

Creating Healthy Communities: Active Travel

Date: Monday 24 March 2014, 12.30pm – 4.30pm

Venue: The Mount Business and Conference Centre, Belfast



The built environment plays a major role in people's choice of travel mode.

A city designed to support active travel encourages physical activity, positively impacting obesity and sedentary lifestyles. A focus on active travel can also address inequalities and strengthen connectivity, creating a vibrant Belfast, a city in which people choose to live, work and visit. In order to sustainably change travel behaviour, active travel has to be the easy and convenient choice for citizens of the city. Using active travel to get to your destination must include continuous access to walkable routes and cycle lanes with available parking for bikes across the city centre. The health and economic benefits are measurable and significant.

This seminar will share experience and expertise from leading active travel cities and explore the policies and approaches that have underpinned their success. It will also outline local initiatives aimed at promoting and supporting active lifestyles.

Programme:

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| 12.30pm | Registration and lunch |
| 1.00pm | Welcome
<i>Chair: Mr Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, Belfast City Council</i> |
| 1.05pm | Opening address: <i>Mr Danny Kennedy MLA, Minister for Regional Development</i> |
| 1.10pm | Copenhagen, a cycling city: the road to success
<i>Mr Alexander Karl Lehmann, Public Health Consultant, City of Copenhagen</i> |
| 1.45pm | Creating walkable cities: models, tools and successes
<i>Professor Geraint Ellis, School of Planning, Architecture and Civil Engineering, Queen's University Belfast</i> |
| 2.15pm | Questions |
| 2.30pm | Tea / coffee |

2.45pm

Local case studies:

Delegates will self-select one of the following case study sessions to attend. The sessions will run concurrently and will provide an opportunity to discuss local examples of active travel initiatives.

Active Travel: Connecting Belfast

Chair: Ms Carol Ramsey, Project Director, Royal Exchange; Belfast City Centre Regeneration Directorate, Department for Social Development
Venue: Link Room

Active School Travel Programme, Ms Beth Harding, Active Travel Co-ordinator for Schools Northern Ireland, Sustrans

Public transport: enabling sustainable and active mobility, Mr Ciarán Rogan, Marketing Executive, Translink

Active Travel: Active Choices

Chair: Ms Jonna Monaghan, Health and Wellbeing Manager, Belfast Healthy Cities
Venue: Heaney Room

Belfast Rapid Transit, Mr Robin Totten, Principal Projects Manager, Transport Projects Division, Department for Regional Development

Walkability Assessment for Age Friendly Cities, Ms Anne McCusker, Policy and Project Officer, Belfast Healthy Cities

Chair: Ms Joan Devlin, Chief Executive, Belfast Healthy Cities

3.45pm

Freiburg, an active travel city: Designing for connectivity

Mr Andreas Hildebrandt, Press Officer, VAG, Freiburg, Germany

4.20pm

Questions

4.30pm

Close