

ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

(Committee Rooms A/B - Neath Civic Centre)

Members Present:

18 January 2016

Chairperson: Councillor I.D.Williams

Councillors: D.W.Davies, Mrs.R.Davies, S.K.Hunt,
I.B.James, E.E.Jones, C.Morgan, S.Rahaman
and Mrs.A.Wingrave

Officers In Attendance C.Morris, N.Evans, Mrs.T.Davies and C.Morris

Cabinet Invitees: Councillors E. V Latham and A.J.Taylor

1. **PRE SCRUTINY**

The Committee scrutinised the following matters:

Cabinet Board Proposals:

i. **Active Travel (Wales) Act**

Members considered the report on the Active Travel (Wales) Act and in particular the responses and recommendations to the representations received following consultations on the Existing Route Map (ERM); the need for the Council to amend the ERM for Neath Port Talbot and to authorise the submission of the ERM to the Welsh Government for approval.

Officers informed Members of a typographic error on page 3 of the report and were advised that their draft ERM included 52 pedestrian routes and not 57. Members were further informed that there had been limited changes following the consultation and the consultation responses contained within Appendix one would be submitted to the Welsh Government as supporting documentation.

It was **suggested that the reference to Craig-Llan Gwyn School in the ERM schedule was an error** as Members had not heard of this school

so were not aware of the location. It was agreed that this information would be circulated outside of the meeting **and the schedule amended as appropriate.**

Members stated that they welcomed the report but were concerned in relation to the financial impact associated with it. Members noted that within Appendix Two there was mention on a number of aspects that works would need to be undertaken. It was confirmed that any **future** works **could** be paid for out of the **Local Transport Fund** that each authority gets and was not expected to come from the Council's current or future budgets. It was also confirmed that any future works could be paid for from Section 106 agreement contributions.

Members were further advised that this is the first part of the process and has identified the routes that are currently in place and deemed suitable for "Active Travel Routes".

Members queried where certain issues were along the routes in relation to NPT-CWM-POO2; NPT-GLYN-POO3 and NPT-RES-POO2 and Members were advised that due to the length of the routes the issues contained within the report may be at different points along that route. The Officers confirmed he would contact the relevant Members with the appropriate information.

Following scrutiny the Committee were supportive of the proposals to be considered by the Cabinet Board.

CHAIRPERSON