

FOR A HAPPIER, HEALTHIER SCOTLAND

# **Consultation Response**

## West Dunbartonshire Council Active Travel Strategy 27/3/24

If you have any questions about this response, please contact our policy team: policy@pathsforall.org.uk

#### Who We Are

Paths for All is Scotland's walking charity. Established in 1996, we work in partnership with 30 national organisations with a shared vision of a healthier, happier, greener Scotland, where everyone can be active every day. Walking is the easiest and most accessible way to be active, and our work to change the way people move, travel, and enjoy life in Scotland is focused on the following three themes:

- Walking is for everyone.
- Walking is for everywhere.
- Walking is for every day.

Our <u>strategy</u> sets out our vision for tackling physical inactivity, poor mental health, increased health and transport inequalities and the climate emergency.

### **Our Response**

We are a national NGO so do not have detailed local knowledge, but our main areas of relevant interest are in walking, wheeling, cycling, and scooting.

We attended the meeting on 20/2/24 to discuss the Active Travel Strategy currently being undertaken for West Dunbartonshire Council.

We agree that active travel will play a key role in our transport future, particularly with respect to reducing transport emissions, enhancing social inclusion, and promoting the health and wellbeing of our communities.

We agree that the Active Travel Strategy should be evidence-led. You may be interested in our recently published 2023 National Survey of Attitudes to Walking and Wheeling in Scotland. Read the <u>full survey report</u> or take a look at our <u>summary</u> <u>infographic.</u>

Paths for All's vision is for walking, wheeling, and cycling to be the natural choice for short journeys, creating a healthier, socially inclusive, economically vibrant, environmentally friendly Scotland.

Active Travel is about improving quality of life and quality of place. There is a need to achieve a significant shift to walking, wheeling, and cycling as the most sustainable forms of transport.

The proposals for active travel are very much in tune with this.

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We would be very happy to engage further in the development of Active travel in West Dunbartonshire and to discuss any of the points we have raised.

We have no objection to our comments being made publicly available.



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