Sustainable Travel group News April 2026

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan update

Consultation on the draft BoA LCWIP closed 23 March. Public feedback is still visible at https://bradfordonavonlcwip.commonplace.is/.

There were over 100 responses on walking and cycling. Some people found the interactive map response system hard to use. We also wrote to Wiltshire Council's Transport Planning team with a longer response. Key points:

- The geographical scope should include links from our small town to the large villages very nearby, whose residents and councillors were unhappy that only the town is covered.
- The selected "priority routes" should include the Kennet and Avon Canal Towpath, an important route through town and beyond, which is a public footpath, National Cycle Route and key link with Trowbridge, Avoncliff and onward to Bath.
- The town centre roads included in the BoA traffic management options study should also be "priority routes": Silver Street, Market Street, Masons Lane and the "Loop" via New Road and Springfield.
- Walking should be shown separate from cycling in the plan, as some routes and priorities only apply to one or the other.

WC Sustainable Travel Forum
Wiltshire Council hosted its inaugural Forum on 19 March 2026 at County Hall, with Council speakers and attendees from active travel, public transport and other stakeholder representatives. Topics included LTP4, public and kerbside EV charging, Active Travel projects, Bus Service improvement plans and School Streets pilot project. There were brief slots for questions, and breakouts at the end. The Forums are to be twice a year.

Town-wide 20mph and other speed limits
Requested by the Town Council, this awaits Wiltshire Council's new Speed Limit policy, just published. Town and parish councils could be more likely to get the speed limits they ask for, but will pay for the signage and, except for 20mph limits, for the speed assessments (funding shared with the LHFIG) and for the Traffic Regulation Order process. In the 20mph case, town or parish councils will only pay for the signs and road markings.

Winsley highway land strip lost
Wiltshire Council puts odd parcels of land up for sale. One was a strip next to Bradford Road, Winsley, where the road and its one pavement are extra-narrow. We tried to stop the sale, as it could have been used for a much wider walkway. Regrettably, the sale went through. We hope to make a positive out of this by raising Cabinet member and officer awareness of the need to consider local improvements for active travel.

Apetito factory planning problems
The Apetito/Wiltshire Farm Foods project for a large new factory off Brick Lane, Trowbridge (across from the Airsprung mattress factory) has gained its planning permission. The provision for active travel is disappointing: there is no link to the rail-side greenway, and no cycling provision along Brick Lane between Canal Road and the Canal towpath - an improvement expected by Trowbridge Town Council. We are setting about to engage constructively with Apetito, which has an excellent Net Zero track record, and councillors, to try and get outcomes better matching Active Travel England's targets and local aspirations.

Wessex Greenways Association
This new Community Interest Company did not win its bid to National Lottery Community Fund's Climate Action Fund Round 5 – Our Shared Future. The group has decided to go ahead with its ambition to create and improve a network of greenways across and beyond Wiltshire.

Bath canal path upgrade

B&NES Council is working with the Canal & Rivers Trust to give a very 'puddled' and pot-holed city section of towpath a smooth sealed surface. We have contacted them to ask about the specs and the costs , to look at what may be possible in Bradford.