



CYCLING ACTION PROGRESS MEETING

30TH SEPTEMBER 2011

Present: Chris Vinestock (CCS – Transportation, Head of Service)
Ben George (CCS – Transport Strategy)
Rob Wachowski (CCS – Walking & Cycling Officer)
Nick Guy (Wheelrights)
David Naylor (Wheelrights)
Fraser Arnot (Sustrans)

1.1 The Cycle Action Progress (CAP) Group is intended to provide a forum for representatives of City and County of Swansea (CCS), Wheelrights and Sustrans to provide an overview and update of cycling initiatives and schemes in Swansea.

2. Actions from the Last Meeting

2.1 A number of actions had been assigned following the last meeting. These are summarised along with associated progress below, although some actions are referenced in the items below as appropriate.

2.2 It was asked that Cycle Forum Minutes to be prepared more promptly and this had certainly been achieved following the Cycle Forum held on 27th July 2011.

2.3 It had been agreed that a publicly available cycle audit document would be developed in order to ensure that these particular needs were accounted for within all schemes. BG provided an update that this had been incorporated within a wider “process-mapping” exercise which sought to encourage greater transparency within the design process. CV was keen to see this process formally adopted and BG will therefore provide an update to the next meeting. **BG**

2.4 A number of cycle enhancements for the Tawe Bridges scheme were considered in the CAP meeting held in June 2011. These have been considered by the Improvements Group and will be incorporated as budget allows. The Tawe Bridges Project Team is expected to take a view on which works can be accommodated during October 2011. BG will provide a further report to the next meeting. **BG**

2.5 It was agreed that a strategic plan would be prepared to fully demonstrate the measures being provided as part of the Bridges Reconfiguration scheme which directly benefited cyclists. This plan was finalised for circulation with the notes of the meeting.

2.6 BG has written to Cllr Rob Speht to advise him of the intention to reduce the frequency of Cycle Forum in order to reflect falling attendance and its functions being replicated elsewhere. No response has yet been received and BG will therefore contact Democratic Services. It was also agreed that Technical Sub Groups of the Cycle Forum would be held on an ad-hoc basis and could be called by members of Sustrans, Wheelrights or CCS. **BG**

2.7 DN wrote to Knight Frank following the last meeting to request access for pedestrians and cyclists across Stafford Common. No response from the agent has been received and CCS will therefore write to seek support and a response. Further support may also **BG**

be sought from the Ramblers Association, Gower Society and other local interested parties.

- 2.8 The Action for RW to, “*contact Council departments in March 2012 to ensure a collective approach to Bike Week by the various departments was achieved*”, will be carried forward.

3. Bridges Reconfiguration

- 3.1 The reconfiguration of the Tawe Bridges continues to progress well. BG reported that it was presently being proposed that the shared use path surface be raised, where NCN 43 passes underneath the northern Bridges, in order to address a localised flooding issue associated with high tide. RW has reviewed the flooding recently and will report his findings to Alun Thomas (Construction Manager). **RW**

- 3.2 It was agreed that the additional cycle measures requested at the last CAP would be raised by CV at the Waterfront City Steering Group to seek its implementation. **CV**

- 3.3 DN raised concern that there was a lack of cycle signage, particularly with regards to NCN 43. It was agreed that FA would arrange a site visit with DN, NG and RW to propose signage improvements. **FA**

4. Boulevard

- 4.1 A further extension of the shared use path from the bridges to Wind Street on the northern side of Quay Parade was requested at the last CAP. BG has fed this into the design process and is therefore being given due consideration.

- 4.2 BG agreed to consult further with Wheelrights and Sustrans on the emerging Boulevard plans. It is expected this will be sometime during October to November 2011. It was also made clear that all emerging designs would be considering the consultation which has already taken place. **BG**

- 4.3 BG informed the group that the Waterfront Connections brief had been issued for tender. This project will deliver an enhanced route for cyclists between the LC and west of Civic Centre West Car Park. The design is expected to be complete by March 2012.

5. North Gower Trail

- 5.1 Following the June CAP BG has met with the major local landowner twice. Discussions have been fruitful although design revisions are required. The process is clearly going to be an iterative one in order to find a solution which is acceptable to all parties. Once BG has secured the approval of the Evans' family a second landowner will also need to be in agreement prior to negotiations with land agents. BG will bring a further update to the next CAP. **BG**

6. Action Plan Items

- 6.1 RW presented a draft Action Plan to the CAP. The Action Plan has been formed by replicating the structures which have been seen to be used commonly elsewhere in the UK. It also conforms to the Welsh Government Walking and Cycling Action Plan and the SWWITCH Regional Transport Plan.

- 6.2 A number of items agreed at the last CAP are yet to be included in the Cycle Action Plan. RW will include these and DN, NG and FA will provide input in order to prioritise the works within each category. These included:

- Cycle Links (to the NCN routes)
- Advanced Stop Lines
- Quiet Road Links
- Signing Audit

RW
DN
NG
FA

- 6.3 CV committed to including available cycle budgets within the Action Plan in order to promote transparency. This spend will also be programmed as available. **RW**
- 6.4 DN also requested that implementation of 20mph home zones across Swansea's residential areas be included as part of the action plan. Concern was raised that this would be better dealt with by other means such as through Road Safety Officers; the initiative will however be referenced in the Action Plan. **RW**
- 6.5 It was asked whether the draft Action Plan could be shared with Wheelrights members, but having discussed this it was agreed that this was not appropriate at present because a great deal of work on the Action Plan was still needed. The final Action Plan will certainly be made available to interested parties.
- 6.6 A brief discussion was had with regards to the title of the Cycle Action Plan and whether it should also reference walking. Following a brief discussion it was determined that the main intention was to deliver cycle infrastructure and therefore the plan would be titled "Cycle Action Plan".
- 7. Seminar**
- 7.1 Alasdair Massey will be speaking to CCS Officers on 10th October 2011 with regards to design of cycle infrastructure as part of capital schemes. The seminar will be held in the Public Chamber in Penllergaer Civic Centre between 1030 and 1300hrs.
- 7.2 FA, NG, DN and Colin Fielder will also be in attendance.
- 8. AOB**
- 8.1 Wheelrights are currently working to encourage an uptake in the "1 in 10 Campaign" which seeks to promote the use of sustainable modes of travel to and from work. NG reported that partnership had been secured with HSBC, DVLA and Liberty Stadium to promote the initiative to their staff. The SNITI Forum was commended for their work in enabling this. NG is also seeking Corporate sign-up by CCS. RW agreed to arrange for Wheelrights to attend the next Corporate Health Group, and depending on the outcome from this, CV agreed to raise this with the Directors with a view to launching the initiative to Council staff during Bike Week 2012. **RW**
CV
- 8.2 NG asked whether the CCS would support using the Swansea Leader newspaper to promote the Gower Cycle Festival in 2012. CV agreed to support the Gower Cycle Festival 2012.
- 8.3 It was agreed that the next meeting would be held in early December 2011. CV will make the necessary arrangements. **CV**