(Please select all that apply)

- Yes, I think I would cycle more often
- Yes, I think I would start cycling
- Yes, I think I would walk more often
- Yes, I think I would start walking
- No



Delivery of the Whitehaven LCWIP

We are trying to connect the places where people wish to get to and sometimes there are different ways of doing this. This could be via more direct routes provided on or by the local road network or quieter routes away from the local highway network, through residential areas and parks, past local amenities and education facilities. These routes will likely be less direct.

14 Are there any routes that you would like to see developed as quieter alternatives to the draft priority network? If so please tell us what they are?

15 Do you have any other comments on improving cycling and walking in Whitehaven?

Consultation feedback

Did we provide enough information for you to properly respond?

Yes Partially No

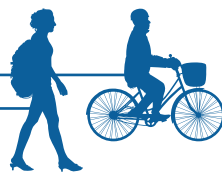
Did the questionnaire allow you to express your opinions fully?

Yes Partially No

Thank you for engaging in the consultation

We really value your feedback, please use this space to tell us more about cycling and walking in Whitehaven.





If you require this document in another format (eg CD, audio cassette, Braille or large type) or in another language, please telephone 0300 303 2992.

আপনি যদি এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় পেতে চান তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে 0300 303 2992 নম্বরে টেলিফোন করুন।

如果您希望通过母语了解此信息, 0300 303 2992
请致电

Jeigu norétuméte gauti šią informaciją savo kalba,
skambinkite telefonu 0300 303 2992

W celu uzyskania informacji w Państwa języku proszę
zatelefonować pod numer 0300 303 2992

Se quiser aceder a esta informação na sua língua,
telefone para o 0300 303 2992

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