

Active Travel Committee 3 July 2025: Project and Funding Update

Cross Town Walking Route

Road Safety Audit Stage 3 in progress and will determine any changes needed on completed works. Works Manager has come back to confirm that funding isn't available the project for work at Solomon's Lane and we need to look towards future tranches of KCC funding. He has confirmed his view that an intervention at this point would be best limited to signage and road markings because of safety and parking concerns. Some small adjustments to the railings at the Rec to allow pedestrians to use a desire line are likely to be funded from the project.

KCC Active Travel Funding 2025/26

KCC have written to Michelle Anderson, SBC's Active Travel Officer informing the Borough that it has been awarded £40k revenue funding to do development work on the Sheppey Light Railway walking and cycling route and to support the Cycle ReCycle project. Apparently, decisions on capital funding, which we were most interested in, are delayed until November and will need to be signed off by Active Travel England. Michelle is going back to KCC to gain more clarification on the position. This uncertainty in terms of funding is not particularly helpful in terms of planning and consideration will need to be given to the timing of our public exhibition on the North South Route, scheduled for mid-October, whether the AT EMR should continue to be held as a potential matching contribution and whether any of it should be applied to the development work we had proposed in our application for development funding, alongside expenditure on 20mph compliance .

Highways Improvement Plan meeting outcomes

KCC have confirmed that they are going ahead with putting in 20mph road roundels in Athelstan Road. They are still designing planned roundels for Roman and Saxon Road and there hasn't been further feedback on reducing speeds in Ospringe Street and Water Lane.

Fresh Requests for Highways Interventions

Members of the public have raised concerns about the need for improvements to tackle speeding and heavy vehicles West Street, speeding in St Nicholas Road putting pedestrians at risk, problems in crossing West St/Curtis Way particularly in the morning rush hour and the absence of pedestrian controls for the traffic lights at the junction of Lakeside Avenue and Oare Road.