

Project Overview

Project Title	Active Travel Fund - Tranche 3 - A660 Otley Road
Main Funding Programme	Active Travel Fund
Current Forecast Project cost	£10,475,000
Funding Applied for from the Combined Authority	£10,475,000
Other public sector funding amounts and sources	N/A
Private sector funding amounts and sources	N/A

Scheme Description

The scheme will introduce a sustainable travel corridor along the A660 Otley Road between St Mark's Road, adjacent to the University of Leeds, and Shaw Lane in the centre of Headingley. The scheme will incorporate a 2.5km segregated cycle route (5km total) on the northbound and southbound side of the A660, as well as junction and traffic signal improvements to facilitate safer active travel. Bus stop improvements, new public realm, footway widening and upgrades, directional signage and cycle parking will also be included in the scheme.

Business Case Summary

Strategic Case

The A660 scheme is being delivered through the Department for Transport's (DfT) Active Travel Fund (ATF) Tranche 3, which aims to reallocate road space to support safe walking and cycling and to help make sure the road, bus and rail networks are ready to respond to future increases in demand and improve transport connectivity.

The scheme covers the A660 between Headingley and the University of Leeds and seeks to encourage walking and cycling uptake and create a shift from the car to reduce congestion levels, improve air quality, and provide better opportunity for sustainable travel along this key travel corridor in Leeds. This supports the objectives of the ATF programme, the West Yorkshire Mayor's climate emergency pledge, inclusive growth, 21st Century Transport, and Climate Emergency priorities of the Strategic Economic Framework (SEF).

The provision of improved active travel infrastructure along the A660 supports inclusive growth as it will benefit many of the areas and communities along the corridor, including those which suffer from high levels of income and health deprivation, to access active transport options, to improve opportunity for access to employment, education, and housing in the city.

The scheme will also complement several other planned active travel schemes across the corridor and, within the city centre.

Economic Case

The economic appraisal of the preferred option calculated significant benefits (of around £40m) for pedestrians and cyclists resulting from the scheme; these comprise of health benefits (£33m)

journey quality and mode shift benefits (£5m) and safety benefits (£1m). The scheme will also introduce journey time and vehicle operating cost disbenefits to general traffic.

Commercial Case

The commercial case outlines the market drivers for the scheme, including the necessity for this public funding to provide improved pedestrian and cycling infrastructure. A preferred contractor has been identified and will be procured using Leeds City Council's established contractor frameworks.

Financial Case

The total scheme cost is estimated as £10,475,000. The Combined Authority's contribution is up to £10,475,000 and is to be funded from the Active Travel Fund Tranche 3 allocation awarded by the Department for Transport.

The scheme cost includes allocations for risk, contingency, inflation and an estimated cost for land purchase, which is yet to be finalised.

Management Case

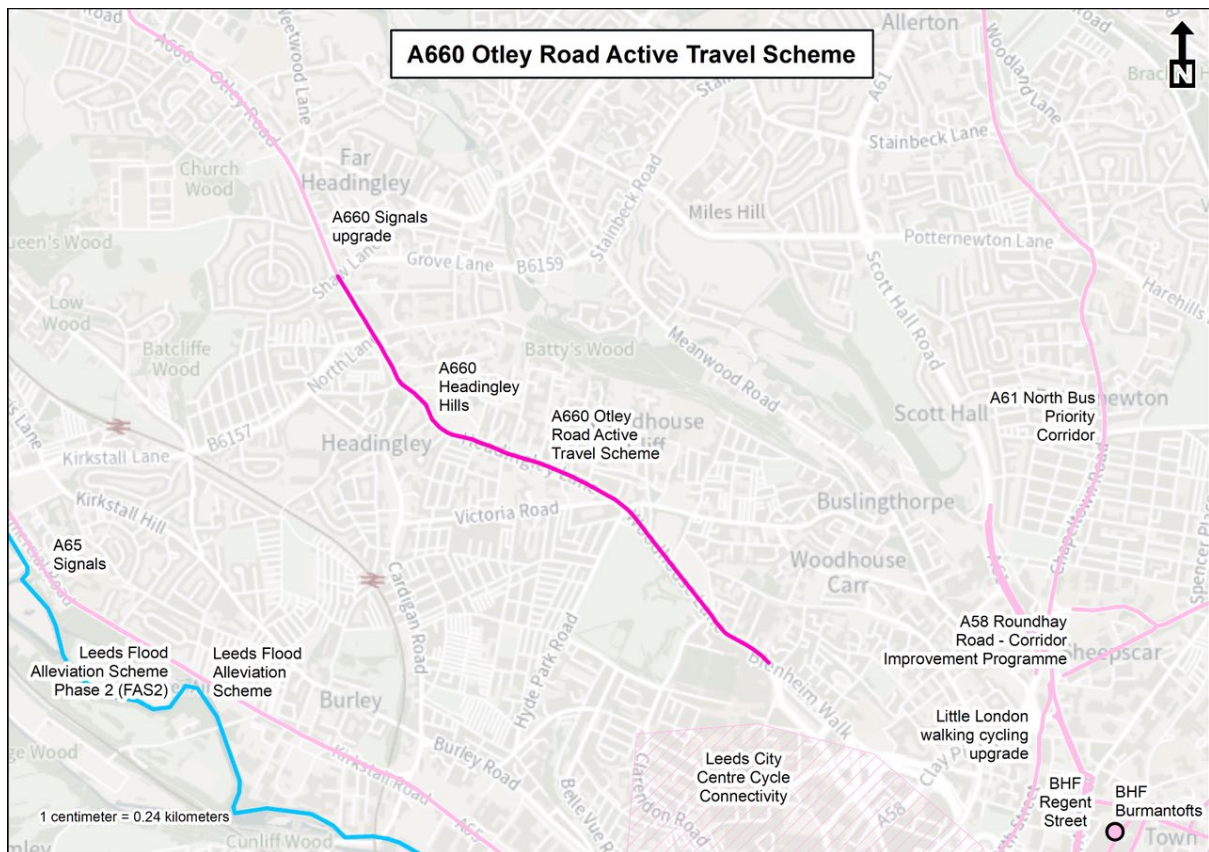
Leeds City Council is the lead promoting authority and will manage the contract with the identified contractor when procured. Governance structures for the project are already in place as part of the council's Active Travel Programme Board.

The scheme infrastructure is to be predominantly located within the public highway, with one parcel of land required to be purchased from the Combined Authority. Planning permission is not required but Traffic Regulation Orders are needed to deliver the scheme.

The scheme is to be delivered in phases with some works having already taken place. The scheme is due to be completed in August 2025.

Location Map

The following map shows the location of the A660 Otley Road scheme:



Please note, depending on the level of scheme development, the location and scope of the schemes indicated here are indicative only.

For further information on Combined Authority schemes across the Leeds City Region, please refer to: <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/growing-theeconomy/leeds-city-region-infrastructure-map>