

Project Overview

Project Title	Active Trave Fund Tranche 4 and Capability Fund
Main Funding Programme	Active Travel England's Active Travel Fund and Active Travel England's Capability Fund
Current Forecast Project cost	Active Travel Fund Tranche 4 – £17,430,668 Capability Fund - £2,530,967
Funding Applied for from the Combined Authority now	Active Travel Fund Tranche 4 – £17,430,668 Capability Fund - £2,530,967
Other public sector funding amounts and sources	£0
Private sector funding amounts and sources	£0

Scheme Description

The Active Travel Fund tranche 4 (ATF4) programme builds on the Emergency Active Travel Fund (EATF), and Active Travel Fund tranches 2 and 3 to deliver further improved and safe walking, wheeling, and cycling infrastructure.

The Capability Fund programme will undertake behaviour change interventions across West Yorkshire at both a district and region-led level to encourage and enable cycling, wheeling and walking and will also assist in developing a pipeline of schemes for future active travel funded works by carrying out appropriate feasibility studies.

Business Case Summary

Strategic Case

The Active Travel Fund tranche 4 (AT4) programme for 2023/24 has been developed in partnership with West Yorkshire partner councils. Tranche 4 builds on the Emergency Active Travel Fund which installed temporary measures in response to the covid pandemic in 2020, and subsequent tranches 2 and 3 for more permanent infrastructure, to deliver further improved walking and cycling infrastructure to better support safe walking and cycling.

Delivering the ATF4 programme will enable even more walking and cycling trips to be gained through modal shift from the car and from new journeys. This will further help to achieve a range of targets at a local, regional, and national level, including those set out within the Combined Authority's Connectivity Infrastructure Plan, the Department for Transport's (DfT) Gear Change Policy (2020), the West Yorkshire Mayor's tackle climate emergency pledge, and Investment Priority 4: 'Tackling climate emergency and environmental sustainability' and Investment Priority 5: 'Future Transport' of the West Yorkshire Investment Strategy (2021-24).

The Capability Fund will assist in developing a pipeline of schemes for future Active Travel tranches by carrying out appropriate feasibility studies and evidence planning, and by undertaking behaviour change interventions across West Yorkshire at both a district and region-led level to encourage and enable wider use of active travel modes.

Economic Case

For the Active Travel Tranche 4 programme (AT4), each district sent to the West Yorkshire Active Travel Lead a list of potential schemes which were in their pipeline either strategically or by local demand. As a result of this, a Longlist of 47 schemes was produced. 16 of these schemes were successfully awarded funding.

The Benefit Cost Ratio's (BCR) for the successful schemes range from 1.61 to 9.52, classifying schemes as Medium to Very High VfM when assessed against the DfT's value for money criteria. Further appraisal will be undertaken at the next stage of business case development.

For the Capability Fund programme, Officers and Members were consulted in steering the prioritisation of activities to take forward within the respective Capability and Behaviour Change programmes.

Commercial Case

Taking experience and learning from the Active Travel Fund tranches 2 & 3, the Combined Authority and partner councils now have a good understanding of what is feasible to be delivered by their in-house design and construction teams for the Active Travel Tranche 4 (AT4) programme. Where works will need to be procured externally available options are understood.

For the Capability Fund programme there are a number of frameworks already established which can provide expertise and support as required.

Financial Case

Active Travel England (ATE) has awarded the Combined Authority £17,430,668 to deliver its Active Travel Tranche 4 (AT4) programme. The programme includes 16 schemes. The ATE funding award expects all funding to be committed by March 2024 (i.e., all schemes to be in contract to deliver works).

The Combined Authority has also secured £2,530,967 to deliver its Capability Ambition Fund (CAF) programme across 2023/24.

Management Case

The Active Travel Tranche 4 (ATF4) programme will be delivered by the West Yorkshire partner councils in collaboration with the Combined Authority. An Active Travel Programme Board is well established, with monthly meetings and attendance from all district partners.

An indicative programme for AT4 schemes sets out construction start and end dates across 2023 and 2024. The timescales will be revisited through the individual project business cases.

The Capability Ambition Fund (CAF) will also be delivered by the West Yorkshire partner councils in collaboration with the Combined Authority. It will report to a Behaviour Change Board, with activities across its Capability and Behaviour Change programmes to be delivered across 2023 and 2024.