**PUBLIC CONSULTATION: Active Travel - Ebbw Vale Sustainable Link**

Blaenau Gwent CBC’s Active Travel Team would like to invite you to take part in our public consultation event on **Wednesday 22nd March 2023, 10.00am – 1.00pm at the General Offices, Ebbw Vale, NP23 6DN.**

Active Travel is walking or cycling for short, purposeful journeys, such as walking to the local post office to post a parcel, cycling to the train station for your commute to work and walking your child/grandchild to school or nursery.

Welsh Government introduced the Active Travel (Wales) Act in 2013 with the aim of increasing peoples’ daily physical activity, boosting mental wellbeing and reducing the reliance on cars (and carbon emissions). Local Authorities have a responsibility to encourage walking and cycling as a preferred travel mode for purposeful journeys within short distances.

We currently have no Active Travel compliant routes between Ebbw Vale Railway Station and Ebbw Vale Town Centre; the cableway has limited opening hours and the other routes are too steep or indirect.

Blaenau Gwent has commissioned WSP to undertake a study into the existing routes available for walking and cycling and provide an options appraisal of ways active travel could be improved within the area. A preferred option has been identified and we would now like to consult with the public on this to see their views.

The consultation will provide an opportunity for you to see our designs and give you the opportunity to make suggestions and raise any questions you have on our plans for the new Active Travel route in Ebbw Vale.

We will also be running an online survey as part of our consultation where you will be able to give your views if you are unable to attend the event. The survey will be available shortly on our Active Travel webpage <https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/resident/health-wellbeing-social-care/active-travel-blaenau-gwent/>

