



**Overview and Scrutiny Committee
15 November 2022
Active travel in West Devon**

Overview

- Corporate Strategy policy TE1:3 Promote active travel (including horse riding) across WD
- 500k of Shared Prosperity Fund allocated to address this policy area, of which 120k allocated to West Devon Transport Hub. SPF should be confirmed by end of Oct, but expected delay with change to Prime Minister.
- Active travel projects to be funded through SPF over the next 3 years include:
 - Active travel officer
 - Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) –more detail below
 - Quiet lanes trials – to be developed with DCC and Sustrans
 - Rural e bike trials
 - Capital improvement fund
 - Behaviour change marketing and comms strategy
 - DM officer training
- A further circa 300k of funding for capital active travel projects to be allocated from Rural England Prosperity Fund – investment plan to be submitted to Gov end of Nov
- DCC are the Highway Authority and to date have controlled budget that comes out of central Gov, and now Active Travel England
- The majority of DCC funding for active travel has historically gone to Exeter, Newton Abbot and Barnstable as the main towns in the county, and on development of its multi-use trails.
- DCC have completed a consultation exercise on Roborough to Clearbook multi-use trail, but this has been criticised for not exploring a direct route to Yelverton. DCC do not currently have any funding allocated to deliver this scheme.

LCWIP

- Main piece of work proposed to be funded through SPF is a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) that will focus on the main towns and larger villages
- LCWIP will determine strategic cycling and walking routes in and around the key settlements, identify barriers on these routes and a prioritised programme of improvements that are needed. It will involve extensive consultation with communities in and around these settlements.
- The settlements proposed to be included in the LCWIP are: Okehampton, Tavistock, Bere Alston, Hatherleigh, Lifton, Chagford, Horrabridge, Princetown and Yelverton.
- The LCWIP will provide evidence for securing further funding from new development (from S106) and other sources, and can reinforce active travel within the Joint Local Plan review.
- DCC are undertaking a county wide LCWIP, but the indications are that will be focus on extending the leisure trails, rather than commuter routes. They have said it will also include some key towns no further details for the selection process of these.
- Next steps to release tender to secure consultants to delivery LCWIP (anticipated 6 – 12 month project)

Gemma Bristow – Community Digital Specialist

